

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/10/2024 5:38:38 PM

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Organization: Montana Snowbowl

Title:

Comments: Addressing the Desired Recreation Opportunity Spectrum in the Greater Missoula area, specifically the proposed designation of semi-primitive motorized use around Montana Snowbowl on roads 9962 and 4297. We are concerned about the safety of our staff, guests and contractors if this policy is implemented. Our Special Use Permit states plans to expand our summer operations to TV Mountain. In this expansion we plan on utilizing existing roads to strengthen our beginner friendly mountain bike trails, and allow for a wider spectrum of abilities to enjoy our outdoors. We are significantly concerned about the simultaneous use of motorized and non-motorized recreation on the same trail, moving in opposing directions, increasing the likelihood of collisions between multi-use users. In addition to our concern about multi-use collisions, we believe that the added noise pollution will diminish our guests sense of place with Montana Snowbowl. Many of our users in the summer come to Snowbowl for the peace and quiet that being in nature brings. Adding in the use of motorized vehicles will take away one of the few natural environments that is easily accessible by our community. The safety and well being of our patrons remains our top priority and we believe adding motorized use on Montana Snowbowl will diminish the guest experience and increase potential hazards.