

Conversations for Nez Perce-Clearwater

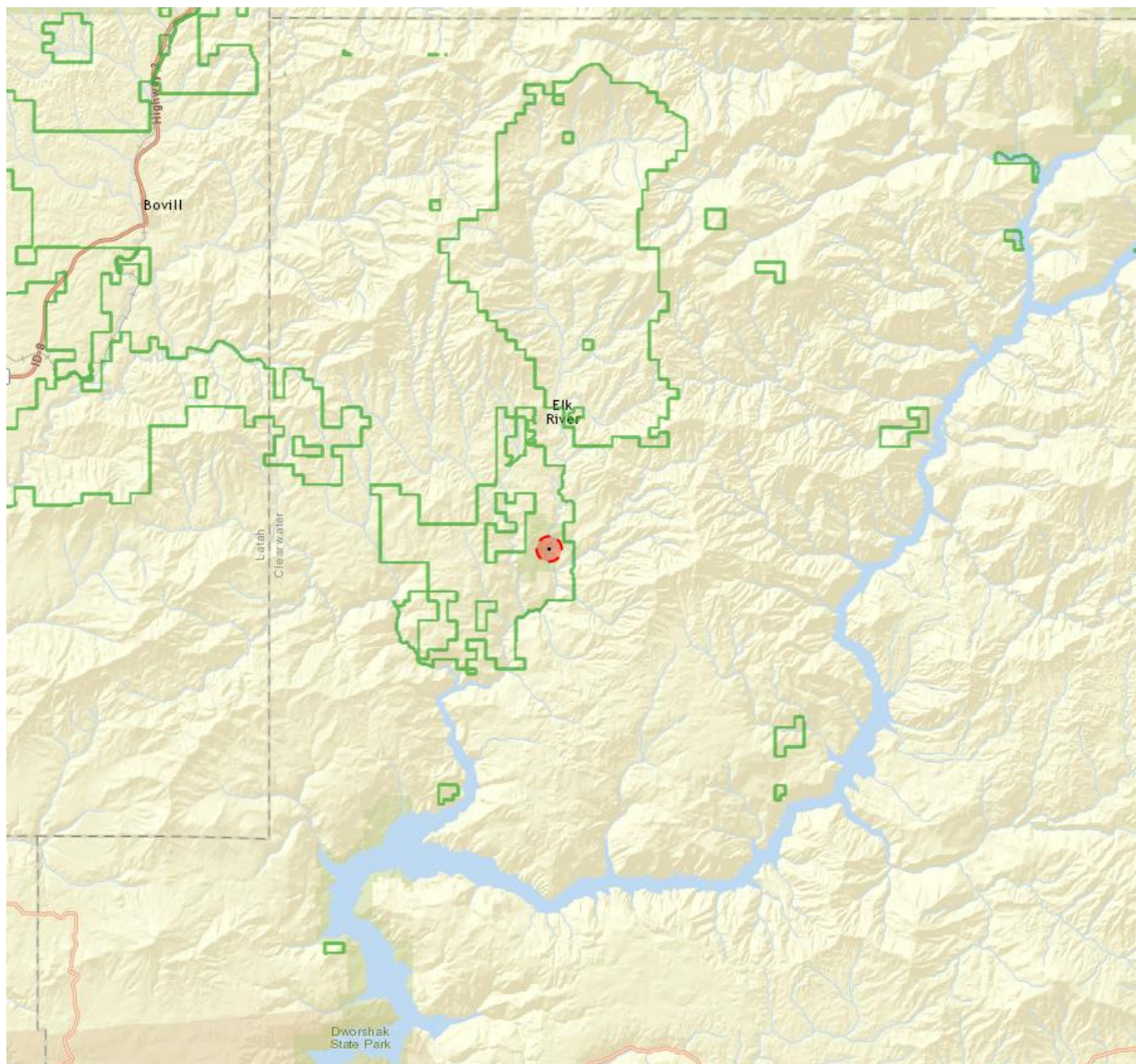
Forest Plan Revision

Comment End Date: Sep 15, 2014

Comment ID: 5241 Received: Mar 04, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

The Elk River and its numerous big waterfalls are a significant attraction for hikers and sightseers. These waterfalls are a unique geologic wonder of the area, and more than justify the Elk being found eligible for Wild and Scenic designation for its scenic, recreational, and geological values.

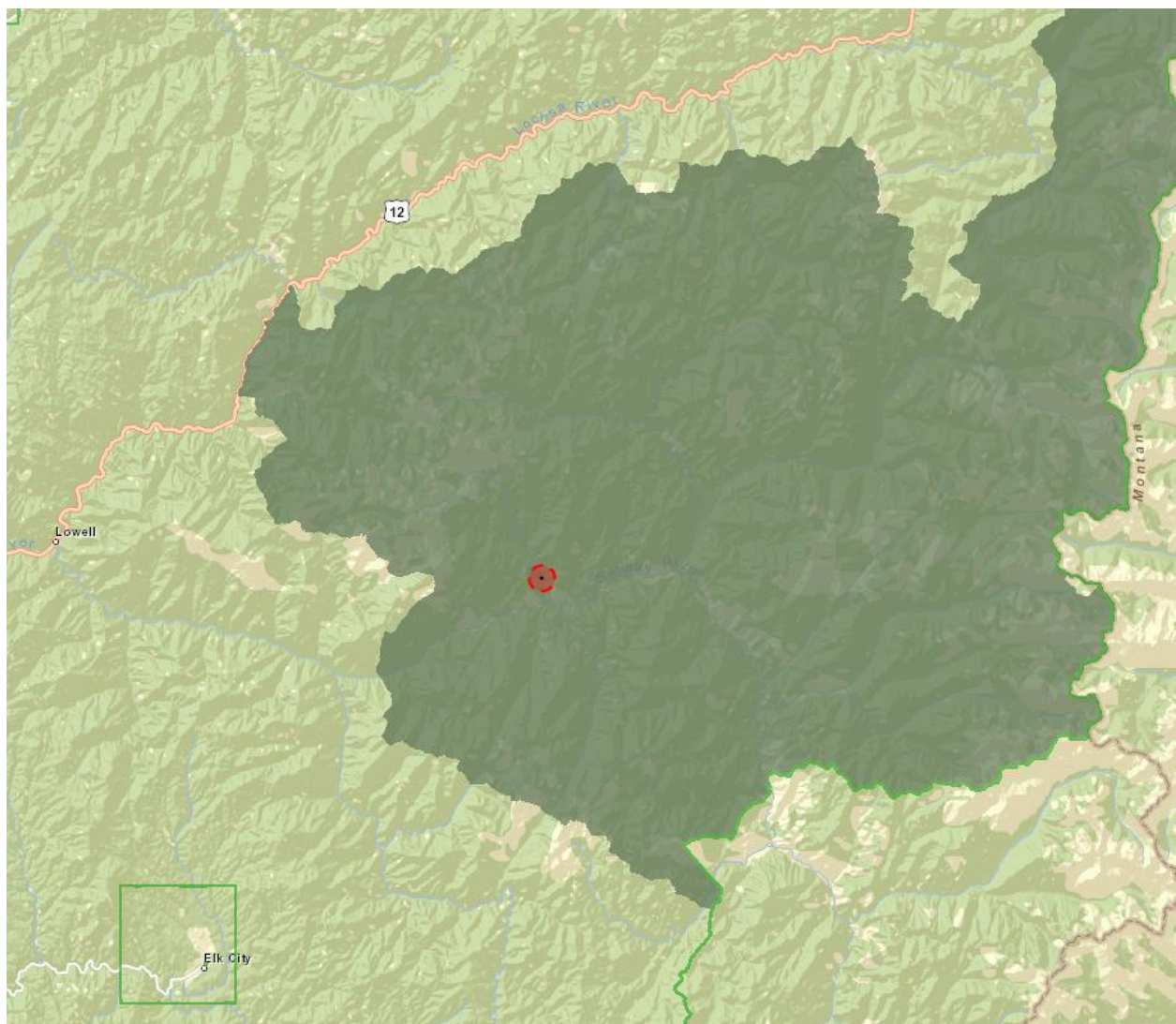
Contact Information: Kevin Colburn kevin@americanwhitewater.org



Comment ID: 5592 Received: Mar 29, 2013 Keyword: Rivers

Three Links Creek was preliminarily deemed unsuitable for Wild and Scenic designation in 1995. This was not a good decision and should be revisited. Three Links is a great whitewater run, a beautiful hike, and on May 2, 2009 we watched a massive steelhead leaping a drop that was located over two miles and 600 vertical feet upstream of the confluence with the Selway. Three Links also has an enormous log jam (pictured) and runs clear even at high water, both indicators of a high energy healthy stream. Three Links is the only whitewater stream that enters the Selway that can't be accessed upstream (Like Bear, Moose, and Meadow). Three Links is a special stream and should be found eligible for Wild and Scenic designation. Suitability determinations are not justified at this time.

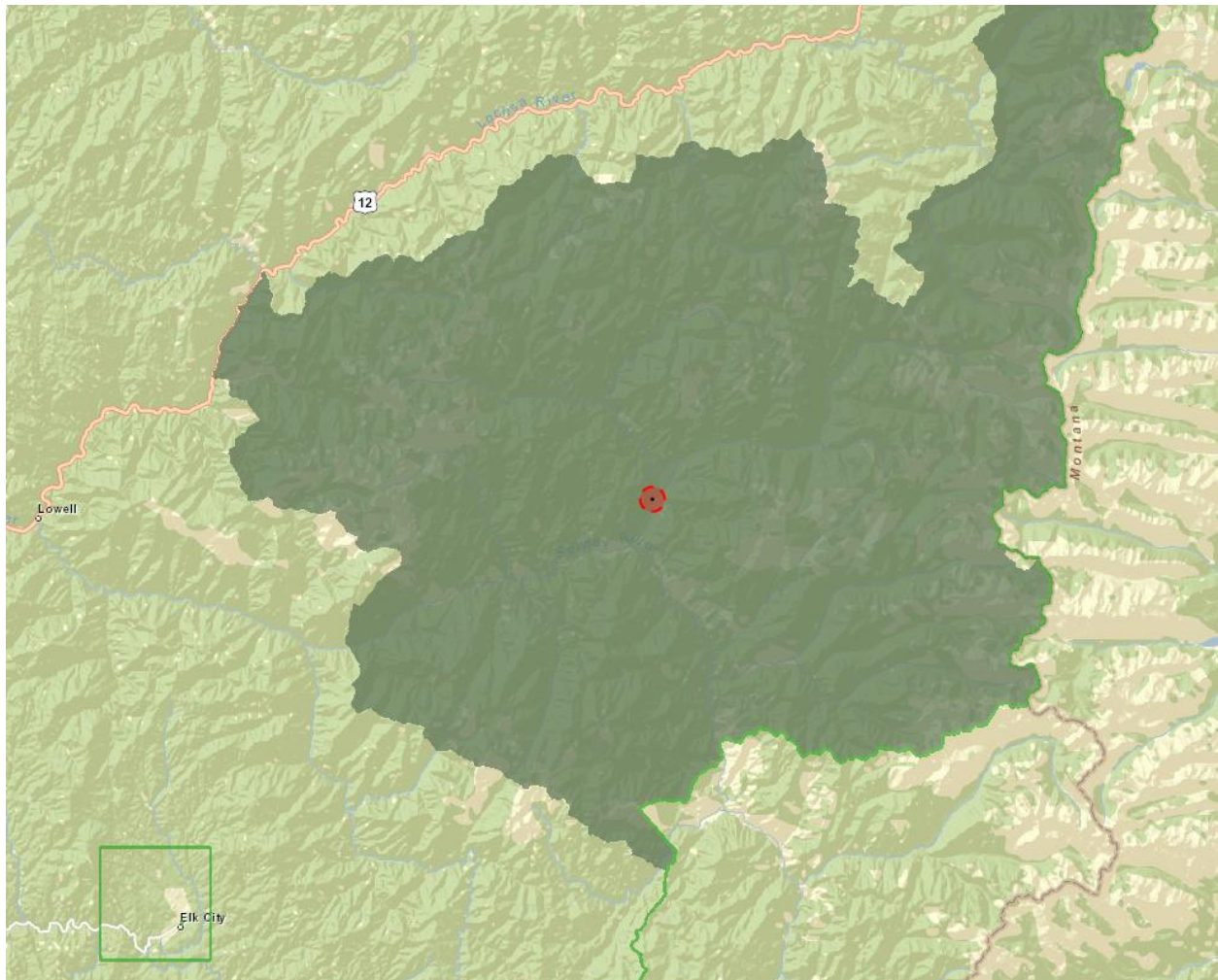
Contact Information: Kevin Colburn kevin@americanwhitewater.org



Comment ID: 5596 Received: Mar 29, 2013 Keyword: Rivers

A 1995 preliminary assessment found the Moose Creek, its East, North, and West Forks, and Rhoda Creek to be unsuitable for Wild and Scenic designation. This conclusion is unsupportable. The Moose Creek Complex is one of the most remote and intact river systems in the region. Each of the aforementioned streams are spectacular whitewater runs that offer a level of inaccessibility virtually unheard of in the lower 48. Their unique recreational values alone should render them eligible for W&S designation. Their fisheries value, especially as spawning and rearing habitat for anadromous species (upon their recovery) is also outstanding. These streams should be found eligible.

Contact Information: Kevin Colburn kevin@americanwhitewater.org



Comment ID: 5675 Received: Apr 09, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Portion of the state Line Trail is highlighted with a line. This trail is important for backcountry bicycle riding.

Contact Information: Greg Beardslee gregb406@msn.com
221 N. Church Ave. Bozeman, MT 59715 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 5762 Received: Apr 15, 2013

Please change all ROS in which the Stateline Trails is in to SPNM.

Contact Information: Al

Reply ID: 12878 Received: Apr 02, 2014

The Great Burn is a vital biological core area for far-ranging wildlife in the northern Rockies. The Great Burn serves as a biological bridge, permitting migration and genetic interchange; without which populations will inbreed and species vigor will diminish. Throughout the year, mountain goats inhabit high rocky terrain, including the high cirque basins in the stateline area. Studies indicate they are particularly sensitive to activity above them. Snowmobile or bicycle activity on the Stateline ridge above occupied mountain goat habitat may displace and threaten mountain goats during particularly vulnerable periods of late winter and spring. Similar evidence reports that such activities in high elevation cirque basins near the Stateline Trail may affect denning wolverines as well. As a result, I urge you to retain closures to both mechanized and motorized uses in the Great Burn area and to recommend the entire area as Recommended Wilderness.

Contact Information: Jonathan joppenheimer@idahoconservation.org

Reply ID: 13019 Received: Apr 03, 2014

I have been all over The Great Burn and have never seen or seen sign of mountain goats. I have been in Glacier Park where the mountain goats are walking around cars and people

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13041 Received: Apr 03, 2014

Have been riding these areas in the Great Burn for 12 yrs...have yet to see any sign of goats in these areas! Why not close Glacier and Yellowstone park to visitors...due to potential habitat infringement! Have had goats in my camp before backpacking in Glacier.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13092 Received: Apr 03, 2014

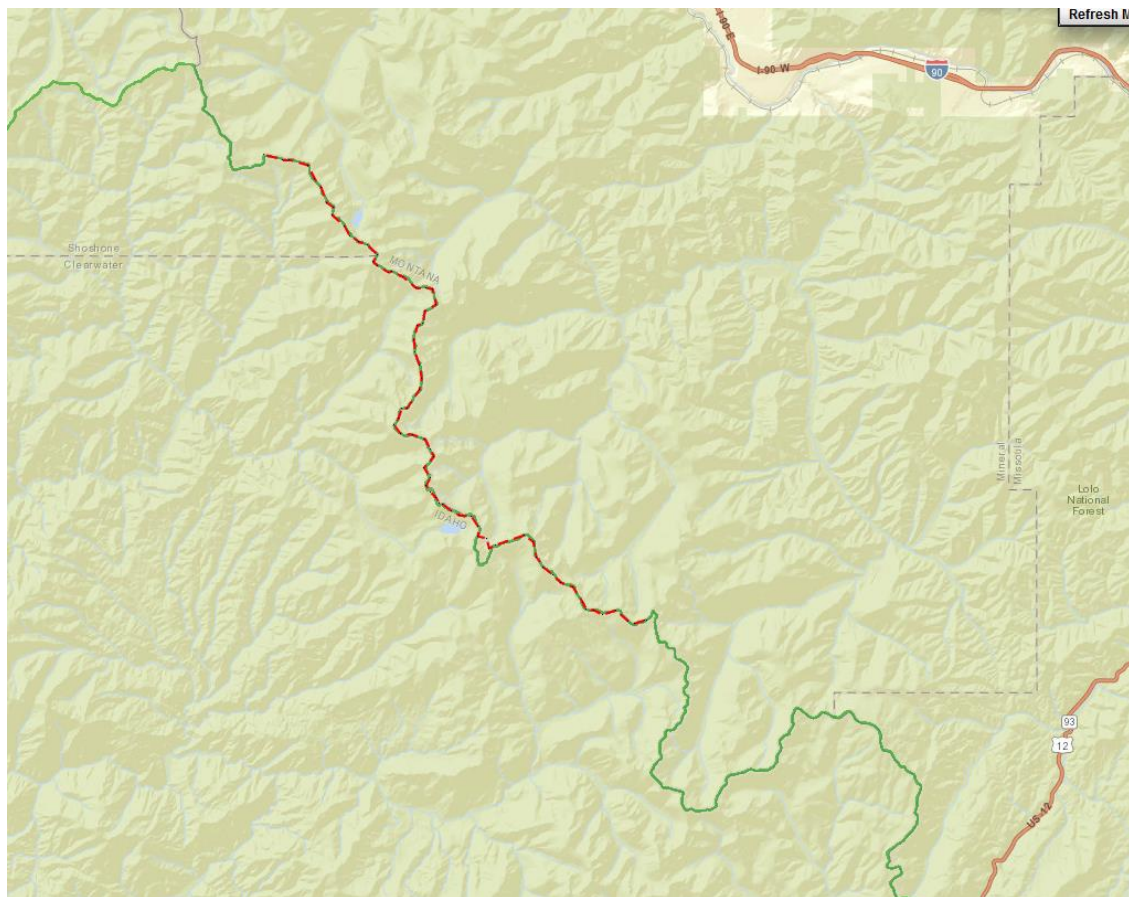
In reply to the alledged threat to mountain goats from snowmobile activities. I have rode a snowmobile in various parts of the great burn since the 1970's. I have never seen any mountain goats in the winter months, nor any sign of them. I believe any conflict as mentioned above to be contrived.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13222 Received: Apr 05, 2014

Over the last 10 years of riding in the Great Burn area I've not seen a Mountain Goat in the area or tracks. As you know 12-15+ feet of snow is not uncommon in the area so there is little to nothing for the Goats to eat. This with the many other claims of wildlife impact from snowmobiling seems a baseless stretch. Additionally I've never seen any documentation about how the impact was assessed by those claiming said impact. Planes, helicopters or snowshoeing the area would be the most logical ways to assess but I'm doubtful the claimants have conducted such an effort, thus claims of impact are simply speculation in my opinion.

No Contact Information



Comment ID: 5678 Received: Apr 09, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Goose Ridge Trail is important for backcountry mountain biking.

Contact Information: Greg Beardslee gregb406@msn.com

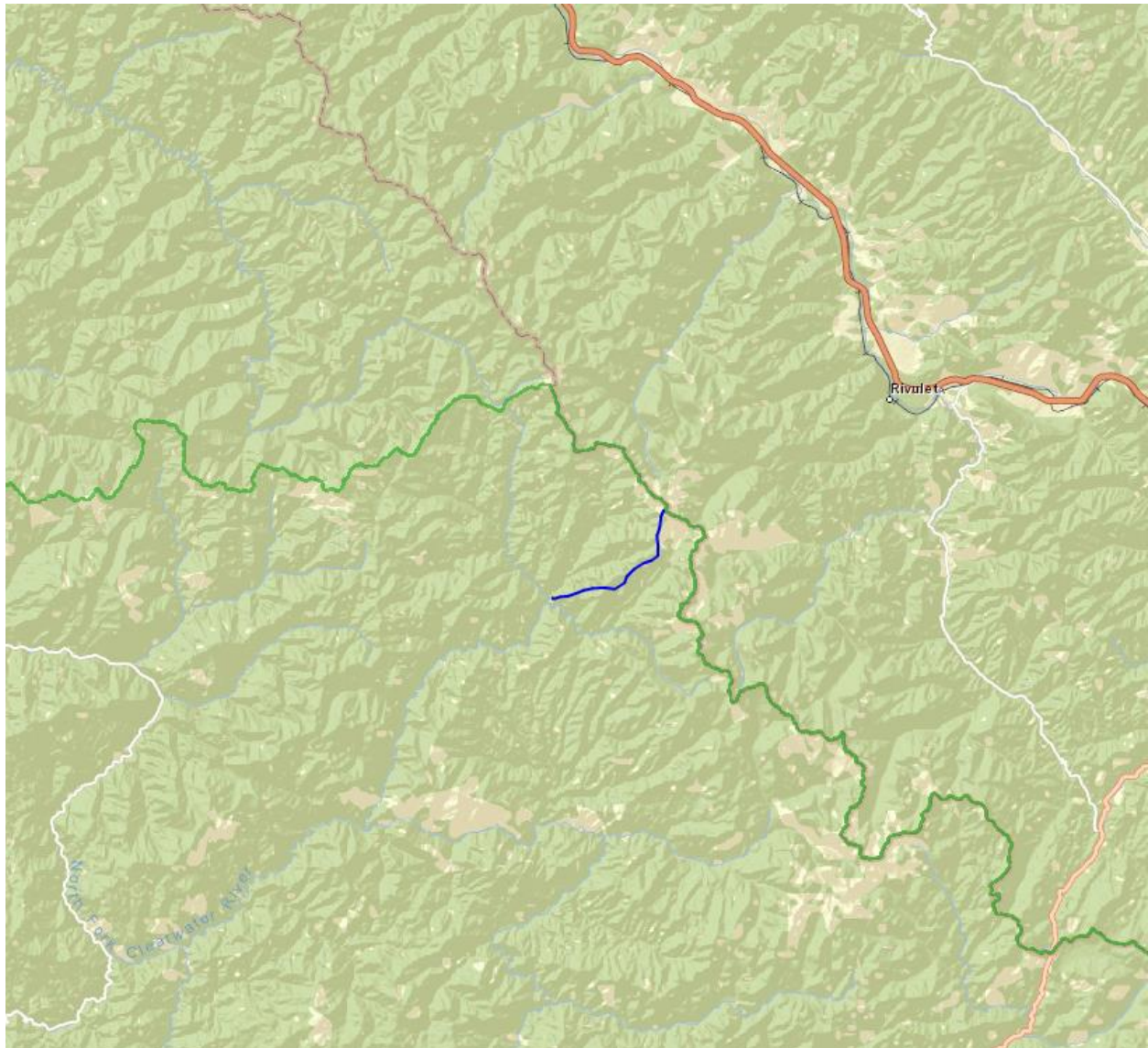
221 N. Church Ave. Bozeman, MT 59715 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 5760 Received: Apr 15, 2013

Please change ROS so that entire trail in blue is in SPNM

Contact Information: Al



Comment ID: 5681 Received: Apr 09, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Goose Creek Trail is important for backcountry mountain bike recreation.

Contact Information: Greg Beardslee gregb406@msn.com

221 N. Church Ave. Bozeman, MT 59715 Preferred contact method: email

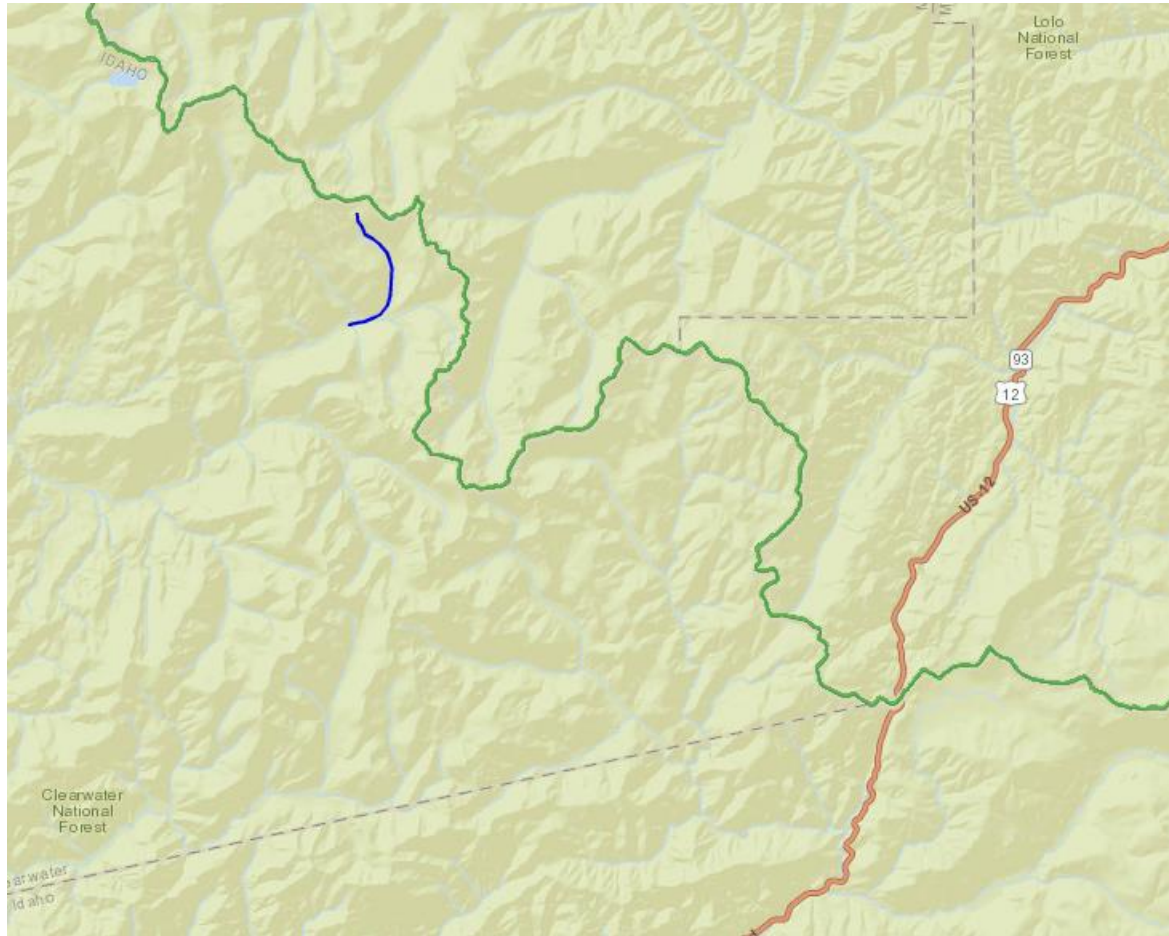


Comment ID: 5684 Received: Apr 09, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Kid Lake Creek to Middle Fork Kelly Creek is important backcountry mountain bike access.

Contact Information: Greg Beardslee gregb406@msn.com

221 N. Church Ave. Bozeman, MT 59715 Preferred contact method: email

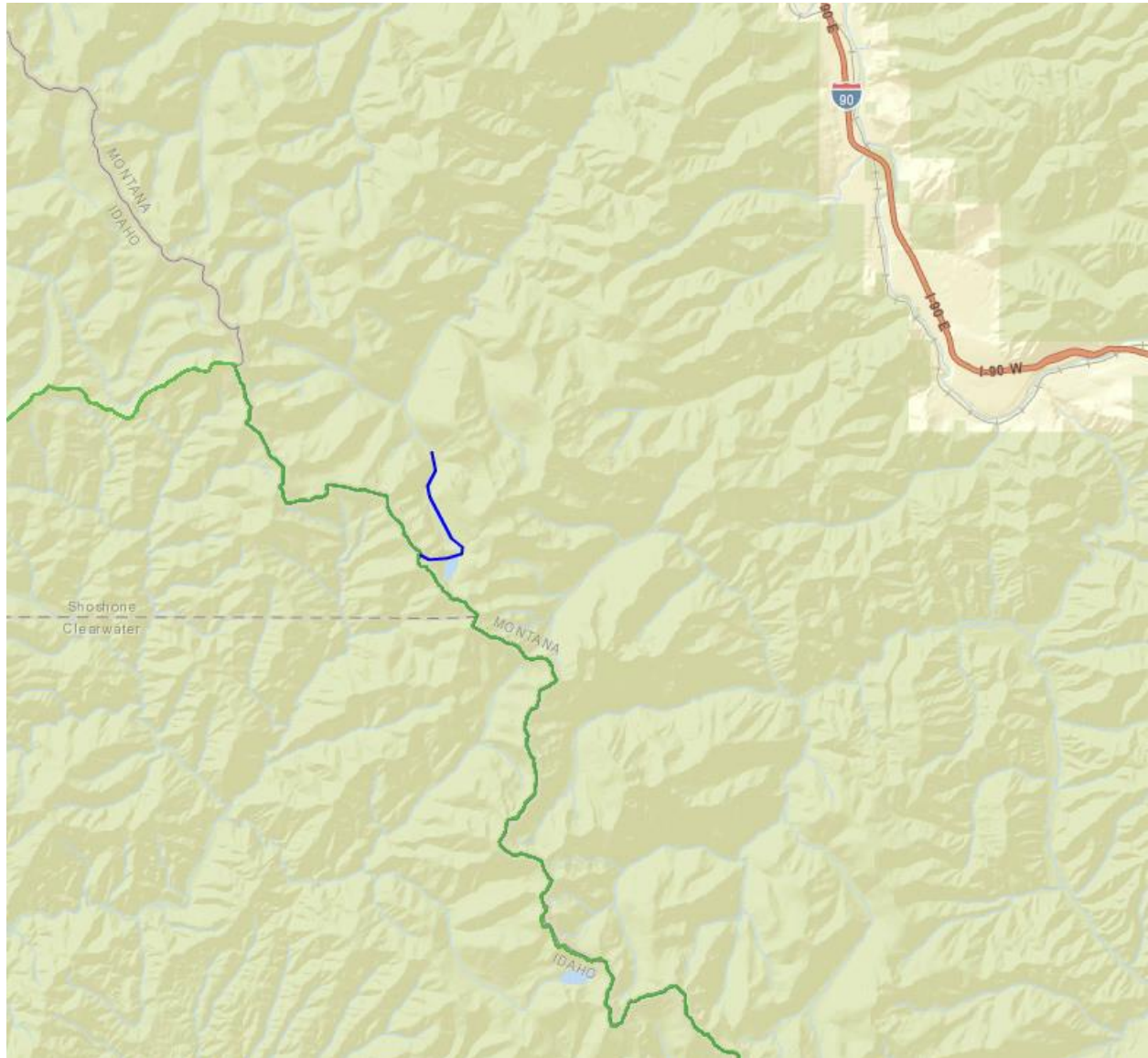


Comment ID: 5687 Received: Apr 09, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Heart Lake trail is an important backcountry mountain bike trail. It is accessed from the State Line trail.

Contact Information: Greg Beardslee gregb406@msn.com

221 N. Church Ave. Bozeman, MT 59715 Preferred contact method: email

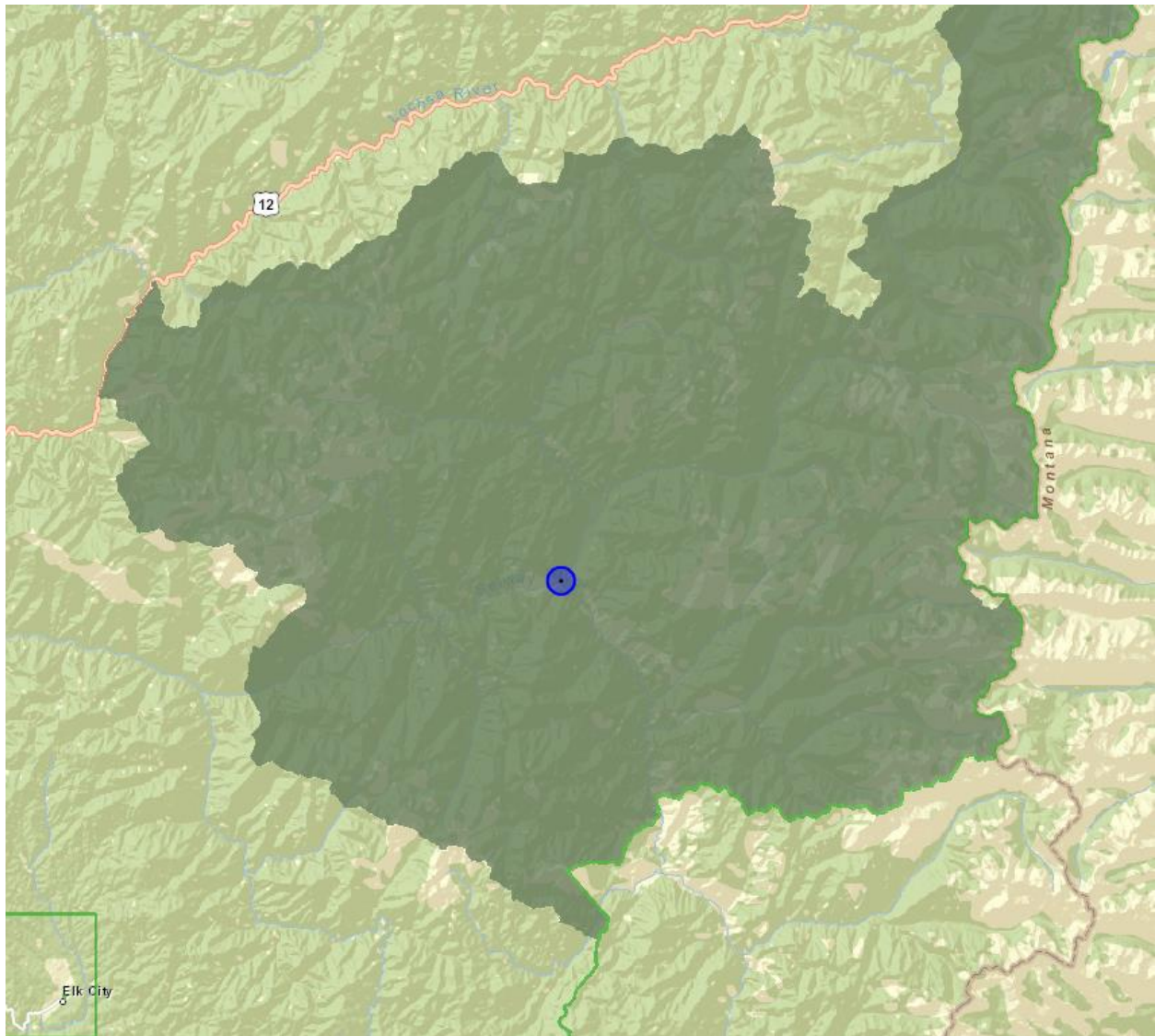


Comment ID: 5695 Received: Apr 10, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Identifying the Moose Creek Airstrip as primitive is inconsistent with Primitive ROS Setting. With aircraft flying in and out of Moose Creek, the ROS setting should be semi-primitive motorized, not primitive.

Contact Information: Jeff Cook jeff.cook@idpr.idaho.gov

5657 Warm Springs Ave. Boise ,ID 83704 Preferred contact method: email

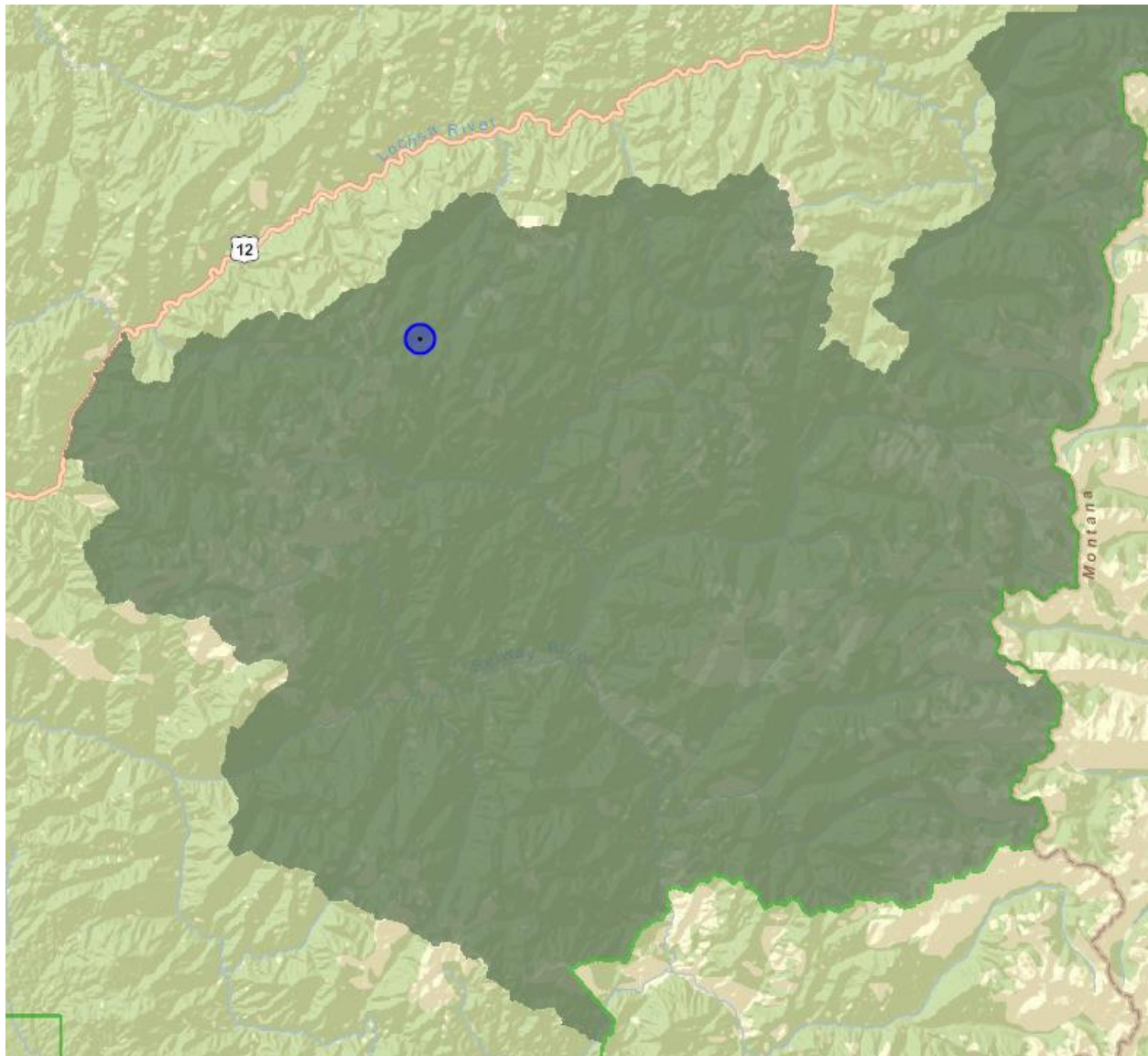


Comment ID: 5698 Received: Apr 10, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

The Fish Lake Airstrip is incosistent with Primitive ROS Settings. Change this airsrtrip to semi-primitive motorized.

Contact Information: Jeff Cook jeff.cook@idpr.idaho.gov

5657 Warm Springs Ave. Boise, ID 83704 Preferred contact method: email

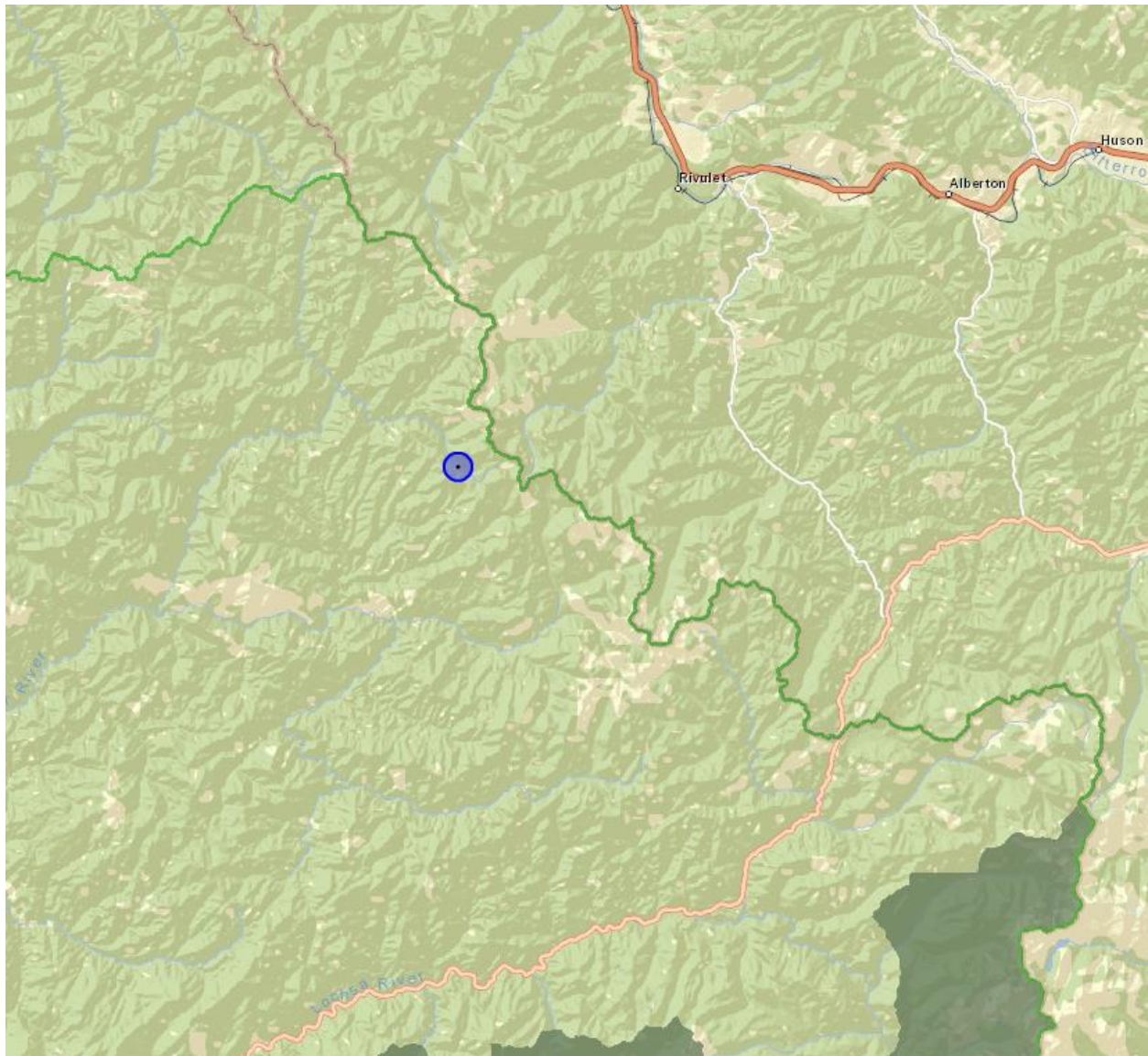


Comment ID: 5702 Received: Apr 10, 2013 Keyword: Recommended

The Fish Lake Trail #419 is a important ATV Trail. This area should not be included in recommended wilderness.

