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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a homeowner on Bear Basin Road we have concern about not being able to access the Forest Service roads, especially Thorn Creek and Brundage Lookout Road, from our property.

We realize that there may always be some conflict with snowmobilers and cross country skiers, but there doesn't have to be. The area at the edge of the USFS land on Bear Basin is very vague as to where you can or can not ride a snowmobile. A clearly marked snowmobile trail from the end of Bear Basin to Brundage Road would help keep everyone stay on their designated path. We purchased our land and built a home on Bear Basin so that we would be able to ride directly from our home without the hassle of trailering our sleds to other areas.

We have concerns about a big new parking lot at the end of Bear Basin Road too. During the summer the road is extremely dusty and busy with speeding ATV and bikers. There are many blind corners on the road causing safety concerns. Summertime brings campers that leave their trailers and tents up for weeks at a time. During the winter Bear Basin Road becomes very narrow due to the snow plowing or the lack of the road getting plowed. During late winter and early spring the road is poorly maintained, there is no sub base or gravel on it. If this new parking area is going to handle the new influx of outdoor enthusiasts it would need to be built to the standards to handle the additional traffic and not left in a mess in the spring for us that live here to deal with.

I am not in favor of the complete closure of Granite Mountain. It seems the mid January closure that is in place now to snow machines seems to work. More signage and boundary markers would be a big improvement in these areas. We are willing to share the back country with skiers but they too need to share the land also. There will always be some that won't follow the rules but this should not condemn the majority of those who do follow the rules and use good etiquette.

Thank you for your time in reviewing our concerns. Please contact me at anytime if I can be of help regarding this project.

Chelsey and Andrea Warrington