

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/18/2026 11:22:36 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Catherine Creek area is very important to me and my family. We spend a lot of time there camping, hiking, fishing, hunting, and picking mushrooms and huckleberries. Taking my kids into the forest for these activities is how I teach them about the outdoors and help them build an appreciation for public lands. These trips are a big part of our family life and traditions. Maintaining access to the main Catherine Creek roads and the spur roads that branch from them is essential for us to continue these activities. Different seasons and uses require access to different parts of the forest, and having a network of roads makes it possible for families to explore and use the forest responsibly. If these roads are closed or access is restricted, families like mine could lose the chance to hunt, fish, hike, camp, and gather in the area. These are not just recreational activities-they are important for building connections between children and the natural world, and for passing down family traditions. The Forest Service must protect and maintain existing motorized access throughout the Catherine Creek area and restore access where it has already been reduced. Wildlife and habitat direction must not be used to narrow motorized access. The plan must also support fuels work, active forest management, reliable emergency access, and effective fire response. The Forest Service must fully disclose and analyze the effects of any habitat, wildlife, or access changes on roads, routes, families, and local communities. I am asking the Forest Service to keep reasonable public access open across the Catherine Creek area, including the main roads and spur roads that make these family activities possible. manage the forest in a way that protects its health while keeping it accessible for families who use it responsibly. The final Forest Plan must preserve meaningful access so that families can continue to explore, learn, and create lasting memories in these public lands.