Contact Information: Jeff Cook jeff.cook@idpr.idaho.gov

5657 Warm Springs Ave, Boise, ID 83704

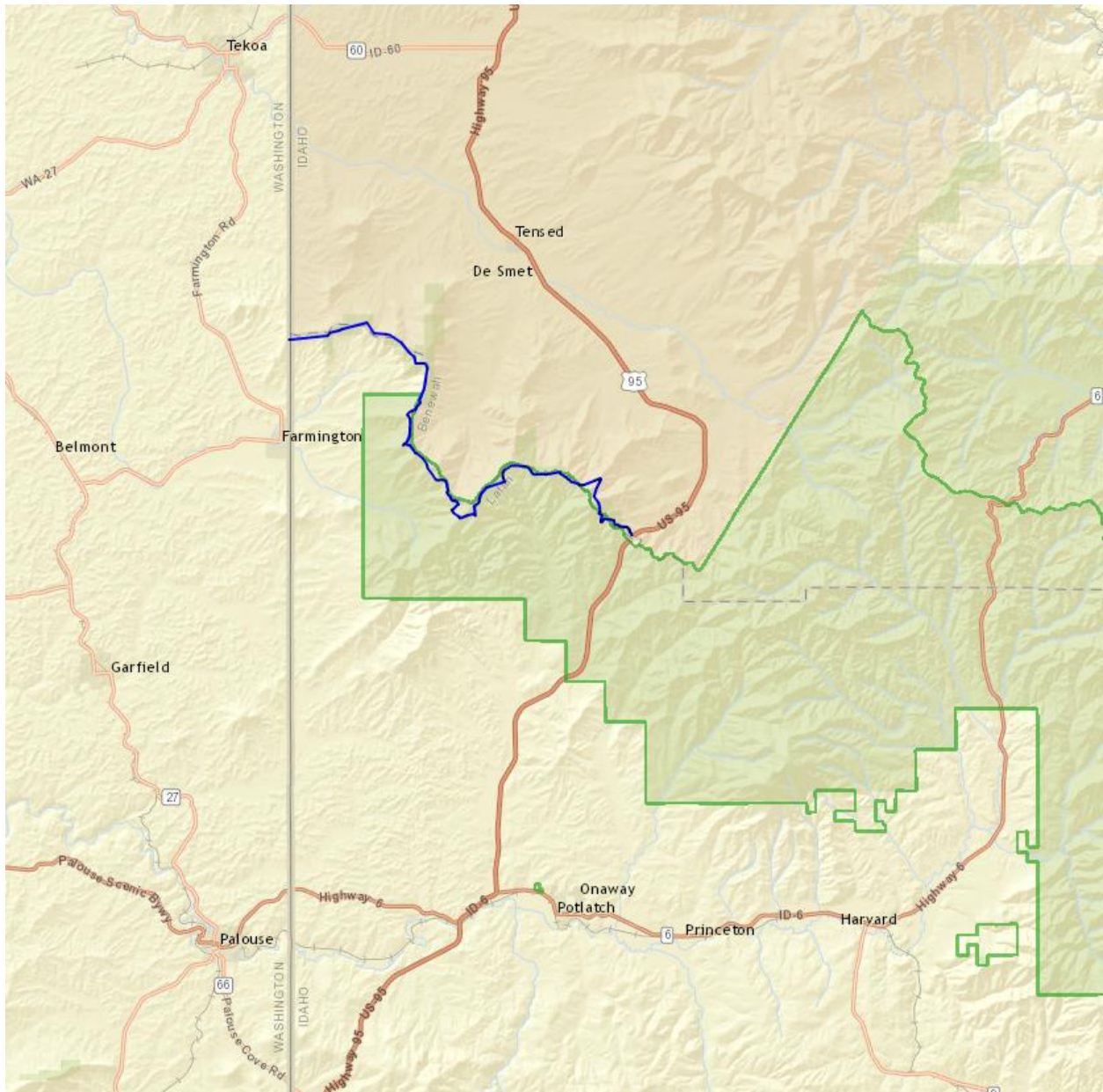


Comment ID: 5745 Received: Apr 15, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

The Skyline Road is a major component of McCroskey State Park. This route should be identified as a scenic route and have visual resource protections.

Contact Information: Jeff Cook jeff.cook@idpr.idaho.gov

P.O. Box 83720, Boise ID 83720-0065 Preferred contact method: email

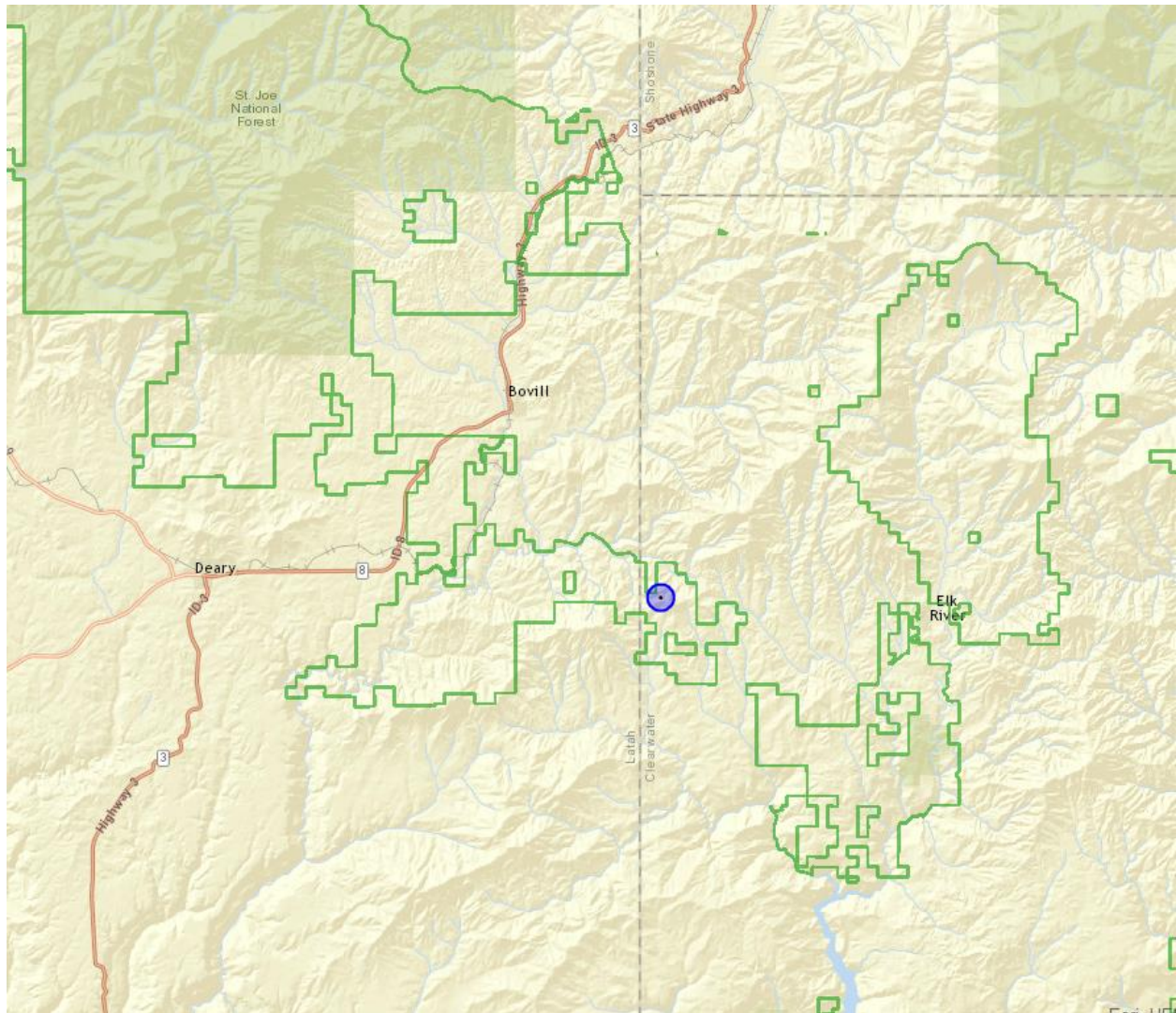


Comment ID: 5750 Received: Apr 15, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

Past timber harvest activities have made this area roaded natural, not semi-primitive non-motorized. See aerial imagery.

Contact Information: Jeff Cook jeff.cook@idpr.idaho.gov

IDPR PO Box 83720 Boise ID 83720-0065

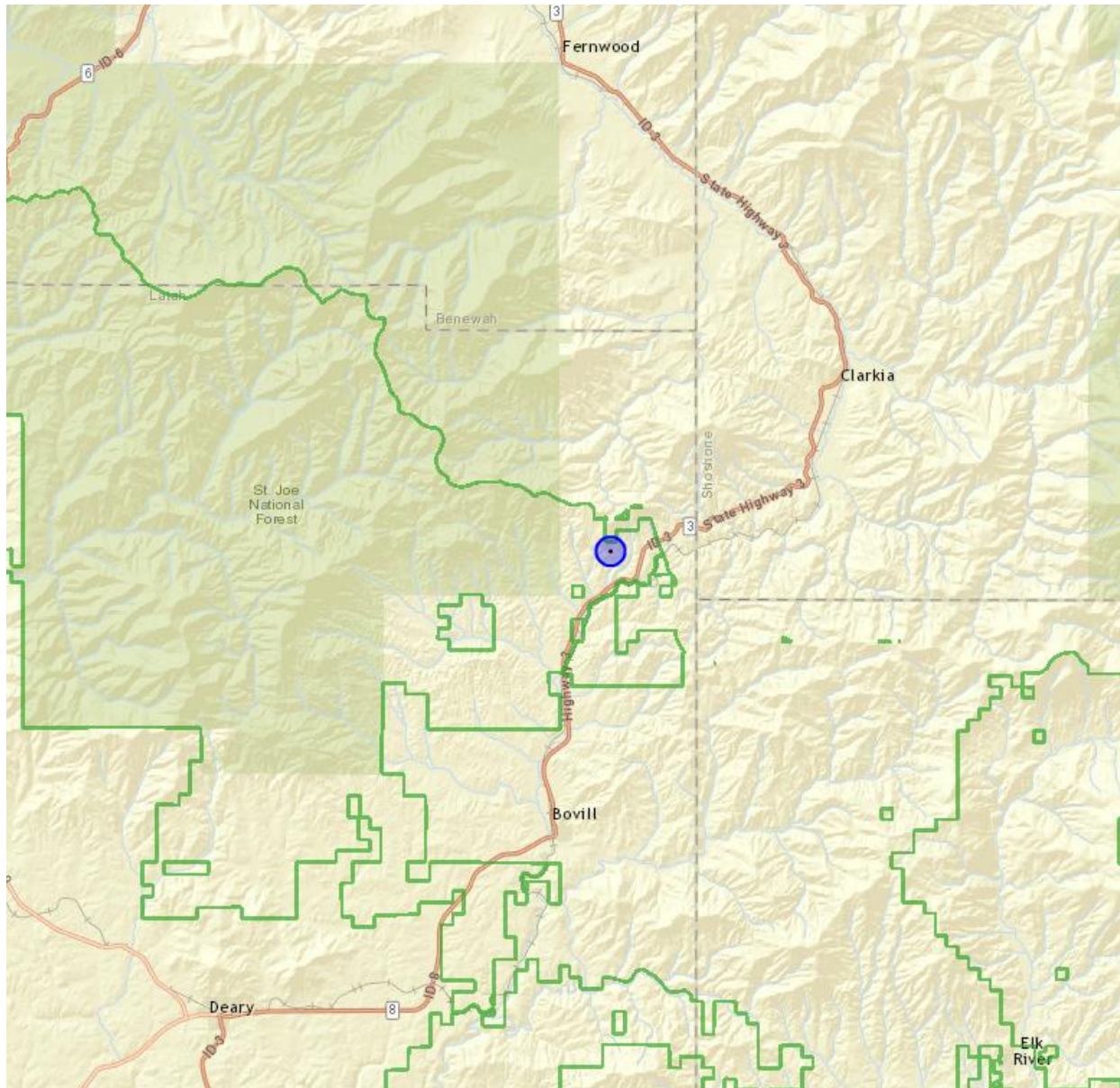


Comment ID: 5753 Received: Apr 15, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

Past timber harvest activity here has made this portion of the ROS Area, Roaded Modified, Not Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized.

Contact Information: Jeff Cook Jeff.Cook@idpr.idaho.gov

IDPR PO B0x 83720, Boise ID 83720-0065

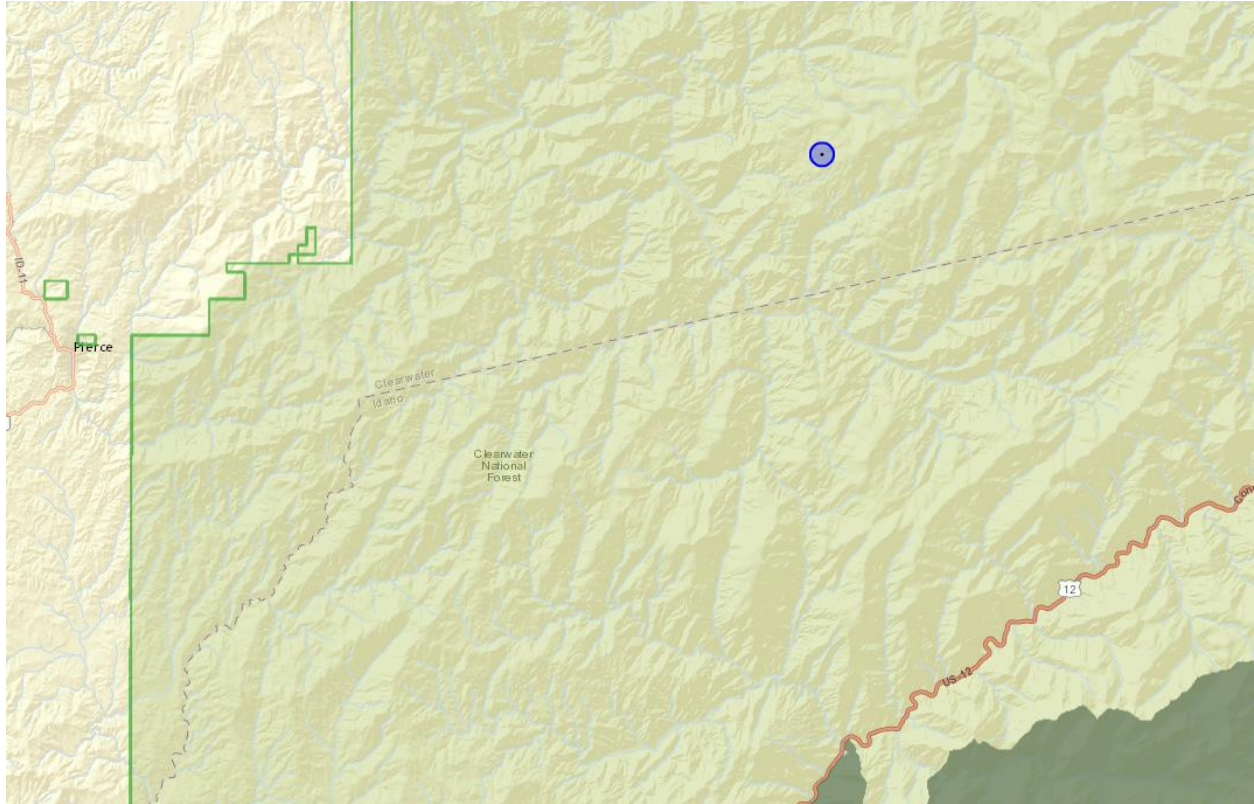


Comment ID: 5803 Received: Apr 18, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

The Clearwater Travel Plan Decision made this road open on a yearlong basis, even though it goes right through elk calving habitat. It would be better to seasonally restrict this road until August and keep Windy Ridge Trail and Cook Mtn Trail open yearlong to motorcycle use.

Contact Information: Jeff Cook jeff.cook@idpr.idaho.gov

IDPR 5657 Warm Springs Ave, Boise ID 83704 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 5863 Received: Apr 25, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

Due to the unique topography and the snow accumulation I would like to see these areas left open to snowmobiling. Williams lake, Crooked Fork, Beaver Ridge, Surveyor, Fish Lake and Hoodoo.

Contact Information: Dave Bailey

Replies:

Reply ID: 7575 Received: Jun 21, 2013

This is a great area for winter recreation and the user conflict and animal conflict are basically zero. I agree all these areas should remain open to snowmobiles as they have been in this area for years and there is no harm caused by them.

Contact Information: Bill hotsnowdog69@yahoo.com

Reply ID: 12803 Received: Apr 02, 2014

This is an area I recreate year round with my family. I dont see any negative impact in the summer from winter use. I have frends that have used these areas for generations. I too want to share it with my children and grand children. I Don't see the gain in limiting access? When traviling in the great burn in the winter months, I have seen few signs of wildlife due to snow levels. Please do not limit the access to one of our few remaining accets that remain for the tax paing public.

Contact Information: Shon witmach@gmail.com

Reply ID: 12808 Received: Apr 02, 2014

William Lake need to stay open to snowmobiling. I and my friends have been ridding this area for about 30 years and have not see negative impact in this area of the Great Brun.

Contact Information: Dan nashent@montana.com



Comment ID: 5957 Received: Apr 29, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Kelly lake, Leo lake, and kid lake areas are some of the best snowmobiling areas around. I have been snowmobiling there for over 18 years my sons ride with me. There is no damage to these areas caused by snowmobiling and there are no animals or skiers in these areas so they do not cause any conflict for users. The great burn area is my favorite place to ride with my family. I would recommend that this entire area be designated Primitive Motorized- Winter Use

Contact Information: Bill Johns bill@summitroofing.info

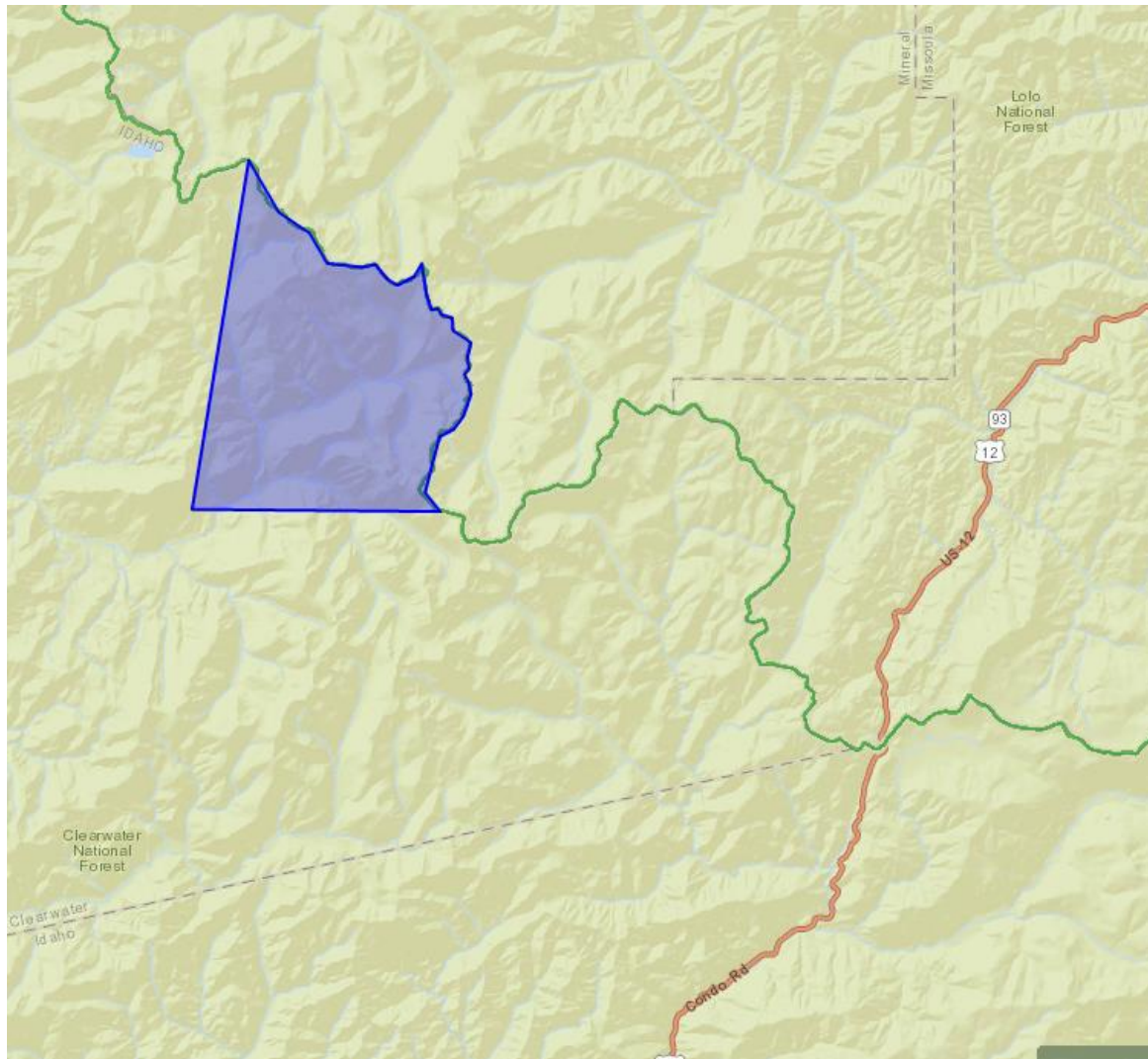
4805 Deschamps, Missoula, Mt 59808 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 6149 Received: Apr 30, 2013

This area is a beautiful place, i enjoy the quiet trails and have back packed and more frequently hore oacked in thias area. It deserves Wilderness protection!

Contact Information: Daniel dharper300@gmail.com



Comment ID: 5960 Received: Apr 29, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Williams lake area is a great area for backcountry riding of snowmobiles. I have been riding this area for a long time and have seen no animal or user conflicts in the area. I recommend it to be listed as

PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED-WINTER USE

Contact Information: Bill Johns bill@summitroofing.info

4805 Deschamps, Missoula, Mt 59808 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 6302 Received: May 02, 2013

Williams like area is a backcountry wonderland for backcountry snowmobile riders. If you had to hike into this area it would take a person a whole day or more in the summer time to get there. On a snowmobile it takes about two hours to ride there the winter time. If you have to hike in there in the winter time it would take a week. Just to go in. So please do not take this away! Thank you

Contact Information: Dan nashent@montana.com

Reply ID: 6591 Received: May 10, 2013

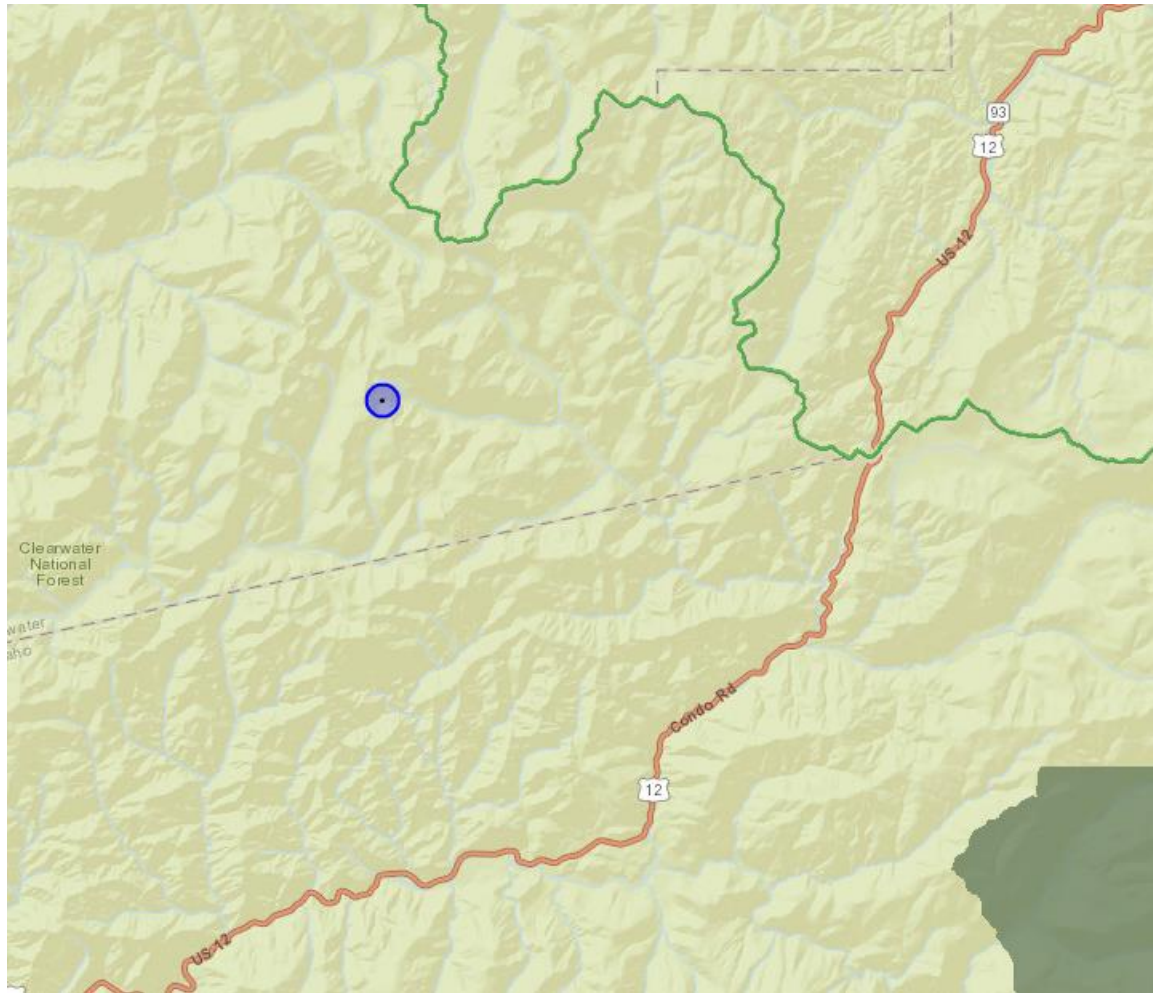
I have been snowmobiling in this area for the last 10 years at least. It is one of the best places we have for snowmobiling. I have never run into any skiers or animals, or had any conflicts of any kind while on my rides. I am concerned about the potential restrictions and limitations for snowmobilers to this area. Forcing riders to other, more congested or used areas will increase potential conflicts with skiers, and animals. I am strongly against any restrictions to this area and would like to continue to enjoy it as a snowmobiler.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 7238 Received: May 31, 2013

I have been backpacking into this area for 40 years. Over that time, we've seen drastic declines in mountaingoat populations, due to noise disturbances from snowmobiling. Mountaingoats are very susceptible to disorientation and displacement of wintertime snowmobile noise--up to tree mile away according to Canadian studies! Please keep this area wild and for the sake of mountaingoat populations, do not allow snowmobile use.

No Contact Information



Comment ID: 5963 Received: Apr 29, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

snowmobiling has occurred in the Great Burn since the mid 70's. I have snowmobiled the area since 1984. I like the area because: solitude (see few other snowmobilers) challenge of riding and exploring (the challenge varies with snow conditions) I enjoy the scenery. There is virtually no wildlife and no other winter users. I have made approx. 300 trips into the Great Burn and have only seen skiers on 2 occasions. They accessed the area via snowmobile. FS studies comparing 2006 to 2011 show summer backpacking is static while snowmobile use has increased 100%. Closing the snowmobile areas within the Gt. Burn will concentrate snowmobile activity into smaller areas raising the potential for conflicts. The historic snowmobile areas, Hoodoo, Surveyor, Williams Lake/Blacklead Mtn., and Crooked Fork be excluded from the Great Burn RWA designation by boundary adjustment and be designated semi primitive motorized-winter use because when the snow melts there is no trace of snowmobile activity.

Contact Information: stan spencer stanspencer@montana.com

2775 Terrace Dr. Missoula Mt. 59803 Preferred contact method: email

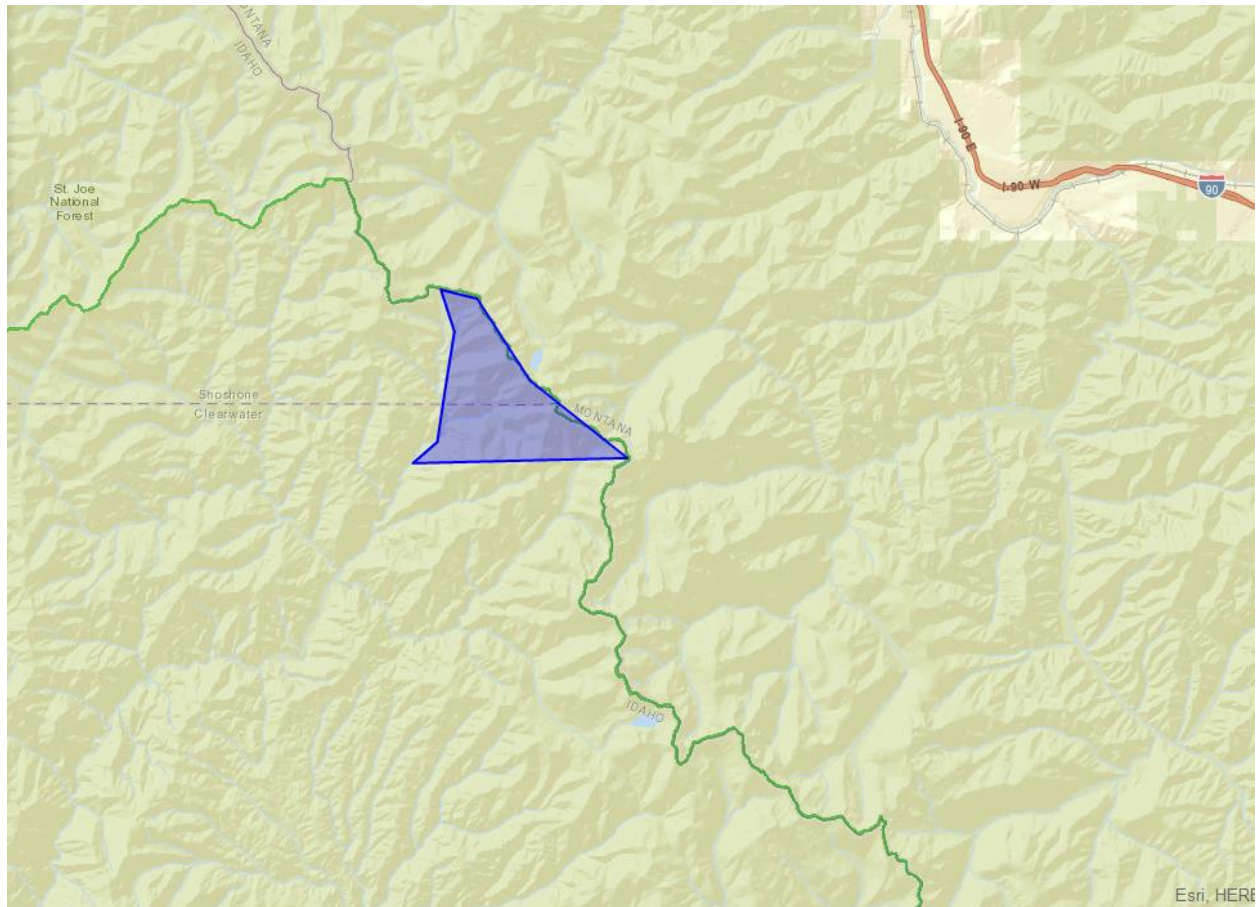
No Map Point

Comment ID: 5964 Received: Apr 29, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

This area should remain open to snowmobiles as it is a great place to ride and provides no conflict with animals or other users. I recommend it be listed as PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED-WINTER USE

Contact Information: Bill Johns bill@summitroofing.info

4805 deschamps, Missoula, Mt 59808 Preferred contact method: email

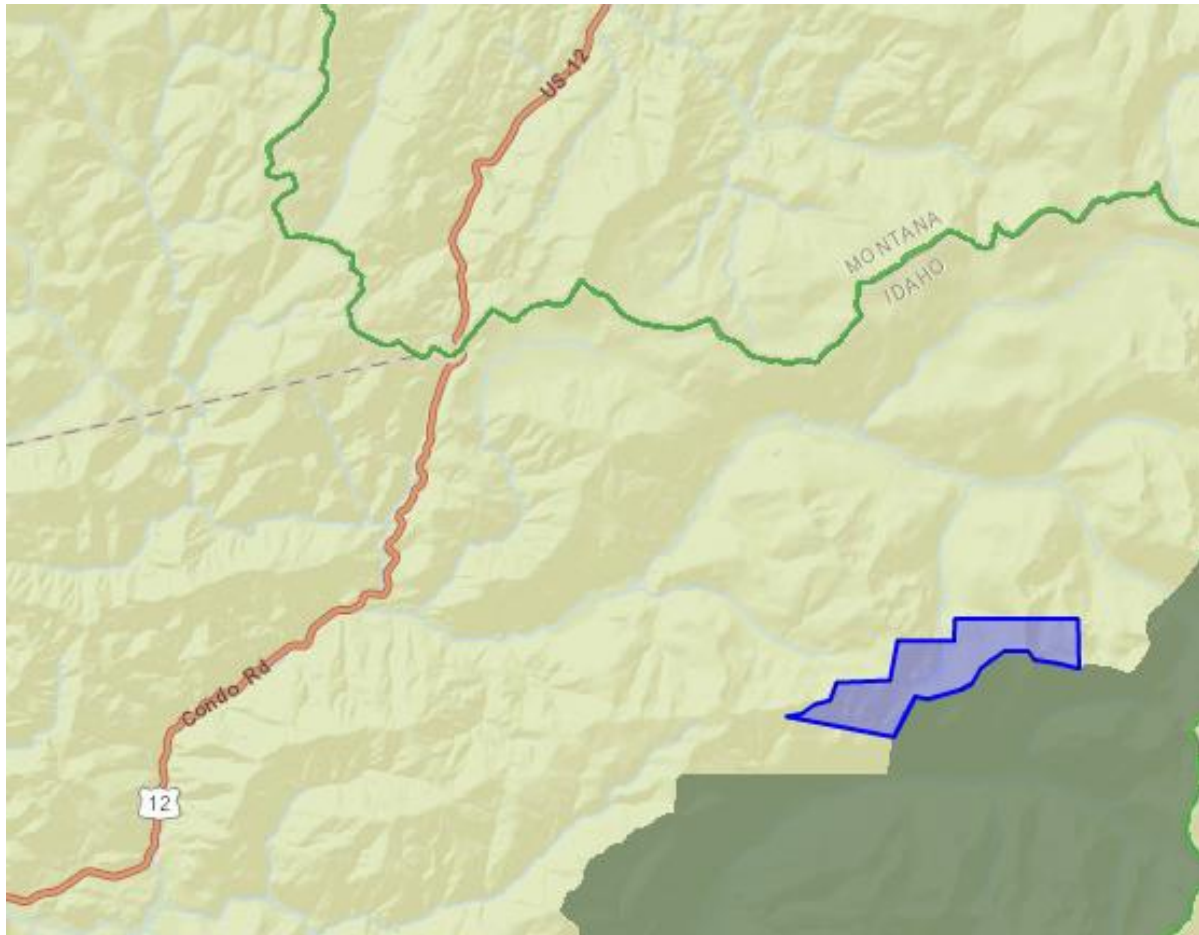


Comment ID: 5972 Received: Apr 29, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

This area is some great snowmobiling area that is accessible from the LOLO pass parking lot and it allows snowmobilers an area that they can get away from the skiers as to reduce conflict. I ahve been riding in the area for over 20 years and would recommend it be listed as PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED-WINTER USE

Contact Information: Bill Johns bill@summitroofing.info

4805 Deschamps, Missoula, Mt 59808 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 5978 Received: Apr 29, 2013 Keyword: Wilderness

My comments are in reference to the Great Burn closure proposal, specifically the Williams Lake area and the Beaver Ridge areas. The challenge of snowmobile riding in the backcountry, the beauty of the scenery in winter, sharing this experience with friends and family are very important to our cultural heritage. Maintaining the right to access these primitive wilderness areas in a responsible manner is our God given right. the lack of impact of snowmobiling in the backcountry under a deep protective layer of snow has been scientifically proven to be minimal. To consider winter closure of these historically used snowmobile areas would be pointless and a travesty to snowmobiling sport and industry.

Contact Information: Greg Carter gcarter56@q.com
482 Hidden Valley Rd S Florence, Mt Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 5983 Received: Apr 29, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

In reference to the Great Burn proposed closure, specifically Williams Lk area and Beaver Ridge area. These areas have been historically used and enjoyed by snowmobilers for over 30 years. The impact on these areas by snowmachines is not an issue. The rights of access to these areas by generations of father, sons and daughters needs to be maintained for future generations. I would like to suggest these areas be designated as PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED WINTER USE areas and saved for all to enjoy the backcountry beauty in a responsible manner

Contact Information: Kyle Carter kylebc13@gmail.com
482 Hidden Valley Rd S Florence, Mt Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 5992 Received: Apr 29, 2013 Keyword: Recommended

Snowmobiling has occurred in the Great Burn since the mid 1970's. I personally have snowmobiled the area since 1984. . The area is very benign in the winter with virtually no wildlife present. There are no other users in the area in the winter months. In approx. 300 trips into the Great Burn over the past 28 years I have only seen skiers in the area twice and they came in via snowmobile. studies have shown summer backpacking use in the Clearwater NF since 2006 has remained static while snowmobile activity has increased 100%. suggest that historic snowmobile areas need to be kept open to accommodate the activity. Concentrating more users into smaller areas will only increase the potential for user conflict. areas historically used by snowmobilers: Hoodoo, Surveyor, Williams Lake/Blacklead Mtn., and Crooked Fork be excluded from any wilderness designation by boundary adjustments and be designated semi primitive-motorized for winter use. Regards, Stan Spencer

Contact Information: Stan Spencer stanspencer@montana.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6042 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I am writing to ask that the clearwater NF (greatburn) be left open to snowmobile use This is a great area to ride with very little use by others in the winter I have never seen another non snowmobile user in the area. the amount of animals is also very limited , one grouse in fifteen years by shoving us all into one area this is going to be the conflict starter . Also as a taxpaying member of this country it is not right to just shut one group out

Contact Information: David Morgan amireps@montana.com
644 cougar lane stevensville mt 59870 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6088 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Concerning the snowmobiling in the great burn areas of the Clearwater NF. Specifically Beaver ridge, Williams Lake, Survivor, Crooked fork and Black Lead mountain. Snowmobiles have been using these areas since the early 70s and me specifically since the early 90s. I have been the Lolo Pass groomer chairman for the Lolo Pass area for the past 7 years so I have a great deal of experience with the increased use in these areas. If you remove these traditional areas from motorized us you will concentrate everyone into a very small area and there will be increased conflicts between motorized and non-motorized users crammed into a small area. I have worked with past Clearwater rangers dealing with this very subject and with the closures of these areas it will only get worse. The population of motorized users in the Missoula area is increasing every year while the non-motorized use is staying about the same. Please retain the historic snowmobiling areas of the great burn for primitive snowmobile use.

Contact Information: Mike Cassidy mike@fabcraft.com
417 wolfville lane shop #e, florence mt. 59833 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 7076 Received: May 20, 2013

I've seen a dramatic drop in mountaingoat populations in these areas since the late 1990's. We've backpacked here annually since ther 1973, and typically counted up to 100 goats throughout the 70's, 80's and early 90's. The proliferation of more powerful, longer-range, noisy snowmobiles has decimated the numbers of these timid, reclusive animals since the late 90's. The goats are particularly noise sensitive, causing them disruption and displacement; at a time of year when they are already weakened and vulnerable due to cold, harsh winter conditions. One study showed that snowmobile noise affects goats up to 3 miles on each side of the travel corridor. PLEASE designate Williams peak, Rhodes peak, cache saddle, blacklead mtn, crooked fork, shale mountain, and a surrounding buffer area off-limits to snowmobile use for the sake of mountaingoat populations.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13031 Received: Apr 03, 2014

You mentioned the dramatic drop of mountain goats while backpacking. Question for you.....Do you hike in 12 feet of snow? Thought not. Neither do the mountain goats!! They go down the mountain in the winter to feed. Could you please send me that study you talk about. I would love to give it a read and comment on that as well. If there is such a study.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13045 Received: Apr 03, 2014

*Call bull**** on the goat reply also! Why are you bothering them by backpacking in their habitat! Stay home and bother something elses habitat while in the confines of your home. Have never seen sign of them in the winter in the years I have been in these areas. Why not close Yellowstone and Glacier park to visitors due to bothering somethings habitat.*

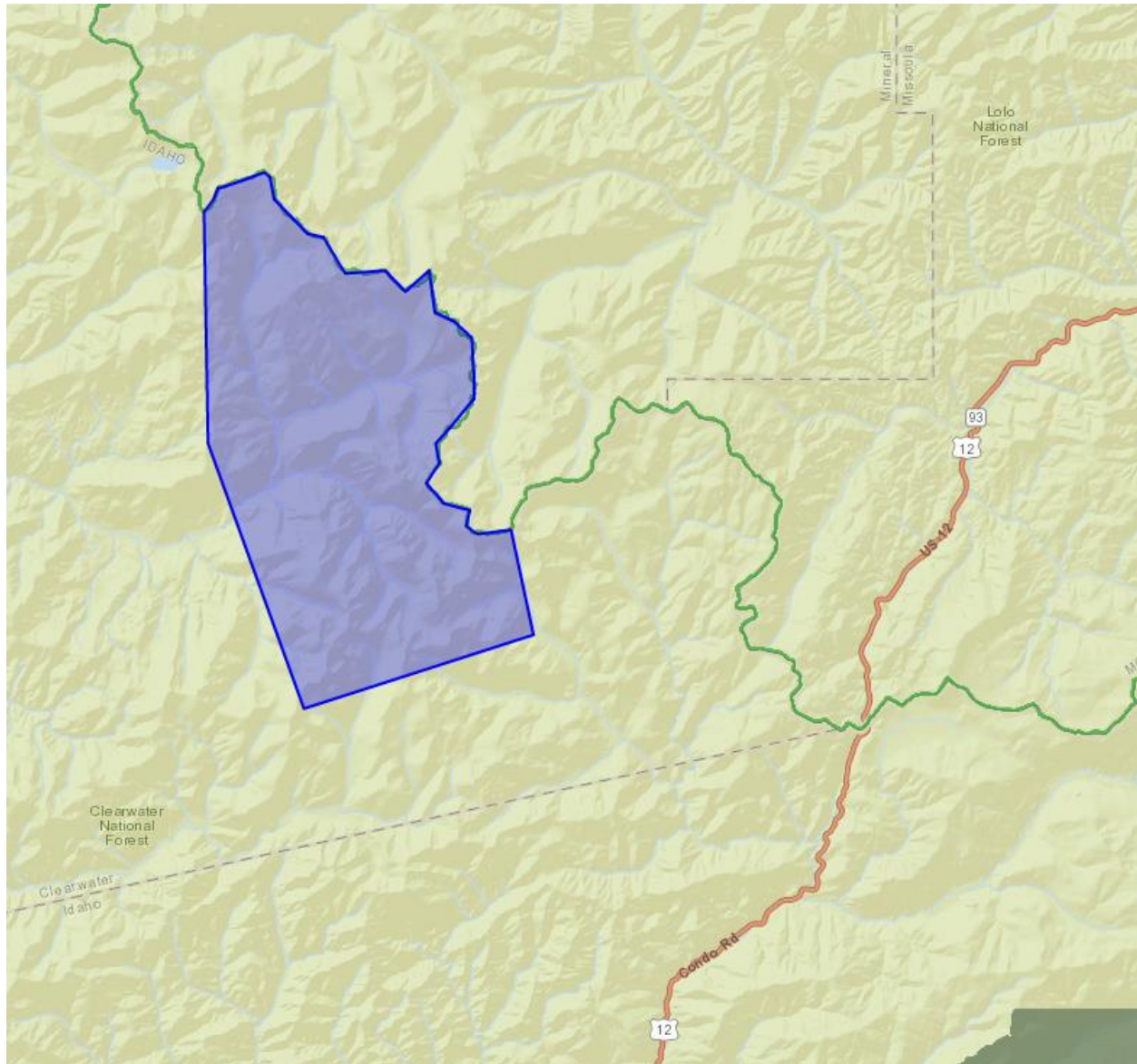
No Contact Information

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6089 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

I Drive from Polson to ride this historical riding area. It has been available since the early 70's. There is virtually no wildlife in this area in the winter and infact all the wildlife I do see is from the truck on the way in amongst the houses in the valley! It is inaccessible unless you are able to ride in with a snowmobile. There is no impact by snowmobiles because of the amount of snow. I ride this area with my son and many friends. I would like this area to incude boundary changes to accomadate the snowmobilers so we can continue to create great memories.

