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Title:

Comments: As a past user (on foot) of the Emigrant Wilderness and its surrounding area on a number of occasions, 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.