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Organization:

Title:

Comments: August 12, 2015

Phyllis Ashmead

Forest Service

Stanislaus National Forest, Mi-Wuk Ranger District

P.O. Box 100, 24695 Highway 108

Mi-Wuk Village, CA 95346

Ms. Ashmead,

As a snowmobile rider, I would like this opportunity to join with other concerned and responsible OSV users in addressing the topics of concern regarding the proposed restrictions of part/complete areas that are the Stanislaus National Forest, Cooper Peak, Castle Rock, Three Meadows, Eagle Peak (west side), Eagle Meadow, Sardine Meadow, Red Rock Meadow, Haypress Meadow, Silver Mine areas, the weather station area and St. Mary's area at Sonora Pass.

Snowmobiling has been my passion and sport of preference for the past 6 years, since I was introduced to it by my brother. I've been able to enjoy riding with family and friends along these areas without being a nuisance and without the need to trespass beyond the current outlined boundaries. We are responsible citizens with the outmost respect for the areas above-mentioned, their local citizens, and other visitors. Since we became aware of the plans to reduce access to these areas to OSV users, we have become concerned with the matter. We sincerely question the efficacy of the proposed restrictions; in large, how will these new boundaries be enforced without incurring greater costs on the Forest Service? The proposed map is complicated and will definitely generate confusion and a higher incidence of unintended and, unfortunately, intentional out of bound riders; that is quite the opposite effect that supporters of the new proposed areas hope to gain.

We are distressed at the fact that many OSV users were unable to make their concerns known as they were unaware of the meetings that have been held to address this topic, and would urge you to allow further opportunity for additional meetings and for continuing with the proposed workshop. Again, our main concerns are both, the proposed restrictions on parts or all of the areas aforementioned, and the fact that the plan is highly unenforceable, or at the very least extremely costly. And to that argument, I motion that the proposed wilderness area be re-opened for OSV use in lieu of further restrictions.

Kind Regards,

Allen Holzman

Modesto, CA