Gallatin National Forest Travel Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement

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The Forest Service is proposing to revise existing travel and access management direction for the Gallatin National Forest. This Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) responds to the need to update the current travel plan to balance recreation use of roads, trails, and areas and address associated resource concerns related to recreation use of these facilities and areas. The new travel plan will identify and establish opportunities for public recreation use and access using the Forest's road and trail system and establish a system of designated routes for summer motorized uses. Offroute travel by motorized vehicles would be prohibited, except for snowmobiles. For each road and trail the decision will specify the types of uses that are appropriate including pleasure driving, high clearance vehicle use, ATV use, motorcycling, biking, hiking, horseback riding, snowmobiling, and skiing/snowshoeing. Public comments were considered in creating the 7 alternatives presented in this Final EIS through a variety of public forums designed to help create the alternatives. The alternatives represent a broad range of public sentiment regarding road and trail management, and frame the significant issues relating to the decision. This Final EIS will be accompanied by a Record of Decision which will identify the alternative selected by the Forest Supervisor for a Gallatin National Forest Travel Management Plan.