Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/8/2020 1:28:41 PM

First name: Robert Last name: Howard Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion. I use the area being discussed more than anyone I know for recreation. thus far this year, I have ran and/or hiked 2057 miles on this area. I have ran 909 miles so far on the National Forest road known as The Grade alone. With that being said, I think any improvements that can be made to the forests are a positive thing. However, I think the policy should be to keep The Grade, as well as the Sweet Road gated and locked year round. When these roads are open, poachers run rampant, litter (usually in the form of beer cans and bottles) appear immediately, and illegal firewood cutters show up. Please consider keeping these roads locked. Bear hunters cut the locks on the gates at both ends of The Grade this past August, and ran amok. Perhaps, when these projects are done, it would be possible to dig pits, and make dirt piles to ensure the area is permantly closed to vehicles. Thank you