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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a dedicated and responsible motorized recreational driver, I appreciate the importance of maintaining forest health and reducing wildfire risks in the Whitetail-State Creek area. I fully support efforts to improve forest resilience and habitat quality, which ultimately benefits all users and the environment.

However, I am concerned about the planned decommissioning of 5.4 miles of forest roads. These reductions in the road network will limit motorized access and trail opportunities for motorized recreationists like myself who value and respect these public lands. Access is already challenging in many parts of our region, and losing permanent routes could disproportionately impact the motorized community.

I urge the Forest Service to carefully balance ecological goals with the need to preserve reasonable motorized trail connectivity. Clear communication about temporary access restrictions during project operations will help riders plan responsibly and avoid conflicts.

Lastly, I commit as always to driving safely, staying on designated routes, respecting closures, and supporting the stewardship of the forests we all enjoy. Please consider the recreational community's voice as you finalize and implement this project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nichol Phillips, Washington State Director, Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association