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Comments: I am writing to express my concern regarding the US Forest Service proposal to restrict off-highway recreational vehicle (OHRV) use in certain areas. As a disabled individual, I am deeply affected by this potential change, and I urge you to reconsider the implications it holds for people like myself who rely on these vehicles to access and enjoy the outdoors. Outdoor recreation is important to my health and well-being.

OHRVs are more than just recreational tools for many of us; they are essential means of accessing natural areas that would otherwise be inaccessible. For individuals with disabilities, the freedom and joy of experiencing the great outdoors is significantly enhanced by the use of OHRVs. These vehicles enable us to navigate rough terrains, explore scenic landscapes, and partake in outdoor activities that are vital for our physical and mental well-being. We need more OHRV access for people like me.

Restricting OHRV use without considering the needs of the disabled community overlooks a crucial aspect of inclusivity and accessibility. It is imperative that the US Forest Service balances environmental stewardship with the rights and needs of all users, including those with mobility impairments. By imposing broad restrictions, the US Forest Service risks alienating a segment of the population that greatly benefits from these recreational opportunities.

I propose that instead of implementing sweeping restrictions, the US Forest Service considers a more nuanced approach that includes:

1. Designating specific trails and areas where OHRV use is permitted, with clear guidelines to minimize environmental impact.
2. Implementing educational programs to promote responsible OHV use among all riders.
3. Engaging with the disabled community to understand their needs and ensuring that their voices are included in the decision-making process.

I am confident that through thoughtful planning and collaboration, we can find a sustainable solution that preserves the natural environment while also maintaining essential access for disabled individuals. The outdoors should be a place where everyone, regardless of physical ability, can find joy and solace.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. I look forward to your positive response and am willing to participate in any further discussions or consultations needed to achieve a fair and balanced outcome.