Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/4/2019 4:07:14 PM First name: Randy Last name: Nichols Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am an absolute believer in low footprint usage of wilderness areas including National Forests. Motorized vehicles in National Forests should be eliminated except for management of the forest itself. Yes we do need people to experience and appreciate wild areas, to learn to love and cherish them, but it is pandering to the worst instincts of our modern civilization to bring technology and disruptive activities into natural surroundings. The ideal goal of wilderness areas should be for modern humans to adapt to the surroundings, not the other way around. We have much good to learn from communing with nature, including experiencing stillness and the subtle patterns of God's original design for earth. Invading forests and bringing our daily habits and preferences with us only destroys the experience for those who understand the special gifts that nature affords and want to connect with nature. We must be smarter, more creative to find ways to attract people to national forests without prostituting the experience for the "instant gratification" crowd who only see the forests as another playground to act out their TV induced fantasies of speed, noise, plunder, and conquest. Come on, let's take a good hard look at what makes wilderness special and celebrate that rather than lump it in with every other thing to be commercialized and exploited until it no longer exists.