

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/25/2016 11:36:01 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Trails are essential to local economic resiliency

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June 25, 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.

Washington is one of the most beautiful states in the United States, and the primary reason I live here is for access to the outdoors, and the large amount of wilderness area that is reserved for hikers and wildlife. We should do everything we can to keep WA State beautiful and wild.

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,
Elisabeth Robson