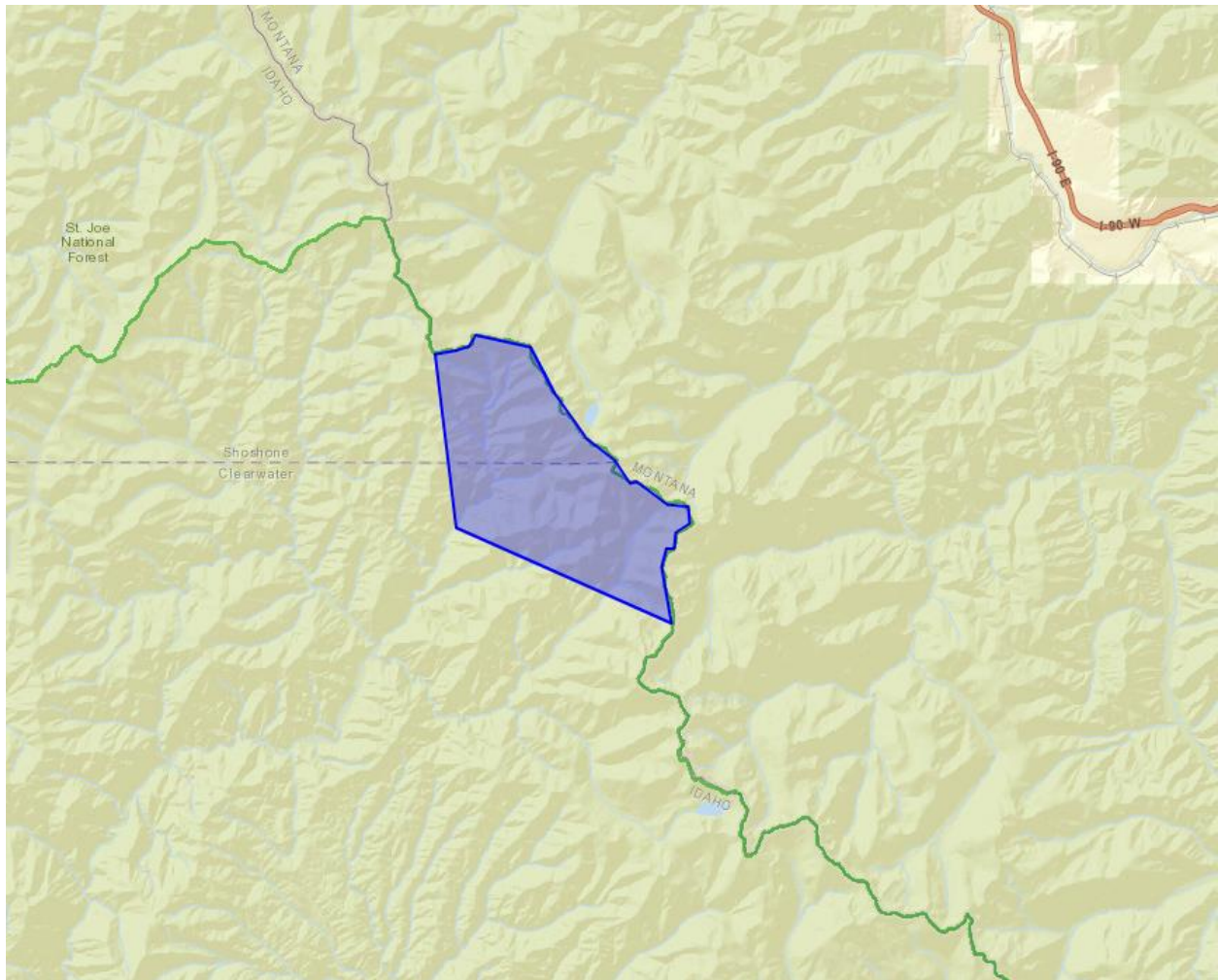
No Contact Information



Comment ID: 6095 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

This area is a great place to bring beginner snowmobilers. It has historically been used by many over the years since the 70's. It's a great area to ride with families. There is no impact to wildlife due to they are all on their winter grounds which is not in this area. Over the years I have only seen 3 sets of skiers in the area. I would like this area to be considered for boundary changes to include snowmobiling during winter months.

No Contact Information



Comment ID: 6111 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

This email concerns the Great Burn closure. I am a back country skier and snowmobiler. The back country I love is difficult if not impossible to get to without a snowmobile. I hope the Forest Service removes the closure so that I may enjoy these amazing public lands.

Contact Information: Justin Starin justinstarin@hotmail.com

4000 Fieldstone Crossing, Missoula, MT 59802 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6129 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

My comments are in reference to the Great Burn closure proposal, specifically the Williams Lake area and the Beaver Ridge areas. Snowmobile riding the backcountry to view the scenery in winter, and sharing this experience with friends and family are very important to me and my family. Access to these primitive wilderness areas, in my opinion is a guaranteed right exemplified in the Declaration of Independence that our nation was founded on. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." To myself and my family part of our pursuit of happiness is the right to Snowmobile in the backcountry. I have been to this area once on a snowmobile and would like to maintain the right to visit this area again when my son is older. I would like to suggest these areas be designated as PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED WINTER USE areas. Daniel

Osterkamp, Minnesota

Contact Information: Daniel Osterkamp daniel.a.osterkamp@gmail.com

1209 Windmill Creek South, Waconia, MN 55387 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6132 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I am a year round user of the area surrounding Surveyer Mountain that extends beyond Kidd lake. In the winter months I backcountry ski and snowmobile. I have spent literally months Skiing and snowmobiling in this area I have yet to see any large mammals and small mammal sightings are extremely rare. The reason for the lack of any wildlife is obvious to any frequent user of this area, the snow is simply too deep. In addition to my winter use in the summer months I frequently hike to Kidd and cedar log lakes. I have yet to find any damage caused by winter users of this area, which does not surprise me given how quickly the snow depths amass in the winter. The impact of my presence is virtually zero but the joy and the memories created for myself, my family and others is immeasurable. Please do not remove the ability of responsible users from being able to access such a wonderful place for winter recreation.

Contact Information: Bjorn Nabozney Bjorn@bigskybrew.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6142 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep these areas open to Mountain Biking.

Contact Information: Zachary Millar zach@bigskybrew.com

412 Village PL. Missoula MT 59802 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

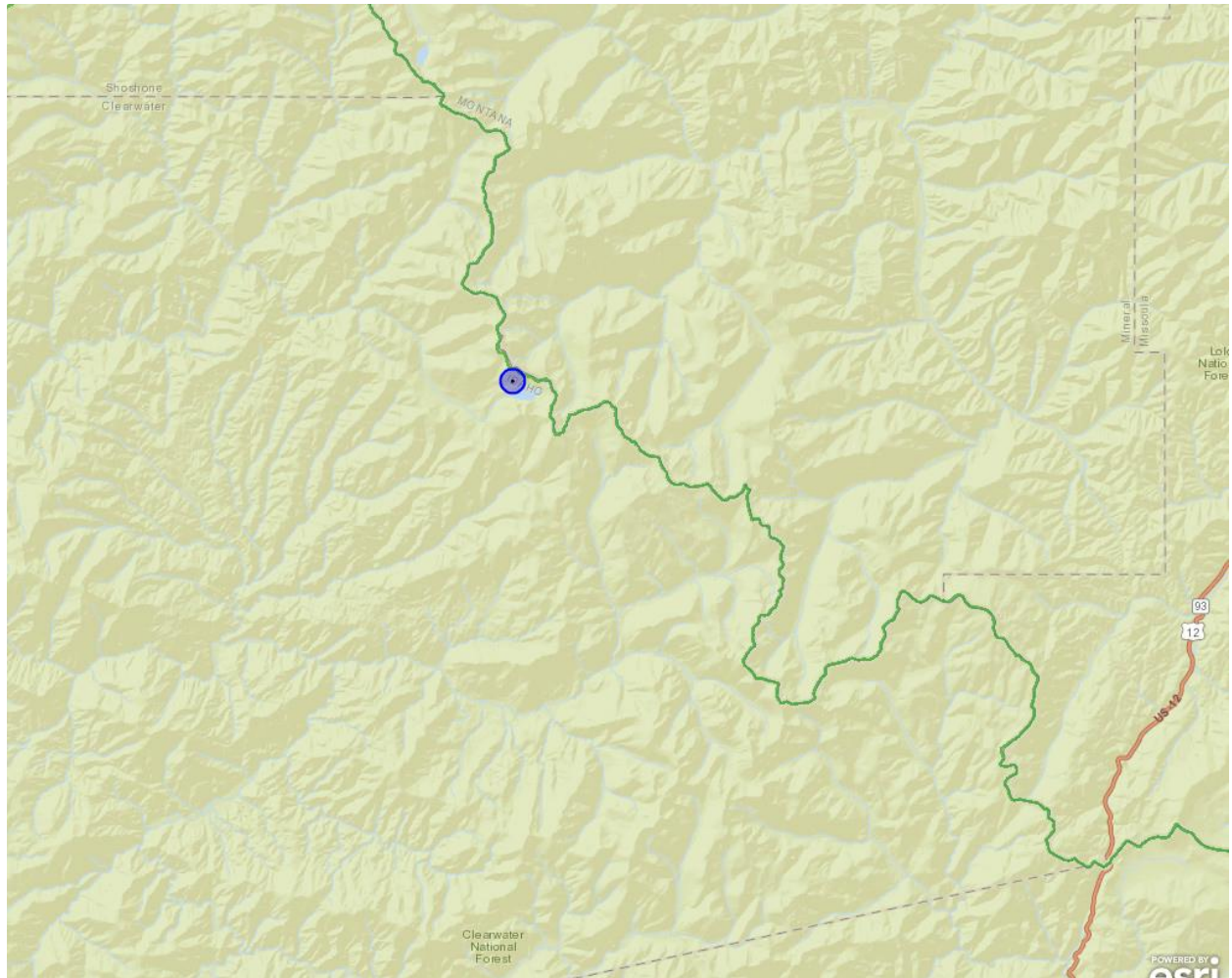
Comment ID: 6145 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Wilderness

For the past several years I have packed into Fish Lake from the Clearwater Crossing. My friends and I (and our horses and mules especially enjoy the scenic meadow at Fish Lake. It needs to be better protected

Contact Information: Daniel Harper dharper300@gmail.com

3000 Marshall Canyon, Missoula, MT 59802

Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 6153 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I think we should be able to keep snowmobiling on an area that has been open to us for years. I ride there every weekend. I have yet to see any wildlife or sign of wildlife. The snow level is just too deep. I have hiked to Kidd Lake every summer and have yet to see any sign snowmobiles have been there. If these areas are closed it will put a huge impact on Lolo Pass. Snowmobiles and skiers will be packed into one area. I hope this area stays open so my kids can enjoy it as much as I have. A beauty you can see by snowmobiling.

Contact Information: Michael Gustave mikeg@bigskybrew.com
1021 Runyon Drive Alberton MT 59820 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6156 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I literally moved here so I could back country snowmobile, it is my life/what I live for! I specifically ride in the areas of Tom Beal, Hoodoo, Surveyor, Williams Lake/Blacklead, Beaver Ridge and the Crooked Fork. To shut off these areas to back country snowmobiling would be a tragedy because they are the best places to ride in Montana/Idaho if not in the US! There are hundreds of people that travel great distances to ride in these areas. We "back country riders" effect the local economy; from buying the expensive snowmobiles/parts from local dealerships, gas/food from the local gas stations, hotel rms, and beer/food at the local bars. I believe these local businesses would be affected if these areas do in fact get closed. There is virtually no wildlife or other winter users in these areas and zero impact of our presence. The snow is just too deep before we can access these areas without causing damage to our snowmobiles. Please make these areas designated as primitive motorized winter use areas.

No Contact Information

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6171 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I have been to this area on a few occasions and firmly believe that Multi Use is the best way to save our great lands! It's something we should all be able to enjoy and has already been limited from the majority of capable users! This is a very large area that can and should be enjoyed by all recreationalists! Some of my fondest memories are from this area and I could not have accessed those areas without the use of my snowmobile! Most people are unable to access a large portion of this area in the winter without the use of a snowmobile due to its vast area! Why should we take that away from them???

Contact Information: Greg Cook cooksend@yahoo.com
7522 Hwy 70E, St. Germain, WI 54558 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6181 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

This comment is on the travel plan revision on the Nez Perce Clearwater areas, Please reconsider allowing snowmobile use in these areas as this type of use doesn't harm anyone or anything. The people that also use this area in winter do not have to contend with snowmobiles but for a short distance from the trailhead or parking areas .These people don't use the same areas as the snowmobilers do within a short distance from their vehicles. This is a sport/ activity that many enjoy the beauty and ruggedness of Montana as well as others do. This is my way to enjoy the back country and I cherish the time with my son and friends. We are loosing our areas to ride and enjoy this great state, please consider this in your comment section for keeping snowmobile travel open in these areas. Thank You.

Contact Information: Darrell Smith mtwelder64@live.com
104 3rd Ave NW Po box 773 Choteau Mt. 59422 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6185 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Comments concerning snowmobiling in the Great Burn/Beaver Ridge area. Snowmobilers have been using these areas for over 40 years, I have been for 19 years. I also hike in these areas in the summer and not found any damage due to snowmobiling. Snowmobiling in these areas cause no environmental damage. The wildlife has moved to lower elevations. Their are no user conflicts because it is so remote. Closing these areas will cause user conflicts by forcing skiers and snowmobiles into a smaller area. According to the Draft Forest Plan Assessment, 81.3% of forest visitors are very satisfied with their recreation experience (NVUM 2011), that % is sure to drop if these areas of historical snowmobiling usage are closed. These areas are some of the most scenic outside of Glacier NP I have explored, summer and winter. I suggest the Clearwater Forest Plan create a ROS setting of Primitive Motorized-Winter Use and include these areas.

Contact Information: Dennis Linneman dmlinn54@hotmail.com
12880 Triple L Lane, Lolo,MT 59847 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6188 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I was raised in Missoula and have enjoyed access to the Beaver Ridge, Tom Beal, Surveyor, Hoo Doo, and Williams Lake areas since I was young. The Great Burn including all of the areas listed above is a truly remarkable place, I have spent alot of time recreating here and know the areas very well. I enjoy snowmobiling these areas, they are unmatched in the lower 48 for backcountry snowmobiling. I am very proud to have such a beautiful area so close to Missoula. Snowmobilers in my experience, are a very proud, responsible group. I have seen very little neglect from snowmobilers. There is no trace left behind from snowmobiles once the snow melts and I have truly never seen any wildlife up there during the winter when stress levels would be high. I truly see no harm to this beautiful land coming from motorized use during the winter I feel strongly in allowing off road use to snowmobiles for the lack of environmental impact. Limiting access to the great burn would be a waste of a beautiful winter playground

Contact Information: Paul Jenkins pjenkins8556@hotmail.com
4752 Christian Dr. Missoula, MT 598036 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6191 Received: Apr 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I strongly feel that the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Service should continue to allow over snow travel in the Great Burn areas of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest. This includes Surveyor(Kidd Lk,Kelly Lk,etc.),Williams Lk,Goat Lk, and also the Beaver Ridge areas. As an avid back country snowmobiler I feel very blessed to recreate via snowmobile in these great areas. These areas are truly epic and breathtaking. In the many years and countless hours that I've spent riding these great areas covered in snow I'm here to say that the wildlife that call these areas home through the summer months have a much different opinion as they've long left for lower ground and others have went into hibernation keeping motorized over snow recreation-wildlife conflicts non-existent. Again as a responsible back country snowmobiler that truly respects the privilege of being able to ride such great areas I would hope that I can continue to do so for many years to come.

Contact Information: John Cowan jjllcowan@msn.com
324 Explorer Way, Florence, Mt 59833 Preferred contact method: email

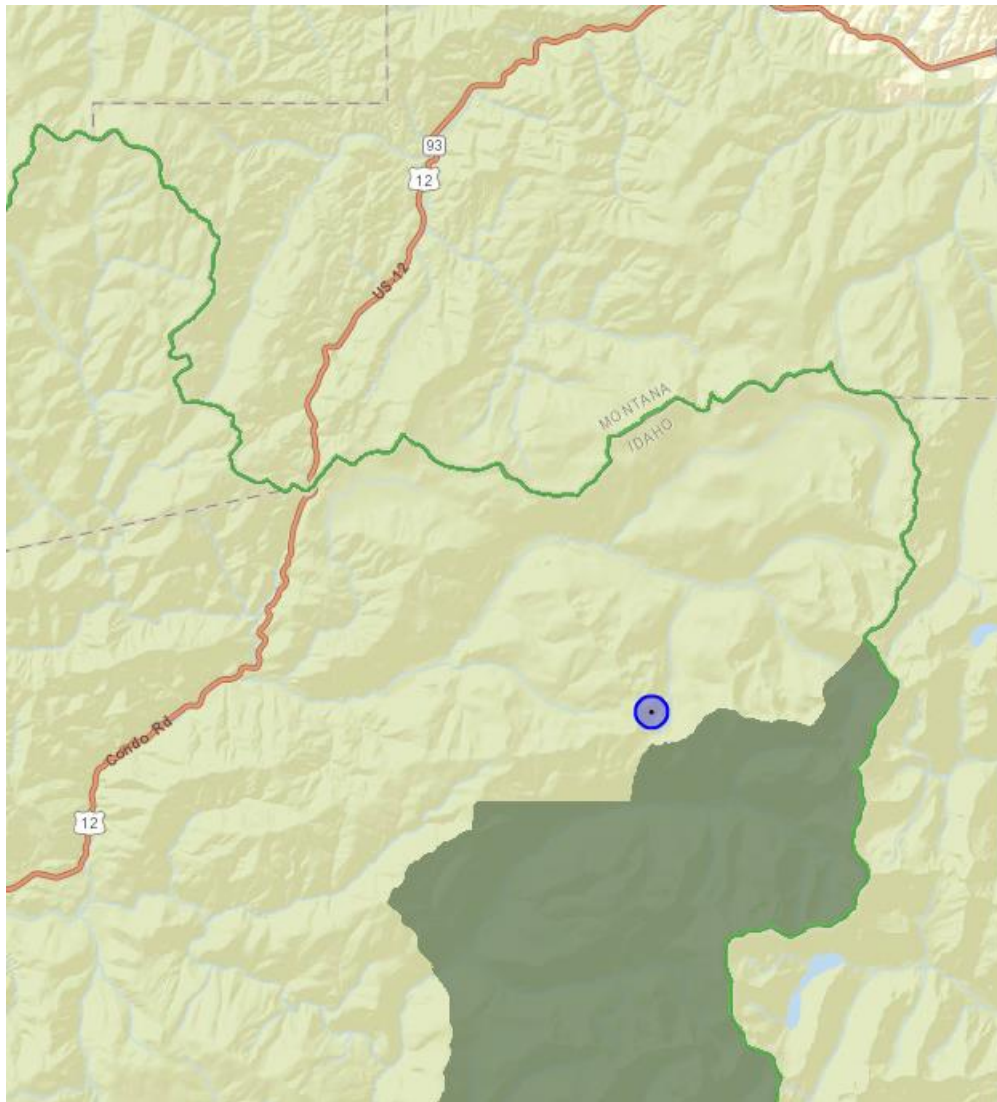
No Map Point

Comment ID: 6197 Received: May 01, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

Please keep this area open for snowmobiling! Great access to great powder from Lolo pass!
Backcountry ski off the sleds also.

Contact Information: dan hoheim dhoheim@hotmail.com

po box 656 lolo, mt 59847 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 6203 Received: May 01, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Williams lake/ Surveyor area. Please keep open for snowmobiling! Probably the best most remote backcountry access in the lower 48. Why not keep it open! Also keep it open for mtn biking!

Contact Information: dan hoheim dhoheim@hotmail.com

po box 656 Lolo, mt 59847 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 7072 Received: May 20, 2013

Protect mountaingoat populations in the Williams peak, Rhodes peak, surveyor ridge, cache saddle, goat lake areas by elimination of snowmobiles. I've personally seen goat populations in these areas decimated by the noise the machines produce. While ground and plants are unaffected, snowmobile noise is very disturbing and disorienting to the naturally timid, reclusive goats. PLEASE protect these areas from snowmobiles.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13051 Received: Apr 03, 2014

You are welcome to your opinion on goats...not facts...you have personally seen goat populations decimated by the noise from snowmobiles...prove it! They don't seem bothered by cars in Glacier or people for that matter. Have never seen sign of them or them in the 12 yrs I have been riding these areas...they must all be already dead. Why not close Glacier and Yellowstone parks to protect habitat! We already live by the largest wilderness area in the lower 48 states! Let the taxpayer have some access to their land!

No Contact Information



Comment ID: 6207 Received: May 01, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep this historical snowmobile area open! Also for mtn biking!

Contact Information: dan hoheim dhoheim@hotmail.com

po box 656 Lolo, mt 59847 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 12880 Received: Apr 02, 2014

The Great Burn is a vital biological core area for far-ranging wildlife in the northern Rockies. The Great Burn serves as a biological bridge, permitting migration and genetic interchange; without which populations will inbreed and species vigor will diminish. Throughout the year, mountain goats inhabit high rocky terrain, including the high cirque basins in the stateline area. Studies indicate they are particularly sensitive to activity above them. Snowmobile or bicycle activity on the Stateline ridge above occupied mountain goat habitat may displace and threaten mountain goats during particularly vulnerable periods of late winter and spring. Similar evidence reports that such activities in high elevation cirque basins near the Stateline Trail may affect denning wolverines as well. As a result, I urge you to retain closures to both mechanized and motorized uses in the Great Burn area and to recommend the entire area as Recommended Wilderness.

Contact Information: Jonathan joppenheimer@idahoconservation.org

Reply ID: 13018 Received: Apr 03, 2014

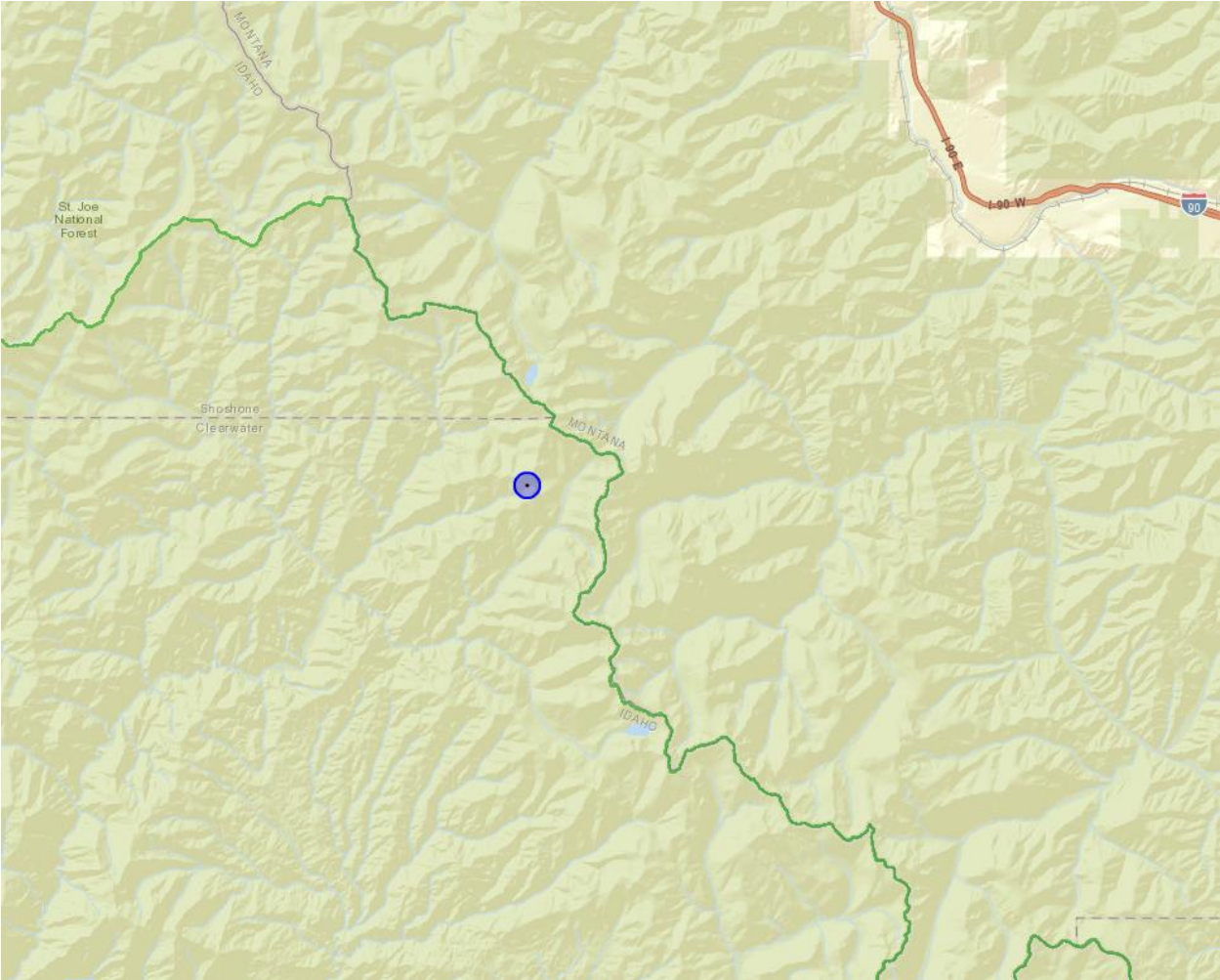
Goats do not winter in 15 ft of snow. No goats, or sign, have ever been seen by snowmobilers in areas we can access. Winter use does not impact goats. Having said that goats will also adapt to motorized activity. Watch them on cliffs adjacent Lake Pend Oreille in Id. from a boat. Goats are oblivious to the activity.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13076 Received: Apr 03, 2014

I agree with #13018; of all my years in the high winter back country, I have never seen a goat or sign of goat. I know they are there in the summer. To believe some study(which I dont believe exist)that snowmobiles harm Goats or Goat habitat is ridiculous. Keep our historic snowmobile areas open. No one cares more for these areas than those of us who love it and use it; all of the seasons.

No Contact Information



Comment ID: 6211 Received: May 01, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep the Tom Beal area open to snowmobiling/ back country skiing! Also mtn biking!

Contact Information: dan hoheim dhoheim@hotmail.com

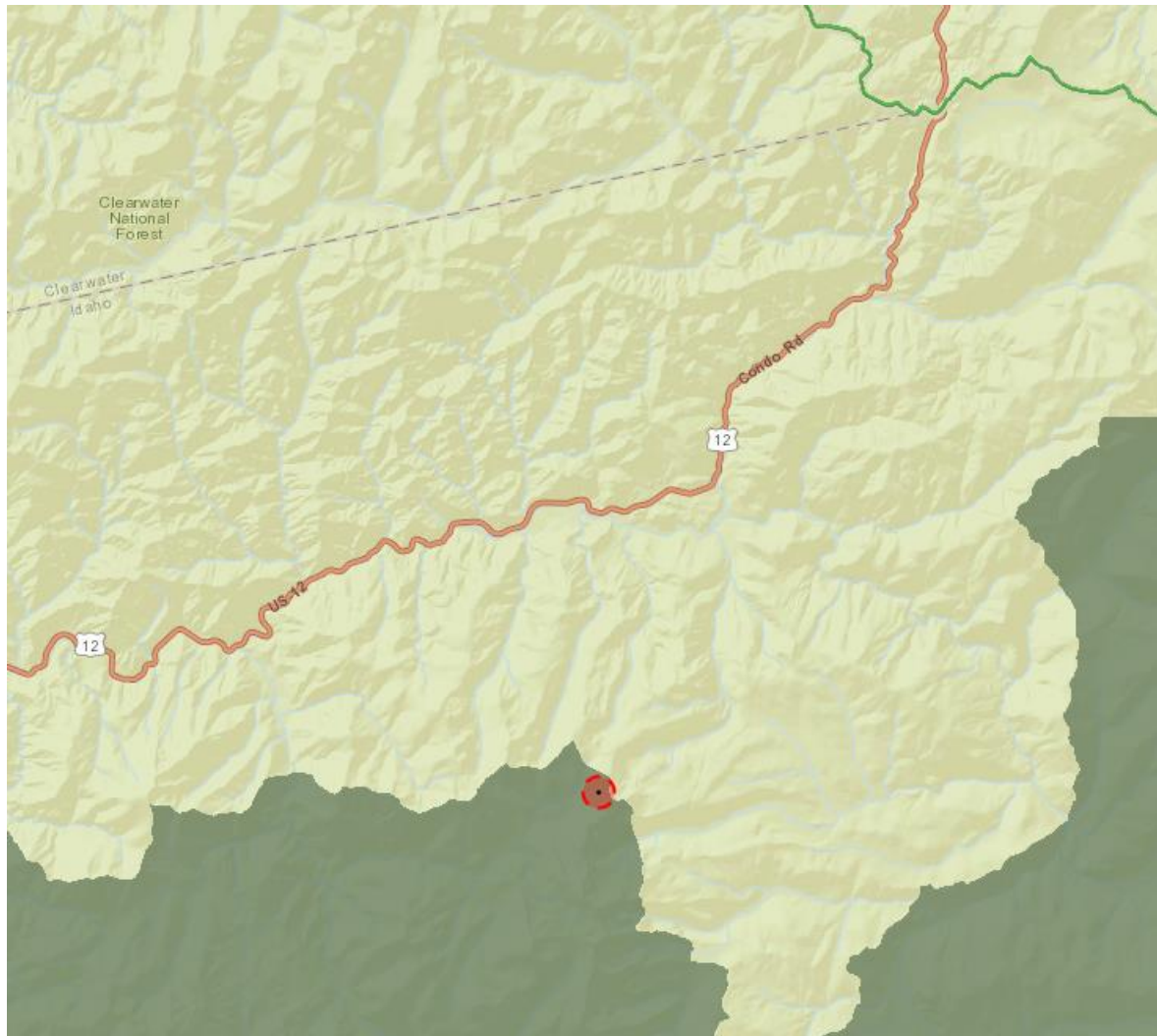
po box 656 Lolo, Mt 59847 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 15735 Received: Jul 28, 2014

Great Post. awesome picture, this land (out in front of the snowboarder) needd to be enjoyed. All sports mentioned are almost 0% impact on land

Contact Information: Mike mdwilson@glacierbancorp.com

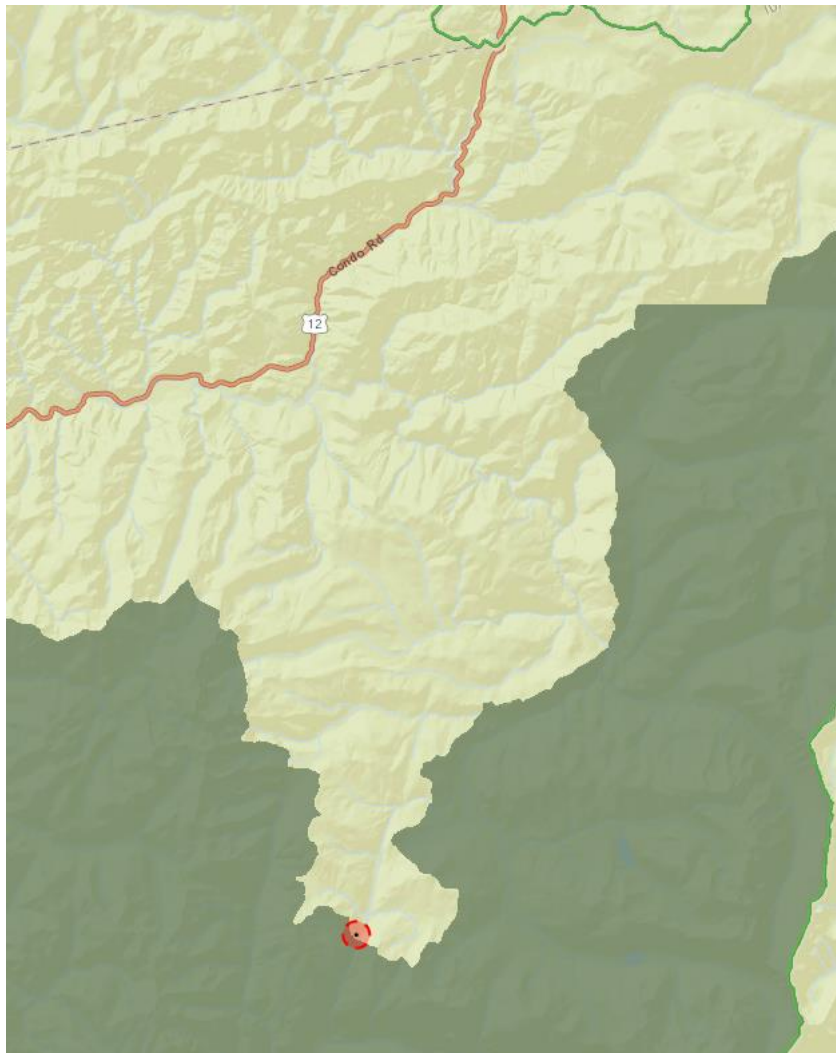


Comment ID: 6216 Received: May 01, 2013 Keyword: Recreation
Please keep the Elk Summit area open for snowmobiling! Great winter access area.
Contact Information: dan hoheim dhoheim@hotmail.com
po box 656 Lolo, Mt. 59847 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 6239 Received: May 01, 2013
To keep Elk Summit area open for snowmobiling access is a history of riding for 43 years.
Contact Information: Dan nashent@montna.com

Reply ID: 15728 Received: Jul 28, 2014
Plese keep area open to snowmobiling and help local economies!
Contact Information: Michael mdwilson@glacierbancorp.com



Comment ID: 6224 Received: May 01, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep the Great Burn/Tom Beal/Elk Summitt/ Beaver ridge areas open to backcountry snowmobile recreation! Winter recreation for powder hounds is all about access to good snow/elevation. Need snowmobiles to access these areas to recreate. If you persist in shutting these areas down you are essentially closing snowmobiling down in this whole region!

Contact Information: Dan Hoheim dhoheim@hotmail.com
po box 656 Lolo, mt 59847 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 6266 Received: May 02, 2013

Try skinning up. I own a snowmobile and use it for access in certain areas, but there has to be some areas set aside to enjoy the winter quiet without the constant harrassment of these machines

Contact Information: geoff geoffglbrt@yahoo.com

Reply ID: 6277 Received: May 02, 2013

Yes, those areas are called wilderness, which there are hundreds of thousands of acres in western Montana and Idaho.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 6283 Received: May 02, 2013

Simply closing down areas is not forest management! Backcountry snowmobiling is a huge part of many small towns economies, removing access to public national forests hurts everyone involved.

Contact Information: Mike mlanghen@gmail.com

Reply ID: 6330 Received: May 03, 2013

snowmobilers are only asking for about 10% of the Great Burn be set aside for motorized access. The remaining 175,000 acres would remain off limits to motorized winter use.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 6507 Received: May 09, 2013

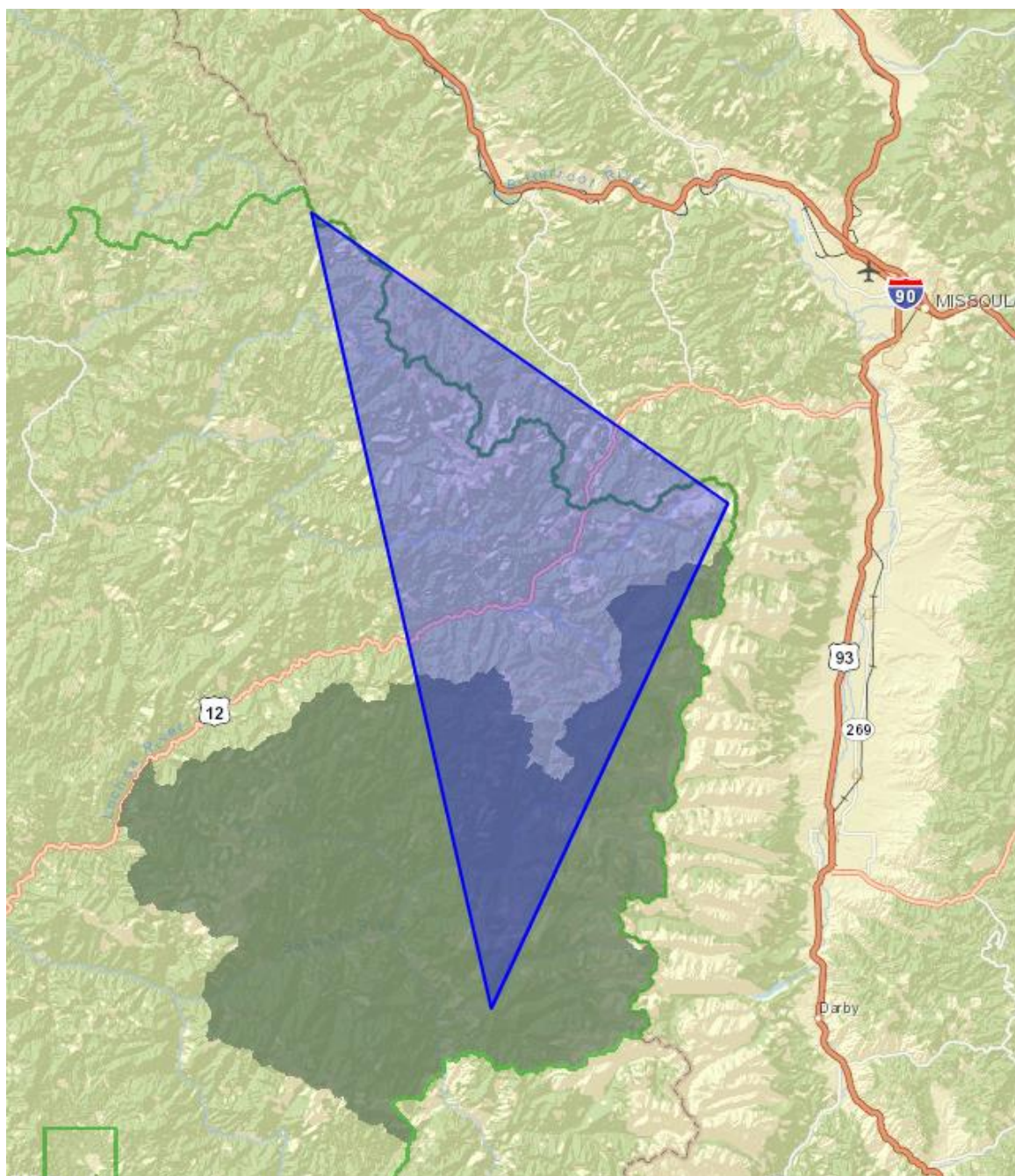
These are great riding areas and do not pose any conflict with other users. I have been riding these areas for over 18 years and never seen a skier in these areas. these need to be left open.

Contact Information: Bill bill@summitroofing.info

Reply ID: 6645 Received: May 10, 2013

Quite unfortunate that the debate and divying up the forest is all about wreckcreational human use. What about the residents? So now it's quiet users vs. motorized users...an unfortunate and, at least partly, unnecessary conflict.

Contact Information: Larry lcampbell@bitterroot.net



Comment ID: 6231 Received: May 01, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Beaver Ridge, Williams Lake, Hoodoo Pass, Tom Beal, and all of the Great Burn should be left open for public use year round. Snowmobiling does nothing to disturb or affect the wilderness atmosphere at any point of the year. Closing these areas will drastically effect the local economy, as snomobiling provides huge revenue for tons of local businesses. This Forest Service should not even be wasting time, effort, or tax payers money to discuss this.

