

From: Rick Bass rickbass27@gmail.com

Subject: Road and trail closures

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To: kakaiser@fs.fed.us, csavage@fs.fed.us, Robyn King robyn@yaakvalley.org, Jane Jacoby jane@yaakvalley.org, Anthony South anthony@yaakvalley.org

RB

February 15, 2019

Dear Kirsten and Chris Savage,

The Yaak Valley Forest Council is concerned about the various states of disrepair and effectiveness of road closures on the national forest in northwest Montana. For a few years, we've been noting, in ad hoc fashion, various anomalies and inadequacies in road closure effectiveness. As you know, we remain deeply concerned about the protection of high-quality grizzly habitat on the Kootenai, where the primary factor limiting their recovery is not enough areas that are secure from motorized use.

Attending a hearing on his matter in the federal court in Missoula was illuminating and distressing. While most of our observations tend to be Three Rivers-centric, we have little doubt the lack of consistency/effectiveness is restricted to any one district.

Though this is by no means a comprehensive list, we wish to bring to your attention, if it is not already in your records, the following roads:

Road 7224, Zimmerman, Little Spar trailhead, Teepee, Big Creek Baldy, Beetle Creek (Road 748)





, Dry Creek



. Also Vinal Lake trail.







