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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Forest Plan should balance needs for increased trail access and wilderness

Barbara Breithaupt

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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 a hiker, I believe this plan will be very important to creating a sustainable future for outdoor recreation in Northeastern Washington.

Outdoor recreation (camping, fishing, hiking) have been lifelong important to me and my family for learning about our world, physical exercise, and to develop a sense of community and respect for people and our physical world. The importance of land protection and sensible use management to preserve this difficult to describe resource cannot be over stated.

In general, I support the Forest's Preferred Alternative (Alternative P) because of its goals to protect the area's ecological health while balancing recreation needs. However, I believe it falls short in providing enough recreation resources.

Hikers like me would like to see more areas that include nonmotorized trails and that these trails, as well as the roads that lead to them, are well maintained.

I would like the final plan to include increased recommendations for wilderness designation. The areas that should be considered for wilderness protection include Bald Snow, Abercrombie Hooknose and Quartzrite Inventoried Roadless Areas as well as Thirteenmile & Cougar Mountain, Grassy Top, and Hall Mountain.

Sincerely,

Barbara Breithaupt