Contact Information: Michael Bond mike@mmwarchitects.com
125 Alder St, Missoula, MT 59802 Preferred contact method: no contact

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6249 Received: May 01, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I currently reside in Missoula, Montana and am a snowmobiler. I've ridden in areas in Idaho known to me as Beaver Ridge, Williams Lake, Surveyor, and Hoodoo Pass. I believe all these areas are in what's known as the Great Burn and it is also my understanding these areas will potentially be closed to snowmobiles. I strongly object to closing this area to snowmobiles. The landscape is rugged and beautiful and if it were not for a snowmobile, I would probably never enjoy this landscape in my lifetime. Every time I was in any these locations I did not see any sign of wildlife. There's no doubt in my mind that once the snow melts, no one would know I was ever there. Closing this area would also have a negative impact on the Missoula area economy. I personally know riders from other states that travel to Missoula to ride snowmobiles in this area. It is in the best interest of the local economy and multitudes of recreationists to allow snowmobiles continued access to this area.

Contact Information: Ted Patterson tedpatterson@rocketmail.com
3004 Queen St. Missoula, MT 59801 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6278 Received: May 02, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep the Great Burn/Tom Beal/Elk Summitt/ Beaver ridge areas open to backcountry snowmobiler's. Backcountry snowmobilers pose no threat to wildlife or the landscape, the snow is just to deep for either to be effected. Closing these areas will cause user conflicts by forcing skiers and snowmobiles into a smaller area. Also it would have a huge negative impact on local buisnesses that rely on this income in the winter. Locals and out of state users will no longer be buying snowmobiles, parts, gas, lodging, snowmobile stickers, parking passes, food and beverages at resturants and bars, etc. and etc. I'm a out of state user that spent 3+ weeks in them areas last winter, please do not force me into going somewhere else.

Contact Information: Ryan Schmidt rmscustombuilt@yahoo.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6286 Received: May 02, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep these areas open for backcountry snowmobiling. Wildlife is nonexistent at that time of year and the snow is so deep that snowmobiles do no damage to the environment. These areas are so remote that there is no user conflicts simply because the only way you can access them is by snowmobile.

Contact Information: Tara Strey tarastrey@yahoo.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6287 Received: May 02, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I am responding in regards to the Great Burn closure proposal, specifically the Williams Lake area and the Beaver Ridge areas. Winter snowmobiling in this backcountry area provides a great opportunity for my family to enjoy the sport, experience the backcountry solitude, and minimize impacts to wildlife and other winter recreationists. It has been my observation that snowmobiling, due to its inherent nature, does not adversely impact vegetation or watersheds. In this area, the impact to wildlife is minimal, as we have rarely observed even tracks of animals. Due to the small number of animals, remote terrain, and few other winter-use persons, this is an ideal snowmobile recreation area. Prohibiting snowmobile use here will force snowmobilers to other location where there is more wildlife, and more chance of "competition" for space with other outdoor enthusiasts. I hope you consider this against your current proposal to limit snowmobiles in this area.

Contact Information: Colin Watts mcolinwatts@gmail.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6288 Received: May 02, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep these areas open for backcountry snowmobiling. Wildlife is nonexistent at that time of year and the snow is so deep that snowmobiles do no damage to the environment. These areas are so remote that there is no user conflicts simply because the only way you can access them is by snowmobile.

Contact Information: Tara Strey tarastrey@yahoo.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6289 Received: May 02, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep these areas open for backcountry snowmobiling. Wildlife is nonexistent at that time of year and the snow is so deep that snowmobiles do no damage to the environment. These areas are so remote that there is no user conflicts simply because the only way you can access them is by snowmobile.

Contact Information: Tara Strey tarastrey@yahoo.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6325 Received: May 03, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Many of my friends and I used to mountain bike on certain trails in the Great Burn along the Idaho/Montana border. They were excellent riding and I rarely saw other trail users on them and never had a conflict with those I did encounter. It was unfortunate that some of those trails were closed to mountain bikes. Mountain biking is a quiet, low-impact, healthy and human powered use of those trails and I request that use be restored.

Contact Information: Trent Baker trentbaker@bresnan.net

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6340 Received: May 03, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

I want to enter my support for keeping the great burn area a winter motorized use area. I have been snowmobiling this area since 1979, mainly the Kelly Creek drainage, Kidd lake, Williams Lake area / Black lead Mtn. sincerely, Michael D Hansen

Contact Information: michael hansen mike@propworksofmissoula.com
322 blaine street, missoula mt 59801 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6353 Received: May 05, 2013 Keyword: Lands

to restrict travel in the great burn area to snowmobiles and other motorized travel is to deprive people from seeing this wonderful area in some of the most wonderful time of the year and a colossal waste of a natural resource and will come a land of no use

Contact Information: leo miller leovikki@centric.net
po box 813 frenchtown mt 59834 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6354 Received: May 05, 2013 Keyword: Lands

to restrict the great burn from snowmobile and other motorized use is a great waste of a great resource

Contact Information: leo miller leovikki@centric.net
po box 813 frenchtown mt 59834 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6376 Received: May 06, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Keep public land accessible to the public. The beaver ridge and great burn areas are inaccessible in the winter without snowmobile travel. The only people in these areas in the winter have gotten there by snowmobile. Keep the snowmobiles in the high country to reduce user conflicts at the road access points.

Contact Information: matt straub straub69@msn.com

304 Tyler Way, Lolo, MT 59847 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6390 Received: May 07, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I have historically snowmobiled in the great burn area ,beaver ridge/williams lake since 1989, my primary riding areas ,due to scenery, snow conditions , great terrain snowmobiling .There are no trail conflicts as these areas are not used by skiers or snowshoers . In all these years of riding these areas i have not seen any wildlife , or wildlife tracks.The important issue is what IMPACT will permanent closure of these areas have , Obviously future generations ,will not get the opportunity to enjoy experience that i have. Increased user conflicts will increase as winter recreationalists of all kinds will be forced into smaller areas , which seems to me to be the direct opposite of how our lands should be managed . An economic impact as it will force some snowmobilers ,,and other users to quit their sports due to over crowding conflicts . The USFS can not ignore historical use of our lands. I feel Primitive Motorized Winter Use designation will allow the citizens current/ future to enjoy these areas

Contact Information: DARR RIGGERT ACTIONAUTOBODY@EARTHLINK.NET

2705 S CLARK ST MISSOULA MT 59801 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6420 Received: May 07, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

My husband and many friends have been snowmobiling in these areas for 17+ years. Hoodoo Pass, Surveyor Kid Lake, Beaver Ridge, Williams Lake and the fabulous riding around Fish Lake. This is the "best" riding we have, consistently having higher snowfalls. We support our local restaurants, stores and gas stations. They will feel the pinch without snowmobilers. We have already been closed out of the MT side of these areas. We leave no trace once the snow melts, there are no animals at 5000+elv and 7-20 feet of snow. We only see skiers, if they got there by snowmobile. These areas keep the conflict with other winter enthusiasts to a minimum. The Great Burn area is a beautiful, fun, and challenging place to ride. We hope "never" to be stuck riding trails only. These backcountry riding areas need to be left open. No backcountry riding=no snowmobiling. We live here to enjoy places like the Great Burn. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, don't close us out of the best. Sincerely, Mark & Carrie

Contact Information: Mark & Carrie Courter mark.courter@Gmail.com
20785 Jones Rd Florence, MT 59833 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 7239 Received: May 31, 2013

Actually, the naturally reclusive and timid mountain goats survive in high elevations during the winter and are very susceptible to disorientation and displacement of snowmobile noise. I've been backpacking into these areas for 40 years and have witnessed drastic declines in mountain goat numbers. Please keep it wild and free from snowmobile noise for the sake of mountain goat numbers.

No Contact Information

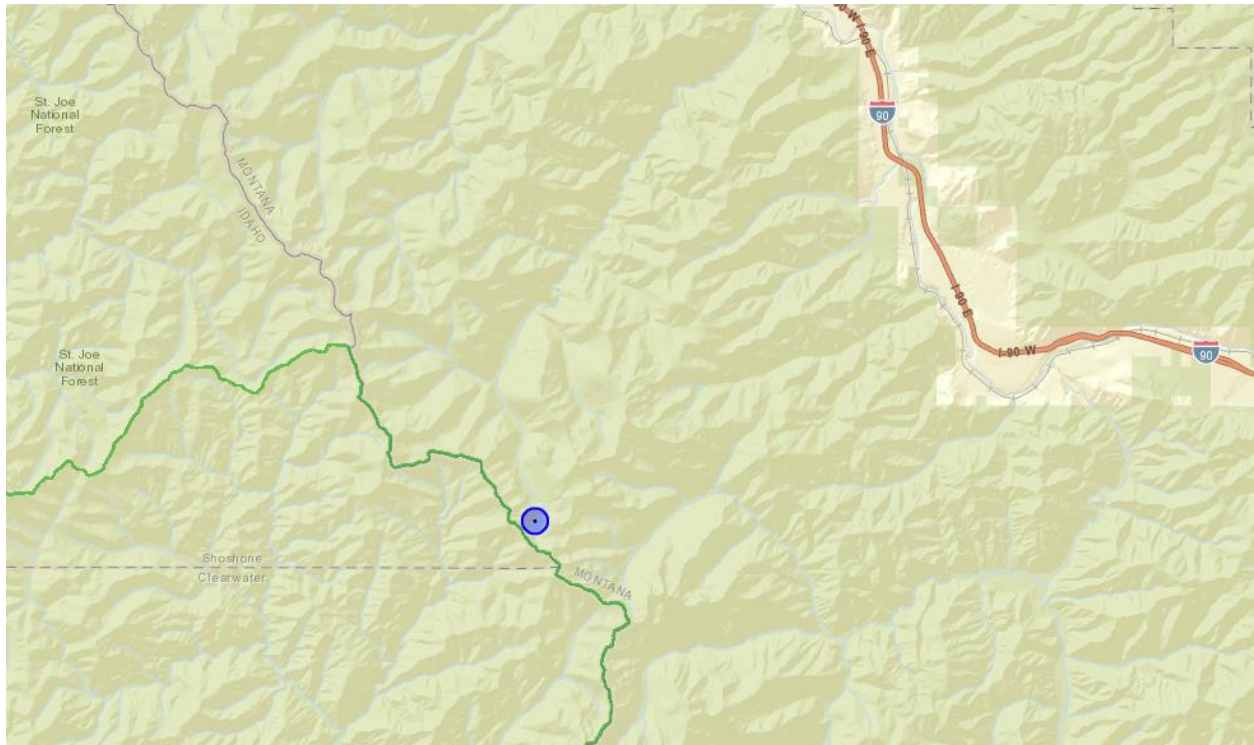
No Map Point

Comment ID: 6427 Received: May 08, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

In winter I like to ski up to Heart Lake and enjoy the solitude it affords, but that experience is ruined by the noise of snowmobiles driving along the State Line Trail, the sound of which echoes throughout the basin. The Clearwater NF must keep the recommended wilderness status for the Great Burn in order to maintain management consistency between the Idaho & Montana portions. This will prevent a conflict of recreational use as required by EO 11644.

Contact Information: Adam Rissien arissien@wildlandscpr.org

PO Box 7516 Missoula 59807 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 6439 Received: May 08, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

As a user of the ClearwaterNF area I feel these area should not be closed to snowmobiling. This method of travel allows us to access incredibly remote and scenic backcountry that cannot be accessed in any other reasonable manner. It is my opinion this method of travel is not harmful to the recreational areas and leaves no trace. Please allow us to continue to access these incredible lands using snowmobiles

Contact Information: Mike Peterson mpeterson@rmeec.com
700 W Kent Missoula MT 59801 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6463 Received: May 09, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Please leave this area open to snowmobiles.

Contact Information: Tara Lynch mstarale@hotmail.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6476 Received: May 09, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

The Hoodoo Roadless Area, aka the Great Burn, represents one of the wildest and most pristine national forest areas that remains in the lower-48 states. For decades, Idahoans and Americans have advocated that this area be permanently protected as Wilderness. In 1987, the Forest Service agreed with this recommendation. For too long, the lack of congressional action has resulted in incursions into this area that have negatively impacted the wilderness values of this area. As society becomes more and more technologically advanced, it is even more important for these backcountry areas to be protected. On behalf of myself, my family, and thousands of other Americans and Idahoans who treasure that quiet solitude that is becoming so rare in our modern world, please maintain the existing protections Recommended Wilderness designation for the Great Burn/Hoodoo Roadless Area and retain current protections established by the Idaho Roadless Rule, and the Clearwater NF Travel Plan.

Contact Information: Jonathan Oppenheimer joppenheimer@idahoconservation.org
2001 Creekside Lane, Boise, ID 83706 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 6510 Received: May 09, 2013

I agree that this area is a great asset to our country but it also needs to be enjoyed and not just shut out so no one will use it. we have vass amounts of wilderness in both Montana and Idaho that are currently available for the type of solitude that you are looking for. Snowmobiling has no impact on these areas other than providing recreation for those of us that truly enjoy the back country.

Contact Information: Bill hotsnowdog69@yahoo.com

Reply ID: 6553 Received: May 10, 2013

Snowmobiling has real impacts to wildlife, including mountain goat, wolverine, elk and subnivean mammals, among others. Cites and excerpts that support this fact are too long to include here, but I did submit them to Carol to include with this comment.

Contact Information: Adam arissien@wildlandscpr.org

Reply ID: 6555 Received: May 10, 2013

Snowmobiling does indeed cause impacts resulting in the harassment of wildlife and significant distrupction of wildlife habitat., especially for wolverine, elk, mountain goat, and subnivean mammals. Cites supporting this fact are too long to post here but I've submitted them to the ID Team. The Great Burn must be protected to minimize impacts to wildlife.

Contact Information: Adam arissien@wildlandscpr.org

Reply ID: 6557 Received: May 10, 2013

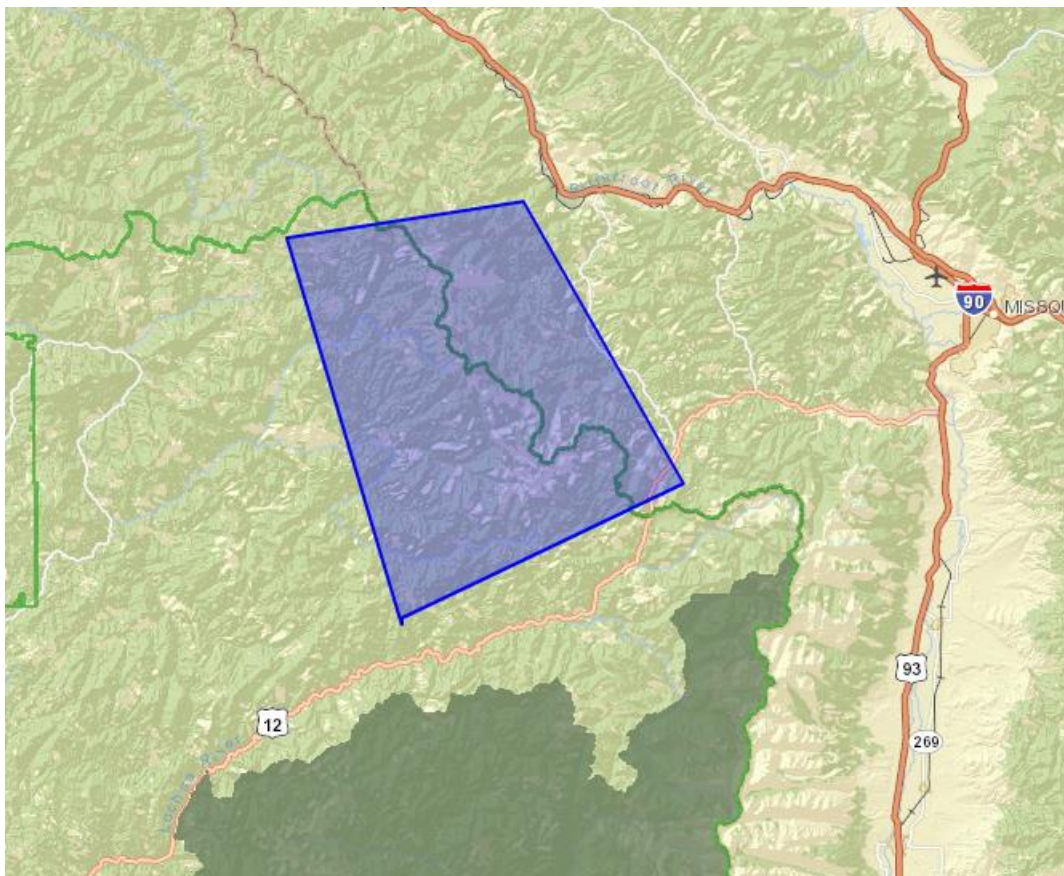
Snowmobiling results in the harassment of wildlife and the significant disruption of wildlife habitat affecting species such as subnivean mammals, elk, wolverine, and mountain goat among others. Cites supporting this are too long to include here, but I've provided them to the ID Team. The Great Burn provides habitat for all these species and it must be protected.

Contact Information: Adam arissien@wildlandscpr.org

Reply ID: 6567 Received: May 10, 2013

The Great Burn provides great snowmobiling opportunities that can not be found anywhere else on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest. Information is incomplete on whether recreation use (including motorized) impacts wolverines. Preliminary information is not showing an impact.

Contact Information: Jeff jeff.cook@idpr.idaho.gov



Comment ID: 6479 Received: May 09, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

Meadow Creek remains one of the single most important streams for Chinook Salmon in Idaho. The drainage also represents a stronghold for Westslope Cutthroat Trout, and studies suggest that the strains of trout represent some of the most genetically pure strains in the world. Since before the Wilderness Act was passed, Idahoans recognized and advocated for the protection of this area. The entire drainage should be considered as a single unit and should be recommended for Wilderness. The Anderson Butte Trail which forms the western boundary of the roadless area should be excluded from the Recommended Wilderness Area. Meadow Creek should also be recommended as a Wild River and inconsistent uses, developments or structures that detract from such a designation should be addressed through the planning effort.

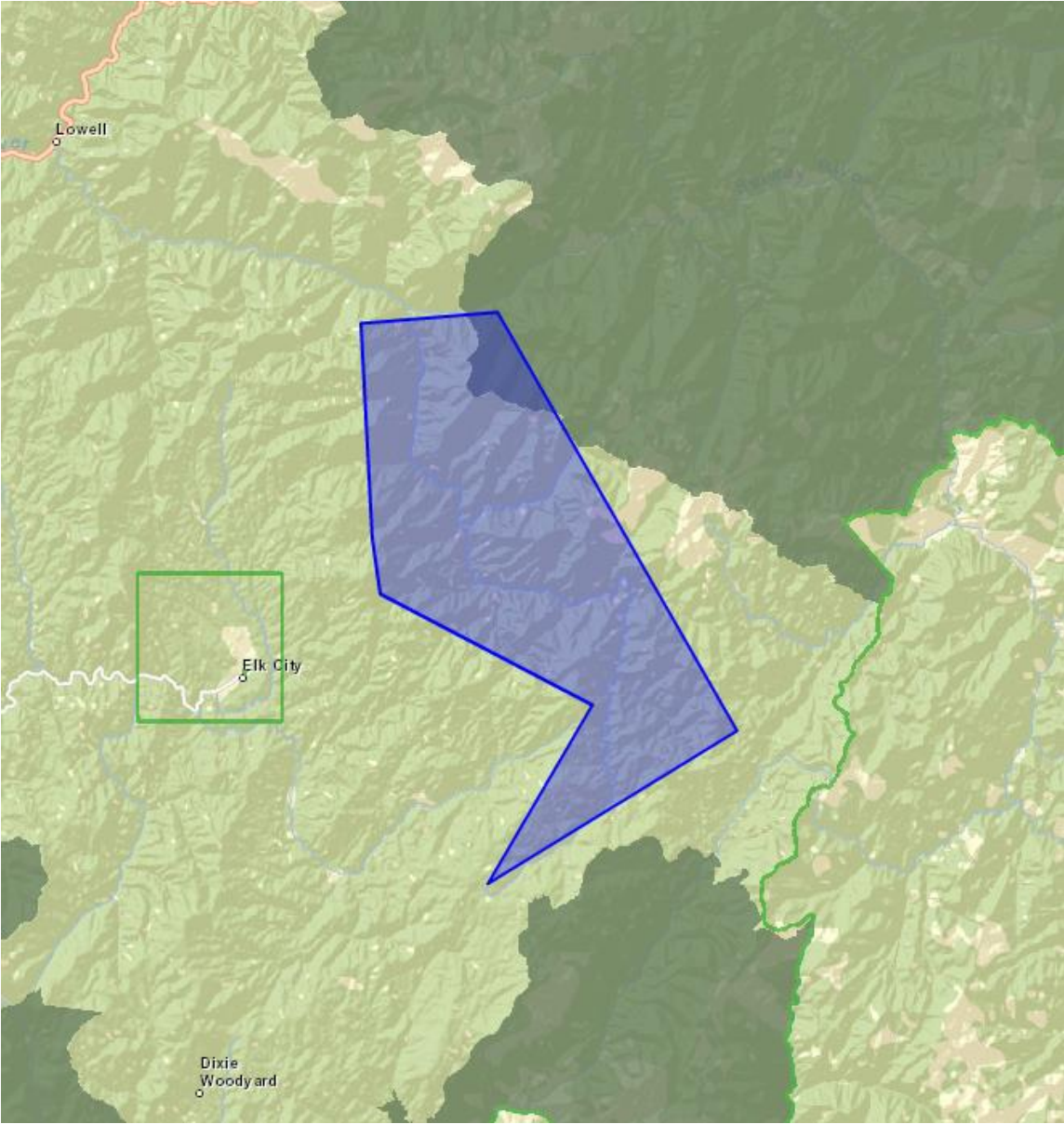
Contact Information: Jonathan Oppenheimer joppenheimer@idahoconservation.org
2001 Creekside Lane, Boise ID, 83706 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 6709 Received: May 13, 2013

The current plan divided the area between preservation and harvest activities with Meadow Creek as a the boundary.I proposing recommending the area for Backcounty Recreation instead of recommended Wilderness. This management category could provide motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities while providing limited resources for vegetation management (prescribed burns, whitebark pine enchancement, etc).

Contact Information: Jeff jeff.cook@idpr.idaho.gov

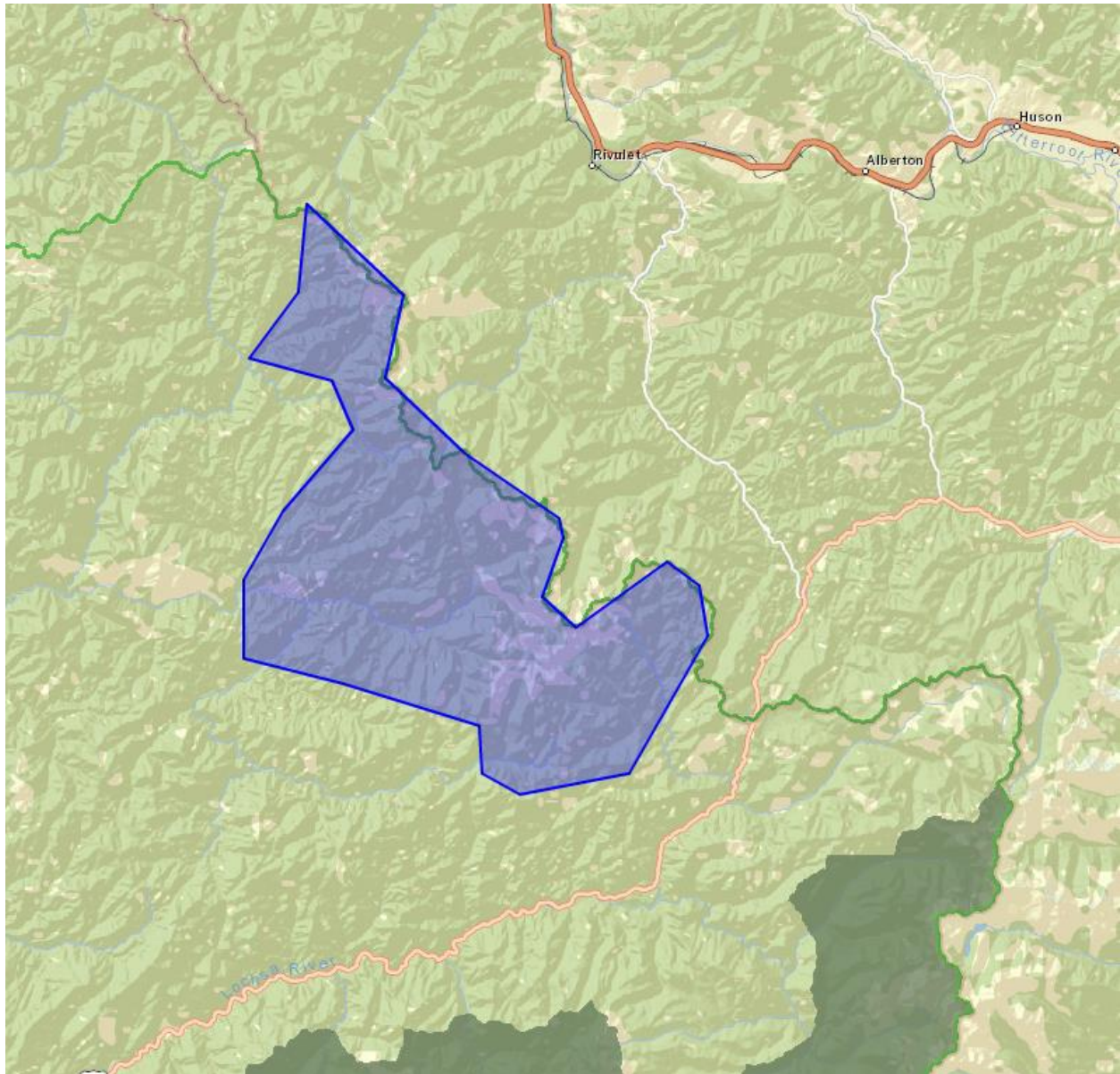


Comment ID: 6514 Received: May 09, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I have been riding these areas with my dad for the last 8 years. These are the best snowmobile areas that i have ridden in. These areas should stay open to snowmobiling because i love to ride my sled there and it does not hurt anything or anybody.

Contact Information: Casey Johns casey_johns24@hotmail.com

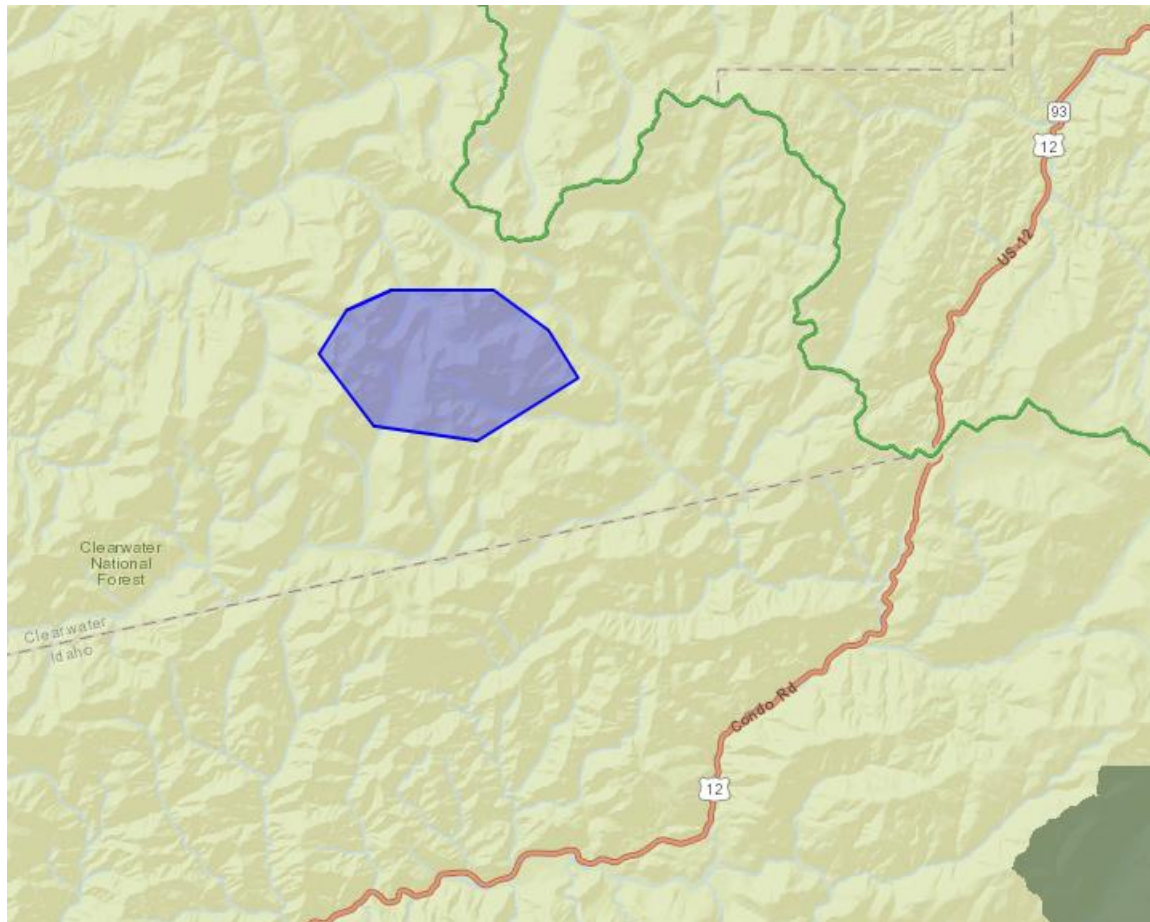
4805 Deschamps Missoula, Mt 59808 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 6519 Received: May 09, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

This area has some of the best back country riding that I have witnessed in my 20 years of riding. Snowmobiles do nothing to hurt this area and when the snow melts you do not even know that they were there. Recreation is a need that many people have in order to maintain sanity in this very fast paced world we live in. We need to have areas for everyone to enjoy the back country. This area as well as the entire great burn area, beavers ridge and Hoo doo areas need to be open to snowmobiling. We should not be closed out of our own land.

Contact Information: William Johns hotsnowdog69@yahoo.com
4805 Deschamps Missoula, Mt Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 6543 Received: May 10, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

there is no reason to close down this great area to snowmobiles and. Let the public decide what should be done with public lands !

Contact Information: Steve Brown treb53@hotmail.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6545 Received: May 10, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

As a backcountry snowmobiler I would like to see the "Great Burn Area", specifically the areas of: Williams Lake, Beaver Ridge, Hoo Doo, Crooked Fork, and Surveyor remain open to PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED-WINTER USE. These are incredibly remote, scenic areas of backcountry that can't be accessed without a snowmobile during the winter months. Because of the snow accumulations and challenging and unique terrain I have yet to encounter any wildlife or non-motorized winter enthusiasts. Snowmobilers leave no trace, and once the snow melts there is no indication of our use. Keeping these vast areas open also helps reduces the congestion and conflicts of multiple users. "The Great Burn" is an incredible snowmobiling opportunity that should be available for future generations to enjoy. Public lands need to remain accessible to the public!

Contact Information: Jennifer Jennifer.dwyer.mt@gmail.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6547 Received: May 10, 2013 Keyword: Wilderness

The great burn back country is near and dear to mine and many hearts. My Grandfather used you have an elk camo in Irish Basin in the 30's and I grew up riding these areas with my father. Please Keep it open so we can one day recreate with our own children on snowmobiles in these areas.

Contact Information: Jason Scheffer Jason@usdieselparts.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6564 Received: May 10, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

The unique winter environmental characteristics of the Great Burn Area allow the possibility of it being enjoyed in an original way in the lower 48: as a multiuse semi-protected region. If we use the European model of the Alps, Dolomites and Pyrenees (where established semi-motorized use to assist/promote healthy human powered use has created a generational appreciation and respect for the region) it will allow traditional use to flourish while cultivating a "protect the resource" mindset. I believe the standard "one way or the other" mindset of land use in the lower 48 has created areas that are only appreciated by "the few" and has led to a populace that is unhealthy and uninformed. My hope as a backcountry skier is that by allowing continued/monitored access to the winter beauty of the region (currently requiring use of a motorized vehicle), it will promote a respect and appreciation for the region by a larger group of recreators.

Contact Information: Dave Nixon skinnypin1@msn.com

816 W. Hallmark Ln, Missoula, MT 59801 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6576 Received: May 10, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I am concerned about losing access to beautiful areas with room for all types of valued recreation, the Great Burn in particular. I personally enjoy primitive areas and motorized access. By converting areas that are already designated motorized it hinders the public's ability to enjoy our natural landscapes that can only be reasonably accessed by motorized travel. Areas with motorized access are already a fraction of non-motorized. If the proposed plan was implemented it would be a loss that would be felt immediately. People now and in the future would not be able to enjoy their national lands to create their own outdoor experiences. It is not as if more area would be opened up if the proposed plan would be approved. A dissatisfied public would be forced to seek other recreation opportunities on less space. Multiple Use needs to be remembered, everyone is affected. Please protect our ability to enjoy our land how we choose in the already designated areas, KEEP IT OPEN!

Contact Information: Brian Krott bkrott1@yahoo.com
226 S 3rd Ave, Sandpoint, ID 83864 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6604 Received: May 10, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

please keep the national forest land open to orv vehicles, including motorcycles, atv's, bikes, snowmobiles... thank you

Contact Information: mark koerner spicedwafer1@gmail.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6634 Received: May 10, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Tom Beal Park, Beaver Ridge and the Williams Lake area, collectively offer the best backcountry skiing and snowmobiling in the area. All of these areas require a snowmobile to access and restricting snowmobiles will end the recreational opportunities for all residents. These three areas are the highest elevation terrain we have, far above where any animals live or hibernate in the winter and all are accessed via open roads down low where animals are present. The snowmobiles themselves have virtually no impact on the area, certainly less than aircraft landing strips or jetboat access in the wilderness areas. These areas have all been used for snowmobiling and skiing historically and should remain open for all to enjoy. The non-mining and timber industry economic benefits are significant and should be taken into account as well as the impact of cramming all current users into a very small area at Lolo pass.

Contact Information: David Harriton dave@aev-conversions.com
PO BOX 621, Missoula, MT 59806 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6635 Received: May 10, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I promote snowmobile access to be included in the Clearwater travel plan. A small ribbon of high altitude access will reduce user conflict on Lolo Pass which is already high. The Great Burn and Beaver Ridge have documented historic use for going on 40 years. The precedents set by jet boaters and bush planes in The Frank Church and Selway Bitterroot, (actual wilderness), cause far greater impacts to wildlife and other users and have set an irrefutable precedent for this issue. The best land practices are those that include all users and groups. This is the snow belt and our sport is rapidly growing. Each year more skiers seek the access that we all enjoy and join our team. Please don't stick us all in one spot and take away this amazing opportunity. Look towards the future and help create a balanced future for all recreationists in our region. Let us ride!!!!

Contact Information: Adam Pfiffner adampfiffner@gmail.com
1631 7th St. Missoula, MT Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6642 Received: May 10, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I have been snowmobiling Hoodoo, Williams Lake, Beaver Ridge areas for 15 years. I would like to see this area kept open for primitive motorized winter use. Please consider adjusting any boundaries for snowmobiles. Thank you Corey Haider

Contact Information: Corey Haider mthaider@yahoo.com
17825 Beargrass Mountain Road, Missoula, MT 59808 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6653 Received: May 10, 2013 Keyword: Lands

I think that closing the Great Burn area to snowmobiling would be a senseless mistake. I have snowmobiled in this area over the past 15 years and have enjoyed the challenge of riding there. We ride in this area 5 to 7 times a year and we have not had any encounters or conflicts with either skiers or wildlife. By taking away areas like this, it forces snowmobilers into more heavily used areas thus increasing the possibilities of conflict with skiers and wildlife. I hunt, fish, and hike in areas that I snowmobile and have not seen any negative impacts from snowmobiles. Losing a great area like this to snowmobiling would be a huge disappointment to me and many others.

Contact Information: Brett Haines hainescontracting@yahoo.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6659 Received: May 11, 2013 Keyword: Wilderness

My husband and I have enjoyed several backpacking trips in the Great Burn and believe it should be designated wilderness.

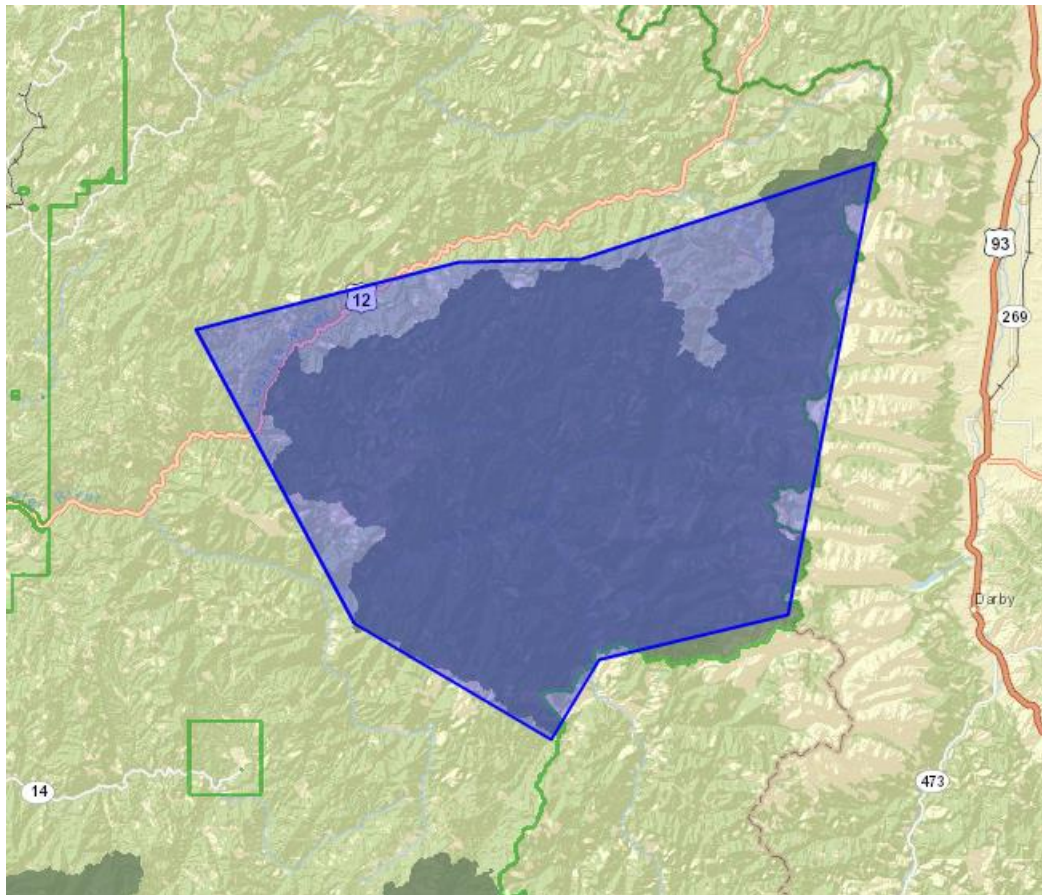
Contact Information: Lindsay Richards lindsay_richards@msn.com
204 Beverly Ave, Missoula 59801 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6663 Received: May 11, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

The Great Burn is one of the most exquisite natural places we have left in our country. Designating it free of mechanized transportation is the right choice, not because of who it limits, but who it helps. Recreators of all types have access to public land across the country, particularly in Idaho and Montana, but we need protection in the Great Burn for more than just people: the ecological health - plants, animals, water, soil - of this wild place depends on it. I love to backpack this area because of its spectacular views and high volume of wildlife. Lets keep it that way As people who love to spend time in the Great Burn, we will be better off protecting it with a Wilderness designation than loving it to death.

Contact Information: Jessie Grossman jessie.grossman@gmail.com



Comment ID: 6675 Received: May 12, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I have been snowmobiling in the Williams, Beaver Ridge, and Hoodoo areas for several years. I personally know many people that are concerned of these areas being closed to backcountry access. I have never seen any encounters with wildlife due to the heavy snow accumulation. I am asking that these areas be left open for snowmobiling.

Contact Information: Ted Germansen ted_germansen@yahoo.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6683 Received: May 13, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep these areas open for snowmobile use, specifically the Great Burn, Tom Beal, Beaver Ridge, Elk Summit areas. I come here from Missoula nearly every weekend during the winter. I have yet to encounter a user conflict, as you need a snowmobile to access most of these areas in winter.

Contact Information: Tara Lynch mstarale@hotmail.com

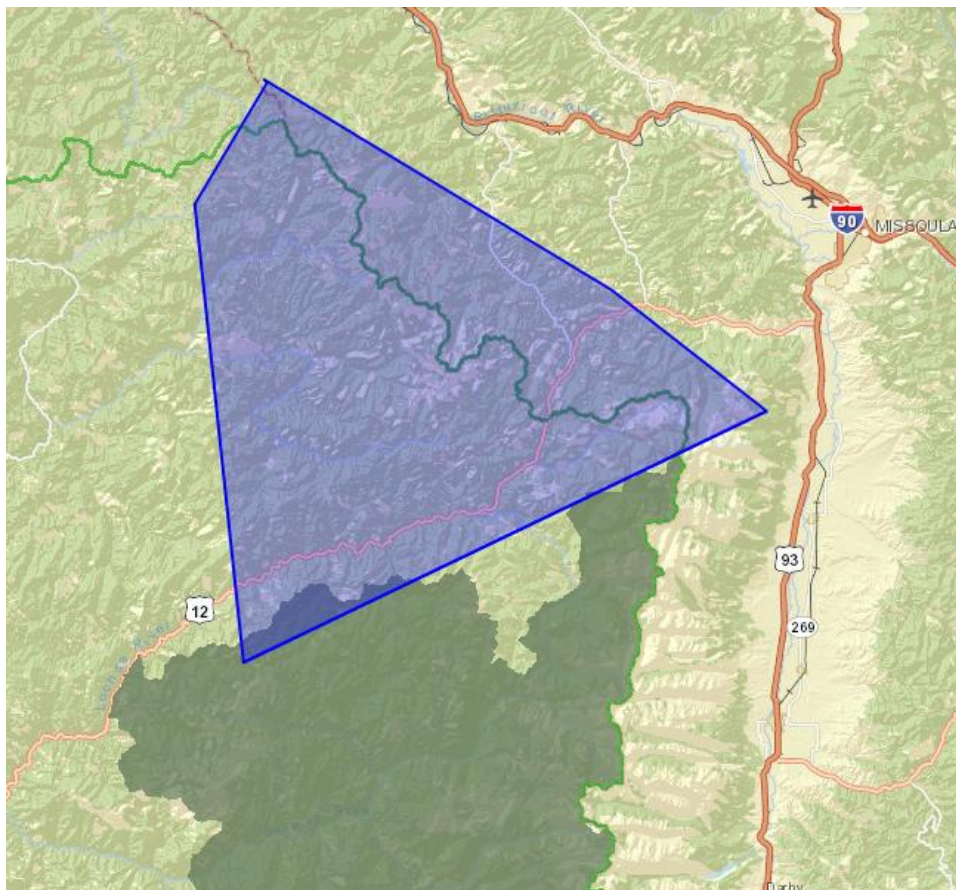
120 1/2 W Franklin Missoula MT 59801 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6699 Received: May 13, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

I use the area in the Great Burn Wilderness Study Area as an outdoor classroom with my students in the Wilderness and Civilization program. It is important to keep this area as a non-motorized use area, and to designate it as wilderness for future use. As the only undeveloped tributary region of the Clark Fork River, the areas bordering and within the Great Burn are incredibly important for teaching environmental education of our local area. Also, I am a frequent backpacker and backcountry skier in the Great Burn Wilderness Study Area, and one of my favorite places to ski is near Hart Lake within the Great Burn. Please designate this beautiful place as wilderness to maintain its untrammeled characteristics for future years.

