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Comments: Increase trail access in Colville National Forest

Mark Cauchy

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June 27, 2016

Dear Colville National Forest Plan Revision Team,

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

As a resident living next to the Colville National Forest and a hiker, I believe this plan will be very important to creating a sustainable future for outdoor recreation in Northeastern Washington.

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.

A more balance approach is need between motorized and non-motorized areas. Enphasis seems to be on more motorized access while keeping non-motorized trails the same. 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.

In regards to wilderness protection, 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,

Mark Cauchy