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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As an avid nordic skier who uses Pole Creek almost weekly during the winter and more than all the other nearby nordic ski areas (Willow Park, Cutler, Sibley) combined, I strongly urge you to remove this area from your proposed project.

Clear cutting this area would remove any protection for recreational users from wind and nearby highway noise, significantly impact the snow level and groomed trails through exposure, and discourage the presence of wildlife.

Tourism is important to our community, and the lure of free nordic ski opportunities, plus the added financial benefits provided by outside ski enthusiasts who eat, drink, and shop on their way to and from Pole Creek are critical to our economy.

The fact that the Pole Creek Nordic Area accounts for only 1% of the proposed project's acreage is even more reason the Forest Service should remove this area entirely from the proposal. As a resident of this community for almost 50 years, I see no valid reasons for including Pole Creek in this project.