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Comments: Thank you for providing us with yet another opportunity to comment on what the Forest Service will do, with a collective mind already made up. Along with several responders, it feels like an exercise in futility, yet here we are again, hoping some sense will fall upon bureaucratic ears. It seems we only have doors A, B C or D to choose from. Whatever happened to the Forest Service moto, Land of Many Uses?

After spending hours reading and taking notes from comments by folks including the County Commissioners of Valley County, off road groups and enthusiasts, watershed protection advocates, friends and neighbors in Yellow Pine, I find the overwhelming response heartening. Most of the respondents support more roads and trails, not fewer! A loud and clear message was repeated numerous times. The economic benefits from increasing the road and trail system, including reopening closed roads, aren't just a good idea for those of us who live here, it is essential to our survival as a community. All the roads being discussed in this plan need to be designated ml2 roads.

The point was also mentioned by several that if a large area of hiking (only) trails is preferred, take yourself into the FRANK. Those of us who are no longer physically able to do so should not be penalized due to age or disabilities. High clearance vehicles, ATVs, UTVs are the only mode of transport that many of us can use to enjoy OUR PUBLIC lands.

Some watershed folks mention the old sediment argument that has been their standard bearer for decades. Since I have been in the area for decades, I can attest to the fact that after storms and slide occurrences, it was often a ROAD that caught much of the material and prevented it from going into a stream. In the same vein, if more selective logging had been allowed, our forests would have been healthier and more able to withstand such occurrences, AND FIRE. My neighbor Sherry Gordon mentioned that having more roads open and travelable, is an essential aid to firefighting efforts when the need arises, as it most certainly will. OR should we stop to build a road during a raging wildfire to contain it?

Other people mentioned the improper gating of FS land without legal process, I concur.

Part of the mission statement from ICL provided by Randy Fox includes protecting 'the land we love'. I submit that is a noble, pie in the sky goal. However, it does not include the means to enjoy that goal with road closures.

I will refer to my comments of the EF/SFRAMP of 11/21/21. Feel free to refer back to those comments.

Again, Land of Many Uses? I don't think so.