Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/19/2019 6:00:00 AM
First name: Dan
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: We were camping with friends one weekend. a group of people were camping near by. At one point a young boy came into where we were camping on a 4 Wheeler, he spun around and showered us with gravel and dirt.

I had an opportunity to attend a meeting with the local Forest Service team at which time I suggested the need for areas where people could go with out the threat of being annoyed or even injured by irresponsible off road vehicle users.

The manager at the time had his engineers block the area with huge boulders,making it inaccessible to every one.

I asked the Forest Ranger Nick Schmelter (now retired)to meet me at the site, I asked if the rocks could be removed. He acted like he agreed with me, but then he wondered if it was part of the historical Carter Military Road. So no further action was taken. I have since contacted the USGS and received a map of the area with the military road which indicates that the area I am talking about is NOT part of the military road.

File 1. shows the designated road to trout creek area as well as the Carter Military Road (red marking) If you look close you can see boulders just as you enter the meadow, and you can see the designated road goes beyond the blockage.

File 2. is a map of the area with a black arrow pointing to the trout creek access road.

File 3. Shows how blockage actually blocks part of the designated road. Also shows relationship to Military road.

File 4. Shows camping at end of designated road prior to blockage.

File 5. Shows remnants of designated road after blockage.

I understand that people with recreational vehicles have a right to access on the public land and I agree with that. However I also feel like there needs to be areas where people who don't want to use off road vehicles can just go enjoy the forest peacefully,with out fear, especially elderly people.

I am asking that this area be opened back up and designated in the plan as restricted to non off road (public road legal) vehicles only.

I would suggest that other areas be evaluated as possible areas that could be deemed quiet or safe zones for People who are either elderly, have physical impairments or otherwise would have a reason for safe peaceful camping opportunities.

I also suggest that campgrounds be created at trail head parking areas so that users of the trails don't have to stay in general campgrounds which means they have to load their equipment and vehicles and transport them to the trail head, then do the same thing all over again when returning to camp. This may also relieve pressure on general camping areas.