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Comments: I am writing to share my feedback on the Kootenai OSV Travel Management Plan. I enjoy recreating on public land and I want to express my support for keeping access open for all types of recreation uses, including OSV use. I believe through proper management and education trails roads and areas can remain open without negative impacts. Proper access will help mitigate damage by preventing concentration of use and impacts.

Wildlife in the area of concern within the management plan I believe not to be a problem. Yellowstone NP conducted a study on motorized winter use on wildlife and showed no significant impact. Areas should not be restricted due to potential denning habitat. So I believe that it would be the same in the proposed areas.

These forests include wilderness areas and other restrictive designations. In other words, there is already very restrictive management in the areas bordering the forest and Forest Service lands and they should be managed for the greatest good for the greatest number of people. Currently approximately one million acres of the forest is set aside from this planning process due to restrictive management designations.

Dry Creek Area should not be removed due to proximity to Wilderness. The USFS cannot create buffer zones.

I am opposed to the USFS closing any areas to OSV use for alleged user conflict. USFS shouldn't be basing its decisions off of the subjective preferences of users who want to restrict the use of others. Areas that are currently closed to motorized users for cross country skiing should be analyzed to be opened to OSV use. It is clear in other areas these uses can co-exist.

In conclusion, I believe in shared use and that there is enough public land for all to enjoy as long as agencies use best practices. Please refrain from closing historical snowmobiling areas. We've lost enough already.