

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/13/2020 4:27:31 AM

First name: Jacalyn

Last name: Morris

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a property owner in North Pend Oreille County. I access the forest for both motorized and non-motorized use several times a month. I am a member of the Selkirk Trailblazers and strongly support the letter submitted by them.

I oppose the closure and decommissioning of any existing roads. Destruction of the road impacts the surrounding terrain, wildlife trails, etc. which is much more damaging to the environment than any kind of foot, animal and even recreational vehicle / atv traffic.

Keeping roads opens provides safe and quick access for Law enforcement and First Responders in all manner of emergency situations. It allows for faster response times to minimize quickly spreading fires. It also allows a way to get the needed equipment and crews in before the fire is out of control; creating huge impacts on the environment, wildlife and private property.

Local businesses survive on recreational use of the forest. Closing roads prevents visitors from accessing the forest hurting local merchants. Closing roads hurts loggers. They spend more time and money having to create new roads that drive the cost of timber up.

There are many aspects of the Kaniksu Connections Project that I agree with - but I strongly disagree with the closure of any roads. More roads to the North should be opened for all the same reasons you are opening the roads with the Kalispell tribe to the south.