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Title:

Comments: I think that the majority of this plan seems pretty solid, aside from a few important aspects, such controversies in the roadless areas in Galena, Barren, and Allen Peak. As stated in the plan, the Forest Service has proposed to allow most of these areas to be used for Over Snow Vehicle use, which could harm the local habitats for grizzly bears, wolverines, fishers, and Canada lynx. Much of these areas provide habitat connectivity for the region, so it is vital that we protect these lands in order to protect these species, so I think that these areas of Galena, Barren, and Allen Peak should be set aside and protected against OSV use. Along with this, there is already over 1.2 million acres proposed to be used for OSV use, so this seems like more than enough space within the Kootenai National Forest for OSV use. Also, something that I think is missing from this report is the fact that snowfall varies from year to year, and this could affect how the land is impacted from OSV use. For example, if there is a year with less than normal snowfall, this could cause OSV use to more negatively affect the undergrowth and trees within these areas. Whereas if there was more snow than expected, the habitat would be better protected from OSV use. I think that this plan is too rigid, and instead it should change the proposed areas for OSV use depending on the amount of snowfall per year. For example, say if there is between this and this amount of snow, then these areas are open for OSV use, whereas if there's less than this amount of snowfall, then these areas will be closed for that winter. I just think that the weather and amount of snowfall each year should determine which areas are open for OSV use, rather than setting defined areas not dependent on snowfall. This will protect the environment much better as undergrowth and trees under the snow will be better protected with this kept in mind. In conclusion, I think the main areas this plan needs to address are habitat connectivity within the three areas I mentioned, along with having a more adjustable plan due to weather conditions.