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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I would like to add my comments to those of Merrill Saleen, lead objector.

I am a Yellow Pine resident and property owner. Having achieved retirement age, I finally have time to camp and recreate but am squeezed out of my favorite places with road closures. Am I now, less a member of the public (as in PUBLIC LANDS), because I can no longer carry my gear on my back to camp?

Stream damage by roads? In the last 20 years I have witnessed thousands of tons of soil and debris end up in our rivers and creeks, via mother nature. In a very few of those instances, it was a ROAD that caught some of that material, thus saving it from washing into a stream.

I am angered, having had many of my old hangouts closed off to me or obliterated in the name of fish salvation. Hamilton Bar, Jakie Creek/Cougar Basin, West Fork Buckhorn Bar, Cow Creek, Phoebe Creek/Phoebe Meadows, names a few. This doesn't seem to be the cure all for the salmon and steelhead, does it? Well-funded extreme groups are pushing their political agenda to turn all our public lands into inaccessible wilderness and the Tribes have been manipulated into holding the torch because they have a voice that might be heard.

The community of Yellow Pine has suffered much due to these road closures and camping restrictions. Mining is curtailed as to be practically non-existent. I haven't seen a logging truck in our neck of the 'hood' for years. Now the very roads that bring needed recreation to our economically beleaguered area are closing faster than we can comment. We no longer have a store.

Three of the three pubs are currently closed and the third is for sale along with the store. The hotel is for sale and closed except for summer use. If these establishments were sustainable, they would not be closed and/or for sale.

Yellow Pine used to be a booming little berg, even in winter. I remember seeing both sides of the street lined with parked snowmobiles, who's riders were in the various establishments, spending nights and spending money!

I strenuously object to the closure of any more roads and indeed, I support the reopening of those listed above and more that have been closed in the last 25 years.

Land of Many Uses? Nope!

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