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Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposal. My primary concern is to keep snowmobiles out of the Poison Canyon, Round Valley, Horse Canyon, Bee Gulch areas adjacent to Bear Valley. I would love to have the Woodchuck Basin area included, but the areas just mentioned are the most critical areas. Snowmobiles have an extremely large area in which they can ride. The area that I urge you to protect is tiny in comparison. I've been skiing this area at least once a week during the season for the last twenty years, as it is ideal for backcountry skiing, being so close to the road. Most of the winter snowmobiles do not usually intrude in this area, but in the spring we see more snowmobiles in this area. Their presence greatly diminishes the enjoyment of the area for two primary reasons. They're extremely noisy and they very quickly degrade large areas of snow on ridges making it difficult and sometimes dangerous to descend over their tracks. Some snowmobilers are very reckless, coming over hill crests at very high speeds, apparently assuming that no one will be in their path. Most snowmobilers are much more cautious and responsible, but close calls do occur. Since the forest service put in a parking lot and rest room at the mouth of Poison Canyon, there has been a large increase in the number of people using the area for snowshoeing, backcountry skiing and splitboarding. Please protect this very small area so that non-motorized recreators have a place they can enjoy with a modicum of solitude. Thank you again for the opportunity for feedback. John Berner