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Comments: This is my third try at commenting--hope this works. I have been visiting Rapid River for over 40 years, and know Trail 177 especially well.

This whole drainage should have been part of the NRA, and even though that is not the case, sound FS management can keep the area intact and unspoiled. That means managing the whole valley free from machines, which is required by law for at least some of it. Two ideas are especially awful: allowing machine use across the river and the trail, and just as bad, allowing machine use to some sort of overlook. Both would invite trespass and that would be certain to happen.

It's not even clear why you are considering any increase in machine use in Rapid River, unless some sort of crummy politics are involved.

Rapid River, in its entirety, is a great treasure and mostly just needs to be left alone.