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Comments: Key issues and concerns:

I write here to advocate for limiting OSVs to specific sites only. The consideration of allowing OSVs across the indicated greater swaths of USFS lands is unfathomable and frankly reckless. Great #s of deer and elk, not to mention already compromised #s of bighorn sheep, find refuge for important stages of their life cycle in various areas of those proposed here for OSV use. Bird species such as the endemic brown-capped rosy finch and several CO state bird species of concern move across an already thwarted wild landscape in winter and here we go allowing for compromise to core tenants of their habitat during such important seasons. We will only realize after its too late that we have greatly compromised the integrity of USFS wildlands for the gain of few.

As climatic changes continue to unfold in future years, these landscapes will only be pushed further and further into the red zones of stress and drought. If we allow for winter travel by motorized machines thru this greater proposed region, then we will effectively find ourselves behind the ball in allowing for acceptable protective tolerances . It will be too late. Going to the extent proposed will only result in more compromised habitat and loss of wildlife.

As a nordic and backcountry skier, I find great solace and joy in the process of working hard to get myself deep into areas marked as both primitive and non-primitive areas in these maps for the benefit of recreating and knowing these are protected landscapes and quiet. To allow for OSV use across the proposed locations compromises that experience and deteriorates the experience for skiers, snowshoers, hikers, etc. seeking solace in these landscapes and for the wildlife that we may happen across in those special outings.

If such resources are truly at the center of what makes Colorado what it seeks to be, then let's do the right thing and limit OSV use.