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Re: Travel Plan

The purpose of this e-mail is to share my concerns about the proposed Travel Plan that reduces motorized routes. In the plan there are comments about user conflicts. This area has a long historic multi use past. Its just now that a very small vocal group is trying to create an issue when there has been none in the past. It is interesting that non-motorized user complain about motorized use when they use motorized trails to hike. Vehicles are required to stay the trail. hikers can go where ever they choose to walk, but insist on hiking on motorized routes and than complain about the vehicles on them. While some route are opened or left open it does not offset the number that will be closed.

Seasonal closures of routes for deer and elk should only be considered in critical areas, that is in areas the deer and elk winter. Closures of the entire district will not benefit the deer and elk and will be an economical detriment to the area.

I understand the maintenance issues in Ryman Creek, but the loss of motorized would be significant to the area. Has the Forest Service looked to or asked the motorized community to help? Have they asked for a group to adopt the trail? It appears the answer is always close it which increase use elsewhere. The Forest Service could ask for help rather than approach help as a stepping on toes. These options should be exhausted before closures are considered. Once closed forever closed. With an aging population choosing motorized as their preferred method of access to the forest more routes not less will be needed.

Thank you for your time.

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