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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Maintain Trails and Increase Wilderness for Our Children and Their Children

John McCoy

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June 26, 2016

Dear Colville National Forest Plan Revision Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the revised Colville National Forest Plan.

As an outdoor enthusiast and hiker, I believe this plan is vital to creating a sustainable future for outdoor recreation in Northeastern Washington.

I live in the Tri-Cities but have family in Spokane and frequent the Colville National Forest for recreation. We enjoy being able to find primitive and secluded space not far from the city.

As I have reviewed the plan, I support the Forest's Preferred Alternative (Alternative P) because of its goals to balance ecology with recreational needs. At the same time, I feel that it falls short in providing enough hiking trails and wilderness set aside.

I would like to see less space opened to motorized recreation and a greater commitment to trails and hiking. Complementary to this recommendation would be to have wilderness designation be considered for Bald Snow, Abercrombie Hooknose and Quartzrite Inventoried Roadless Areas as well as Thirteenmile & Cougar Mountain, Grassy Top, and Hall Mountain.

As populations grows and there is increase pressure for development, including recreation development, I believe our children, grand-children and our grand-children's children will be well by localizing motorized recreation development and increasing space that allows us to truly connect with nature.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

John McCoy