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Title:

Comments: I wanted to comment on this project and on most of it I think it's a good plan. I have a few things that don't think are best for some of the users for specific areas in this project on USFS land. First I do not want you to change the motorized closure on Granite mountain to year round. This was negotiated a long time ago with the snowmobile community and was a way that those users could still use this area before and after the Brundage mountain catski program was operating. I have been a long time guide with this program and I appreciate the closure during our operating season, but after it over or before we start is a good time for others, myself included to enjoy this exceptional area on our own snow machines. To close this year round will be cause for more conflict and animosity and our program already struggles with users who don't respect the existing closure and damage our boundary signs and track up the ski terrain which makes it less safe for us to ski through the deep trenches that the snowmobiles leave behind. The enforcement of the closure has been very sporadic and not effective in keeping motorized users out of the closed area. I don't think extending this will make this any easier to enforce, in fact it will be even harder especially for those people who are now really going to go out of their way to show the authorities that you are not going to tell them where they can and cannot go. We see this already. I think that to balance the use the existing seasonal closure is best and gives everyone a chance to use this area.

Next I think that the Bear Basin trail system for mountain bikes is a good start, but would like to see more trails there. CIMBA has given some input to the forest service and I think it would benefit us all to look at their input for additional trails in this area. I would also like to see options for pedal assist e-bikes in the area as well. The additional trail access parking areas are also a great idea.

I would like to see more single track motorized trails in the area and ones that provide loop opportunities. I see that some of the existing forest roads and user created routes are slated to be closed and maybe some of those could be converted to atv, utv, or single track trails instead of being obliterated. The motorized use on public lands are increasing and we need more places for people to go, not less. Being a backpacker I can always find a place to go with little to no other users, but trying to find those places with a motorcycle or atv is much harder. I have lived in this area for 40 years and I believe we have seen at least 40% of motorized multi use routes closed to just the motorized users and the other users remained, although typically the trails then suffer from no use and no maintenance and then disappear. Use is a good thing for trails, and I believe that the motorized users are most likely the ones that will carry a chainsaw and try to keep these routes clear. I'm a board member of CITRA which is the local motorcycle club and we clear over 200 miles of trails on the Payette National Forest every year. So I see the problems first hand and have seen the reduction in trail crews that the forest has funding for, so we need to take a different path to keeping the public involved in taking care of our roads and trails and by creating loop trails and not excluding motorized users from trails will help with the maintenance of our trail system and hopefully it will be there for many more generations of people who enjoy , value and cherish our public land.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.