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Comments: I oppose adoption of Alternative 5 for the Stanislaus Forest OSV Recreation Management Plan. This alternative threatens the wilderness qualities of the scenic Pacific Valley and Eagle roadless areas, degrades quiet winter recreation opportunities in these areas, and threatens the endangered Sierra Nevada red fox. Not only does snowmobile noise disturb sensitive wildlife struggling to survive during bleak winter conditions, coyotes can use the compressed tracks of snowmobiles to access the deep snows of the high country to predate on this rare fox. I urge adoption of Alternative 3 instead, which keeps the Pacific Valley and Eagle roadless areas closed to winter motorized use, retains opportunities for quiet human-powered winter recreation, and protects the Sierra Nevada red fox.

There are already sufficient snowmobile access points in the Sierra Nevada. Most reasonable people would agree the survival of a species is much more important than the ability to drive a snowmobile in a few more remote areas.

Sincerely

Chris Wright

President

Sierra CPR