

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/1/2026 1:44:36 AM

First name: Lisa

Last name: Mulvany

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am commenting on the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision because I am deeply concerned about losing motorized access to the places people use. For my family, motorized access is essential for hunting, camping, gathering firewood and other forest products, reaching emergency and county roads, and especially for taking older or disabled family members into the forest. If access is limited, narrowed, or restricted to designated routes only, we would lose our way of life and our ability to share the outdoors with our handicapped children and elderly parents and grandparents. I have seen firsthand how road closures and reduced access have made it harder to get firewood and monitor for wildfires. The growing wildfire nightmare is made worse by heavy fuel loads that come from lack of management and limited public access. When emergency vehicles can't get to fires quickly because of closed or blocked roads, it slows down efforts to control fires and puts communities, homes, and infrastructure at greater risk. Roads are not just for recreation-they are needed for working uses, maintenance, and fast fire response. The Forest Service must not keep limiting public access. Instead, it needs to manage forests and fuels actively and keep roads usable for both work and emergency needs. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) does not provide enough clear, route-level information for the public to understand how the plan will actually affect real roads, routes, Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) settings, management areas, or future Travel Management decisions. Without this information, the public cannot give meaningful input or see what the plan means on the ground. As landowners in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest for fifty years, we have seen access get more limited every year. This makes it harder to collect firewood, help monitor for wildfires, and enjoy the land and wildlife as we always have. The Forest Service must focus less on cutting access and more on managing fuel loads and keeping forests healthy. I am asking the Forest Service to protect and maintain existing public motorized access and current open-area or cross-country opportunities wherever they exist. The final plan must not use plan components to set up future motorized access reductions. Where access has already been reduced, it must be restored. The plan must include clear direction that prevents public access from being narrowed through future decisions. The plan must also maintain the roads, water access, material sources, safety areas, and coordination needed for timely fire response, and it must measure and report on whether promised treatments and response capabilities are actually delivered.