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Last name: maus

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a frequent visitor to the Warm Springs Canyon area, often visiting the surrounding national forest lands while visiting friends in the area. This is one of the few places I visit on national forest lands not overrun with recreational users, both motorized and nonmotorized. I occasionally enjoy the outdoors around this area in an OHV so am not opposed to them both for recreation and for utility. Coming from an urban area, I witness daily how wild places are getting spoiled, not from the building of structures or even roads, but from recreational overuse and abuse. I would be disappointed to see this area further impacted by adding additional OHV routes, particularly since it is such an important area for wildlife. As a biologist with a background in forest management, I am most concerned about the affects on wildlife potentially impacting foraging, breeding, and migration both in summer and winter. I appreciate that the Forest Service is supporting seasonal road closures in some areas, as this will mitigate some potential conflicts with wildlife. However, I'm concerned that new opportunities for OHV users will degrade the area and frankly, I know the Forest Service does not have the funding to ensure such areas are maintained and patrolled properly. My familiarity and concern is mostly with the Warm Springs Canyon area (WR07,WR13) and I appreciate the opportunity to comment. Sincerely, Paul Maus [PII]