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First name: Lynnea

Last name: Imel

Organization: Yellow Pine

Title: Mrs.

Comments: The Yellow Pine community views the elimination of recreational opportunities on side roads in the Payette forest as a serious detriment to the local economy and the retention of ATV and M/C access is vital to public enjoyment of the public property. The Payette Forest has not adequately addressed this issue in the planning processes that affect Yellow Pine.

I have owned property in Yellow Pine for 52 years and during those years have actively used the area by fishing, hunting, back packing and motorcycling. My husband and I participated in the Yellow Pine vs USFS lawsuit which prevented the Forest Service from closing/eradicating the South Fork road. Dave Imel then worked on the collaborative effort to plan the modifications that resulted in paving of the road to decrease negative impacts to the salmon habitat.

In response to Anthony Botello's invitation I have attended every meeting of the Big Creek Yellow Pine South Fork Collaborative (BCYPSF) as a representative of the community of Yellow Pine. That collaborative worked six years to resolve conflicting opinions about public access on South Fork Salmon River side roads.

Recreation representatives made many concessions in developing the South Fork RAMP. The analysis and improvements to ATV and M/C trails in the Buckhorn Creek area should be expedited, not delayed as indicated in the Draft Decision. Six years of meetings allowed ample time for analysis and assessing everything in the South Fork area if the Payette was serious about restoration and sediment reduction.

The Yellow Pine-based recreationists firmly support the proposals and objections voiced by the BCYPSF Recreation Group signed by Sandra Mitchell.