

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/24/2026 5:57:34 PM

First name: Chris

Last name: Alonso

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in regards to the Rio Grande National Forest Over-Snow Travel Project.

I support Alternative 4, with a clear effort to carve out parts of the forest for a quiet, non-motorized winter. As a longtime winter sports enthusiast, my family and I really enjoy the winter nordic experience and get so much out of it - the quiet, the mountains in winter - its a beautiful peaceful thing that we need to actively protect.

One reason why I support alternative-4 is that I feel it is important to maximize the public's sense of ownership and stewardship of our public lands. The more people who get out and enjoy the forest in whatever form they seek - provided it does not encroach on someone elses ability to enjoy the land - should be encouraged. The fact is there is enough land to go around for everyone - sledders can have their drainages, the quiet-lovers can get theirs, with plenty left over for the critters to live comfortably. But to do this requires active management and a partitioning up of the forest to avoid conflicts and control impact.

Alternative 4 is a good start to this in that its acknowledging that there needs to be some partitioning of the land. But in addition, for this to work, it has to work at the local level for stakeholders - the forest is big enough so if I have to drive 2 hours to find the quiet spot for winter, its simply not going to work. Thus I support alternative-4, with an effort by the forest service to really zoom into each subdistrict in the forest to figure out what works for each region.

Again, the goal as I see it is maximizing stakeholder-ness of our public lands. Everyone is welcome, but we have to setup some ground rules to minimize conflict and make sure everyones needs are values and represented.