

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/9/2018 5:11:25 AM

First name: Scott

Last name: Spero

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have had a look at all the maps and read the comments and talk with people regarding the pending closure. I say pending closure because by the language used in Forest Service documents and correspondence something is getting shut off. The simple fact that I as a motorized user need to vigorously fight to keep my public land access open is unjust.

I live on the East side of the Stanislaus NF in Nevada and was first able to visit the riding area known as Hwy 108 / Sonora pass in 2012. I went down with some local riders from the Gardnerville area and was very excited. Having seen it before in several popular sled and ski films. New to the area I knew it was renowned for its vast peaks, deep snow and endless hillsides. I was excited to make it down there.

I started learning about it the minute I unloaded. Had a nice visit with the local BWRA (spelling?) agents of rules to follow. Have you filled out your paper yet, you must fill out your sheet before you ride or you will be fined and possibly removed from access to the area. I filled the paper out and have everytime I've been back. Probably 14 times since that day. Back to day one.

We started up the trail, groomed, awesome, and only went about 3 miles and I had to get off the trail. There was so many cool little areas to climb up into and jump off of, very soon started realizing how unique the landscape was here to ride. Nothing like the rest of the Sierra I have rode in. Then we broke out the left off the main road off the trail and started boondocking all the great treed areas and headed up to Leavitt Lake this was the last time we say trail the whole days and rode for 8 hours. At this point I was all over the place excited. I had NEVER in my life seen country like this. I was completely amazed. We all climbed up to about 10k feet to have a break and a snack. I was SOOOO pumped how awesome it was.

My mind was going faster to all the places I wanted to go ride. The regulars I was with asked what I thought? My answer was UNBELIEVABLE I bet you can ride here until August sometimes at these elevations and ride that and that and that. Then they started pointing out all the places we CAN'T ride. I was like what, nobody on the planet can get to this stuff in the winter up here without snowmobiles why is it off limits? Because it's in wilderness, or some state of protection for litigations and ruling TONS as far as the eye can see north and south. UNRIDEABLE??? Already and now more.

I have rode my sled in many places in the U.S. Sonora Pass is better than any place there is. PERIOD. I do not vote for any alternative that removes any ground from us in the Stanislaus NF. I can not support anything that has no official science behind it. There is no proof that our sleds have any impact on the ground around Hering Loop or up the HWY 4 area, I have NEVER seen a skier up that high on the 108 pass in the winter that did not use a snowmobile to get there and I will do everything in my power to keep my riding areas open for my 8 yo son to continue to have access to ride here.

This is complete crap management on your end. The only reason you are being sued and opened the door to the Winter Wildlands Alliance to put all this into motion is you didn't do your job in the first place. Now I have to BEG to keep my access when MILLIONS of acres are already gone FOREVER to me to enjoy how I see fit. The Rangers on this hill don't even know where the boundaries are as is. How do you suppose you will regulate any of this? With gates? That's closure not management, and you already do that plenty cutting off some of the best spring riding there is up high in the . A time when I can actually get my son up there to play. THIS IS MY AMERICA AND MY NATIONAL FOREST. I will manage how I use it because I am a shepherd of the land, just like my father and Grandfather before him. We are ranchers and can manage land better than the Forest Service will ever be able to.

God bless you all and your special interest human powered groups. KEEP SIERRA SLEDDING!