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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am commenting on the South Plateau Project.

I am not against the logging and forest management of this area, however I am against the decommissioning of any portion of Road # 478.

This has been an historic route used for longer than most any of us have been alive. This route is on the Custer-Gallatin Travel Plan as well and needs to remain in order to be compliant with the Travel Plan.

The reason this road may cause sediment to enter the South Fork of the Madison is due to the fact that the Forest Service has not maintained this road for many years.

With the recent improvements done on this road for the construction of the Yellowstone Shortline Trail # 611 it is now in the best condition I have ever seen. With some more minor improvements to properly route runoff into vegetation areas the sediment issue can be controlled and airborne dust will be greatly reduced with addition of the better road base that has been applied.

I also believe that this access will probably be needed in the future for maintenance reason on the new Shortline Trail.

Eventually, I would like to see both Road # 1704 and Road # 478 be open during the appropriate seasons. Road # 1704 could be open year round for motorized access which would also lower the impact on Road # 478.

As a suggestion make Road # 478 into an ATV Trail for vehicles under the 50 inch ruling. This would also lower the impact on this path as the larger vehicles will use # 1704.

There has been no adverse impact on wildlife by having this route open , so the need to close it for that reason does not exist.

Please do not close this route that we have used for many years to show our families the beauty of where we live.