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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Whitetail-State Cr. Project Team,

I currently hold a position on the Montana FWP Parks and Recreation Board. Appointed by Governor Gianforte, I serve as an advocate for Montana's outdoor recreating community. As an outdoor enthusiast myself, I am passionate about multiple-use recreation.

The Whitetail-State area has been very popular for motorized multiple-use recreation for many years. Access to excellent recreational trails and the availability of adjacent dispersed camping opportunities make this area a treasured gem for many. Visitors from Butte, Helena, Boulder, Townsend, Bozeman, Whitehall, and Great Falls enjoy the recreation opportunities the Whitetail-State offers.

I fully support the project's efforts to improve forest health. My concern is the project does not address the high recreational value of the project area. All current recreation activities should be protected. Dispersed camping areas should be recognized and inventoried. All multiple-use recreational trail prisms and their corridors should be accurately identified, documented, and preserved.

To the many that enjoy motorized recreation (4X4, side by side, ATV, and trail motorcycle) any forest treatment that would result in any loss of these opportunities would be devastating.

The Forest Service is in a position to demonstrate the agency's desire to perpetuate and improve outdoor recreation. A project plan should be presented to the public that clearly states the agency's actions to support and improve multiple-use recreation in the project area. The plan should preserve current activity and include options for future recreation needs.

Thank you for this consideration.