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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please remove Pole Creek Nordic Area from your proposed USFS Pole Creek Vegetation Management Project. Clear cutting that area would destroy the nordic ski trails that the Powder Pass Nordic Club has spent so much time and effort and money into. I have been skiing at Pole Creek since I was in elementary school (45 years now!!!) and I frequent the trails there during the winter 2-3 times per week. Pole Creek is the only place I ski in the Big Horns and there are always other people parked there using the trails (for both skiing and snow shoeing) and sledding site. Even if it is super windy in the parking lot, the trails are groomed to keep snow packed on the trail and the trees protect me from the wind. This is particularly important in low snow years, like last year. For skate skiers this is the ONLY place in the Southern Big Horns to skate ski. My family and I attend events that The Nordic Club hosts at Pole Creek including the annual Pole Creek Challenge and the educational courses to teach beginners how to ski. I have also volunteered with the Nordic Club to trim trees and clear the trails in the summer. I regularly see moose in this area. In the summer, my family likes to ride mountain bikes on these same roads. This area is a very small part of your total project area and needs to be protected for it's resource value. The future of the Big Horn Mountains is recreation and there has already been a huge investment (est. \$250,000 including volunteer time) in this area for the past 50 years. It would make no sense to log it now for little gain and loose that valuable USFS resource.