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Comments: The Pacific Northwest Scenic Trail has no comprehensive plan and no advisory council. The Forest Service was directed to establish both but instead has proceeded with advertising the trail for public use.

According to independent studies, the section passing through the Yaak poses problems for grizzly bears but the forest service disregarded those studies. The public had no input for selection of the existing route which will pose major difficulties for border patrol and search and rescue. There was no EIS and no alternatives were considered. There is no monitoring of trail use and no study to establish the carrying capacity. This trail represents a very poorly executed plan.

The Forest Service needs to choose an advisory council, make a comprehensive plan, involve the public, consider alternatives, do an EIS to establish effects on wildlife, including cumulative effects on grizzly bears, establish a carrying capacity and monitor and control trail use. There should be no advertising for this trail until the trail is legally and properly established.

Thank you,

Pam Fuqua