Contact Information: Natalie Dawson natalie.dawson@umontana.edu
1265 Dakota St. Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 6744 Received: May 13, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

I support motorized winter travel in the great burn . winter recreation is an important resource for this region and taking it away from the people who own it does nothing good for the majority.

Contact Information: jon lynch lynchjon48@yahoo.com
120 1/2 W Franklin Missoula MT 59801 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6767 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Kelly lake, Leo lake, and kid lake areas are some of the best snowmobiling areas around. I have been snowmobiling there for over 18 years my sons ride with me. There is no damage to these areas caused by snowmobiling and there are no animals or skiers in these areas so they do not cause any conflict for users. The great burn area is my favorite place to ride with my family. I would recommend that this entire area be designated Primitive Motorized- Winter Use

Contact Information: Bill Johns bill@summitroofing.info

Replies:

Reply ID: 6779 Received: May 14, 2013

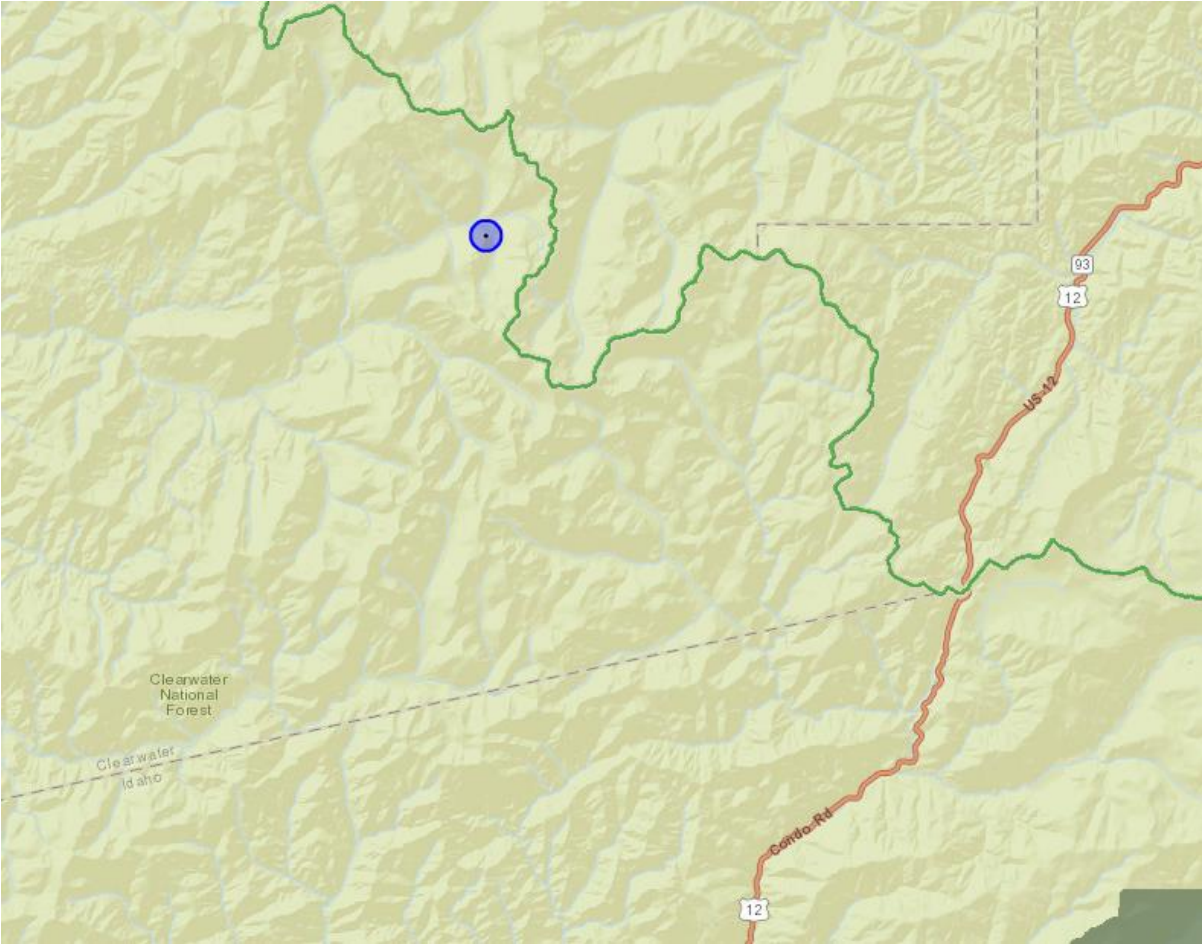
This area is a beautiful place, i enjoy the quiet trails and have back packed and more frequently horse packed in this area. It deserves Wilderness protection!

Contact Information: Daniel dharper300@gmail.com

Reply ID: 7242 Received: May 31, 2013

I've backpacked into these areas a couple times each year, over the past 40 years. Please keep it wild and protected from snowmobile use! I've personally seen mountaingoat populations decimated over the years due to snowmobile noise. These reclusive, timid animals are easily disturbed/displaced by wintertime noise. Canadian studies say that snowmobile noise up to three miles away disturbs mountaingoats and displaces them at a time of year when they are already struggling for survival. Stop snowmobile use for the sake of mountaingoat populations.

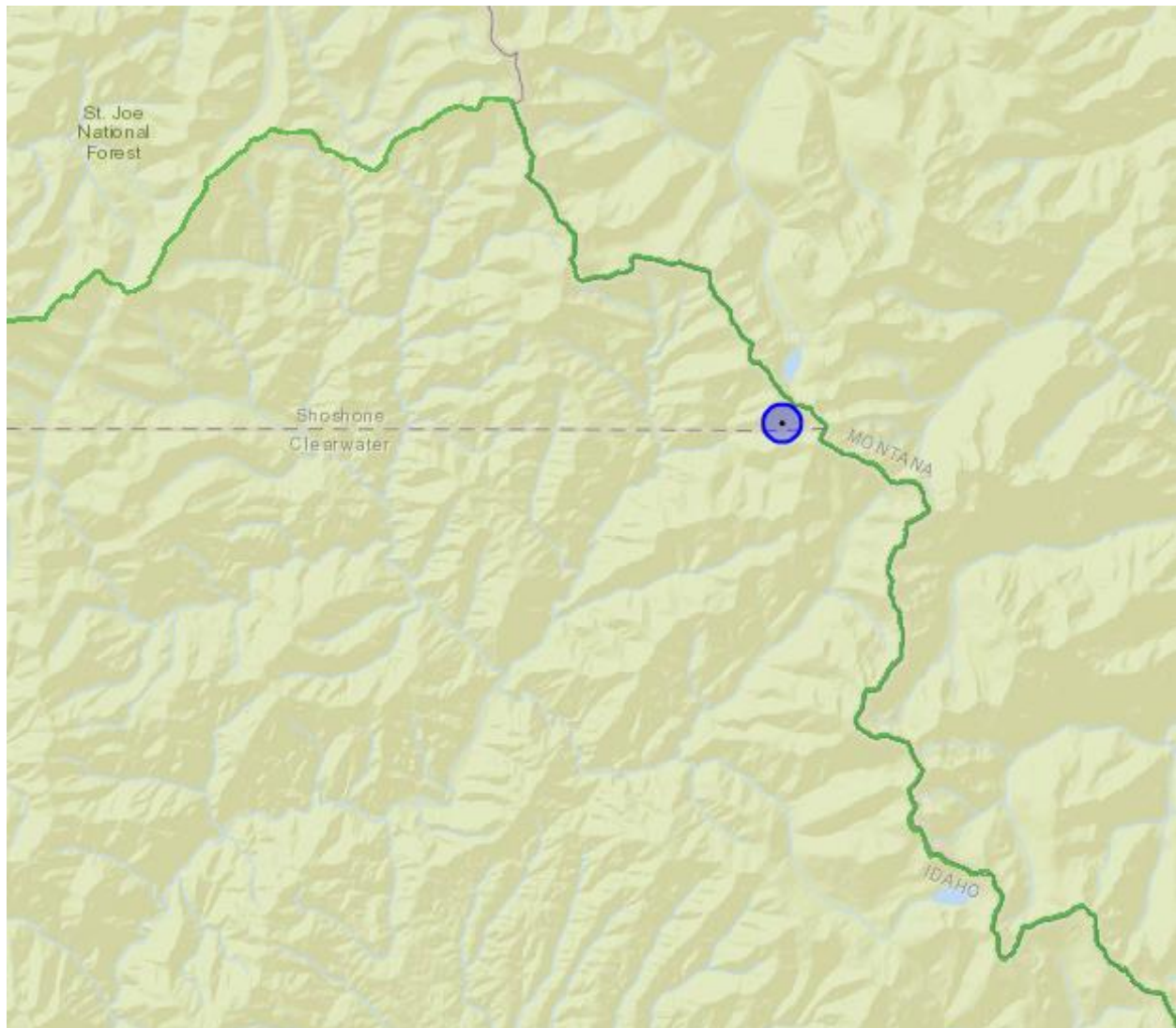
No Contact Information



Comment ID: 6770 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

This area should remain open to snowmobiles as it is a great place to ride and provides no conflict with animals or other users. I recommend it be listed as PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED-WINTER USE

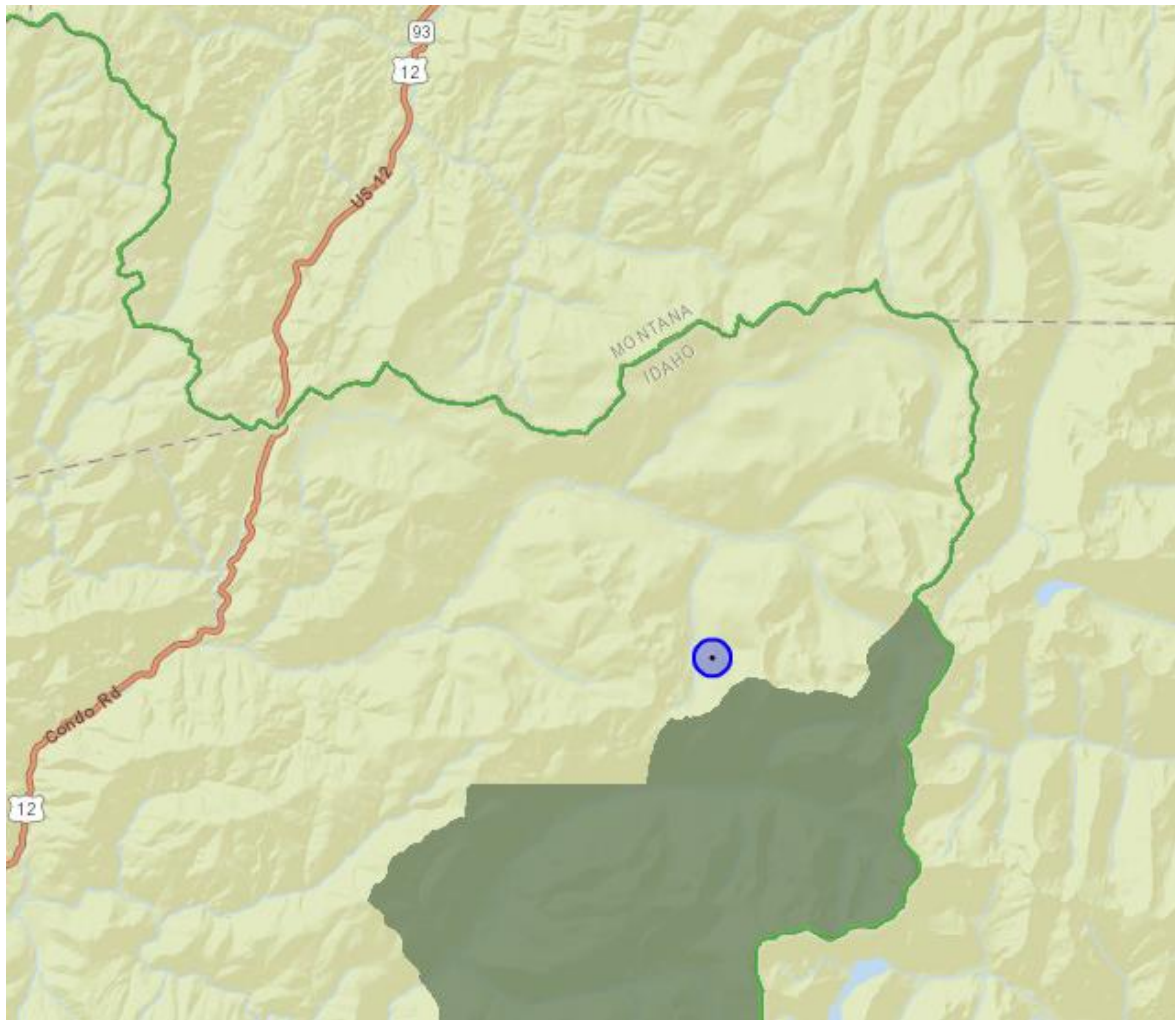
Contact Information: Bill Johns bill@summitroofing.info



Comment ID: 6773 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

This area is some great snowmobiling area that is accessible from the LOLO pass parking lot and it allows snowmobilers an area that they can get away from the skiers as to reduce conflict. I ahve been riding in the area for over 20 years and would recommend it be listed as PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED-WINTER USE

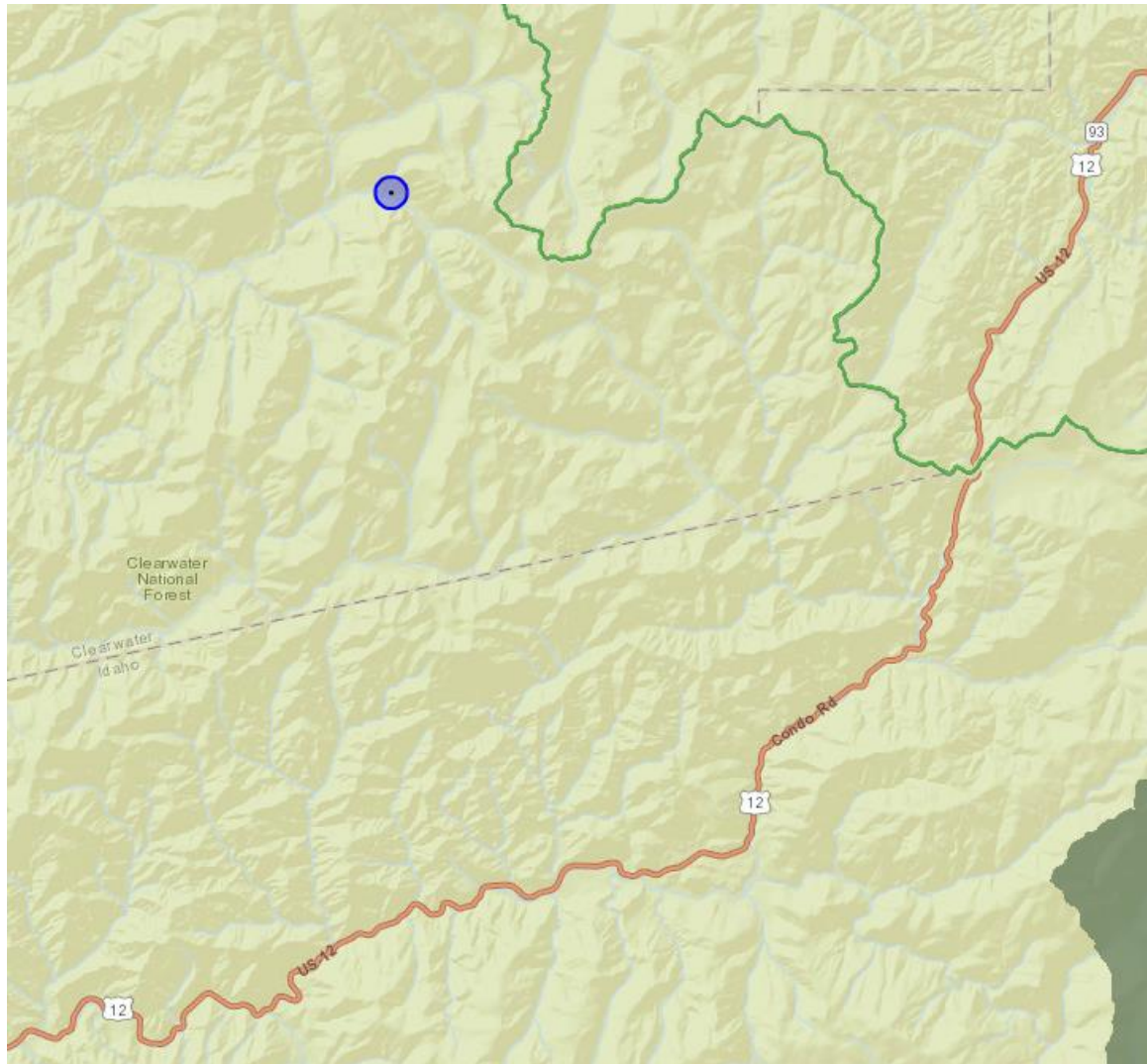
Contact Information: Bill Johns bill@summitroofing.info



Comment ID: 6783 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

I Drive from Polson to ride this historical riding area. It has been available since the early 70's. There is virtually no wildlife in this area in the winter and infact all the wildlife I do see is from the truck on the way in amongst the houses in the valley! It is inaccessible unless you are able to ride in with a snowmobile. There is no impact by snowmobiles because of the amount of snow. I ride this area with my son and many friends. I would like this area to incude boundary changes to accomadate the snowmobilers so we can continue to create great memories.

Contact Information: replace #6089



Comment ID: 6787 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

This area is a great place to bring beginner snowmobilers. It has historically been used by many over the years since the 70's. It's a great area to ride with families. There is no impact to wildlife due to they are all on their winter grounds which is not in this area. Over the years I have only seen 3 sets of skiers in the area. I would like this area to be considered for boundary changes to include snowmobiling during winter months.

Contact Information: replace #6095

Replies:

Reply ID: 12888 Received: Apr 02, 2014

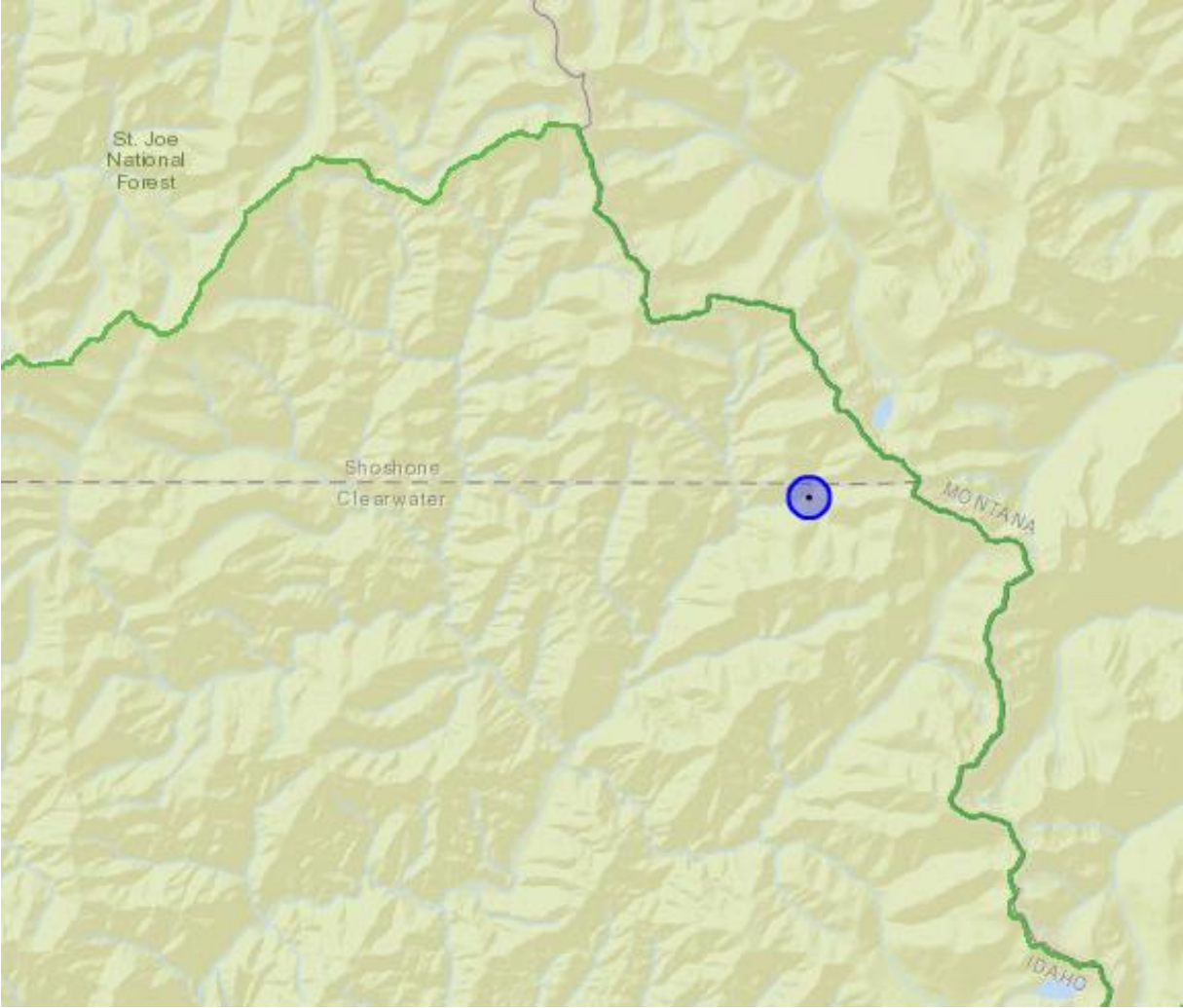
The Great Burn is a vital biological core area for far-ranging wildlife in the northern Rockies. The Great Burn serves as a biological bridge, permitting migration and genetic interchange; without which populations will inbreed and species vigor will diminish. Throughout the year, mountain goats inhabit high rocky terrain, including the high cirque basins in the stateline area. Studies indicate they are particularly sensitive to activity above them. Snowmobile or bicycle activity on the Stateline ridge above occupied mountain goat habitat may displace and threaten mountain goats during particularly vulnerable periods of late winter and spring. Similar evidence reports that such activities in high elevation cirque basins near the Stateline Trail may affect denning wolverines as well. As a result, I urge you to retain closures to both mechanized and motorized uses in the Great Burn area and to recommend the entire area as Recommended Wilderness.

Contact Information: Jonathan joppenheimer@idahoconservation.org

Reply ID: 13024 Received: Apr 03, 2014

I have snowmobiled every sq. in. of the Gt. Burn that is accessible and have never seen a goat or any sign of one. We are riding in 10 to 15 ft. of snow. There is no food available. Notwithstanding the previous comment, Goats will adapt to motorized activity. Take a boat trip on Lake Pend Oreille and observe them on the cliffs. They are oblivious to the boat traffic within a 100 yds of them..

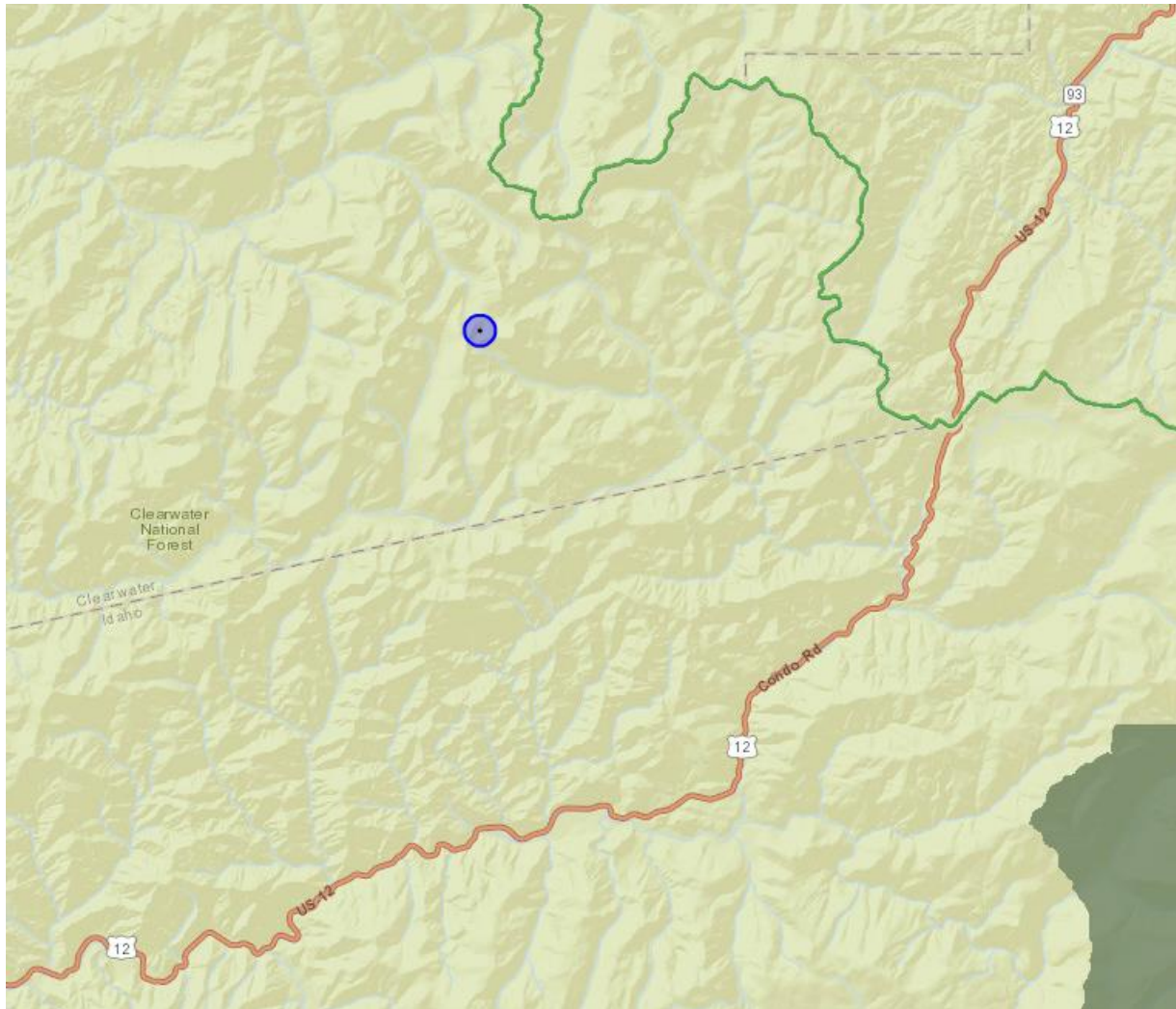
No Contact Information



Comment ID: 6791 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

This area has some of the best back country riding that I have witnessed in my 20 years of riding. Snowmobiles do nothing to hurt this area and when the snow melts you do not even know that they were there. Recreation is a need that many people have in order to maintain sanity in this very fast paced world we live in. We need to have areas for everyone to enjoy the back country. This area as well as the entire great burn area, beavers ridge and Hoo doo areas need to be open to snowmobiling. We should not be closed out of our own land.

Contact Information: replace #6519



Comment ID: 6795 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

I have been riding these areas with my dad for the last 8 years. These are the best snowmobile areas that i have ridden in. These areas should stay open to snowmobiling because i love to ride my sled there and it does not hurt anything or anybody.

Contact Information: replace #6514

Replies:

Reply ID: 12875 Received: Apr 02, 2014

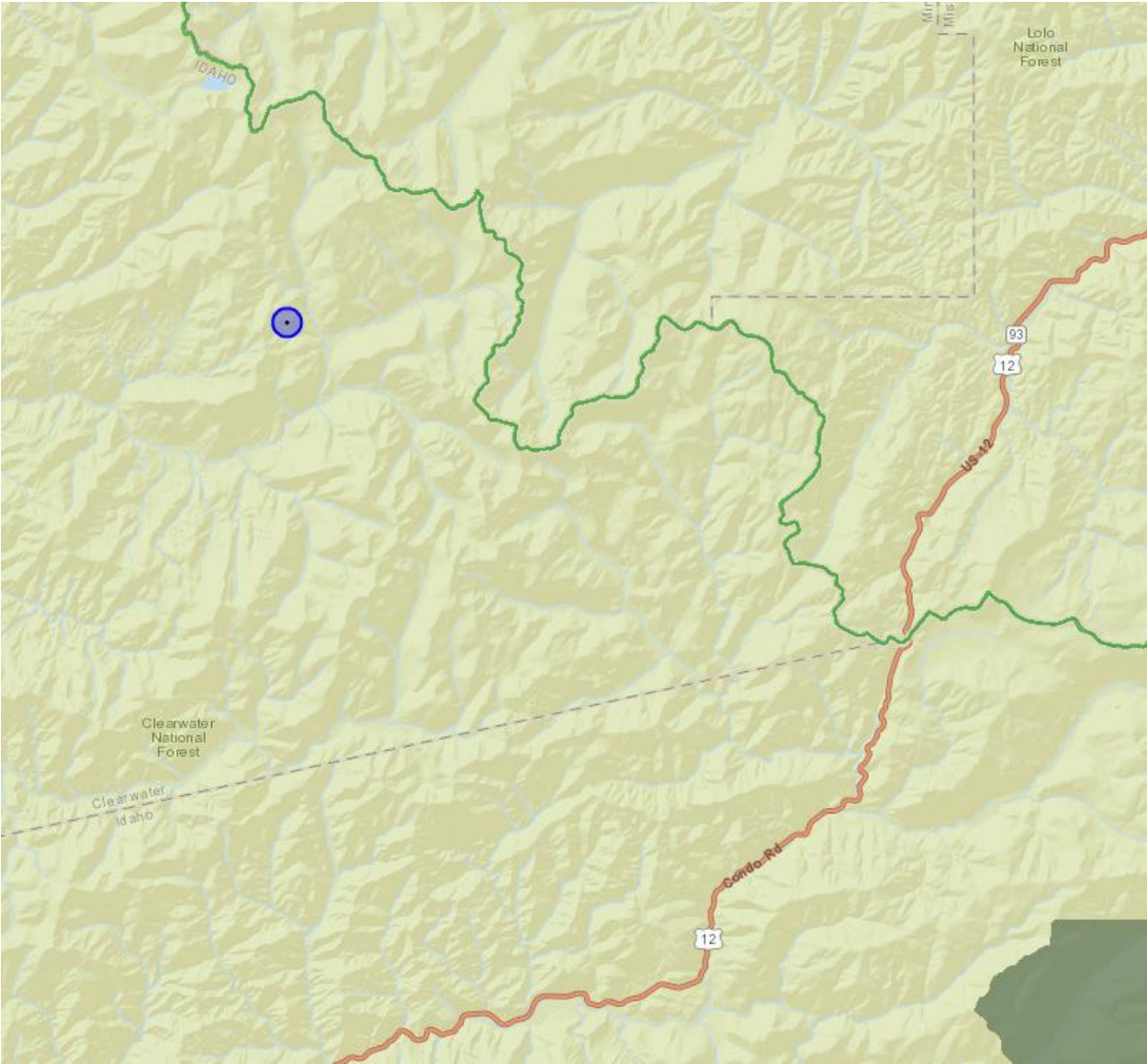
The recommended Great Burn Wilderness is one of the only places in the lower 48 states where most native species at the time of Lewis and Clark still inhabit the landscape. Roadless lands in the Clearwater NF provide a critical corridor for animals to move between the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem and the Selway-Bitterroot Ecosystem and onto the greater Yellowstone region. The area contains outstanding wildlife habitat. There are several distinct mountain goat populations in the high country. Scientific research states that motorized use has a detrimental effect on wildlife, especially goats. Goats will move out of sight into escape terrain when motorized use occurs. Snowmobile operators may never see the goats they're displacing, and may never know their effect on the health of the herd. The recommended Great Burn Wilderness is a gem of wild beauty and a national treasure that should be continue to be protected as wilderness with no mechanized and no motorized use.

Contact Information: Jonathan joppenheimer@idahoconservation.org

Reply ID: 13027 Received: Apr 03, 2014

Show me the scientific study! Boaters have been watching goats on the cliffs surrounding Lake Pend Oreille in Id. for years. They are oblivious to the motor boat activity .

No Contact Information



Comment ID: 6801 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

Please keep the Great Burn/Tom Beal/Elk Summitt/ Beaver ridge areas open to backcountry snowmobile recreation! Winter recreation for powder hounds is all about access to good snow/elevation. Need snowmobiles to access these areas to recreate. If you persist in shutting these areas down you are essentially closing snowmobiling down in this whole region!

Contact Information: replaces #6224

Replies:

Reply ID: 6807 Received: May 14, 2013

Try skinning up. I own a snowmobile and use it for access in certain areas, but there has to be some areas set aside to enjoy the winter quiet without the constant harrassment of these machines

Contact Information: replaces #6266

Reply ID: 6809 Received: May 14, 2013

Yes, those areas are called wilderness, which there are hundreds of thousands of acres in western Montana and Idaho. No Contact Information

Contact Information: replaces #6277

Reply ID: 6811 Received: May 14, 2013

Simply closing down areas is not forest management! Backcountry snowmobiling is a huge part of many small towns economies, removing access to public national forests hurts everyone involved.

Contact Information: replaces #6283

Reply ID: 6813 Received: May 14, 2013

snowmobilers are only asking for about 10% of the Great Burn be set aside for motorized access. The remaining 175,000 acres would remain off limits to motorized winter use. No Contact Information

Contact Information: replaces #6330

Reply ID: 6815 Received: May 14, 2013

These are great riding areas and do not pose any conflict with other users. I have been riding these areas for over 18 years and never seen a skier in these areas. these need to be left open.

Contact Information: replaces #6507

Reply ID: 6817 Received: May 14, 2013

Quite unfortunate that the debate and divying up the forest is all about wreckcreational human use. What about the residents? So now it's quiet users vs. motorized users...an unfortunate and, at least partly, unnecessary conflict.

Contact Information: replaces #6645



Comment ID: 6823 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

The Hoodoo Roadless Area, aka the Great Burn, represents one of the wildest and most pristine national forest areas that remains in the lower-48 states. For decades, Idahoans and Americans have advocated that this area be permanently protected as Wilderness. In 1987, the Forest Service agreed with this recommendation. For too long, the lack of congressional action has resulted in incursions into this area that have negatively impacted the wilderness values of this area. As society becomes more and more technologically advanced, it is even more important for these backcountry areas to be protected. On behalf of myself, my family, and thousands of other Americans and Idahoans who treasure that quiet solitude that is becoming so rare in our modern world, please maintain the existing protections Recommended Wilderness designation for the Great Burn/Hoodoo Roadless Area and retain current protections established by the Idaho Roadless Rule, and the Clearwater NF Travel Plan.

Contact Information: replaces #6476

Replies:

Reply ID: 6827 Received: May 14, 2013

I agree that this area is a great asset to our country but it also needs to be enjoyed and not just shut out so no one will use it. we have vass amounts of wilderness in both Montana and Idaho that are currently available for the type of solitude that you are looking for. Snowmobiling has no impact on these areas other than providing recreation for those of us that truly enjoy the back country.

Contact Information: replaces #6510

Reply ID: 6829 Received: May 14, 2013

Snowmobiling has real impacts to wildlife, including mountain goat, wolverine, elk and subnivean mammals, among others. Cites and excerpts that support this fact are too long to include here, but I did submit them to Carol to include with this comment.

Contact Information: replaces #6553

Reply ID: 6831 Received: May 14, 2013

Snowmobiling does indeed cause impacts resulting in the harassment of wildlife and significant distrupction of wildlife habitat., especially for wolverine, elk, mountain goat, and subnivean mammals. Cites supporting this fact are too long to post here but I've submitted them to the ID Team. The Great Burn must be protected to minimize impacts to wildlife.

Contact Information: replaces #6555

Reply ID: 6833 Received: May 14, 2013

Snowmobiling results in the harassment of wildlife and the significant disruption of wildlife

habitat affecting species such as subnivean mammals, elk, wolverine, and mountain goat among others. Cites supporting this are too long to include here, but I've provided them to the ID Team. The Great Burn provides habitat for all these species and it must be protected.

Contact Information: replaces #6557

Reply ID: 6835 Received: May 14, 2013

The Great Burn provides great snowmobiling opportunities that can not be found anywhere else on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest. Information is incomplete on whether recreation use (including motorized) impacts wolverines. Preliminary information is not showing an impact.

Contact Information: #6567

Reply ID: 7046 Received: May 19, 2013

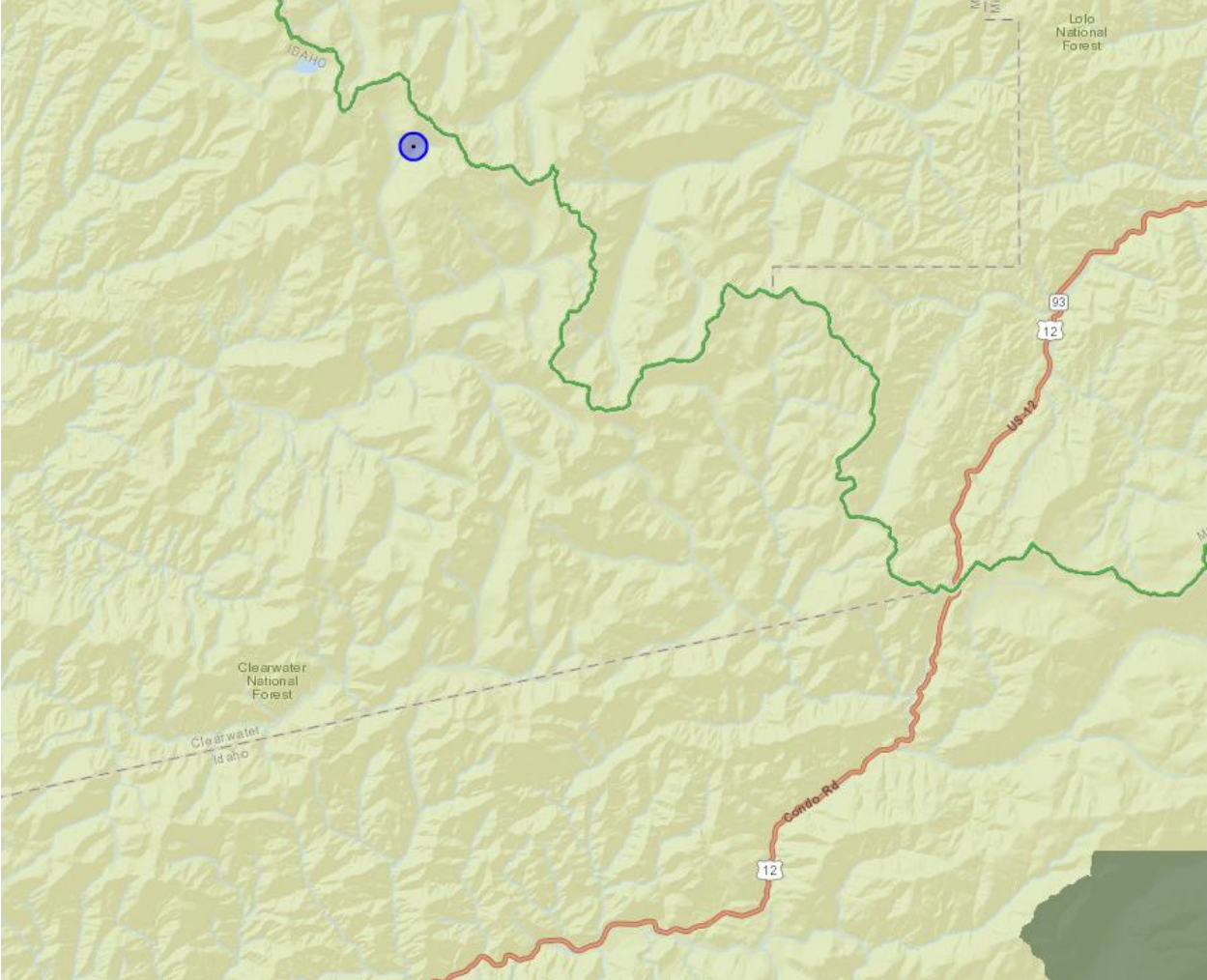
I first backpacked into this area in 1973 and counted 294 elk, 84 goats in various herds all along the way. Returning nearly every year since the I've seen tremendous (unbelievable) changes in game populations. Since the later 1990's elk numbers have plummeted which is due primarily to the severe winter of 1996 and subsequent wolf predation. Goat populations have also taken a huge hit during this time, although last summer I FINALLY saw goats again on Rhodes peak. Snowmobile noise, not wolves, has had the most negative impact on goat populations. I'd like to see most of the area to be managed as primitive/allowing snowmobiling with the caveat of protecting mountaingoat habitat completely, even from sledding.

Contact Information: Lance humbugfam@hotmail.com

Reply ID: 7260 Received: Jun 02, 2013

Elk and Mtn. Goats do not winter in the alpine areas of the great Burn. If there are any wolverines, they are denning in areas not accessible by snowmobile

No Contact Information



Comment ID: 6838 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

Meadow Creek remains one of the single most important streams for Chinook Salmon in Idaho. The drainage also represents a stronghold for Westslope Cutthroat Trout, and studies suggest that the strains of trout represent some of the most genetically pure strains in the world. Since before the Wilderness Act was passed, Idahoans recognized and advocated for the protection of this area. The entire drainage should be considered as a single unit and should be recommended for Wilderness. The Anderson Butte Trail which forms the western boundary of the roadless area should be excluded from the Recommended Wilderness Area. Meadow Creek should also be recommended as a Wild River and inconsistent uses, developments or structures that detract from such a designation should be addressed through the planning effort.

