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Title:

Comments: I am in favor of plan X. It provides the most usable land and trails for the public. As I am an avid ATV/SUV rider. It seems of no use to limit the trails and roads to a select few which will be come over used, thus creating even more damage and problems. I am not in favor of any more wilderness or areas set aside for nonpublic access.

I do think that a managed approach to forests and recreation can work.

It also seems a waste of funds to fully decommission many of the existing old logging roads. These roads are useful for access in times of fire and or rescue. Why not use those funds to better maintain and or improve existing trails, roads and camp grounds. Also by expanding some of the proposed trails it disperses damage and provides added value. By this I mean the economic benefits to the local communities. While it is necessary to limit use of some of the more recent logging roads, it would be less costly to reclaim only a very short stretch of any such roads. These roads are almost always used by animals as travel ways, and are reclaimed by the forest in a very short time. Forests are renewable an as such should be harvested and replanted, not left to fall to fungi, rot and wild fires. Further after a fire every effort should be made to salvage any and all usable wood left. This includes use as fuel for homes and industry. By using these resources replanting can be made less expensive and reforestation must faster than allowing the natural process to take place which as we know takes many years.

Further no land proposed for wilderness should be locked up until an act of congress is passed. With that also a provision might be made to clean up any fire damages so as to reforest the lost trees. This has two benefits, faster reforestation with recovery to the wild state and it could help any local community.

Additional motorized trails will help reduce the localized damage. Limiting the width of trails, can reduced damage, but also limiting the power of these vehicles can help. Also harsher fines and enforcement is going to become necessary as the numbers of vehicles grows. This then becomes a challenge to inform and change an attitude of a generation of folks. Much the same was done with the Don't Pollute campaign of years gone by. By enlisting the help local groups much of this can be accomplished. Any additions to the system will also require more funds an this is a whole other challenge.

The forest is a living growing thing and the forest plan should also be a living changing thing. Changes must be made on a regular bases. These should not be controlled by any one group, either local and or one from across the country not directly affected by those changes.