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Comments: I am commenting on the GMUG Forest Plan Update, specifically the Winter Travel Plan, as a resident of Delta County since 1994. Prior to that, I also partially grew up in Cory, CO (Delta County) from 1970 to 1976. I have been a Grand Mesa Nordic Council member since 1995, and a multi-year GMNC board member from 1996 to 2004. I have been involved with planning, building and promoting trails and Nordic skiing on the Grand Mesa for a total of 26 years. I must say I have a passion for "The Mesa" and doing what I can to preserve non-motorized recreation on its trails, while still providing safe and well-thought out opportunities for the motorized users. My husband, dog, and I normally have over 100 ski days each per season, most often on GMNC trails.

After looking at the ROS, and the three Alternative Proposals, I feel that Alternative Proposal D is closest to enabling safe trails for Nordic skiing, and "in a perfect world", no conflicts with motorized users. It designates "roaded natural" areas and prioritizes "Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized" usage.

Proposal C shows a "Semi-Primitive Motorized" area overlaying some highly used Nordic trails, which does not lead to a good mix for recreationalists.

I would actually advocate for a winter use proposal with overlays that designate "Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized" use encompassing each of the three GMNC Nordic trail systems: Ward, County Line, and Skyway. Perhaps that cannot be an option due to GMUG rules or restrictions, but that is my suggestion.

Thank you for your time in considering my comments. Nordic skiing and non-motorized outdoor recreational activities are growing, and we would all like to come up with a plan that works best for the future.