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First name: James

Last name: Hansen

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Forest Plan

James Hansen

11530 Palatine Ave N

Seattle, WA 98133

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 extremely important in helping to create a sustainable future for outdoor recreation in Northeastern Washington.

I've worked at the City of Seattle Boundary power plant as a computer scientist on their power plant control systems (including installing the current one) and at Box power plant installing data acquisition systems there in order to better manage the recreation level targets of lake Pend Oreille and decrease nitrogen injection, protecting downstream fish.

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 non-motorized trails and that these trails, as well as the roads that lead to them, are well maintained. Hiking trails generally take less maintenance than trails allowing motorized use. In addition hiker only trails have a much lower impact on the environment, flora, fauna, and water quality.

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,

Jim Hansen