Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/7/2023 3:57:52 PM
First name: Sonny
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Organization:
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Comments: Thanks for your efforts in winter travel planning and considering my input. I am grateful to see motorized use will not be allowed in recommended wilderness areas.

I'm a supporter of the efforts of the Kootenai Forest Stakeholders Coalition. I think their collaborative approach has produced an agreement that is balanced, sensible, and overall benefits community and natural resources. I've also seen KFSC go to bat for the Forest Service on numerous occasions. I'd like to see the results winter travel planning support their efforts.

I see that as being possible if you exclude motorized use of roadless areas in the southern Cabinets (Allen Peak, Galena, Barren Peak) that the KFSC has identified as being important for protection. The Cabinet Mountain Wilderness is incredibly narrow - their needs to be eventual expansion of the lower lying terrain adjacent to the wilderness in order to realize the full potential of the area for protecting wildlife habitat. Not allowing motorized use in the roadless areas most suited for expanded wilderness will help in the KFSC's efforts to protect the resource. A lot of this terrain is very steep and densely timbered, making it not prime OSV riding grounds anyhow.

I think it is best for the resource and community if your agency supported the efforts of KFSC by excluding OSV use in those three roadless areas.