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First name: Janet and Bill
Last name: Ford
Organization: Methow Valley Backcountry Horsemen
Title:
Comments: Subject: Twisp Restoration Project

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 'Twisp Restoration Project' and resulting habitat management.

Methow Valley Back Country Horsemen (MVBCH) are generally in favor of the restoration project of 77,038 acres. We favor active management of the forest through forest thinning and logging.

The Twisp River drainage has a unique system of trails accessing the Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness. There are 15 trails located out of 12 trailheads that are all within one hour's travel from Twisp. Continued maintenance of these trailhead roads and trails should be a top priority.

We are on record as being against any system trail closures and need justification for some road closures. Little Bridge Creek Road to the trailhead should remain open as well as the system trail #403.

The proposal for alternating year plowing of roads north and south of the Twisp River for winter logging presents some problems. Where will the temporary alternate snow park be on the north of the river? The regular snow park is on the south of the river.

What Is happening with Poorman Creek road? Will it remain open? This is both a winter and a summer route.

Electric (E) bikes are motorized and should be allowed on forest service roads and on motorized trails in the Gold Creek area or any other designated motorized trails. They don't belong on non-motorized trails. ATVs should be allowed on forest service roads, just as dual sport motor bikes are allowed on those roads.

The proposed 'shaded fuel break' between Black Pine Lake and Lookout mountain presents a unique opportunity. With the equipment used to build this fuel break, a front country trail could be built very reasonably. It is close enough to Twisp to encourage many organizations to use and maintain the trail.

Please confirm receipt of this e-mail.

Yours truly,

WP Ford, Trail Boss MVBCH

Cathy Upper, President MVBCH