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First name: Willard

Last name: Goss

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Increase trail access in Colville National Forest

Willard Goss

165 1st Ave NW

Issaquah, WA 98027

July 5, 2016

Dear Colville National Forest Plan Revision Team,

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

As a camper, fisherman, hunter, mountain-biker and hiker, I believe this plan will be very important to creating a sustainable future for outdoor recreation in Northeastern Washington. There is room for these activities as well as for equestrian and recreational vehicle use, although the activities don't always mix and there should be some areas set aside specifically for each use, e.g. RV's limited to designated areas.

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 Quartzite Inventoried Roadless Areas as well as Thirteenmile & Cougar Mountain, Grassy Top, and Hall Mountain.

I spent much time in the Colville with my sons when they were children, and now that they are grown I hope they have the same opportunities with their families.

Sincerely,

Willard Goss