I am an active member in the Grand Mesa Nordic Council ski group. There are currently some disturbing elements to the USFS plan.

The Winter Travel Map must show all three ski trail systems, Skyway, County Line and Ward, are classified as "Oversnow Vehicles Prohibited Seasonally." This is the long-term, historic classification for these areas. This is how it should remain!

Next, on the 2021 Winter ROS Inventory:

Alternative C categorizes Skyway and County Line systems as "roaded natural" and most of the Ward system as "roaded natural" with a small section (near Skinned Horse) as "Semi-Primitive Motorized." Alternative C miscategorizes the current usage of the eastern part of Ward ski area. It is important in an expanding skier community that the Ward ski area remain non-motorized for winter use.

Alternative D is should be the preferred option for winter travel. It has the greatest area of "Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized" classification in our ski trail systems. This allows the GMNC the greatest area of non-motorized use, and the designation gives us more potential to expand our non-motorized trails in the future.

The GMNC is a growing and expanding non-profit, grassroots organization that offers unique non-motorized outdoor experiences for athletes, enthusiasts and families. Please protect this unique and valuable asset and work with the GMNC as a full partner. Anything less is an insult to the thousands of users, past present and future.

John