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First name: Edwina

Last name: Allen

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am opposed to allowing motorized or mechanical uses on Trails 183, 184, 187, and 188 outside the Wild and Scenic Corridor of Rapid River. The entire trail system within the Rapid River drainage should be managed for non-mechanized/non-motorized recreation, both within the Wild and Scenic Corridor and outside of it. For decades I have enjoyed quiet recreational hiking in this area, sharing the trails occasionally with back country horse folks. There are few areas as accessible as Rapid River that allow a person to experience such solitude. Mechanized and motorized recreationists have many trails open to their use.

The proposal to construct turnarounds for motorized/mechanized users seems both expensive and unenforceable. Having hiked a lot in Idaho, I have observed that the temptation to roll past closed signs in remote areas, including designated Wilderness, is something a significant number of users are unable to resist. Considering the significant backlog of existing trails needing restoration, it is not prudent to add new special-use trail projects.

I urge you to choose making permanent the existing closure to motorized/mechanized travel on the trails considered in this proposal.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.