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First name: Liam

Last name: Harry

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Kaniksu area is important for many types of winter recreation. And, in winter travel planning the Forest Service is required to minimize conflict between OSV use and other recreational uses. "Conflict" as defined by the agency does not have to rise to the level of an altercation or law enforcement response. It includes displacement, degradation of the quality of non-motorized recreation experiences due to OSVs. It is important that the Forest Service understand and respond to input from skiers and snowshoers.

Climate change and adaptation to season start dates and end dates for OSV use needs to be extremely adaptable, especially as wildlife populations landscapes are limited by structural and connectivity challenges. I encourage the FS to consider; not designating the upper Pack River area for OSV use (west of the Pack River Road, including the Harrison Lake Basin south to Mt. Roothaan); not allow grooming of the Cow Creek trail (upper National Forest System Road 655) in order to minimize effects to Canada lynx; keeping the closure dates for cross-country travel outside grizzly bear recovery zones to April 1st and not April 15th because of the spring degradation of OSV vehicles; and designating OSV use to May 1st and all machine run vehicles to allow wildlife and vegetation to establish a healthy ecosystem.