

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/26/2021 11:46:27 PM

First name: John

Last name: Platt

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a senior citizen from McCall who frequently hikes in the Rapid River corridor. I believe that motorized or mechanical vehicles would degrade the habitat, the stream beds, and the aesthetic attraction of the area. I also think the intrusion of motorized/mechanical vehicles would negatively impact the big game habitat. Furthermore, due to the steep terrain and soft soils, much of this area is sensitive to erosion, and motorized vehicles would likely damage the very trails I love to hike.

Note that I have already seen illegal motorized incursions in this area. Increasing the legal access will likely only invite further illegal use, deeper into the protected area.

There are tons of other options for motorized recreation, but darn few options for those wanting a a natural experience away from the motorized crowd.

I strongly urge the Forest Service to preserve the natural, non-mechanical nature of the area.