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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a 25 year resident of Western Montana and use the Lolo National Forest land several times a week to hike, bird watch, cross-country ski, camp and sustainably forage for mushrooms and plants. It's a gem and is enjoyed by thousands of people every year and needs to be taken care of responsibly and sustainably, especially for wildlife.

As far as cross-country skiing, I recommend inclusion of grooming access on the Montana side of Lolo Pass, specifically expansion of groomed nordic ski trails between Lee Creek Campground and Lolo Pass.

For Pattee Canyon, the current infrastructure does not meet the demand as stated in 3.2.8 of the PA. Improved and expanded parking infrastructure is needed as the demand for nordic skiing in Missoula continues to grow. I also recommend the inclusion of grooming and trailhead access in higher elevation areas on the Dean Stone Ridge and Skyline Ridge 2127-1 Trailhead and USFS lands and roads to the west and southeast.

We need road access up 1.7 miles of East Fork Rattlesnake/FS 2112 Road from the intersection with Gold Creek Road. We hope the Forest Service will support us in establishing trail access in this area as a future climate-safe area for nordic skiing.

I also would like fungi to be listed alongside flora and fauna in the forest plan. Fungi provide carbon sequestration, water retention and mycorrhizal connectivity and also provide food for animals and humans alike. I would like the Lolo NF to set a national example of what a forward-thinking forest plan should look like. We're cool and innovative here in Missoula, Montana, and we can do this.

Thank you,

Elena Ulev