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First name: Jane

Last name: Grossman

Organization: &lt;not applicable&gt;

Title: Ms

Comments: Hello,

I'm submitting comments to the scoping notice on Over-Snow Vehicle Use Designation.

I'm a backcountry skier and snow shoe enthusiast and I strongly believe that we must set aside areas exclusively for nonmotorized winter recreation. Going out into the wilderness and encountering loud, polluting snow mobiles completely ruins the wilderness experience for me and my friends and families. I imagine the wild life doesn't like it either!

I'm writing to support Snowlands proposal that includes the following winter motor vehicle closures:

Formal closure of two areas near the Cabbage Patch Maintenance Station north of Highway 4 and west of Bear Valley Village. This includes the Poison Spring, Pumpkin Hollow, Mattley Ridge, Flagpole Point, and Thompson Meadow areas. These areas have always afforded great backcountry skiing, but now snowmobiles are starting to encroach into these areas and diminish the backcountry experience for nonmotorized users.

Formal closure of the the Eagle/Night and Pacific Valley Natural Areas. Near Natural areas are identified in the current Forest Plan and were supposed to be managed as nonmotorized. However, no formal Forest Orders were ever issued to close these areas to OSV use, which meant that the closures were unenforceable. Snowmobilers have been violating the nonmotorized designation.

Opening this up to OSV to "historical use" is rewarding violators of the current restrictions.

I also hope you will protect the small area around Herring Creek Road near Strawberry just off Highway 108 from OSV's as well.

Thank you very much for your consideration of my requests. It's for me and for others who enjoy a peaceful and restorative wilderness experience.

Thank you,  
Jane Grossman  
Reno, NV