Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/7/2023 7:08:53 PM

First name: Loren Last name: Crea Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the draft assessment and species of concern list. The use of "best available scientific information" is likely the most effective and least biased approach to the study. However, I have noted, perhaps in error, that some of the leadership and coordinators are, by information publicly available, biased toward keeping recreation out of the Lolo NF year round. An off-hand comment by an individual at a recent round table discussion said that they had heard of snowmobilers harassing a wolverine in the winter. That is certainly alarming, if true, but in all my years accessing this backcountry (over 50 years), I've never seen any sign of a wolverine in the Lolo. The comment drew a considerable amount of attention and is likely an emotional response and an attempt to keep recreational use out of the forest. Having memberships in several motorized recreational groups, the aforementioned behavior is not condoned whatsoever. Please do not allow such emotion to alter the truth that is probably found in the scientific approach to the assessment.