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Comments: 1. Lolo Pass offers the most reliable snowpack in the region, but inconsistent grooming and limited trails make it difficult to count on good skiing. In a good snow year, enhanced Nordic Skiing on the MT side of Lolo Pass would extend the nordic skiing season by many months. In a bad season, more likely now with climate change, enhanced and improved grooming and trails on and near the pass will be the last respite of this Montana tradition. Please include grooming access on the Montana side of Lolo Pass between Lee Creek Campground and Lolo Pass.

2. As Missoula grows, more National Forest users are looking for healthy exercise on our public lands. The Pattee Canyon/Dean Stone areas are a great example of this trend, with increased usage in all months, but with winter posing specific challenges. When the instructional programs for kids are held at Pattee, parking at the trailhead is a major concern. And with the challenges of climate change to grow, it's also imperative to allow grooming access and trailhead access to higher elevation zones on the Dean Stone Ridge and Skyline Ridge 2127-1 Trailhead and USFS lands and roads to the west and southeast.

3. To protect the nordic skiing tradition in west central MT, perhaps no management change is more pressing than increased winter access to Gold Creek. In order for users to access the trails the club grooms up the Gold Creek drainage, the public needs road access up 1.7 miles of East Fork Rattlesnake/FS 2112 Road from the intersection with Gold Creek Road. Please support Missoula Nordic's goal of establishing trail access in this area as a future climate-safe area for nordic skiing.