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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I would like to express my support for the Granite Meadows CFLRP project, and I support the winter closure proposed for the Bear Basin area. As a recreation enthusiast, both summer and winter, This area is highly utilized by non-motorized recreationists throughout the year. This area is unique with it's proximity to town, developed trail systems, and connectivity to the greater forest. Designating this area as nonmotorized would be a tremendous asset to our community as a whole. I would also encourage the Forest Service to obliterate user built roads which are eroding the topsoil and encouraging overuses by motorized vehicles in the summer.

Bear Basin is a small part of the Payette National Forest but because of its location, it needs extra protection to maintain its natural state from overuse. Over the years, many non-system roads have been driven into existence throughout our winter permit area. These roads have continued to degrade, causing problems for our grooming operations, particularly during early season and low snow years.

I urge the Payette National Forest to work with and collaborate with user groups like CIMBA and Payette Lake Ski Club to improve the opportunities for close to town recreation in the execution of the Granite Meadows Project.