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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Increase trail access in Colville National Forest

Jeff Zechlin

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June 28, 2016

Dear Colville National Forest Plan Revision Team,

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

I have done many hikes in the Salmo-Priest Wilderness. The fact that there are grizzly bears, moose, and lynx in the area gives it a special feeling, even though I have never seen any of these rare and elusive creatures. I think that people should have that same feeling of being in a place where civilization does not encroach when they travel the Kettle Crest or other roadless areas.

As 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.

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,

Jeff Zechlin