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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My friends and I make frequent use of the Langohr roads for cross country skiing every winter. So I would like to see Forest Roads 6230, 6231, 6233, and 6235 and all their branches open for skiing from December 1 to March 31. The groomed trails elsewhere in the Hyalite area are often icy and crowded. And our cross-country skis are wider than the set tracks. We prefer to make our own track on the Langohr roads. The 2006 Travel Management Plan gave little attention to cross-country skiers even though they had actively participated in the public comment opportunities. The record of decision (p.51) states: "Some of the ski trails will be groomed on an occasional basis." However, most of the ski trails are groomed regularly. The Langohr area is the only place without groomed trails where a skier can find enough terrain for a full day of skiing.

I hope the proposed work will be done more carefully than the thinning and burning done at the north end of FR 6231 recently; it left burn piles blocking the roads and the burning of these piles was incomplete, so the area now is now difficult to ski thru and unsightly.

I trust that two especially beneficial actions mentioned in the scoping document will be carried out fully and carefully. These are the preservation of "long-lived, fire-resistant species such as Douglas-fir, and large diameter trees" and the removal of old and new temporary roads. Much of the area has been clearcut in the past, but there are a few huge old Douglas-firs in several locations, especially near the ridge tops that should be protected from cutting. And there are presently too many open side roads where careless campers stay for long periods in the warmer months. These campers often leave a lot of trash, set up shooting ranges, and build huge fire rings. It is important that these existing and any new temporary side roads be obliterated.