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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the OSV Designations in the Stanislaus NF. After learning more information, I feel inclined to provide additional feedback and comments.

I don't feel that the snowmobile community is being accurately portrayed. A lot of people are under the assumption that the snowmobile community in the SNF simply ride trails and valleys, and that's not the case. We as a snowmobile community are a group of likeminded people that enjoy winter recreation on our public lands. We trail ride, ride mountains, and sled ski, etc. I am personally part of a large network of backcountry skiers that use snowmobiles as access into our National Forests. We don't simply ride trails. With this in mind, there are many deficiencies in your proposed alternative that fail to address this diversity of riding opportunities.

There have been comments by people saying "you don't ride there".....when in fact we do. Specifically, the amount of high alpine, above treeline riding terrain is very limited throughout the Sierra and specifically in the Stanislaus NF. Much of these areas are not accessible during the winter due to snow and roads being closed along with Wilderness designations. Snowmobiles allow us to access explore these public lands.

It's very hard to enforce boundary areas. Using some wilderness areas as a boundary line will help to make it easier for OSV users and the forest service. That is why I want to see the area on the south side of Hwy 108 East of Strawberry to Kennedy Meadows open to the northern part of the Emigrant Wilderness. It's a line that's already set in stone and easy to follow. As mentioned, we are not just trail riders. The area inside and around the outside of Herring Creek loop is an ideal area for off trail exploration. We want these areas open as this is a safe place to play without getting up higher on the pass. Snow levels are becoming an issue and Herring Creek area sits between 7200 and 8,000ft which is ideal.

I also want to see access in Eagle Creek, both sides of Niagra Creek, and the Long valley area. Having the boundary at the wilderness ridgeline would easily define things and allow more ideal terrain in the below the three chimneys area. Let's take the guesswork out of the boundary. We don't just ride flat terrain in meadows. We enjoy challenging terrain both skiing and snowmobiling in this area.

Why 108 and Sonora Pass proper is a prime example of the terrain that we enjoy above treeline. The small sliver of riding at the pass proper should remain open to OSV use since it can't be accessed any other way during the winter. Access from the West side can be difficult, but grooming the road occasionally would be ideal. In addition, people coming from the East Side of Hwy 108 will also be able to access this riding area. I would love to see this remain open after the gates open in the spring. It's the ideal place for April/May and June recreation provided snow levels are sufficient. Closing access to our public lands is not fair regardless of user groups. We want this area to remain open without a closing date with snow depth permitting.

HWY 4 is another prime example of the terrain that we enjoy. Specifically the Pacific Creek drainage from Bull Run Peak including Lookout Peak are key to OSV use and backcountry sled skiing. Same ideals in this area with the key of simplicity using the Wilderness boundary that's easily defined. This is some of the best terrain in the Ebbetts pass area. Furthermore, access to Bear Valley after the resort closes is standard in the community. It allows for people of all ages, and all abilities to be social and enjoy the terrain. Please keep the resort open after it closes.

Thank You.