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First name: RANDY

Last name: GILLESPIE

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Coyote Flat Recreation Enhancement Project

My name is Randy Gillespie and I'm an avid off road enthusiast and have lived and recreated in the Eastern Sierras since 1975. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to make comments on this project. After all, the propose projects are on Public Lands. I have taken many USFS staff employees to this region for many years and have made comments about this area as it is very unique and is a very special place to many of us. Recently I have taken District Ranger Philip Desenze and some of his staff to discuss this area as it's been in bad shape for many years and has not had any maintenance on the road for probably 10 years. It's sad that it going to take 3 years to plan before any work gets done in this area. I'm guessing the 4th and 5th year we will see progress. I'm happy to hear that these discussions have lead to this project moving forward. Thank you.

Comments on propose actions

Staging area at 7S10

Staging areas are a great place for people to unload the OHV vehicles and get organized for their trip. But this place does not work. You can't send people up the sand wash canyon to unload their OHV vehicle. The known staging area for this place is at the site of the old black top area. Also, the thought of having a trash bin or receptacle at this Kiosk doesn't make sense either. These people know the "pack it in and pack it out" rule. Maybe, you can use this Kiosk to further educate people of the rules. Also, maps are very important, so put map holders and keep them full.

Routes considered for removal:

Green lake overlook 31E301

I do not support this closure. This area is an area that I took Philip Desenze and he could not believe why this would need to be closed. Again I have been exploring the Eastern Sierras since 1975. This is one of the most beautiful places you can go to. From the proposed area that you want to close to the overlook, just needs to have some maintenance done. If you need help placing rocks to delineate the route with the end at the overlook to have a turn around, the public is willing to volunteer their time.

Baker Creek Trail 32E301

Does not show on the map you provided.

Re route trail in Onion Creek 33E303

The route you propose to use is an existing single-track trail and should stay that way. The route that exists for 4x4 Jeeps and trucks as well as UTV's and ATV's should remain. That route just needs to be maintained and hardened at the meadow with gravel. You made a big step last year with that method, and it needs to be

completed. To spend that kind of money on building a new trail, road or route doesn't make sense. Please lets fix what we have. I do not support this plan.

Reconstruction and/or heavy maintenance:

I support your findings. The two areas that I have been asking for is the famous bobsled run and the lower switchbacks. Also coming up out of Big Pine the area you call the rock garden needs to be fixed.

Barricades:

When it comes to barricading unauthorized routes, I feel using natural boulders is better than wood post or cables.

Salty Peterson Mine Area

Finally we get that road back open. We have talked about this road for almost a decade. It needs to be reopened.

In closing, please keep in mind that this area needs to stay as a 4x4 high clearance vehicles only. It needs to stay somewhat challenging but safe. Please don't make it so that passenger cars & 2wd's can travel on it. If you do, it's a matter of time before it gets them in trouble. Don't increase the impact.