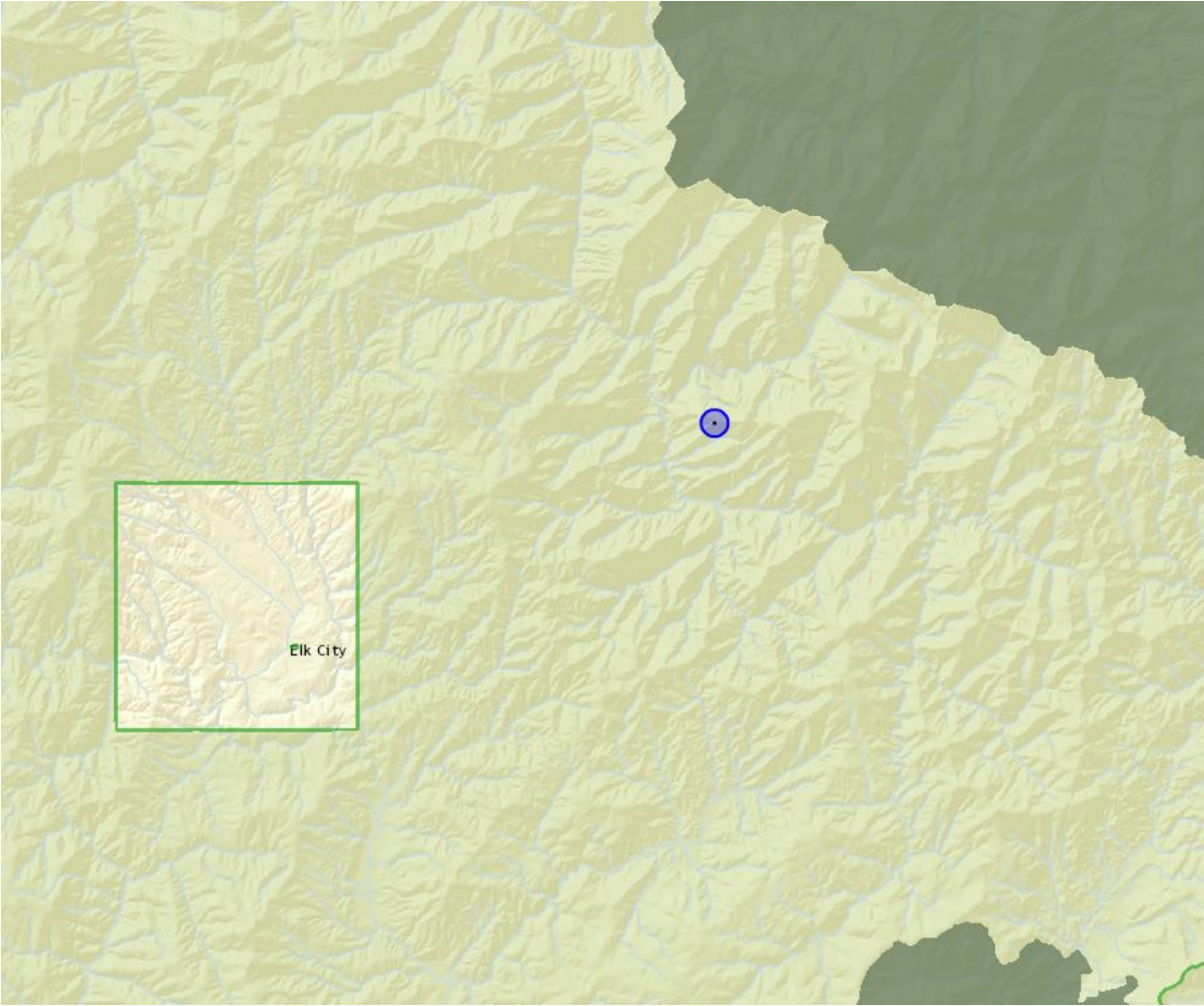
Contact Information: replaces #6479

Replies:

Reply ID: 6842 Received: May 14, 2013

The current plan divided the area between preservation and harvest activities with Meadow Creek as a the boundary.I proposing recommending the area for Backcountry Recreation instead of recommended Wilderness. This management category could provide motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities while providing limited resources for vegetation management (prescribed burns, whitebark pine enchancement, etc).

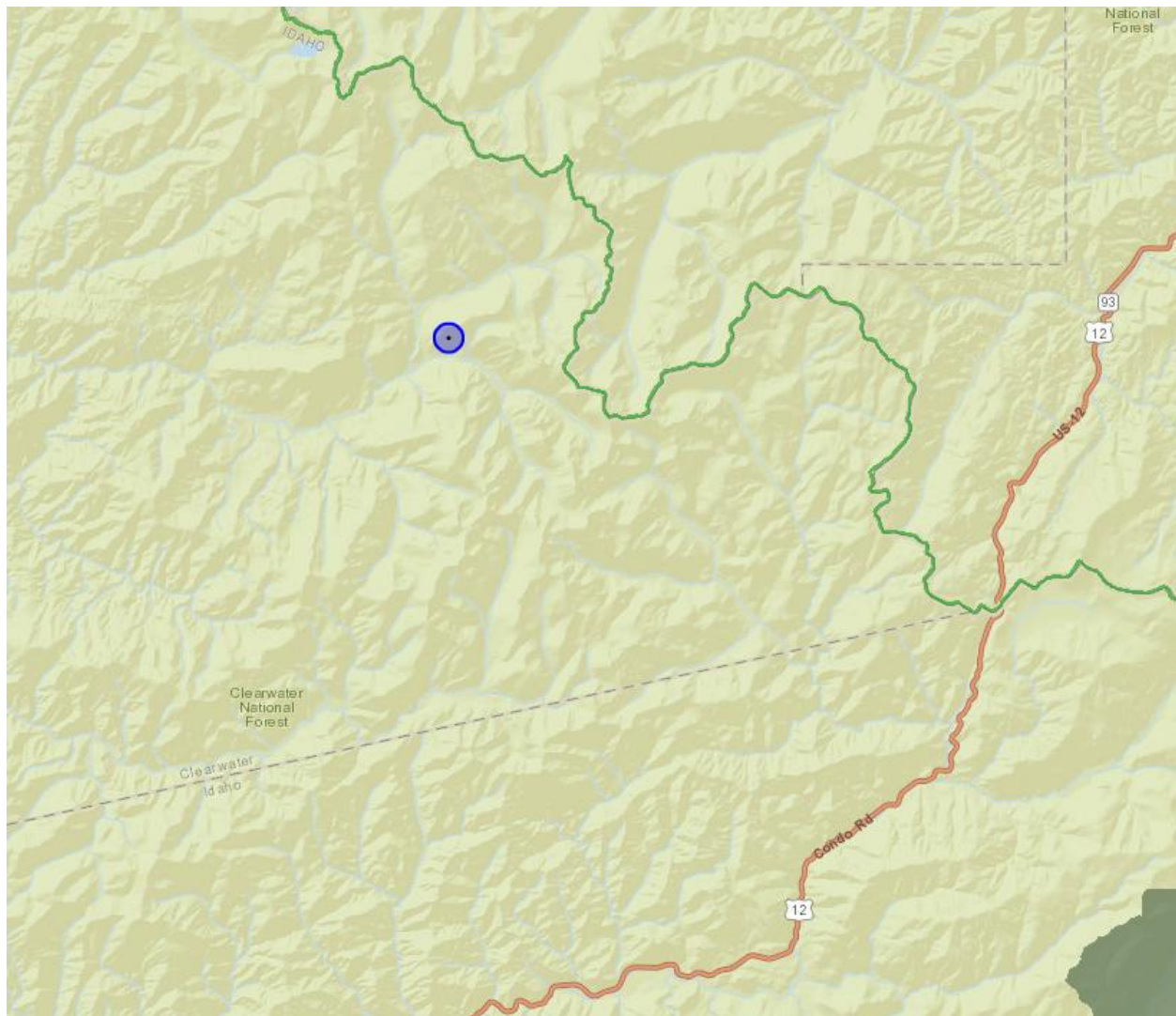
Contact Information: replaces #6709



Comment ID: 6845 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

The Great Burn is one of the most exquisite natural places we have left in our country. Designating it free of mechanized transportation is the right choice, not because of who it limits, but who it helps. Recreators of all types have access to public land across the country, particularly in Idaho and Montana, but we need protection in the Great Burn for more than just people: the ecological health - plants, animals, water, soil - of this wild place depends on it. I love to backpack this area because of its spectacular views and high volume of wildlife. Lets keep it that way As people who love to spend time in the Great Burn, we will be better off protecting it with a Wilderness designation than loving it to death.

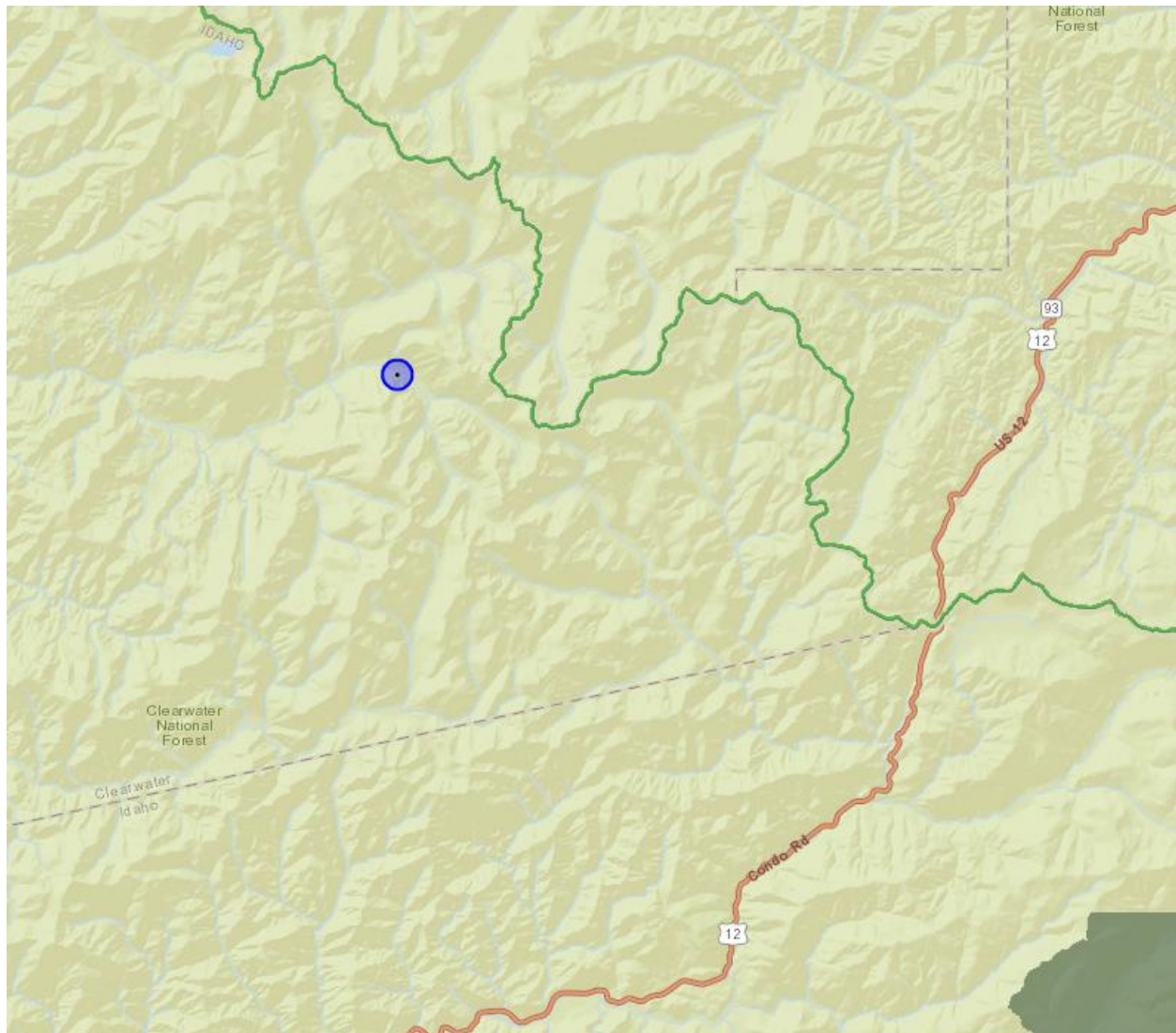
Contact Information: replaces #6663



Comment ID: 6849 Received: May 14, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

I use the area in the Great Burn Wilderness Study Area as an outdoor classroom with my students in the Wilderness and Civilization program. It is important to keep this area as a non-motorized use area, and to designate it as wilderness for future use. As the only undeveloped tributary region of the Clark Fork River, the areas bordering and within the Great Burn are incredibly important for teaching environmental education of our local area. Also, I am a frequent backpacker and backcountry skier in the Great Burn Wilderness Study Area, and one of my favorite places to ski is near Hart Lake within the Great Burn. Please designate this beautiful place as wilderness to maintain its untrammeled characteristics for future years.

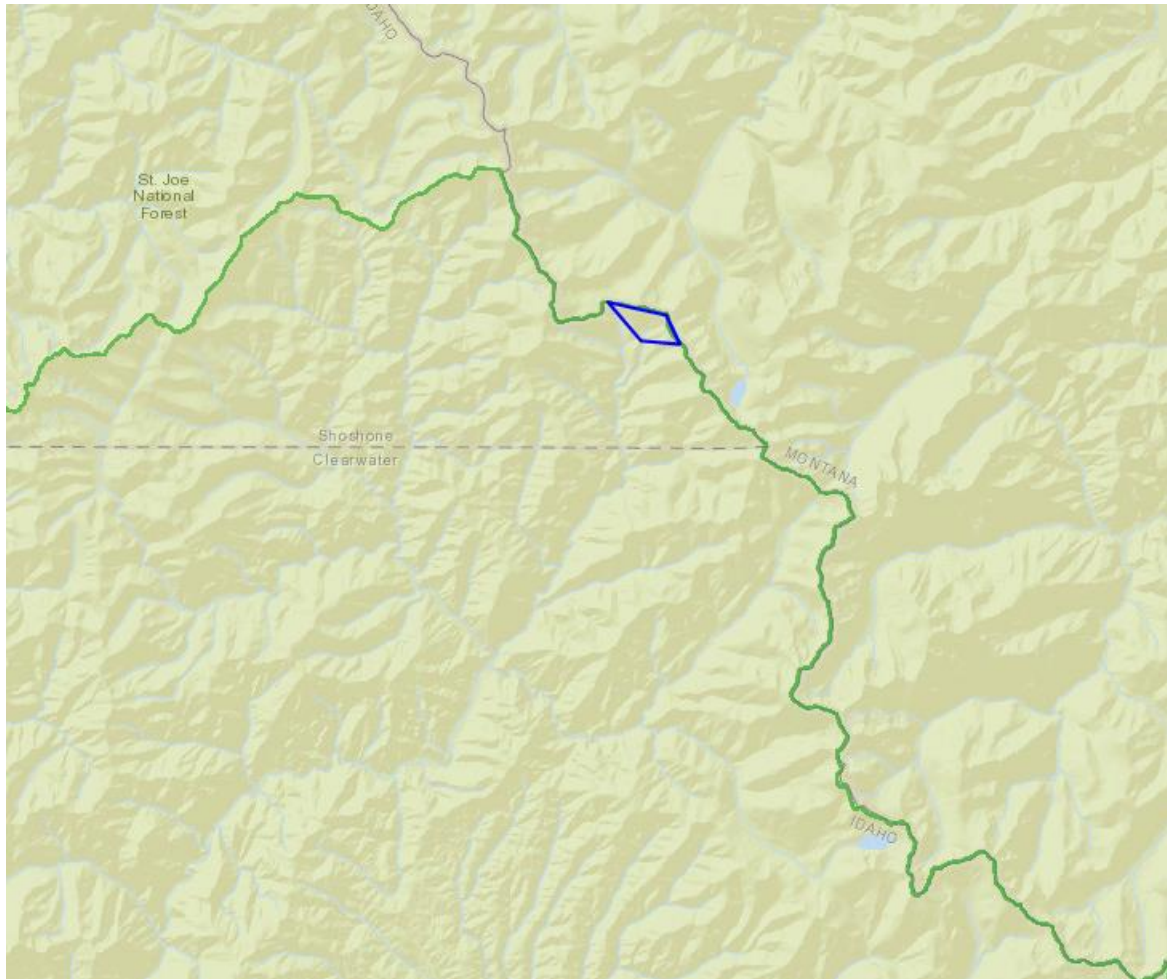
Contact Information: replaces #6699



Comment ID: 6943 Received: May 15, 2013 Keyword: Wilderness

My friends and family have backcountry skied in this area every fall for the last decade or so. The meadows on the south side of the crest are low angle, safe from avalanches, and do not need much snow for early season backcountry skiing. It is a very popular ski area. We enjoy the quiet solitude of the areas which can be harder and harder to find because of snowmobile noise and pollution. We support wilderness designation of this area and the Great Burn as a whole.

Contact Information: Adam Switalski aswit@hotmail.com
1175 Jackson St. Missoula MT 59802 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 6975 Received: May 15, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Keep the Great Burn open for the following reasons: It has historically been used by snowmobilers since the late 70's. I have been using it since the mid-nineties particularly the Beaver Ridge, Papoose Saddle, Williams Lake, Goat Lake and Black Lead Mountain areas. These areas are rugged, remote backcountry being very pristine and scenic. I thoroughly enjoy the solitude, challenge and panoramic views. While there is snowmobiling in these areas, it has not caused any damage to the environment. Snowmobilers have an awareness of the beauty and serene nature of the area and ride responsibly to protect them. There is no evidence of snowmobile activity after the snow melts. There have been no user conflicts, there are no other users. There is virtually no wildlife. Maybe a moose is seen at the lower elevations, but wildlife doesn't exist in the harsh conditions and snow levels where we ride. I suggest that at the very minimum historic snowmobile riding areas should be designated: PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED-WINTER USE

Contact Information: Rick Shaw shawsrus4@msn.com

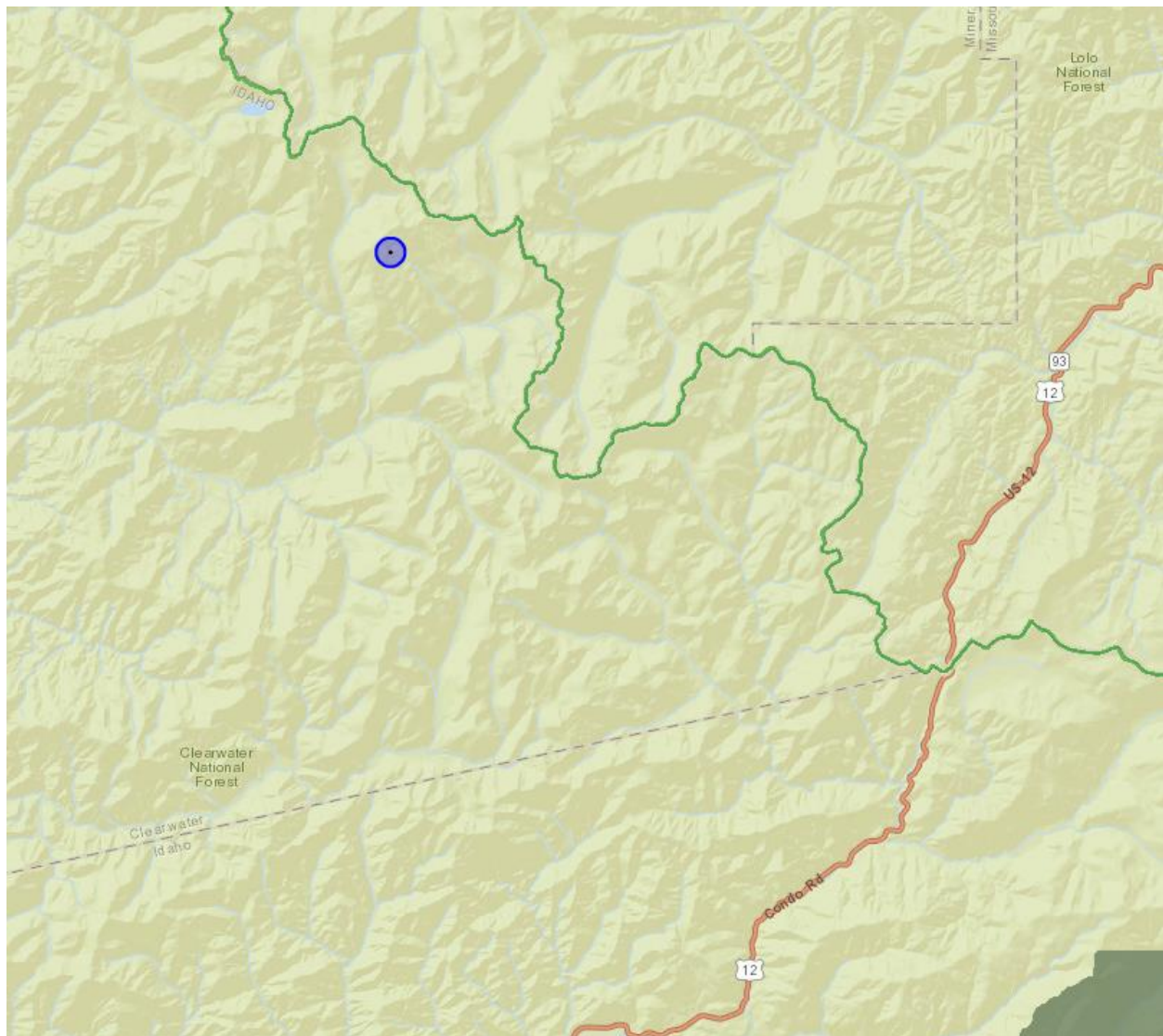
2521 Galena Court Missoula, MT 59808 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 6982 **Received:** May 16, 2013 **Keyword:** Wilderness

The recommended Great Burn Wilderness is one of the only places in the lower 48 states where most native species at the time of Lewis and Clark still inhabit the landscape. Roadless lands in the Clearwater NF provide a critical corridor for animals to move between the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem and the Selway-Bitterroot Ecosystem and onto the greater Yellowstone region. The area contains outstanding wildlife habitat. There are several distinct mountain goat populations in the high country. Scientific research states that motorized use has a detrimental effect on wildlife, especially goats. Goats will move out of sight into escape terrain when motorized use occurs. Therefore snowmobile operators may never see the goats they're displacing, and may never know their effect on the health of the herd. The recommended Great Burn Wilderness is a gem of wild beauty and a national treasure that should be continue to be protected as wilderness with no mechanized and no motorized use.

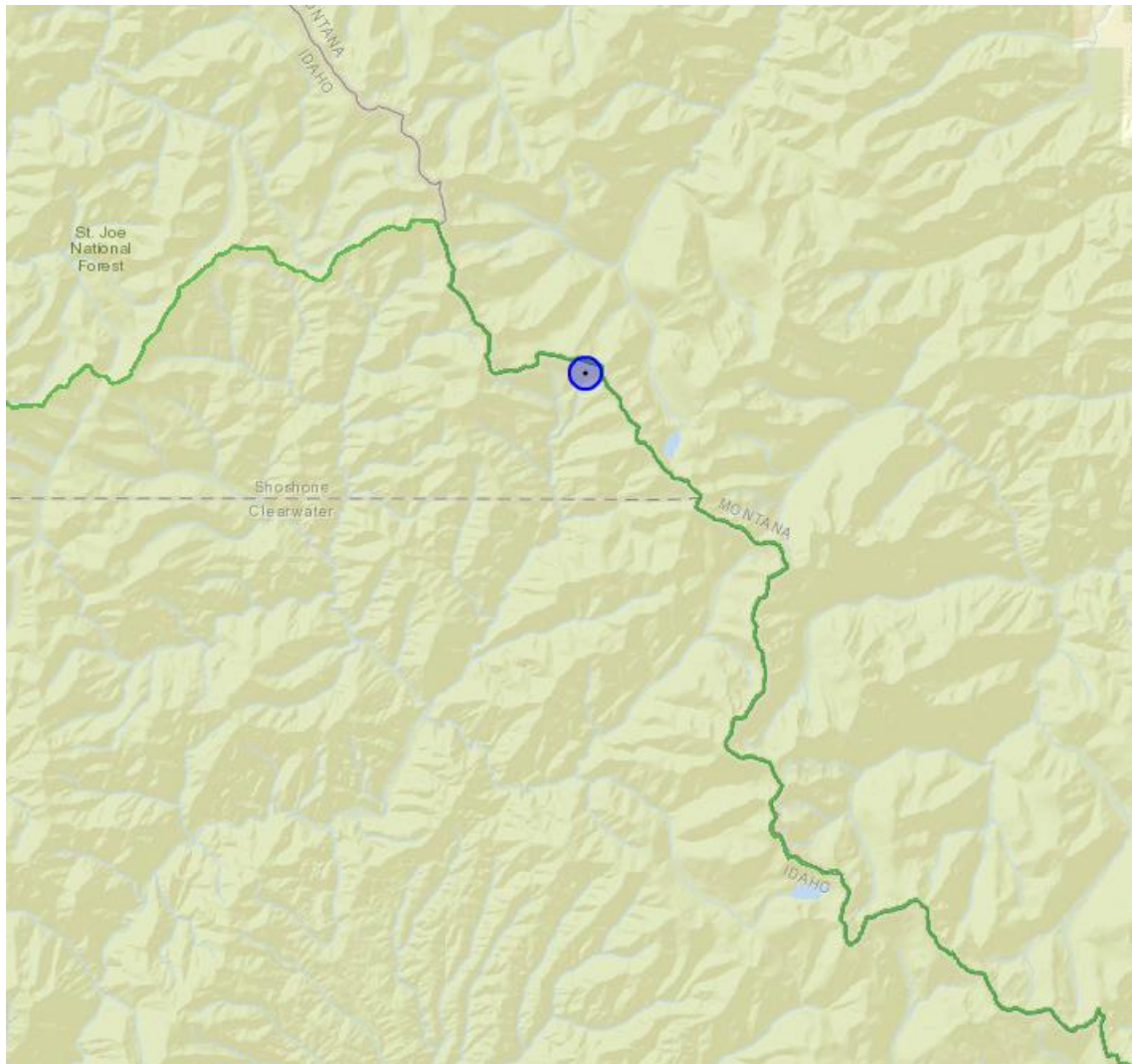
Contact Information: Beverly Dupree thegreatburn@yahoo.com



Comment ID: 7007 Received: May 16, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

I have backpacked and backcountry skied in the Great Burn for a number of years. I value the area for its wilderness qualities, especially the outstanding opportunities for solitude. The area also provides vital habitat for a variety of species and is an important animal corridor. I would like to see the Great Burn protected from the impacts of motorized use, and remain the wild, untouched beauty that it is. I fully support wilderness designation for the Great Burn!

Contact Information: James Tricker jamestricker@hotmail.com



Comment ID: 7036 Received: May 18, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

My name is kurt west. My family and I have wanted to snowmobile the great burn area, but due to medical reasons we have not been able to make the trip. I have recently had a surgery that would enable this bucket list snowmobile adventure to take place. A good friend that I grew up with in missoula says there is an environmental conflict with the area. I would hope that the forest service would recognize that very minimal damage is done by over the snow motorized. Thank you Kurt West and family.

Contact Information: Kurt west tenlakessr@yahoo.com
po box 123 fortune mt 59918 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7083 Received: May 21, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

Just want to thank you for all of your work with the Forest Planning and the Forest Planning collaborative sessions. The speakers were all very informative and the topics all interesting. The group breakouts were excellent. The entire process for the weekend was organized and smooth. I feel this approach gives all participants a better idea what the FS has to go through in a planning process. I really cannot say enough good about all of the FS employees and contract folks that were involved. I left the meeting energized and really felt like the process was inclusive. It was worth my time and it was worth the just under 800 mile round trip drive. It was great getting to meet all of you! thank you again Corey Biggers

Contact Information: Corey Biggers cbiggers@rmtcinc.com
70 Laden Lane Bozeman MT 59718 Preferred contact method: email

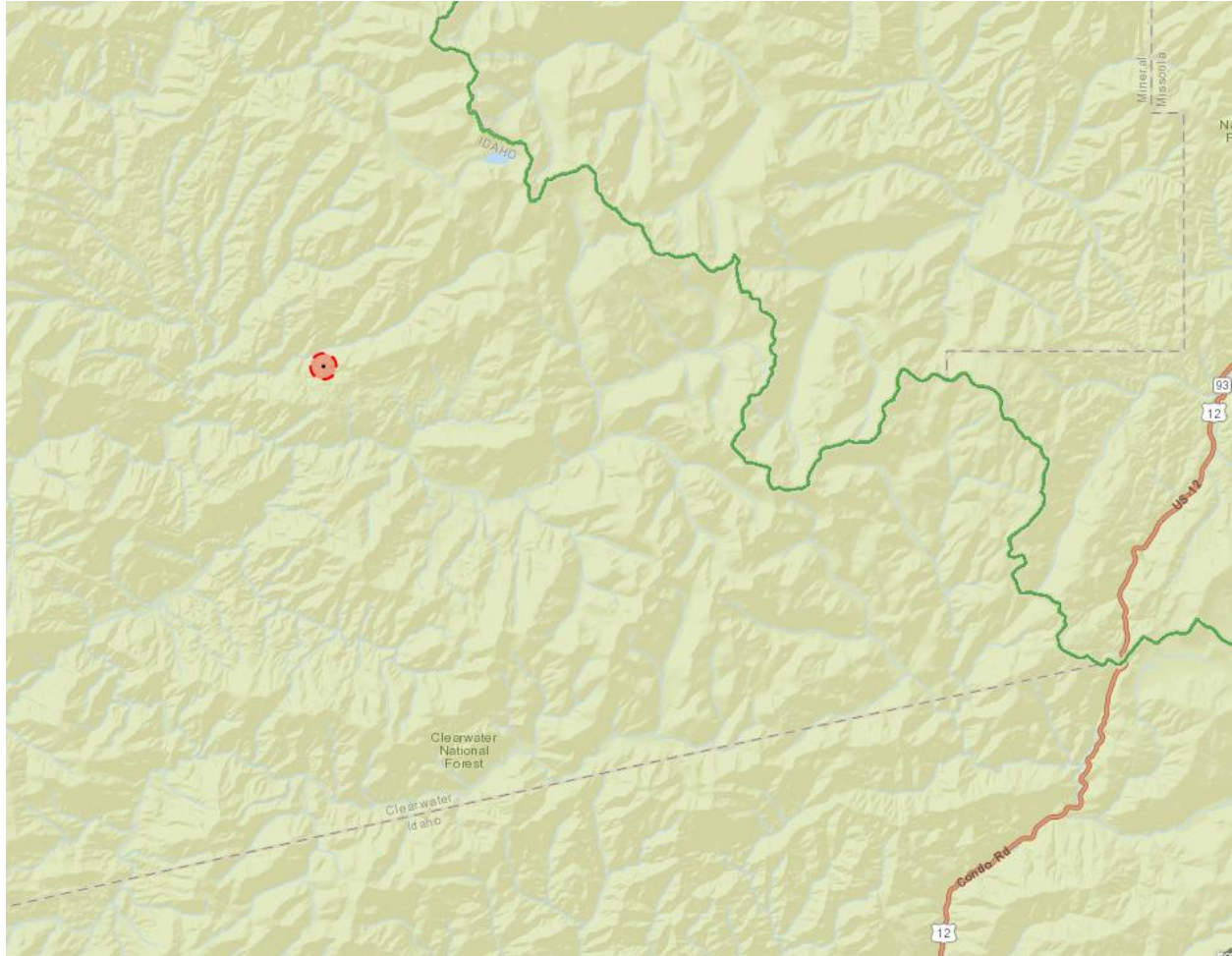
No Map Point

Comment ID: 7108 Received: May 22, 2013 Keyword: Campgrounds

Leading service-learning trips for UM students in the Great Burn Proposed Wilderness has provided me with an opportunity to explore, teach, and learn from the majestic landscape beyond highway 90. Please consider a Wilderness designation for this area.

Contact Information: Valerie Hingston vhingsto@gmail.com

736 Vine St. Missoula, MT 59802 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 7117 Received: May 23, 2013 Keyword: Recommended

This is the nicest damn harvest unit I have ever seen. Why doesn't the Nez_CLW do more of these kinds of harvest instead of ugly clearcuts?

Contact Information: Johnny Weston old_speedo@q.com

2169 Amity Ln, Missoula, MT 59804 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 7124 Received: May 23, 2013 Keyword: Campgrounds

The White Sand Campground should not be used as a Fire Camp. The Powell Ranger District regularly uses this Campground as a fire camp during peak camping season. This facility was constructed as recreation site. Fee collections for camping is reduced which further reduces recreation opportunities. Move the fire camp to the gravel pit on the Beaver Meadows Road. Electricity and phone lines are available there. The constant use of this site as a fire camp has reduced tree cover severely because of over zealous safety officers having trees they perceive as a hazard cut down. Most trees cut were perfectly sound and should have not been cut. Recreation funding is tight but the fire suppression funds continue to grow. Stop the madness!

Contact Information: Johnny Weston old_speedo@q.com



Comment ID: 7149 Received: May 23, 2013 Keyword: Campgrounds

My wife and I have backpacked and camped throughout this whole area and have always enjoyed the quiet trails and solitude--motorized in here would ruin and destroy it. Camped at Mud, Kidd, Leo, upper Leo lakes---hiked all over.

Contact Information: Steve Seninger steve.seninger@business.umt.edu
9601 Cedar Ridge Rd Missoula, MT 59804 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 7180 Received: May 27, 2013 Keyword: Wilderness

I have been hiking, camping, and skiing in the Great Burn for decades and enjoy the non-motorized status of the Montana side in the winter. I encourage any planning to include an eye to eventual wilderness designation for this wild area. No motors of any kind so as to preserve a small piece of country which is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna. Seen from the perspective of the country at large, we have a special responsibility to care for what we are gifted with here in the northwest.

Contact Information: Cate Campbell frogburg.cate@gmail.com
POB 16962 Missoula, MT 59808 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 7663 Received: Jun 25, 2013

Your statement of the need to preserve a small piece of country which is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna stood out to me. The Clearwater/ Nez Perce NF already has over 4 million acres set aside for preservation plus additional millions of acres nearby in Montana. These areas are called Wilderness and are specifically set aside for the type of experience you are looking for.

No Contact Information

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7270 Received: Jun 02, 2013 Keyword: Lands

I disagree with adding more wilderness area and pushing the motorize snowmobile users into a more confined area that the non motorized user can get to. Wilderness use in the United States is only about 2%. Why do we need more when basically nobody uses it. Public land should be for the public to use. Please consider a alternative that allows over snow vehicles to continue using these prime sledding areas. I have ridden the Beaver Ridge area since I began sledding with my dad, I am now almost 60. Please, no more wilderness!

Contact Information: Jim Booth purplevalky@msn.com
4523 Adellon Ct Stevensville, Mt 59870 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7279 Received: Jun 03, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Our family has enjoyed both snowmobiling in the winter and hiking in the summer in the Great Burn area. The most prevalent thing I have noticed is that in the summer we never see any signs that winter recreation even occurred. Once the snow is gone I challenge anyone to prove physically that snowmobilers were there. It is a shame that this must become political once more, sending decisions to Washington, were, I doubt, anyone has done anything more than fly over our mountains.

Contact Information: Tim Vacca 4vaccas@bresnan.net
5617 Mountain View Drive Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7304 Received: Jun 04, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

My family and I have been snowmobiling the Great Burn area around Kidd Lake, Beaver Ridge, Williams Lake, and Hoodoo for the last 20 years. Friends of mine come to stay in the local hotels when riding numerous times during the year and help support the economy. With the depth of snow we ride in and the high elevation, we don't see any wildlife. The deer and elk must head to lower elevation to winter. If this area gets closed to motorized use it would have a negative impact on the economy. If this gets closed I will sell my sleds and I know many others that will too.

Contact Information: Jesse Tuma jessetuma@hotmail.com
8 Whitewater Ln, Plains, MT 59859 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7322 Received: Jun 06, 2013 Keyword: Cultural

The Great Burn inventoried roadless area (IRA) is a special place deserving of wilderness protection. This area along with all other IRAs should be recommended for wilderness in the new forest plan. I have enjoyed the Great Burn for personal recreation for 15 years. My son and I had a memorable trip to Lost Lakes. I have climbed to the summit of Rhodes Pk twice and have visited virtually every drainage in the Great Burn by traditional means - by boot. I also hunt on the Montana side of the Great Burn up the north fork of Granite Cr. I have experienced the resource impacts from ORV use on trails. I have also experienced first hand the malicousness of illegal ORV users. I was run down by a tresspassing ORV rider on the Powell District in the Great Burn in 2006. Posted to this comment is a photo of the assailants taken at the time of the assault. So, snowmobiles, ATVs, and motorcycles also create conflicts with traditional users. The roaded portions of the forests provide ample opportunities for ORVs.

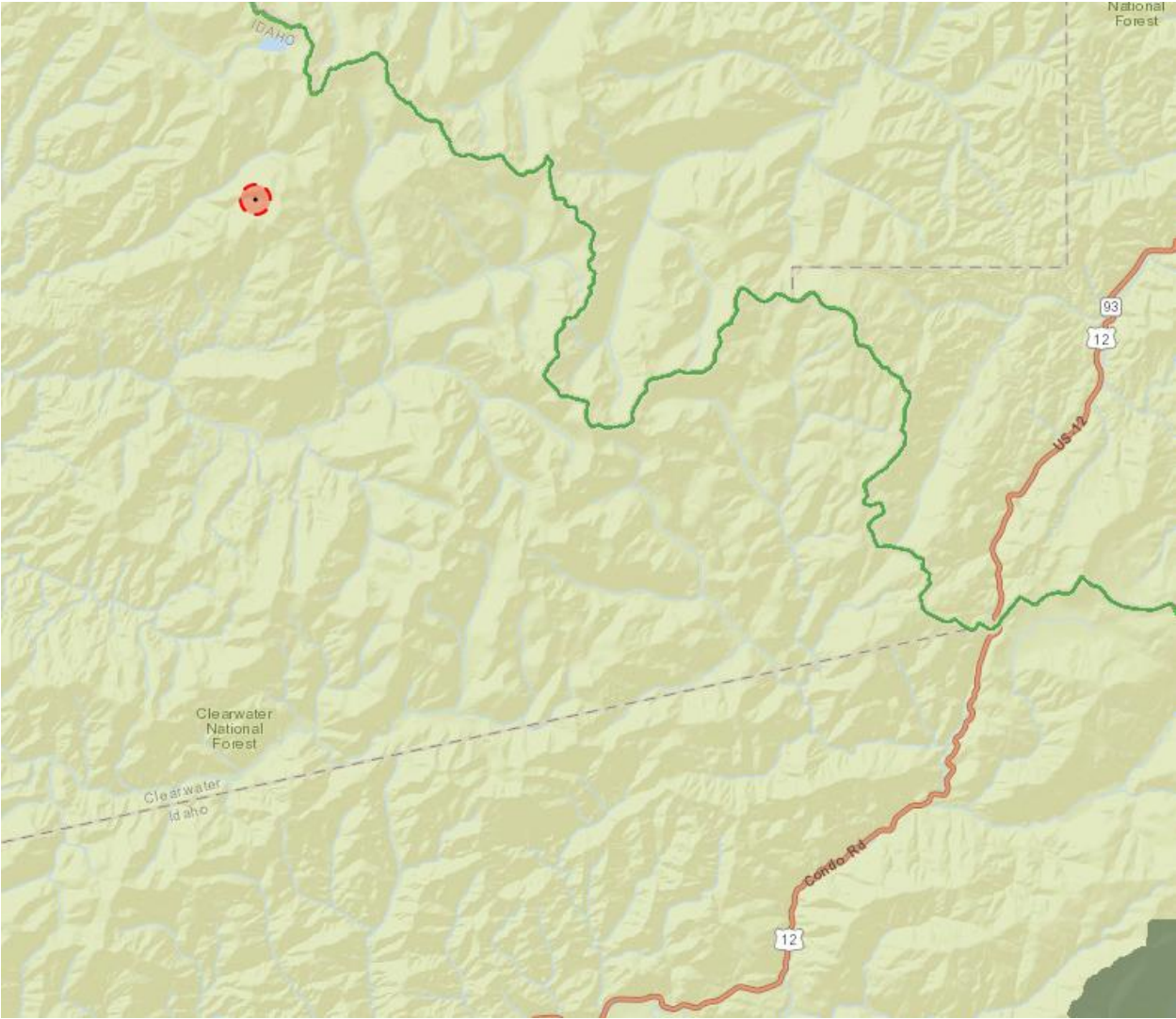
Contact Information: Bob Clark bobclark1111@gmail.com
1201 S. 2nd St. W. Missoula, MT. 59801 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 7573 Received: Jun 21, 2013

I agree that this area is a great place and needs to be protected but you can not close an entire area just because of one bad apple. You may have hiked these drainages in the summer or fall but i have never seen anyone in there while we were snowmobiling. This is a great place and everyone should be able to enjoy it and use it.

