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First name: Nathan

Last name: Tood

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Payette NF.

I would like to thank the USFS for the opportunity to comment on the Goose Lake restoration project. Many of the project proposals will benefit public land users though there are plenty that do not.

I am pleased that parking and toilets will be added to locations on the forest. I feel this is absolutely necessary to keep these areas clean and sanitary for user groups. Plus with increase in user traffic it benefits roadside and parking area vegetation to keep overflow on solid surfaces.

The introduction of more mountain bike trails will help disperse riders and help prevent potential accidents on overcrowded weekend trails as well as limiting incursions from bike and horse traffic on bike specific terrain. The variety of proposed trails fits the style of riding I appreciate in our local area.

I don't support the closure of all dispersed camping areas especially near Brundage resort. I feel like this is setting a tone of "Haves vs Have nots," or "Not in my backyard." Though dispersed camping should be better managed to prevent user impacts on the landscape. At times it does feel like free for all in areas around bear basin. In addition the USFS should create more camping opportunities on the forest especially as visitor numbers continue to go up around the area. Camping closer to McCall will benefit our local economy. Please consider additional developed campgrounds to consolidate users.

Lastly, I would like to oppose the year round over snow closure in and around Brundage Mountain Cat Ski terrain. Honestly, I feel this area should be reduced. The footprint of area that Brundage closes during the bulk of winter really takes away from public land users. The amount of user days that Brundage actually has a presence in their permitted area is rather small. They need to show a presence daily to have this closure. They are not doing this because there simply is not a paying user group to fill seats on most winter days. Many motorized travel backcountry skiers and snowmobilers would use this terrain daily if it were open to them. Almost all of our backcountry terrain can only be accessed via a motorized vehicle. This is why we see everything from brand new to beater snowmobiles on the forest every day accessing mixed use terrain for skiing and riding. Lastly, I believe it is not fair for a private company to benefit over public land users.

Thank you,  
Nathan Todd