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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a longtime Grand Junction resident who cross-country skis regularly on the Grand Mesa. How the Forest Service separates the Nordic ski trails from motorized travel on the Grand Mesa has been admired by many. As a skier I have enjoyed this arrangement for years. I see on the Winter Travel Map that you are not showing the entirety of the Skyway and Ward trail systems as off limits to snowmobiles. I think you should correct this error and classify these ski areas all as "Oversnow Vehicles Prohibited Seasonally."

In the Ward ski area in Alternative C you delineate a small blue section as "Semi-Primitive Motorized." This is not in sync with how I have enjoyed this area. Snowmobiles here would intrude on my experience of the natural quiet winter forest. It is important to me that the Ward ski area remain non-motorized for winter use.

I prefer the Alternative D option for supporting my wintertime enjoyment of the Grand Mesa. The "Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized" classification matches my preferred forest recreation here and with the growth in Nordic skiing interest generally, I think this alternative provides the best management flexibility for this growing sport.

My family and I have enjoyed skiing the quiet winter trails here for decades. Visiting friends often comment on how well these trails have been naturally separated from the snowmobile areas. For the most part there are few conflicts between users and I hope you can continue this tradition. That is why I think it's important that they are clearly classified for non-motorized winter use.