Contact Information: Bill hotsnowdog69@yahoo.com

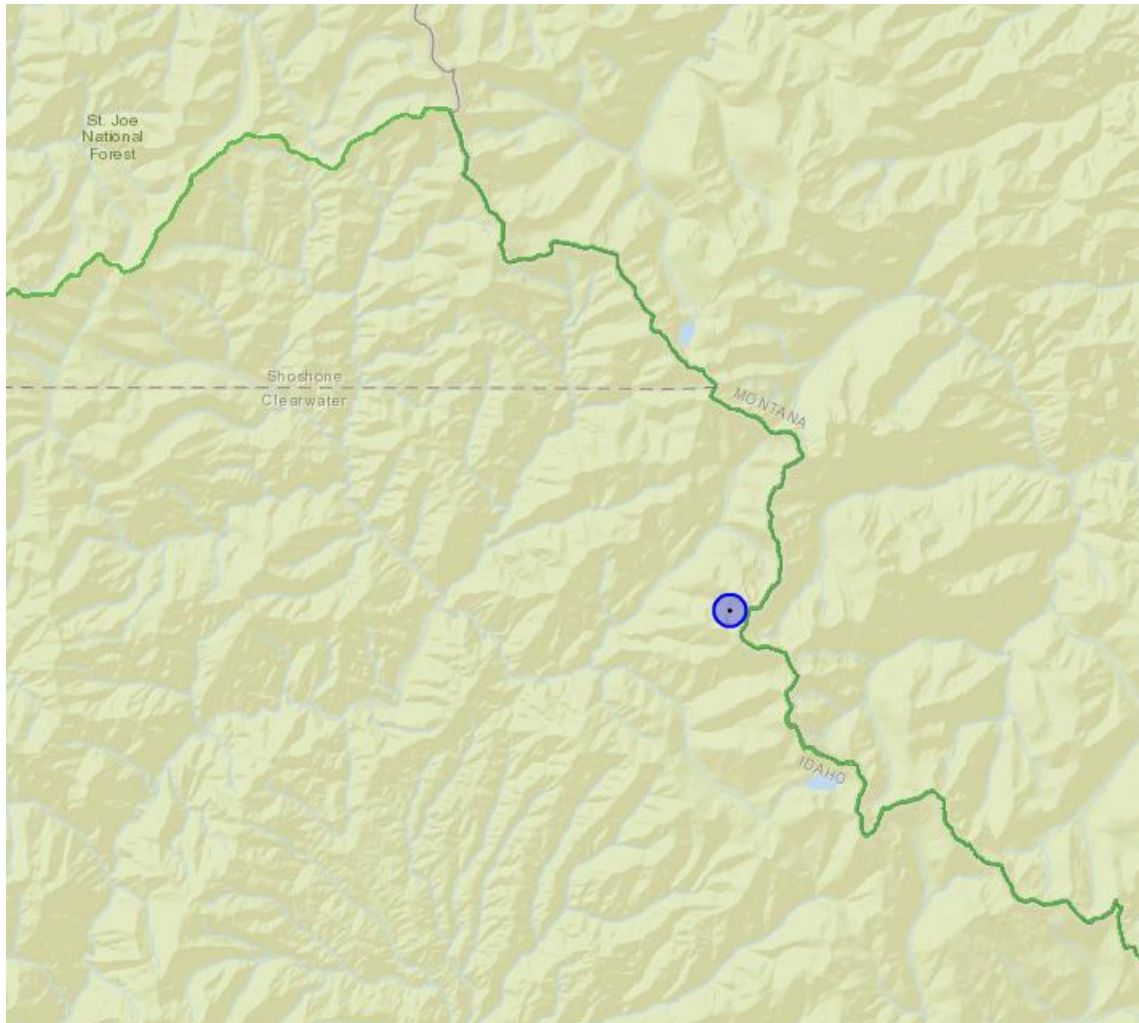


Comment ID: 7340 **Received:** Jun 09, 2013 **Keyword:** Wilderness

I have worked in this area for 13 years and recreated in this area for the past 24 years. this area is an important getaway for non-mechinized recreation. while working in this area for 13 years I have witnessed too much resource damage caused by motorcycles, snowmobiles, ATV's and mountain bikes. this area needs to be preserved for its wilderness characteristics. it is important to preserve some wild country for the surrounding communities.

Contact Information: Rory O'Connor roconnor1@gmail.com

405 Skyline Dr Missoula MT 59802 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 7375 **Received:** Jun 12, 2013 **Keyword:** Wilderness

Boundaries' need to be adjusted on Hoodoo pass to allow snowmobilers to use the Historical areas that we've ridden since the 70s. Stateline trail 738 goose creek, and steep lakes area. I would also like to see these areas open to motorcycles.

Contact Information: Jerry Bauer bauerbunch@blackfoot.net

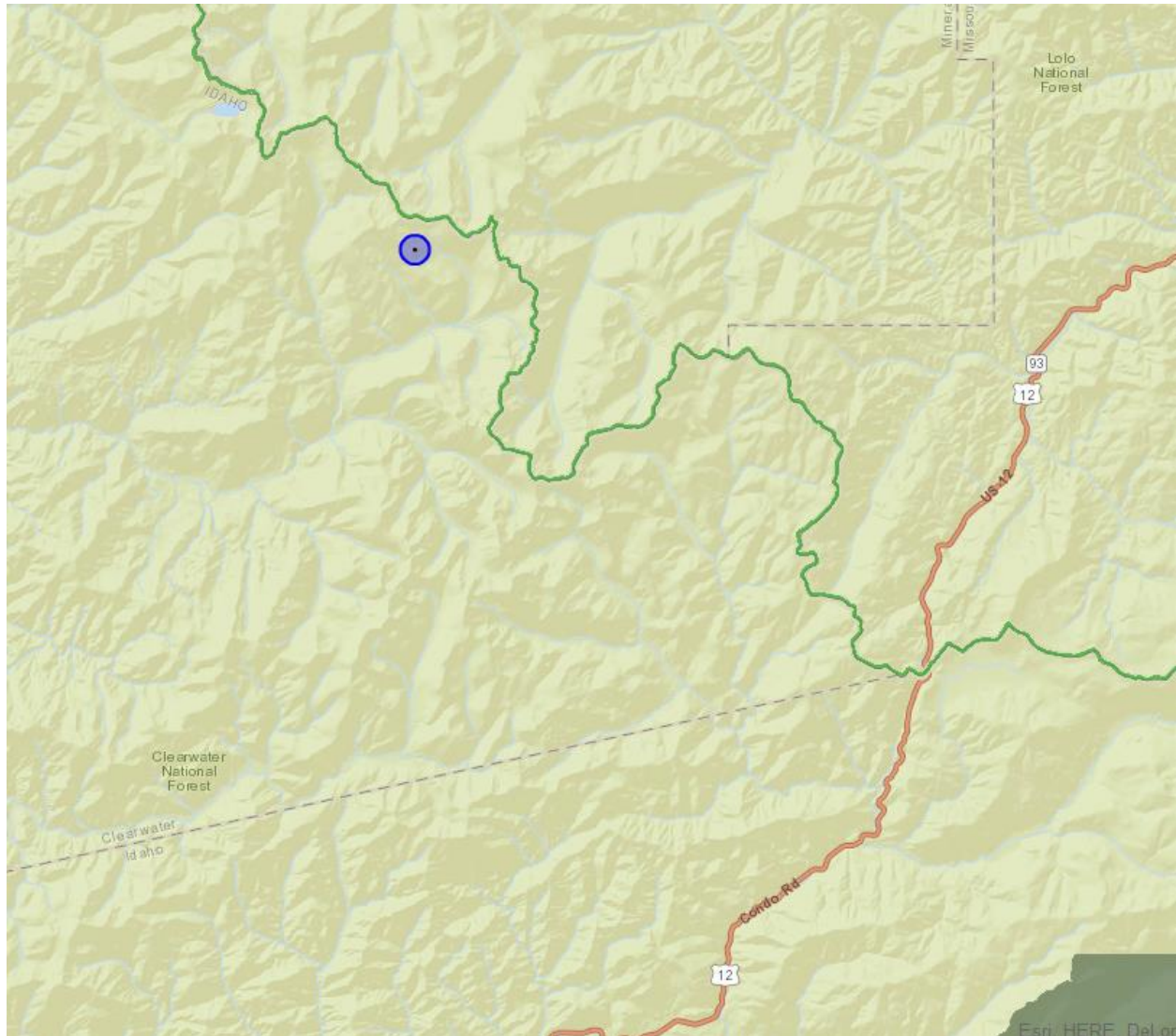
box 573 superior mt 59872 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7570 Received: Jun 21, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

The Kid lake and Kelly lake area should remain open to snowmobiles. I have been riding there with my family for over 18 years and this is some of the best country to ride in for many reasons. terrain is great, there are no conflicts with animals or other recreational users (Skiers) and there is no harm done to the environment. Closing this area will only cause more conflict. These are public forests areas and we should be able to use them.

Contact Information: Bill Johns bill@summitroofing.info
4805 Deschamps, Missoula, Mt Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 7577 Received: Jun 21, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I have been riding in the great burn and beavers ridge area for over 18 years with my family. there is basically no user or animal conflicts in these areas and precedent has been set that these are great areas to ride snowmobiles so it should remain open. Snowmobiles have been in these areas for years and there is no sign of them ever being there. This is a win win for everybody. we get to use the public forest that is supposed to be ours and there is no harm done to it. please keep these areas open.

Contact Information: Bill Johns hotsnowdog69@yahoo.com
4805 Deschamps, Missoula, Mt 59808 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7579 Received: Jun 21, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

I have been snowmobiling from beaver ridge to fly lake since the mid 80's and the only ill effect on wildlife I have witnessed is the reintroduction of the wolf, please do not close any of the area to motorized vehicles to much has already been closed unnecessarily.

Contact Information: ben lee benturley@live.com
4415 north ave, missoula, mt 59804 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7586 Received: Jun 22, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I started enjoying the (great burn) area in the early 1970's. Horses and motorcycles were my choices for access. Motorcycles were fairly common up until the mid 1980's when they were banned in most areas along the state line. I started riding snowmobiles in the state line area in 1982, as it seemed to be why God created this beautiful terrain. These areas are perfect for snowmobiling. In the mid 80's when we lost motorcycle use, we were assured that snowmobiles wouldn't be next (this was on the Lolo Forest) but in 2000 we lost that promise. It is time to stand up and stop taking our last favorite rites.

Contact Information: Don Cooper coopers.mt@gmail.com
32 curran dr Superior, mt. Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7781 Received: Jun 29, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Boundries on the proposed Great Burn Wilderness need to be adjusted to allow historical snowmobile use to continue. Boundries need to be adjusted on Hoodoo Pass area so that historical snpowmobile use can continue on the stateline trail 738, and in the goose creek and steep lakes area. Boundries should also need to be adjusted in the Fish Lake area, Surveyor Creek area and Williams Lake area. These area's should be a primitive motorized-winter time use only area or turned into some kind of National Recreation area. Snowmobilers have been using these area's for the past 30 yrs. I have never seen any skiers or other wildlife in these area's the mountain goats winter on Landowner mountain, and the eagles kill more mountain goats than anything else. The Hoodoo Pass and Fish Lake and Surveyor creek area's for snowmobiling are a vital part of the town of Superior MT. winter time economy.

Contact Information: Mike Gullette mgullette@montana.com
po box 1038 superior mt. 59872 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7782 Received: Jun 29, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Boundries on the proposed Great Burn Wilderness need to be adjusted to allow historical snowmobile use to continue. Boundries need to be adjusted on Hoodoo Pass area so that historical snpowmobile use can continue on the stateline trail 738, and in the goose creek and steep lakes area. Boundries should also need to be adjusted in the Fish Lake area, Surveyor Creek area and Williams Lake area. These area's should be a primitive motorized-winter time use only area or turned into some kind of National Recreation area. Snowmobilers have been using these area's for the past 30 yrs. I have never seen any skiers or other wildlife in these area's the mountain goats winter on Landowner mountain, and the eagles kill more mountain goats than anything else. The Hoodoo Pass and Fish Lake and Surveyor creek area's for snowmobiling are a vital part of the town of Superior MT. winter time economy.

Contact Information: Mike Gullette mgullette@montana.com
po box 1038 superior mt. 59872 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7785 Received: Jun 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

Boundries need to be adjusted on the Proposed Great Burn Wilderness so that historical snowmobile use can continue. Boundries need to be adjusted on Hoodoo Pass area so that historic snowmobile use can continue on the Stateline trail 738, Goose creek, and Steep lakes area. Adjustments should also be made to the Fish Lake area, Surveyor creek area, and Williams lake area. Boundries should be adjusted in these area's to allow snowmobile use to continue it should be a snowmobile use only area or primitive winter time use area. Snowmobilers have been using these area's for the past 30 yrs. Please no more land lock-ups. I have never seen any wildlife while snowmobiling in these area's either.

Contact Information: Craig Sheppard debcraig07@yahoo.com
POBox231 Superior MT. 59872 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7792 Received: Jun 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

To Whom It May Concern, I am writing to thank you for reconsidering the closing of the Great Burn to snowmobilers. I am an active snowmobile rider who greatly enjoys the vast landscapes and beauty that the Great Burn has to offer. I also am a skier who enjoys the backcountry and snowmobilies are the only way to access these remote areas. By leaving these areas open it relieves crowding and user conflicts that are common at Lolo Pass. This is an incredible area that we have been enjoying for years and someday would love to take my nephew in to Blacklead, Surveyor, or Hoodoo areas of the stateline. Please consider adjusting your boundaries in the new Travel Plan to allow for off trail snowmobiling in these areas. Thank You, Dan Vander Zwaag (406) 274-0693

Contact Information: Daniel Vander Zwaag firecreek9@hotmail.com
25893 Fire Creek Rd Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7795 Received: Jun 30, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I have been Snowmobiling in the Greatburn area for over 45 years. This form of recreation in this area has zero negative impact. I have never seen big game along the state line in the winter. No skiers or any other users use this area in the winter, so there are no user conflicts. Closing this area will cause over crowding in other areas like Lolo Pass. The Great Burn along the state line is the only high altitude riding for hundreds of miles. Please consider changing the boundaries to keep this one of a kind riding area open. Thanks, Tom Peterson 406 396 1798

Contact Information: Tom Peterson tompeterson63@msn.com
1715 Frey Lane Missoula MT 59808 Preferred contact method: email

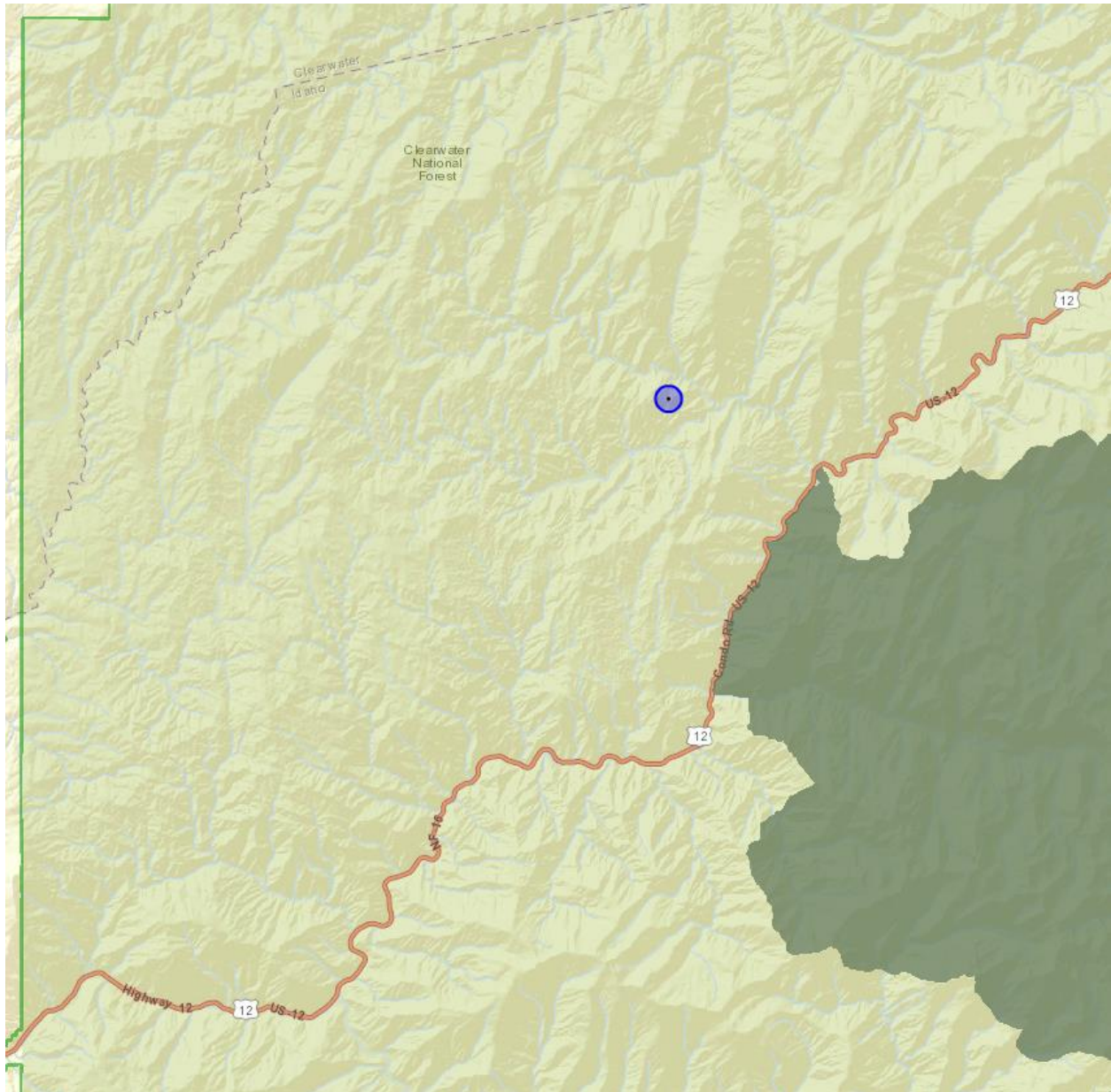
No Map Point

Comment ID: 7812 Received: Jul 02, 2013 Keyword: None Chosen

Fish creek is a beautiful whitewater creek. One of the largest chinook salmon nurseries for the pacific. It is also my favorite access point on th Lochsa river. All efforts possible should be made to protect fish creek.

Contact Information: Lucas Ramsey ramsey_luke@yahoo.com

607 twp. rd. 285a Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 7886 Received: Jul 09, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

To Whom It May Concern, I am writing to thank you for reconsidering the closing of the Great Burn to snowmobilers. I am an active snowmobile rider who greatly enjoys the vast landscapes and beauty that the Great Burn has to offer. I also am a skier who enjoys the backcountry and snowmobilies are the only way to access these remote areas. By leaving these areas open it relieves crowding and user conflicts that are common at Lolo Pass. This is an incredible area that we have been enjoying for years and someday would love to take my nephew in to Blacklead, Surveyor, or Hoodoo areas of the stateline. Please consider adjusting your boundaries in the new Travel Plan to allow for off trail snowmobiling in these areas. Thank You

Contact Information: Daniel Vander Zwagg firecreek9@hotmail.com
25893 Fire Creek Rd Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 7888 Received: Jul 09, 2013 Keyword: Recreation

I have been Snowmobiling in the Greatburn area for over 45 years. This form of recreation in this area has zero negative impact. I have never seen big game along the state line in the winter. No skiers or any other users use this area in the winter, so there are no user conflicts. Closing this area will cause over crowding in other areas like Lolo Pass. The Great Burn along the state line is the only high altitude riding for hundreds of miles. Please consider changing the boundaries to keep this one of a kind riding area open.

Contact Information: Tom Peterson tompeterson63@msn.com
1715 Frey Lane Missoula MT 59808 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12579 Received: Mar 31, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

You can't close this area. Is is used by so many snowmobilers and other backcountry enthusiasts. Snowmobiler and all other user pose no harm. The tracks that are left by sleds melt with the snow. There is also no documented evidence of any species that need protection in the Great Burn Area. The 2012 Travel plan did not present any documented evidence that would substantiate a need to close the historic snowmobile areas to snowmobiling.

Contact Information: John Onofrey jtonofrey@gmail.com
30 Elk Meadow Lane Preferred contact method: mail

Replies:

Reply ID: 12886 Received: Apr 02, 2014

The Great Burn is a vital biological core area for far-ranging wildlife in the northern Rockies. The Great Burn serves as a biological bridge, permitting migration and genetic interchange; without which populations will inbreed and species vigor will diminish. Throughout the year, mountain goats inhabit high rocky terrain, including the high cirque basins in the stateline area. Studies indicate they are particularly sensitive to activity above them. Snowmobile or bicycle activity on the Stateline ridge above occupied mountain goat habitat may displace and threaten mountain goats during particularly vulnerable periods of late winter and spring. Similar evidence reports that such activities in high elevation cirque basins near the Stateline Trail may affect denning wolverines as well. As a result, I urge you to retain closures to both mechanized and motorized uses in the Great Burn area and to recommend the entire area as Recommended Wilderness.

Contact Information: Jonathan joppenheimer@idahoconservation.org

Reply ID: 12997 Received: Apr 03, 2014

There is reference to studies that motorized activity is detrimental to Goats. I would like to have specific information because this conflicts with what I have experienced. Goats hang out on the cliffs over Lake Pend Oreille near Bayview Idaho . Dozens of motor boats will congregate to watch them from a distance of 100 yards or less. The Goats are oblivious to the motorized activity. On the other hand wolves are quiet but I suspect they have had a real detrimental effect on goat populations.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13050 Received: Apr 03, 2014

To imply snowmobiles are affecting mountain goats is absurd. Nothing can survive at high elevations in the winter/late winter/spring because of the extreme depth of the snowpack (10'+) covering up all the food sources. I have never seen a mountain goat or any tracks while on a snowmobile.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13203 Received: Apr 05, 2014

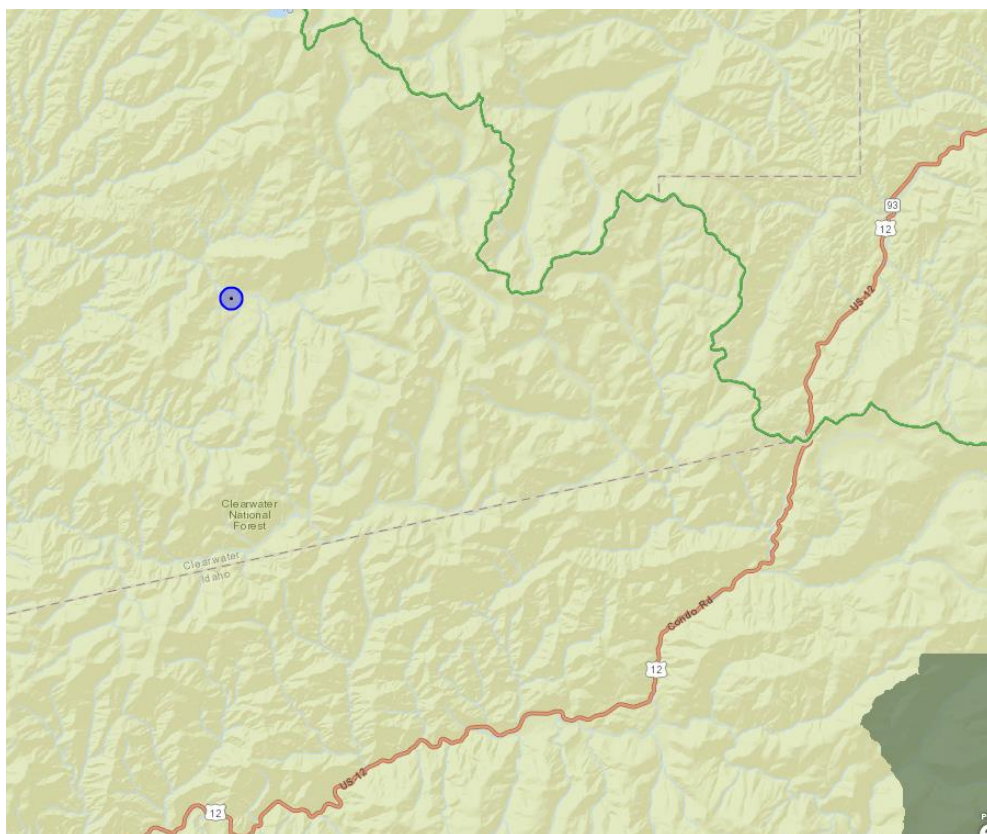
As a user of the GB areas, I'm wondering if you have ever been in any of these areas, winter or summer? I have, and my 4 kids as well, there is NO evidence of goats or anything at that elevation. To bring up the goat issue is a joke, I'm in those areas year round and haven't seen one. BTW, Darby has goats, we can ride with in 100 Yrds of them and they just look at us like we are crazy to be there. You may want to get your facts straight before posting your feelings.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13204 Received: Apr 05, 2014

As a user of the GB areas, I'm wondering if you have ever been in any of these areas, winter or summer? I have, and my 4 kids as well, there is NO evidence of goats or anything at that elevation. To bring up the goat issue is a joke, I'm in those areas year round and haven't seen one. BTW, Darby has goats, we can ride with in 100 Yrds of them and they just look at us like we are crazy to be there. You may want to get your facts straight before posting your feelings.

No Contact Information



Comment ID: 12582 Received: Mar 31, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Adjacent to the proposed Clearwater Great Burn RWA are 3,873 million acres of Congressionally approved wilderness. Selway-Bitterroot, Frank Church and Gospel Hump. This is the largest almost contiguous wilderness area in the lower 48 States. Population centers within the region are not placing any additional demand for additional wilderness acreage.

Contact Information: Glen Hogan goldcreeker@gmail.com
2405 W Kent Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12583 Received: Mar 31, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

There is no documented evidence of any species that need protection in the Great Burn Area. Snowmobile tracks are gone when the snow melts which negates any impact on other social or ecological values. Snowmobiling causes no depreciation of the wilderness resource.

Contact Information: Glen Hogan goldcreeker@gmail.com
2405 W Kent Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12586 Received: Mar 31, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Region one guidelines allow for boundary adjustments to a proposed RWA to accommodate historic motorized use. The proposed boundary adjustments within the Great Burn RWA presented to the Clearwater NF Collaborative participants on March 8/2014 accurately reflect the acreage historically used by snowmobilers. There are no user conflicts in the winter months

Contact Information: Glen Hogan goldcreeker@gmail.com
2405 W Kent Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12587 Received: Mar 31, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

The Clearwater Forest Service presented the participants in the Collaborative process the results of a study that showed documented access into the backcountry by foot power has remained static over the past five years yet motorized use has doubled. This study conflicts with the desire to reduce historic motorized access and increase pedestrian only access

Contact Information: Glen Hogan goldcreeker@gmail.com
2405 W Kent Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12595 Received: Mar 31, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

We would like to formally state our disappointment with the closure of most of our snowmobile riding areas as noted in the Maps delivered to us last week. However, we want to be clear that our club, (over 80 members strong and closely involved with many other clubs equally as large or bigger) continues to want to work with the FS and Collaborative Forest Plan teams to find the compromise needed to re-open many of these areas important to the largest public winter users of those newly closed regions. We encourage a winter use consideration that truly represents the public and the change in times and technology that allows for safe, clean, respectful winter use of those cherished riding areas. We encourage Rick Brazell to make that recommendation as this collaborative plan moves to other hands in this government process and conclusion. Thank you, Team Lochsa, (non profit LLC) Powell Idaho and Ranger Station Lolo Montana, 59847 teamlochsa@msn.com

Contact Information: Team Lochsa teamlochsa@msn.com
11 old Elk summit Rd, Lolo, Montana, 59847

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12596 Received: Mar 31, 2014 Keyword: Youth

Please keep motorized access available to all non-wilderness area. Wilderness is wonderful, but generally difficult to access, and as a father of 8 children, I cannot realistically take my children into many wilderness areas. I can take them into great backcountry areas via snowmobile and other motorized methods, so please leave the federally designated wilderness areas as is and leave motorized access elsewhere. Thanks for your consideration.

Contact Information: Shane Kesterke builder@blackfoot.net

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12597 Received: Mar 31, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep the Great Burn open to Snowmobiles! There are no similar areas in the lower 48 that even comes close to the experience we snowmobilers enjoy in the Great Burn Area. The closest are to a similar experience would be in North of Revelstoke, BC! There is no documented evidence of any species that need protection in the Great Burn Area. Snowmobiling causes no depreciation of the Wilderness resource. Region one guidelines allow for boundary adjustments to a proposed RWA to accommodate historic motorized use. There are no user conflicts in the winter months. While I do not feel our forests need any more wilderness I can support a wilderness designation for the Great Burn that INCLUDES BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS TO PERMANENTLY KEEP OUR HISTORIC SNOWMOBILE AREAS OPEN.

Contact Information: Chad Ripplinger chad.ripplinger@navy.mil
387 Candlelight Dr. Bozeman mt 59718 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12608 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

The 2012 Travel Plan did not present any documented evidence that would substantiate a need to close this historic snowmobile area to snowmobiling. I respectfully request that the FS follow the region one guidelines and allow for boundary adjustments to the proposed RWA to accommodate historic snowmobile usage. The proposed boundary adjustments within the Great Burn RWA presented to the Clearwater NF Collaborative participants on March 8, 2014 accurately reflect the acreage historically used by snowmobilers. It is well documented that snowmobiles cause no user, land or animal conflicts in the winter months. When the snow melts there is no evidence of snowmobile use to observe. Thank You for your consideration and for doing the right thing for all the users of our National Forests.

Contact Information: Greg Carter gcarter56@q.com

482 Hidden Valley Rd S Florence, Mt Preferred contact method: email

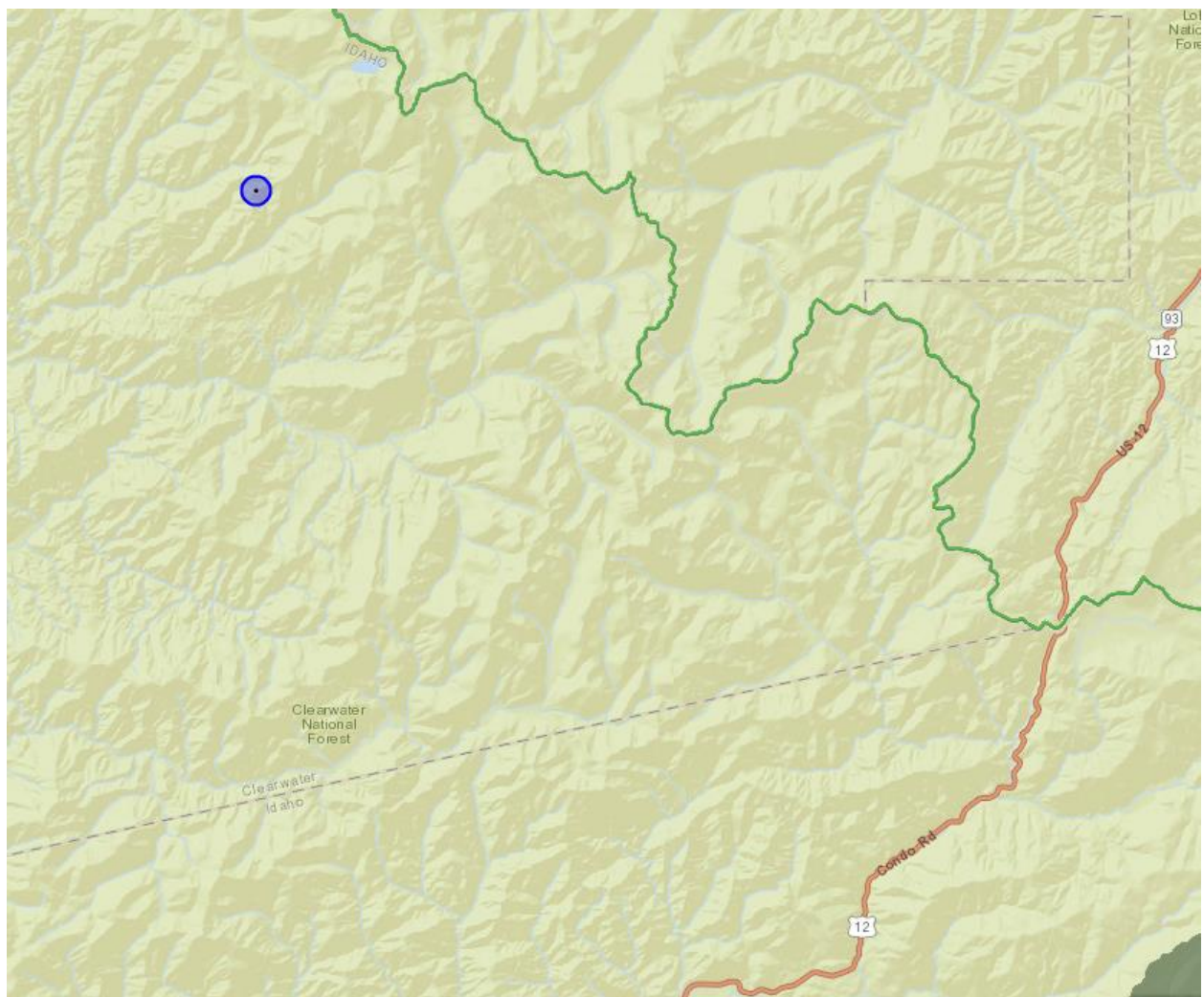
No Map Point

Comment ID: 12609 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

The great burn snowmobiling area is a one-of-a-kind resource. There is no harm being done by snowmobiles, no user conflicts between non-motorized users, and it provides access to the most spectacular backcountry in Central Idaho. There is NO other way to access this area in the winter, absolutely no reason to close it to snowmobiling. 80% of the Clear/Nez NF is already nonmotorized, there is no need to designate more area for nonmotorized use. This is part of the US "National" forest system, how can you justify taking it away from thousands of users? Soon our "National" forests will be regulated such that 99% of our "Nation" won't be able to use them. Please use some sense and leave this area open.

Contact Information: Ryan Peterson ryanpeterson03@gmail.com

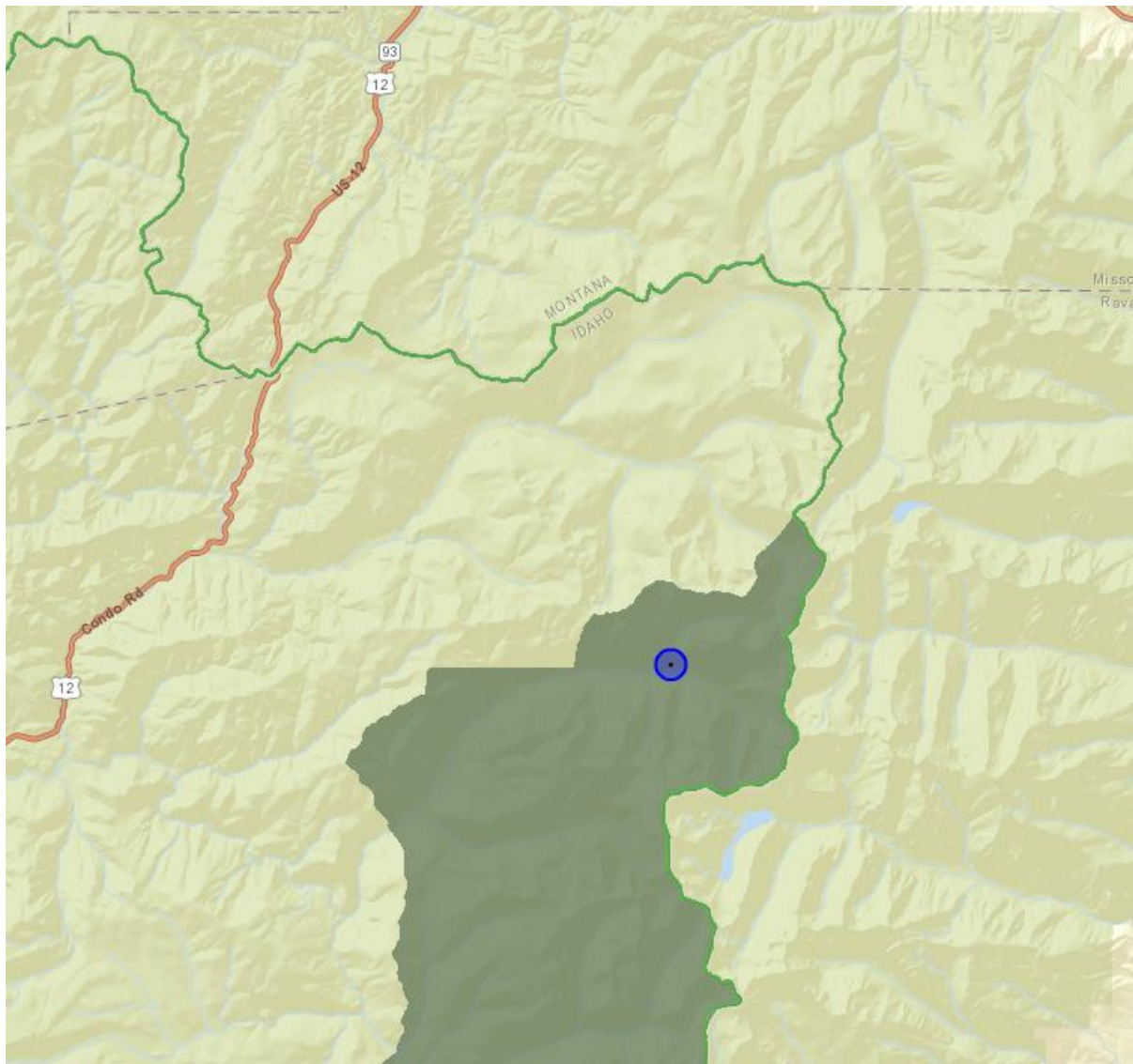
1040 Lodgepole dr Victor ID 83455 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 12612 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

The beaver ridge snowmobiling area is a very popular area that provides access to "family-suitable" riding areas. There is no harm being done by snowmobiles, no user conflicts between non-motorized users, and it provides access to the most spectacular backcountry in Central Idaho. There is NO other way to access this area in the winter, absolutely no reason to close it to snowmobiling. This is part of the US "National" forest system, how can you justify taking it away from thousands of users? Soon our "National" forests will be regulated such that 99% of our "Nation" won't be able to use them. Please use some sense and leave this area open.

Contact Information: Ryan Peterson ryanpeterson03@gmail.com
1040 lodgepole dr victor id 83455 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 12628 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

These areas are near and dear to many. It would be very unfair for my 7 year old son when he becomes of age to not be able to access these areas in the way his father and grandfather did. All the snowmobilers that utilize these areas appreciate this environment more than most. Please leave this open for us!

Contact Information: Jason Scheffer Jason@usdieselparts.com
19005 9-mile road Huson montana 59808 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12632 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Am writing to urge changes to the over-snow closures in the Nez Perce-Clearwater RWA that recently went into effect. Please consider historical use in the Elk Summit, Tom Beal, Beaver ridge, Williams Lake, Surveryor, Hoodoo areas. There is no user conflict. Signs of snowmachines use go away with the snow. There is no where else to go nearby with even remotely the same alpine/sub-alpine character. The largest wilderness area in the lower 48 states is already nearby. Still cannot wrap my head around the why and why now. Hope sanity can prevail and re-store historical use in these areas for winter use and other seasons. You will be increasing user conflict and decreasing cash flow to the area with these closures. Thanks

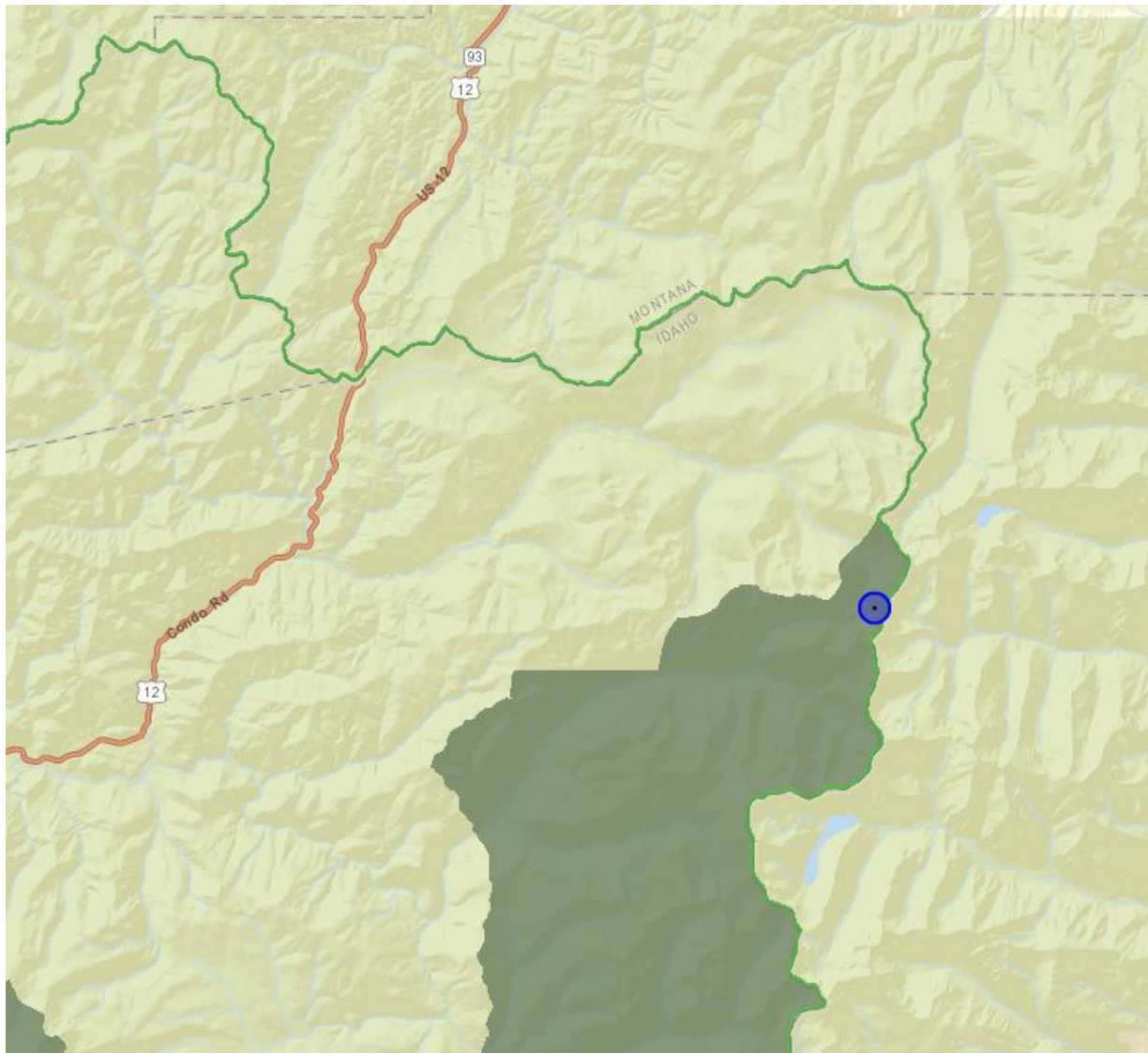
Contact Information: daniel hoheim dhoheim@hotmail.com
po box 656 Lolo,Mt. 59807 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12638 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Please restore historical use to the Beaver Ridge area for over-snow use. Is a great place to bring family and friends in the winter! No user conflict. Signs of winter use go away with the snow. Do not see significant wildlife at this elevation to bother. Will see increase in user conflict and a decrease of cash flow with these closures. Thanks

Contact Information: Daniel Hoheim dhoheim@hotmail.com
po box 656 Lolo, Mt. 59807 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 12645 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

Please consider re-opening Tom Beal area and elk summit to historical over-snow use. Great areas to bring family and friends to enjoy the area via snowmobiles to play/ski. No user conflict. Will see increase in user conflict and decrease in cash flow with these closures! Ask Lochsa Lodge. Thanks

Contact Information: dan hoheim dhoheim@hotmail.com
po box 656 Lolo, Mt. 59847 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 12651 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

Our family and the families of many close friends have been snowmobiling in MT for many years. Our first trip was in 1979. As with 99% of all snowmobilers we see, we are respectful of the environment and make no impact other than to pack down the snow which will soon melt, leaving ZERO impact of our presence. Please leave these and all other areas open to winter recreational snowmobiling. Thank you.

