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Comments: To interested parties,

This letter addresses the first part of the East Fork South Fork Restoration and Access Management project (EFSF RAMP), the part under the title of 'motorized actions'. New motorized trails are being proposed in:

the Quartz Creek drainage,

the Wilson Mine area near Profile Gap,

Horse Heaven,

the Thunder Mountain area

Missouri Ridge, although 'new motorized trail' wasn't specifically mentioned here.

The maps included lack so much detail they did not seem very useful in understanding the topography and specific location of the proposed actions.

Currently, it is hard to find a trail in the East Fork South Fork area that is not motorized. I count over 80 trails in just the East Fork South Fork drainage that are motorized and over 500 miles of motorized trails across the PNF. I am trying to understand what the motivation is to add more and more motorized access?

Creating motorized loop trails gives motorcycle riders access to ridgetops which provide open invitations to ride off trail. In the same way, providing motorized access to higher elevations also gives motorized users more opportunities for off road riding. I have seen trails rutted out so badly by motorcycles it is not possible to walk on the trail. Decomposed granite soils and their vegetation that have stabilized over hundreds of years can be destroyed by one motorcycle ride. Sound carries for miles. Feeding and travel patterns of the areas' wildlife are all affected by more noise and increased human presence. Motorized vehicles can dominate the landscape. They can also dominate the trail use, pretty much anything else must give way to the passage of the motorcycle.

Upper Quartz Creek, Missouri Ridge, Thunder Mountain, and the Wilson Mine area are all upper elevation areas with short growing seasons and shallow soils that are very susceptible to lasting motorized damage. Once high elevation vegetation is destroyed, it is difficult to get it back. Growing seasons are short and moisture is scarce.

There are hundreds of miles of motorized trails across the Payette National Forest already. Please consider prioritizing the protection of the unique habitats of the East Fork South Fork Salmon River drainage.

I support thoughtful consideration of the use of the old mining roads depending on observation and facts concerning the potential harm to the surroundings with increased use.

It is always much easier to trample and degrade the land than to restore it.

Thank you for considering my comments