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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support the following improvements:

Steep Creek Intertie - make this under/overpass skiable in the winter! A connection between the Dredge Lake trail system and the Powerline & Under Thunder Trails would allow for seamless skiing along the east side of the valley, through Dredge Lake, across the Mendenhall River, on up to the Montana Creek valley, and into Spaulding Meadows....without having to take your skis off!

Lake Shore Trail - it's in almost all the alternatives and I am for making this trail wide enough for a machine to groom for winter skiing!

Mendenhall River Bridge - this vital link in our expanding system is a critical component to making the Mendenhall Valley a world-class ski destination....keep it in!

Dredge Lakes Loop - encircling the Dredge Lakes area, a 12' wide trail would enable winter grooming for skiers, bikers, and walkers alike. This is only in alternative 6, but I support its full inclusion in all alternatives.

Mendenhall Campground Cabins - the JNSC suggests the proposed caretaker's cabin at the entrance double as a winter-time warming hut for skiers. I am concerned about the impact the other campground cabins will have on deteriorating grooming conditions by non-skiers accessing cabins on foot, and suggest placing cabins elsewhere on the west side of the lake where there is road access.

Skater's Cabin Parking - the additional parking lots in alternatives 5 - 7 are preferred over adding parking inside the campground (alternatives 2 & 3) near the proposed Mendenhall Bridge.

Tolch Rock Spur Trail - located in the SW corner of the MGRA, this link would connect the MGRA network of trails to the Montana Creek drainage trail system.

West Glacier Trail Ski Loops - I encourage the Forest Service to keep the "high" and "low" loops in all alternatives, allowing for winter-time ski grooming (this may include improvements to the current West Glacier Trail to allow for winter grooming operations).