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Organization: Valley County Road Advisory Board

Title:

Comments: Following review of the initial plan, I'd like to be on record as opposed to further removal of motorized access points and trails in the management area.

Given the unprecedented growth of recreational use of the public lands in the area of impact, further restrictions on motorized access will only serve to focus travel to main arterials in the area. Although this may not be detrimental to the USFS management, it is important that the USFS recognize that maintenance of a significant portion of the primary roads is managed via FRTA by Valley County. The FRTA funding is currently inadequate to manage ongoing maintenance for the main roads as. Further focus of recreational traffic via closure of offshoot access roads / trails will result in excessive deterioration of the main travel routs and render continuing maintenance untenable under current budgetary constraints within the Valley County budget.

As a member of the Valley County Road Advisory Board, we are working to manage back country road maintenance in the face of growth, added impact of related recreational use coupled with increasing costs not being offset by increased funding. Further deterioration caused by focus of traffic into smaller areas has a high likelihood of resulting in the County returning maintenance of these roads back to the USFS if further funding is not available.