Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/14/2018 7:00:00 AM
First name: Jamie
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: I have been utilizing the areas encompassed in the Granite Meadows Project for 39 years, enjoying non-motorized activities including Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, birding, mushrooming, and huckleberry picking.

The proposal recognizes the recreational characteristics of the project area, and the reestablishment, improvement and maintenance of the existing trail system is an important goal. Creation of new trails that would enhance the public's experience should also be considered.

In addition to strong support for the oversnow motorized closures for the Granite Mountain and Bear Basin areas as proposed, I would ask you to consider a year-round motorized closure for the Bear Basin area, and to obliterate degraded non-system roads within the basin.

I support the proposal to decommission roads not deemed necessary for essential access to the areas, and all other efforts at watershed improvement and restoration, riparian function, and wetland restoration.

Wildland-urban interface treatment should respect the integrity of the vegetation, soils, and the wildlife that inhabits the project area. In particular, migratory songbirds and small mammals need understory variety for nesting and cover. Previous soil treatments in the Bear Basin area destroyed native ground cover and mushroom habitat, leaving only weedy growth and uneven ground surfaces.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.