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Comments: I would like to comment on the recreational aspects of the project. I am in support of the recreation protection of the two areas of concern, the Granite Mountain backcountry skiing area, currently leased to Brundage Mountain resort and the Bear Basin area, currently leased for wintertime use by the Payette Lakes Ski Club.

In reading other comments, the Granite Mountain is used not just by well-to-do outsiders but it is the premier destination for locals/tourists seeking one of the only non-motorized accessible areas in the county. I support keeping it closed to motorized activities. There are thousands of other acres of not only groomed trails but non-groomed ones as well, to open meadows and the ever-popular highmarking slopes. The commercial aspect of the area is welcomed by many people, local and not so local. Brundage Mountain not only provides a service for locals and those from outside the area, but the local jobs - ski guide, cat driver and groomer, mechanics, food service, admin- that are supported are a needed niche part of our winter economy. The McCall winter economy would not be what it is without this backcountry service and the mountain company that provides it and the groomed trails, food service and increasing residential properties at the ski area.

Bear Basin has proven to be the premier Nordic ski area on this side of the state, drawing an extremely active local youth/junior ski program, locals of all ages, as well as skiers from across the Pacific Northwest. Right now its a well -used, compact area that could use some expansion and protection to better serve those looking for a human-powered form of winter recreation. I learned at the scoping meeting that is currently not off limits for motorized winter and summer use. As with Granite Mountain, there are thousands of other acres open and encouraging motorized use. Surely this area can be protected to offer a quiet, undisturbed area that is treasured by many. I support closing this close-to-town area to all motorized traffic. I would support the passageway on the southern border of the Bear Basin so machines can access the areas to the east of the closure area as it is one of the few ways to access that area.

For both of these areas, closure without enforcement means nothing. I have seen both snowmobiles and snow bikes drive right over the polite signs at Bear Basin asking motorized users to ride somewhere else. The same happens at Granite Mtn. The motorized public doesn't seem to have regard for a polite sign and certainly no respect for the peace and quiet of a backcountry/nordic ski experience. Please set up some sort of education/enforcement to publicize the motorized closure areas.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment, I look forward to the implementation of these protected areas.