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Organization: High Camp Hut

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Comments: To the Forest Planner, You will be planning for many years to come and we must all realize that the honeymoon period is about to end. People will be moving to western Colorado causing many demands for various kinds recreation on the forest. Some of these uses are harder on the environment and trails. I have not seen a Forest Plan yet that addresses the flexibility to close trails before too much damage has been to the trail. Right now in the San Juan Forest in the Dolores District the Calico Trail has been closed to ALL users including hikers, hunters etc. because of the damage done to the trail by dirt bikers. This is not OK! The Forest Services job is to protect the resource from damage. If you are going to allow motorized travel on certain trails then there needs to be a system to monitor damage to the trail before it get closed to all users. To repair the Calico Trail it will cost over \$250,000.00! So before you open trails to motorized use make sure you have a plan in place to monitor damage when it is wet.

Secondly winter travel planning must be done separately! There needs to be thoughtful planning as the growth that is predicted for back country skiing in the next In the Durango Herald it is quoted as saying "In a report by the US Forest Service, undeveloped skiing is expected to increase by up to 106% in the next 30 years." Although skiing in the resorts is down nationwide the back country skiing is exploding. I see this happening with renting out my hut. Bookings during the winter are at record levels this year and I am sure I will be booked into the future! It is necessary to work with yurt and hut owners to provide them with a non-motorized envelope for their clients to enjoy back country skiers.

Thanks for taking these comments seriously, Cindy Farny