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Organization:

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Comments: I am writing to express my overall appreciation for all of the recreational opportunities that are fostered on LNF lands in general and to express my sincere hopes that the new LNF plan includes enhanced investment and development of resources for nordic skiing.

In particular I would like to emphasize that my three children learned to xc ski in Pattee Canyon years ago and they carry this passion with them today. Now, when I go to Pattee Canyon to ski, it is still a wonderful experience and is very accessible with a short drive from Missoula, but it is often hard to park and can be quite crowded. I would recommend adding parking and additional trails, especially at higher elevations that will support a longer season.

I also think it is important to expand the ski trail system at Lolo Pass and to maintain more separation of motorized versus non-motorized recreation there.

In light of our shortening winters because of climate change, I am also very much in support of developing xc ski opportunities in the Gold Creek area, which supports a longer season. I know that some efforts toward this goal will be realized if public had winter access for a couple of miles up the East Fork Rattlesnake Creek Rd, and if adequate parking could be anticipated.

Thank you very much for listening!

Best regards,

John Stephen Lodmell