

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/25/2023 12:00:00 PM

First name: Olivia

Last name: Drake

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please consider the following comments regarding the EA for the proposed Kaniksu Over Snow Vehicle travel plan Proposed Action.

I am a third-generation Boundary County resident who appreciates all that the forest provides, including scenic beauty, recreation, and crucial wildlife habitat, along with commercial forest products which have historically supported our local economy. I participated as a member of the NIWG which helped to provide a preliminary recommendation for the travel map.

I would like to thank all of those that facilitated, and participated in, the working group. I appreciate that the Forest Service was willing to hear the NIWG recommendations and that the proposed action took those recommendations into consideration.

While I support the proposed action, that support is with reservation. I do believe that the Forest Service has presented an acceptable plan considering the constraints placed upon it by overreaching federal regulations and special-interest groups. While the plan appears to provide a balance of motorized and non-motorized recreational opportunities, there is still an inordinate amount of area with large-scale closures in Boundary County. Enacting these large-scale closures over the long-term does not create a balance between conservation and recreation or productivity/economy. Conservation is necessary, but can be achieved without multi-use closures.

Lastly, for a large travel plan such as this, the mapping provided for comment (even the high-resolution format available for download) was not ideal. I hope that easily readable map applications will be created before the travel plan is implemented.

Thank you for your considerations,