Contact Information: George Gaumer gmgosu75@gmail.com

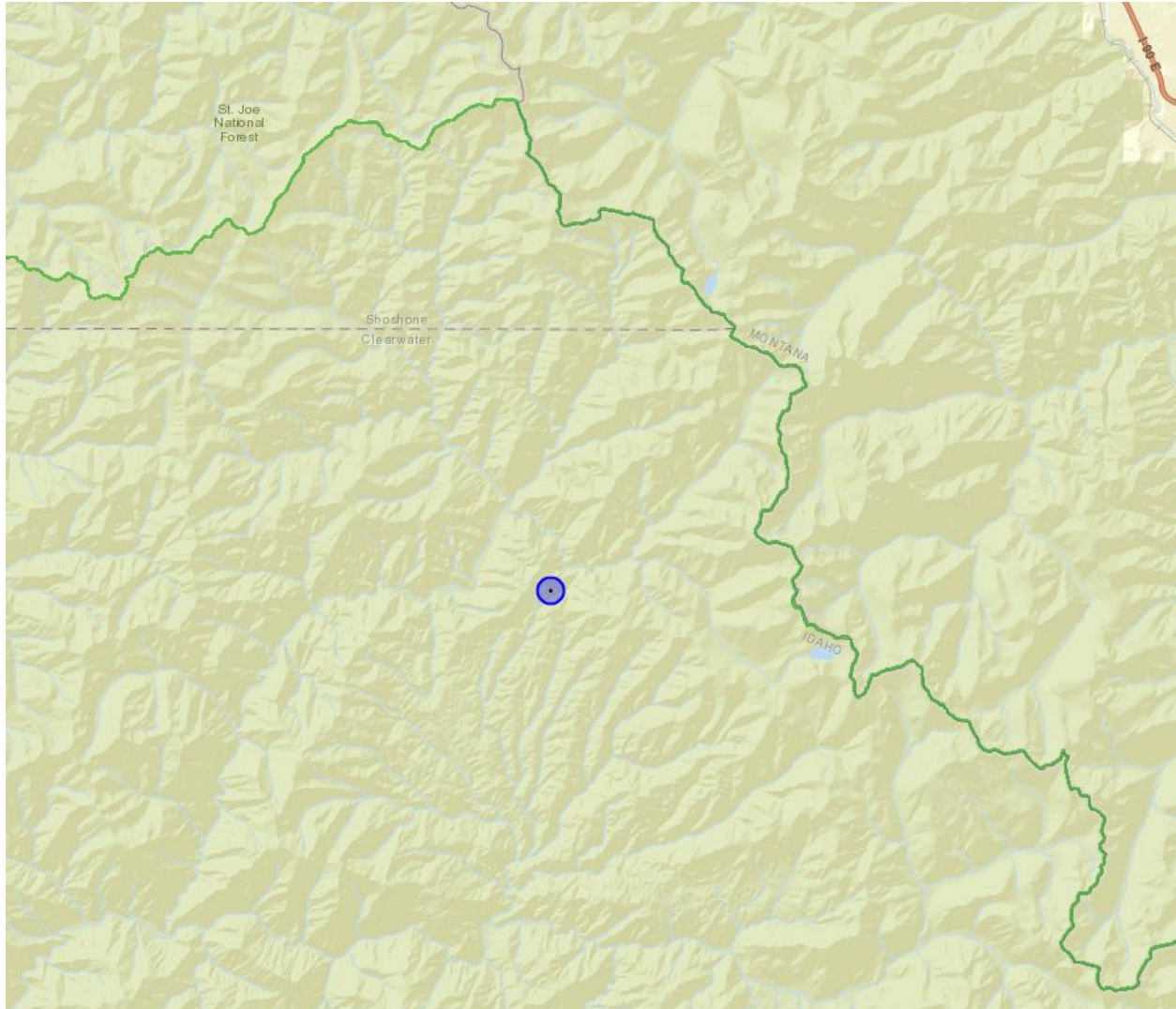
4183 Greenerhills Ct Heber City, UT 84032 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12652 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

Please re-open Williams lake, Surveyor, Hoodoo areas to historical over-snow use. There already is the largest wilderness in the lower 48 states adjacent to these areas. There is no place even remotely close to these alpine/sub-alpine areas for over-snow use in the area. Signs of use go away with the snow. No significant wildlife interaction at these elevations. No user conflict. Will see increase in user conflict and decrease in cash flow with these areas off limits. Ask the Lochsa Lodge!. Thanks

Contact Information: dan hoheim dhoheim@hotmail.com
po box 656 Lolo, Mt. 59847 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 12655 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Adjacent to the proposed Clearwater Great Burn RWA are 3,873 million acres of Congressionally approved wilderness. Population centers within the region are not placing any additional demand for additional wilderness acreage. There are no similar areas in the Clearwater NF to duplicate or even come close to offer the experience snowmobilers enjoy in the Great Burn Area. There is no documented evidence of any species that need protection in the Great Burn Area. Snowmobile tracks are gone when the snow melts which negates any impact on other social or ecological values. Snowmobiling causes no depreciation of the wilderness resource. There are no user conflicts in the winter months. The 2012 Travel Plan did not present any documented evidence that would substantiate a need to close the historic snowmobile areas to snowmobiling. It is very doubtful that the Record of Decision will stand up to a legal test.

Contact Information: Jeff Wentzel fhdirtrider@gmail.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12666 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Please reconsider the closing of the great burn. I have began riding this area 5 yrs ago and want to continue with my friends and family. I know many people have been riding this for many years. There is no evidence that this area should be closed. No impact on wildlife since there is none in that elevation at that time due to the snow pack levels. We leave no tracks after the snow melts and it is to far for anyone to walk, snowshoe or ski to use. Lets not take such a beautiful resource from the public. Thanks you for your time!

No Contact Information

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12674 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

There are over 3.8 MM acres of congressionally approved wilderness in the Clearwater NF adjacent to the Gt. Burn that are lightly used. I would support the Gt. Burn wildereness addition if boundary adjustments are included, as noted in the Mar 8 winter use proposal, to accommodate historic snowmobile riding areas. Snowmobiling has no documented negative impact on wildlife in this area, there are no user conflicts, and the activity causes no depreciation of the wilderness resource. This area offers the only substantial primitive backcountry snowmobile experience in the lower 48 States . I strongly beleive the ISSA lawsuit will eventually partially or wholly overturn the 2012 Clearwater Travel Plan due to errors in assessment of use. Pedestrian traffic into the backcountry has remained static for the last 5 years and motorized traffic has doubled over the same period. Reducing motorized access does not meet the public need. Regards, Stan Spencer

Contact Information: stan spencer stanspencer@montana.com

2775 Terrace Dr. Missoula Mt. 59803 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12675 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

With the continued closing of motorized recreation areas, we are condensing the largest users of our national forest into smaller and smaller areas. The US FOREST SERVICE continues to ignore the public land users, by closing areas to motorized recreation, let's remember you work for us. The preferred plan should be what the people want not a predetermined planned cooked up by a few people.

Contact Information: Steve Mattheis mattheis@midrivers.com
400 Arrowhead Drive Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12680 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

The Clearwater Forest Service presented the participants in the Collaborative process the results of a study that showed documented access into the backcountry by foot power has remained static over the past five years yet motorized use has doubled. This study conflicts with plans to reduce historic motorized access and increase pedestrian only access. There is no documented evidence of any species needing protection in the Great Burn Area. Snowmobiling causes no depreciation of the wilderness resource. Region one guidelines allow for boundary adjustments to a proposed RWA to accommodate historic motorized use. The proposed adjustments within the Great Burn RWA presented to the Clearwater NF Collaborative participants on March 8/2014 accurately reflect the acreage historically used by snowmobilers. The collaborative Forest Plan must adhere to the proposed boundary adjustments for snowmobiles.

Contact Information: Lawrence Krizan lkrizan@smtel.com
PO Box 233, Wise River, MT 59762 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12689 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

As a small business owner in the snowmobile industry, and an avid passionate snowmobiler, I see absolutely no harm in snowmobiles being in the back country. The only harm I can see being done is to our freedom and economy. This will downsize and possibly destroy my business, and my personal free time.

Contact Information: Brad Fitchett brad.fitchett@gmail.com
453 Elk Creek Road Heron, MT 59844 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12693 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Considering the fact that all of the acres contained within the S.B. Wilderness are off limits to motorized recreation, and the FACT that there are hundreds of thousands of acres on the NPCNF which deFacto wilderness due to access limitations, the FACT that there are no documented conflicts between winter motorized and non-motorized recreationists in the areas being proposed for winter motorized restrictions, the current NPCNF travel management plan proposes to restrict hundreds of thousands of additional acres to motorized winter recreation, despite the FACT that there is no credible science which documents any negative impacts on forest resources, including wildlife, from snowmobiles. These facts make the current NPCNF travel management proposals TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE! Please understand that the citizens of the United States of America will not stand idly by and allow OUR government to restrict access to OUR PUBLIC lands without adequate justification for those restrictions. Todd Butts
Contact Information: Todd Butts unclebuds@interbel.net

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12706 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

I support the continued use of recreational snowmobiling in the Great Burn. I support the proposed boundary adjustments within the GB/ RWA that we submitted to the Clearwater NF collaborative planners in March, 2014. This depicts the areas that have been snowmobiled in the past, as far back to the 1970's. I have never experienced any wildlife or user conflict with snowmobiles in all those years. This area is unique to backcountry snowmobiling and offers us an experience not found anywhere else, other than in Canada. Snowmobiling does not harm the wildlife resource, since there is none in the high country in the winter months. No ecological impact remains when the snow melts. I have never encountered skiers / hikers in the winter months but within a few miles of the highway. The 2012 travel plan did not present any evidence that shows the need to close this area to snowmobiles. Thank you
Contact Information: Pat Haffner pathhaffner@montana.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12718 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

Please consider re-opening the Great Burn area to over snow historical use. Williams Lake, Tom Beil, and Beaver Ridge are the best backcountry skiing and snowmobiling around, some of the best in the lower 48. The jet boats and backcountry aircraft allowed into the wilderness is based on historical use, so should snowmobiles into these areas. Snowmachines cause far less harm than the aircraft runways or the jet boat infrastructure required as well as providing a world class recreation experience. There are no animals located in the high alpine areas where there is often 15 ft of snow. All of these areas are accessed via existing roads. There will obviously be an economic impact to the surrounding communities if this ban stays in place as well as causing more user conflict by pushing skiers and sledders into a smaller area. These areas have all been logged and roads built throughout, Itâ™s not OK for companies to do as they please for 100 years, then the public to be shut out of their land.

Contact Information: David Harriton dave@aev-conversions.com
PO BOX 621, Missoula MT 59806 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12723 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

To all the deciders out there. Please keep the Great Burn open for snowmobiling. It has minimal impact on the environment and wildlife. Keep it open!

Contact Information: Nicholas Cole nic@ncdesignstudio.com
235 N 1St St West Ste B Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12727 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Cultural

With the largest Designated Wilderness in the lower 48 a few miles south of the Great Burn the need for additional wilderness in this area is EXTREMELY LOW therefore any historical snowmobiling areas that were outlined during the Clearwater Collaborative should be reinstated immediately. Primitive snowmobile habitat is rare and the closest area resembling the Great Burn is hundreds of miles away. No winter use conflicts (human or wildlife)exist and the impacts of over the snow vehicles is near 0. Recommended Wilderness should NOT be managed the same as Designated Wilderness, only Congress has that authority.

Contact Information: Scott Mattheis scottmattheis@yahoo.com
145 Grace Lane Eureka,Mt. 59917 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12737 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

Please reconsider the closure and allow snowmobiles to access the Great Burn area. As someone that lives to ride in the backcountry (I put all my vacation and money into riding), I see this closure not only impacting the economy but also the reason many people live here.

Contact Information: Josh Schmitt josh.schmitt@sarens.com

14799 Neil Drive Lolo MT 59847 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12742 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

The Sudden closure to the Great Burn area to snowmobiling is outrageous to the public working man who pays taxes. We the snowmobiler are asking for a little chunk of backcountry to get away from everyone else. 99% of the people that oppose the use have not ever set foot in the areas we all talk about. I've rode horses and have taken my 4 kids (ages 8-12) into all of these places with horses and sleds, for the comments about animals being disrupted ..there are none, your wolves ate them all. The Great Burn areas need to be reopened for public use as they were.

Contact Information: Jim Hayden lolotrailranch@aol.com

18489 hwy 12 Lolo, Mt. Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12746 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I have rode the great burn area many times. I would like to see it reopened for many reasons. I also recreate in these areas for hiking and horseback riding.

Contact Information: Shannon Scott shannon.montanaproperties@aol.com

18489 Hwy 12 Lolo, MT 59847 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12747 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I respectfully ask that you reconsider the closure of the Great burn, Beaver Ridge, Tom Beal, areas for snowmobiling. I have been snowmobiling with my family and friends there for 20+ years. It is a special and spectacular area to show off our scenic country. I have seen incurred wildlife or other recreational users and feel the historic use and value of these areas should remain open to snowmobiling. There is no sign of use even in these areas and no trash or refuse is seen. Please keep these areas open. Thank you

Contact Information: John Riley jriley1300@msn.com

1300 Starwood Dr Missoula, MT Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12753 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

Please reconsider the decision of the closure to Motorized Winter Machines in the Nez / Clearwater National Forests. My family and I live and recreate in the Clearwater National Forests ALL YEAR ROUND, we particularly enjoy and have a lot of vested interest in the Winter Time motorized vehicle sport of Snowmobiling, both professionally and personally, I have two children ages 13, & 11 who live to ride in the vast wintertime snow, as of this closure, there is NO LONGER VAST anything regarding riding areas open to motorized useâ™¦in the many years of riding in the Clearwater National Forest, the areas in which we ride and enjoy in the backcountry we have never ran into wildlife, skiers, or other wintertime recreation enthusiasts â™¦. by the time the snow melts all signs of our sport are gone with the snow. Please do not take these recommended wilderness lands away from my children, grandchildren, great grandchildrenâ™¦â™¦ Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important issue.

Contact Information: Leigh Bledsoe ridenbaughpro@msn.com
11 Old Elk Summit Road, Lolo MT 59847 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12754 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

The winter travel plan for the Clearwater Nezperce forests needs to be severely revamped. Mother Nature has already set the boundaries of winter travel and access. To restrict snowmobile travel because of some special interest groups who have an agenda, and 99% of them have never been to these areas in the winter time is ridiculous. Snowmobiles have no negative impact on the neighboring wilderness areas. There is no user conflict in the winter back country areas. The very best world class athletes could not access the back country by foot. There are no documented dangers to any species in these areas. Why do some people want to deprive others from a recreation that doesnâ™t hurt anyone or anything? Snowmobiling is a huge economic impact to the communities close to these areas like the Great Burn and Beaver Ridge. Rick Peterson

Contact Information: Rick Peterson rick@aquajetcustom.com
321 Maple Ct Grangeville, ID 83530 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12756 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

I feel that the winter travel plan for the Clearwater Nezperce forest needs to be changed. I just spent a very enjoyable weekend snowmobiling with family and friends in the Great Burn and Beaver Ridge areas. It would be a great loss to have this area closed for snowmobiling. Many local area businesses would suffer financial losses if it is closed. I can see no negative impact of our riding once the snow has melted. There are no endangered animals living there during the winter months. It would be a shame to close this recreation area because of some special interest groups that have never even traveled to the area in the winter. Please change the plan so my family and friends can continue to snowmobile here in the winter. Kim Peterson 321 Maple Ct. Grangeville, ID 83530

Contact Information: Kim Peterson kim@aquajetcustom.com
321 Maple Ct. Grangeville, ID 83530 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12759 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

It is vital that the Collaborative Forest Plan adhere to the proposed boundary adjustments for snowmobiles in the 2012 Travel Plan. I have lived my entire life near the Clearwater National Forest and learned to enjoy winter by being outdoors with my family. It would be tragic if this wasn't available any longer. I appreciate the desire to protect wildlife, however, having snowmobiled in this area for 40 years I can tell you it is not a place that wildlife inhabits during the winter months. The Great Burn area regularly has 15 feet of snow which makes it unlikely that animals could survive. The Great Burn area occasionally has skiers, but it is so difficult to get to that skiers ride in on snowmobiles. It is nearly impossible to access the Great Burn area in all its beauty during the winter without snowmobiles. I am concerned that as more public land is closed outdoor recreationalist will be concentrated into smaller areas increasing the potential for user conflict. Thank you for reconsidering.

Contact Information: Randy Bentham jrbeee@msn.com
644 West Artemos Missoula MT 59803 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12763 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Youth

I have been riding snowmobiles in the Great Burn area for over twenty years and consider this area to be one of the best back country riding areas around. We have more than enough wilderness areas that are not used enough. This is our land and we should be able to use it as it has been used for a long period of time. There is no damage done to the area and or the wild life. The boundaries need to be adjusted so we can ride in this area. Please help with this so that my children can continue to enjoy this great place.

Contact Information: Bill Johns hotsnowdog69@yahoo.com
4805 Deschamps Lane Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12764 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

I have been riding the great burn area with my dad for the last 4 years and this is some of the best riding areas I have ever seen. I would really like to ask you to revise the travel plan boundaries so that I can continue to ride in these areas.

Contact Information: Casey Johns casey_johns24@hotmail.com
4805 Deschamps Lane Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12768 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

The Clearwater Forest Service presented the participants in the Collaborative process the results of a study that showed documented access into the backcountry by foot power has remained static over the past five years yet motorized use has doubled. This study conflicts with the desire to reduce historic motorized access. Snowmobile tracks are gone when the snow melts which negates any impact on other social or ecological values. Snowmobiling causes no depreciation of the wilderness resource. Region one guidelines allow for boundary adjustments to a proposed RWA to accommodate historic motorized use. The proposed boundary adjustments within the Great Burn RWA presented to the Clearwater NF Collaborative participants on March 8/2014 accurately reflect the acreage historically used by snowmobilers. There are no user conflicts in the winter months. The 2012 Travel Plan did not present any documented evidence that would substantiate a need to close the historic snowmobile areas to snowmobiling.

Contact Information: Michelle Johns johns900@msn.com
4805 Deschamps Lane Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12769 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

The closest area to similarly duplicate this experience would be 400 miles north in the Revelstoke, BC area, which has several primitive snowmobile access areas. There is no documented evidence of any species that need protection in the Great Burn Area. Snowmobile tracks are gone when the snow melts which negates any impact on other social or ecological values. Snowmobiling causes no depreciation of the wilderness resource. Region one guidelines allow for boundary adjustments to a proposed RWA to accommodate historic motorized use. The proposed boundary adjustments within the Great Burn RWA presented to the Clearwater NF Collaborative participants on March 8/2014 accurately reflect the acreage historically used by snowmobilers. There are no user conflicts in the winter months. The 2012 Travel Plan did not present any documented evidence that would substantiate a need to close the historic snowmobile areas to snowmobiling. It is very doubtful that the Record of decision will stand up to a legal test.

Contact Information: William Johns bill@summitroofing.info
9550 Derby Drive, Missoula, Mt Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12771 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I access the Great Burn via HooDoo Pass, Schley Mountain Road and Lolo Pass/Lochsa area in both backpack and snowmobile season. I never see more than squirrel tracks in the winter through June during snowmobile season. Snowmobiles are making minimal impact on the wildlife or environment during their season. The mountain bikes cause more impact problems in summer (erosion on single-track trails) than snowmobiles (snow melts out the tracks in winter). I see FAR fewer snowmobilers than I do backpackers and mtn bikers. More human impact occurs in the summer along state line trail. The only live animals I see are birds, squirrels and mule deer. I've seen mtn goat (suspected) and wolf tracks near the HooDoo pass area in the snow.

Contact Information: John Stiegler Stiegler@q.com

5330 Centauria Lane, Florence, MT 59833 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12772 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

It is my opinion that the Clearwater Collaborative Forest Plan must adhere to the proposed boundary adjustments for snowmobiles. Below is why: 1. There is no documented evidence of any wildlife that need protection in the Great Burn Area. 2. Snowmobile tracks are gone when the snow melts and snowmobiling causes no depreciation of a backwoods resource. 3. There is one of the largest, Congressional approved, contiguous wilderness areas in the lower 48 States adjacent to the Clearwater Great Burn RWA. 4. There are no user conflicts in this area in the winter months and studies have shown that access into the backcountry by foot has remained static over the past five years yet motorized use has doubled. In closing, the 2012 Travel Plan did not present any documented evidence that should close a historic snowmobile area to snowmobiling.

Contact Information: Ted Patterson tedpatterson@rocketmail.com

3004 Queen St Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12774 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

I am opposed to any new wilderness, it doesn't make any sense to me. Snowmobiling is an expanding sport and doesn't damage the land. Closing more public land for motorized use just makes the remaining areas more crowded.

Contact Information: david maness skibreeze71@msn.com

7350 neota way, c/s, co 80908 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12778 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

Snowmobiling is a huge economic benefit to our economy and leaves no tracks or harm to the environment. The areas in question are not winter grounds for wildlife that can be harmed by snowmobiling. Snow machines have ridden in these areas for close to fifty years with no negative affect. This general area has tremendous amount land already set for wilderness at this time, in fact it is the largest in the lower forty-eight states. At the least, the boundary needs to be adjusted along Beaver Ridge to accommodate snowmobiling which is a well needed riding area. Much of the area has been a defacto wilderness area for years and has been treated as if it is wilderness.

Contact Information: Don Phillips rippy2011@hotmail.com

6445 S Meadowwood Lane, Missoula MT 59803 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12779 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

Snowmobiling is a huge economic benefit to our economy and leaves no tracks of harm to the environment. The areas in question are not winter grounds for wildlife that can be harmed by snowmobiling. Snow machines have been ridden in these areas for some fifty years with no negative affect. This general area has a tremendous amount of wilderness acres at this time, in fact the most in the lower forty-eight states. At the lest, the boundary needs to be adjusted along Beaver Ridge to accommodate snowmobiling which is a well needed riding area. Much of the area has bee a defacto wildness area for years and has been treat as if it is a wilderness.

Contact Information: Don Phillips rippy2011@hotmail.com

6445 S Meadowwood Lane, Missoula MT 59803 Preferred contact method: email

Map Point Would Not Display

Comment ID: 12787 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

There is no documented need for more wilderness. Adjacent to the proposed Clearwater Great Burn RWA are 3,873 million acres of Congressionally approved wilderness. Selway-Bitterroot, Frank Church and Gospel Hump. This is the largest almost contiguous wilderness area in the lower 48 States. The wilderness we currently have is underutilized.

Contact Information: Rick Shaw shawsrus4@msn.com

2521 Galena Court Missoula, MT 59808 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12789 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Region one guidelines allow for boundary adjustments to a proposed RWA to accommodate historic motorized use. The proposed boundary adjustments within the Great Burn RWA presented to the Clearwater NF Collaborative participants on March 8, 2014 accurately reflect the acreage historically used by snowmobilers. I recommend and emphasize that the Collaborative Forest Plan adhere to the proposed boundary adjustments for snowmobiles.

Contact Information: Rick Shaw shawsrus4@msn.com

2521 Galena Court Missoula, MT 59808 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12791 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Snowmobilers have been snowbiling in the goose creek and steep lakes area for the last 30yrs. It doesn't make sense to close this area down to snowmobiling. I support boundry changes to the The great burn wilderness area so that snowmobilers can continue to access the Goose creek and Steep lakes area. Snowmobilers travel to the Hoodoo Pass area from from Idaho and Washington and put money into the local economy. I support boundry changes the RWA Great Burn so that snowmobiling can continue in the Steep Lakes and Goose creek area as well as in the Beaver Ridge area Williams Lake area and Tom Beal area. The town of Superior depends on the snowmobilers that snowmobile on the hoodoo pass area. Boundrys need to be adjusted so that snowmobile use can continue in these areas. I have been snowmobiling in the goose creek and steep lakes area for over 25 yrs.

Contact Information: michael gullette mgullette@montana.com
POBox1038 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12792 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Snowmobilers have been snowbiling in the goose creek and steep lakes area for the last 30yrs. It doesn't make sense to close this area down to snowmobiling. I support boundry changes to the The great burn wilderness area so that snowmobilers can continue to access the Goose creek and Steep lakes area. Snowmobilers travel to the Hoodoo Pass area from from Idaho and Washington and put money into the local economy. I support boundry changes the RWA Great Burn so that snowmobiling can continue in the Steep Lakes and Goose creek area as well as in the Beaver Ridge area Williams Lake area and Tom Beal area. The town of Superior depends on the snowmobilers that snowmobile on the hoodoo pass area. Boundrys need to be adjusted so that snowmobile use can continue in these areas. I have been snowmobiling in the goose creek and steep lakes area for over 30 yrs.

Contact Information: michael gullette mgullette@montana.com
POBox1038 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12793 Received: Apr 01, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

I have been riding snowmobiles in the Great Burn area for over twenty years and it is without a doubt the best backcountry area for winter recreation. The Clearwater NF provides for the best experience backcountry snowmobilers can enjoy. By closing the Great Burn it is unreasonable to expect that backcountry riders to have this same experience would need to travel 400 plus miles north to the Revelstoke, BC area. Keep this area open to snowmobiling.

Contact Information: Rick Shaw shawrus4@msn.com
2521 Galena Court Missoula, MT 59808 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12799 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

If you would look at how many dollars that the motorized recreation brings into a state, why would anyone want to limit it?

Contact Information: Phil Handevidt phil.handevidt@agcocorp.com
57448 790th st Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12818 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

The proposed closure to over snow travel in these areas would be a tragic act. I live and recreate in an area with 2 large wilderness areas on each side of the valley and we are constantly in land use battles, just like the proposal you are putting in front of the public now. We have lost alot of these "roadless areas" due to closures. This causes increased conflicts with motorized/non-motorized use, as well as larger impacts on smaller areas. Please reconsider your actions on closing these areas due to the user conflicts, more concentrated area use, and economic fall out for the surrounding communities and businesses.

Contact Information: Justin Layman justin@kurtspolaris.com
541 Riverview Dr Seeley Lake, MT 59868 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12829 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I am showing support for boundary adjustments to permanently keep historic snowmobile use areas open for current and future generations. I personally have used these areas for snowmobiling since the 1980,s ,and I do not feel the 2012 travel plan presented any documented evidence to close the areas to snowmobiling , and there are guidelines in place to allow such boundary adjustments . The Forest Service should not ignore historical use ,and closing these areas will only increase use conflicts in other areas by forcing diverse users into small areas.

Contact Information: Darr Riggert actionautobody@earthlink.net
2705 clark st. Missoula Mt 59801 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12830 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: General comment

It is unfortunate that the FS has chosen to close the area collectively referred to as the "Great Burn" for no apparent reason. If it is to satisfy the elitist group that wants the area as their own personal playground, it does not meet the smell test. In the many years i have snowmobiled in the area i have yet to see other users than snowmobilers. There is no evidence at this point that there is any damage as a result of winter motorized use. There is also no wilderness designation that would preclude motorized use which leads me to believe the decision to close this area was capricious and arbitrary.

Contact Information: Howard Morkert lhmark@blackfoot.net

3 Lightning Lane, Trout Creek, Mt. Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 12841 Received: Apr 02, 2014

I am opposed to any more of our public lands being turned into wilderness areas. We already have millions of acres of WA's in the NW. But, if this must be done, please make boundary adjustments in order to keep the Great Burn Area open to Snowmobilers! Snowmobiling is a great activity for families to build lasting bonds with each other. There is no documented evidence of any species that need protection in the Great Burn Area during the winter months when the snow is too deep for them to live there. Snowmobiling causes zero impact on the area's resources. The tracks melt away every spring! Region one guidelines allow for boundary adjustments to a proposed RWA to accommodate historic motorized use. If this new wilderness area must be created and diminish our family / public use of this land, please at least provide boundary adjustments that will allow our historic snowmobile areas open.

No Contact Information

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12838 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I have snowmobiled Clearwater Forest for the past fifteen years. I have always enjoyed accessing the Great Burn and Beaver Ridge areas. With the new travel plan, I am unable to enjoy the Great Burn and the unique riding opportunities it offers. Most wildlife have migrated down to lower elevations in the winter. The new travel plan would force more people into those winter range areas. The areas included in the closures are high elevation, where there is little if any wildlife activity. It seems that the sensible idea would be to encourage riding in these areas, not outlawing it. Snowmobiles have no environmental impact on the land. All trace of activity is gone when the snow melts. There is no basis of fact for closing these areas to snowmobiling. There is also a vast wilderness areas to the south of the Great Burn to accommodate those users. The money generated by snowmobilers in area towns surrounding the forest is significant boost to the small local economies in these lean times.

Contact Information: Jon Devino jdevino2@yahoo.com

1328 Stanley St Missoula MT 59802 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12842 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

I am opposed to any more of our public lands being turned into wilderness areas. We already have millions of acres of WA's in the NW. But, if this must be done, please make boundary adjustments in order to keep the Great Burn Area open to Snowmobilers! Snowmobiling is a great activity for families to build lasting bonds with each other. There is no documented evidence of any species that need protection in the Great Burn Area during the winter months when the snow is too deep for them to live there. Snowmobiling causes zero impact on the area's resources. The tracks melt away every spring! Region one guidelines allow for boundary adjustments to a proposed RWA to accommodate historic motorized use. If this new wilderness area must be created and diminish our family / public use of this land, please at least provide boundary adjustments that will allow our historic snowmobile areas open.

Contact Information: Michael Musegades h46pilot@sbcglobal.net

109 Windmill Creek Road, Grangeville, ID 83530 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12850 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Thank you for letting us take the time to comment on this subject. Below are a few points that I would like to express that are important to me. There is no documented evidence of any species that need protection in the Great Burn Area. Snowmobile tracks are gone when the snow melts which negates any impact on other social or ecological values. Snowmobiling causes no depreciation of the wilderness resource. Region one guidelines allow for boundary adjustments to a proposed RWA to accommodate historic motorized use. The proposed boundary adjustments within the Great Burn RWA presented to the Clearwater NF Collaborative participants on March 8/2014 accurately reflect the acreage historically used by snowmobilers. There are no user conflicts in the winter months. Thanks, Jasper

Contact Information: Jasper Dohrendorf jdohrendorf@hotmail.com

PO Box 1172, Missoula MT 59806 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12853 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

The Great Burn area, needs to stay open for snowmobilers. I and my fellow snowmobilers have been writing this area for about 30 years. I have not seen any impact so what ever from snowmobiling in this area (The Great Burn.) I feel that the United States has already made enough bad decisions without making any more!

Contact Information: Dan Nash nashent@montana.com

PO Box 16141 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12857 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

There is no studies no proof that snowmobiles impact wildlife in the great burn area. To say that it just because you can't come up with anything else to say. You have no proof or no studies to prove this. Most of your wildlife come back down to winter ranges's and lower altitudes in the wintertime. It is impossible for wildlife to survive in the backcountry when the snow gets to the levels that it does. It's typical that some people when they can't come up with anything. It's very sad that they go and throw children and animals in to help fight their battles.

Contact Information: Dan Nash nashent@montana.com

PO Box 16141 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12877 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I am writing this email in response to the laws that are being put into effect for the Clearwater motorized winter travel plan. I am extremely displeased with the decisions that have been made for this area. In the past few years I have written a number of letters to the Forrest Service about this issue along with many others . It seems that our local voices haven't been heard, so I am thankful to see another opportunity to keep the Clearwaters open for winter motorized use. Snowmobilers have few areas to ride in this part of the state, because we are already surrounded by wilderness in every direction. The Clearwaters have been used for decades by local snowmobilers and should continue to stay this way. At least keep the Hoodoo and Williams Lake areas open if not the entire proposed area. Again, Thank you for this opportunity to save an area for many local riders!

Contact Information: Lee Nelson leeroynelson@live.com

2615 Laurie Dr. Missoula, MT 59804 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12883 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

The Great Burn is a vital biological core area for far-ranging wildlife in the northern Rockies. The Great Burn serves as a biological bridge, permitting migration and genetic interchange...without which populations will inbreed and species vigor will diminish. Throughout the year, mountain goats inhabit high rocky terrain, including the high cirque basins in the stateline area. Studies indicate they are particularly sensitive to activity above them. Snowmobile or bicycle activity on the Stateline ridge above occupied mountain goat habitat may displace and threaten mountain goats during particularly vulnerable periods of late winter and spring. Similar evidence reports that such activities in high elevation cirque basins near the Stateline Trail may affect denning wolverines as well. As a result, I urge you to retain closures to both mechanized and motorized uses in the Great Burn area and to recommend the entire area as Recommended Wilderness.

Contact Information: Jonathan Oppenheimer joppenheimer@idahoconservation.org
PO Box 844, Boise, ID 83701 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 13014 Received: Apr 03, 2014

Animals view humans that are on foot to be predators, hundreds of thousands of years have ingrained that into them. On foot you leave your predatory scent and move slowly like a stalking hunter... Motorized users can often pass an animal with little or no response from them... Maybe the wildlife you speak of would benefit more from a on foot ban rather than a motorized ban that takes place when none of the animals are present?

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13038 Received: Apr 03, 2014

These comments about snowmobiles disrupting Mtn. Goats are subjective and not substantiated in any way. I have never seen a goat or any sign of one in 30 years of snowmobiling in the Gt. Burn. It is well documented that goats move to lower timbered areas in the winter in order to find food and water. Not any available in 15 ft.of snow. Snowmobiles do not/can not get into these steep timbered areas so goats are well protected. The very suggestion that motor noise is disruptive to snowmobiles is dispelled by real facts. Take a boat ride on Lake Pend Orielle in Id. and observe the goats on the surrounding cliffs. The motor noise does not disturb them one bit.

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13042 Received: Apr 03, 2014

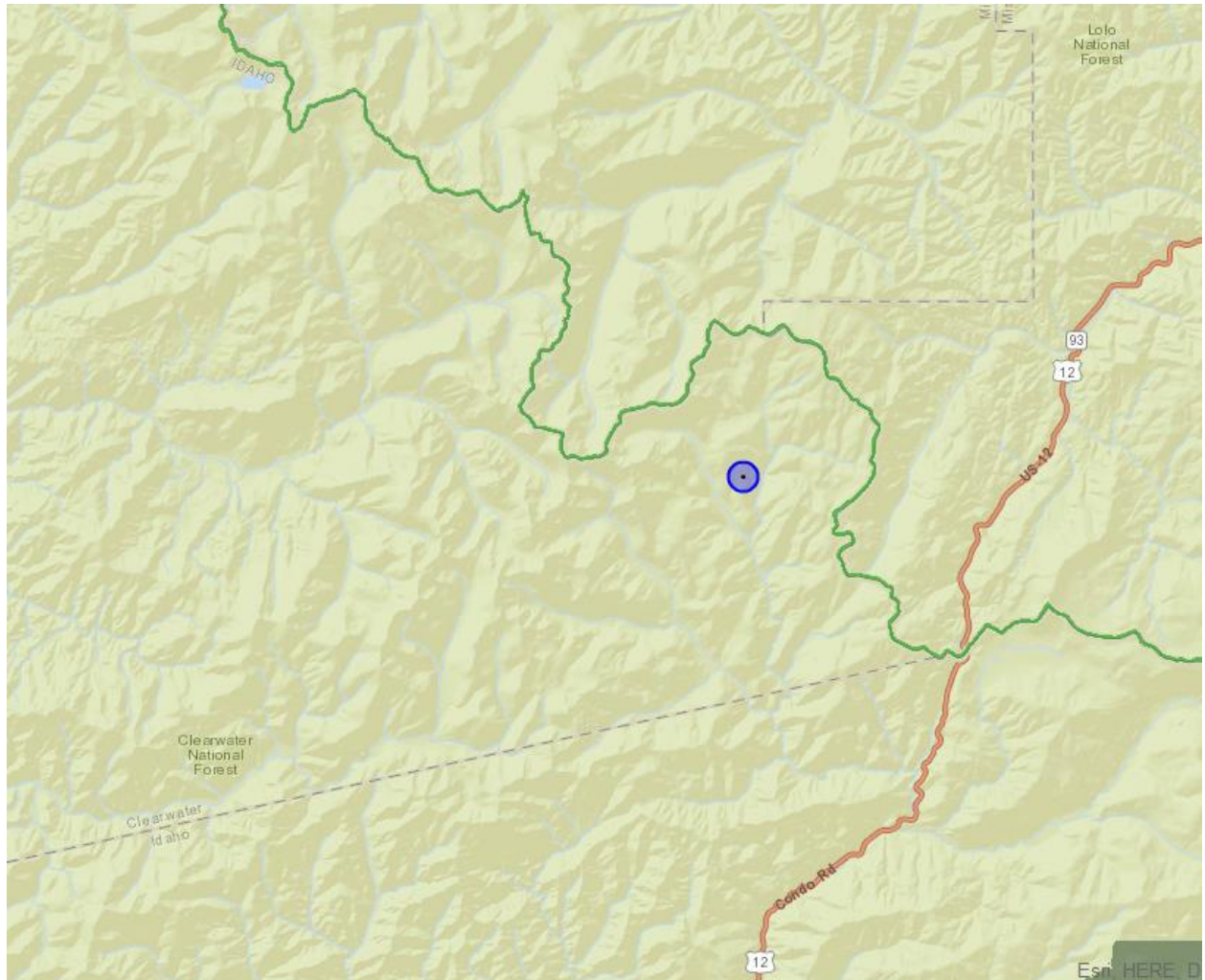
I wonder if this commentor has ever been in the Great Burn area. There are no animals there in the winter when snowmobiles are. There is much too much snow for animals. In all the years riding, I have never encountered an animal!

No Contact Information

Reply ID: 13207 Received: Apr 05, 2014

There are no goats in these areas, The guy posting there are is not educated with the actual on the ground info. If there is a lack of goats in the areas, The direct impact of this is due to the wolf that someone pushed to have again. Ya your right, this is was made for elk and deer, but as sicking as it is, there are none. Before posting feelings about this, get your facts straight.

No Contact Information



Comment ID: 12914 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

great burn to close the great burn area to snowmobiles and mountain bikes would be a great loss to a large group of people. we have enough wilderness for the few people that use it let the rest of us that chose to ride in the great burn which is full of old roads for snowmobiling and mountain biking alone it does not need to be wilderness thank you

Contact Information: leo miller leovikki@centric.net

11940 chula vista ln missoula mt 59808 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12928 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Snowmobile clubs across the state are being forced to ban together just to maintain their riding areas. These areas have been available for the winter trail systems for many generations and should be open for multiple use. Clearly this area has ample wilderness already established so this just isn't logical. Leave the winter trail system area for the public use portion of these PUBLIC Forests.

Contact Information: Twila Webb montanagirl1966@gmail.com

P.O. Box 524 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12947 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

To Whom it May Concern, Please reconsider and keep open these snowmobile areas on the Clearwater National Forest: Hoo Doo, Steep Lakes, Goose Lake, Surveyor area, Williams Lake, Blacklead. From an honest perspective, I have not seen wildlife harassment, abuse of federal land, or disregard for any other forest user in the winter. I see snowmobilers enjoying days off from work, stopping throughout the day to just socialize with one another, and going home tired from a good day of riding. Please read each comment carefully throughout this whole process. I see a lot of genuine thought put into keeping these areas open for snowmobile travel. Thanks for this opportunity to be heard again.

Contact Information: Kevin Elmstrom kelmstrom@blackfoot.net

70 Shadow Ct., Superior, MT 59872 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12954 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I would like to lend my support to those in favor of leaving the Steep Lake , Goose Lake area open to winter time use. I have recreated in this area in both summer and winter for nearly 30 years and have seen no evidence of damage to the environment. I think it would be a crime to cheat winter users of the area out of the chance to enjoy some of the most majestic riding in the lower 48.

Contact Information: Russell Parkin russellparkinht@gmail.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12955 Received: Apr 02, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Please keep the Great Burn area open to snowmobiling. Once the snow melts in the spring our tracks are gone with no damage done to the terrain. It offers some of the best backcountry snowmobiling in this area. There is no documented evidence of any species that need protection in this area. Our family now has a fourth generation of snowmobilers just starting to ride. It would be a shame for them to never get to experience a ride in this scenic area.

Contact Information: Ray Kaufmann rkaufmann24@gmail.com
512 S A St, Grangeville, ID 83530 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12966 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

Please reopen the Great Burn area for snowmobiling. There is no documented evidence of any species that need protection in the Great Burn Area. Snowmobile tracks are gone when the snow melts which negates any impact on other social or ecological values. Snowmobiling causes no depreciation of the wilderness resource. Adjacent to the proposed Clearwater Great Burn RWA are 3,873 million acres of Congressionally approved wilderness. Selway-Bitterroot, Frank Church and Gospel Hump. This is the largest almost contiguous wilderness area in the lower 48 States. Population centers within the region are not placing any additional demand for additional wilderness acreage.

Contact Information: Ryan Schmidt rmscustombuilt@yahoo.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12973 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

Please reopen the recent snowmobile closures in the Great Burn area. Keeping these areas closed will only increase user conflicts in other areas. There are NO wildlife conflicts during the winter time because the snow is too deep for anything to survive and when the snow melts so do our tracks.

Contact Information: Tara Strey tarastrey@yahoo.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12977 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

I support several boundary changes to the "proposed Great Burn Wilderness". Hoodoo Pass, Steep Lakes, Goose Creek and the state Line area between the aforementioned areas has been historically used for snowmobiling. When the snow melts-the tracks are gone.

Contact Information: Kevin Donally donallys1965@gmail.com
322 William Lloyd Lane, Superior, MT 59872 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12978 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

The boundry adjustments to allow snowmobiles in these areas is a logical answer. The only areas I have ridden with similar snow conditions and terrain are in B.C. It would be a shame to have to spend our money north of the boarder.

Contact Information: Dan Sprunger dan.sprunger@recgroup.com
3029 Edwards Butte MT 59701 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12990 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

At some point enough is enough. When do we as motorized recreationalists get more land? When do we get to start specifying "Only motorized traffic. No foot traffic allowed!!" Come on people. Segregation by recreation. It's pathetic. This is all our Federal Lands. Those of you who want it for yourself, go buy your own piece of land and post it with no trespassing. I want my Federal Lands to be open to ALL those who wish to use it responsibly. Why should my taxpayer dollars go for land that I am forbidden to use the way I want just so you wilderness advocates can use it the way you want to. I think some peoples mothers should have taught them how to play with others better.

Contact Information: Greg Beeler greg@trussworksmt.com
2312 Sundance Drive, Great Falls, MT 59404 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 12993 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I don't understand and I don't feel like we need any more wilderness. The environmentalists are all considered about the animals in the backcountry. Obviously, they don't get to the backcountry where we ride because there are NO ANIMALS in the high country. Everybody knows that. There isn't any food for the animals up there so they come down the mountain to feed over the winter and head back up again in the Spring. PLEASE NO MORE WILDERNESS!!!!

Contact Information: Colette Robinson lettie655@yahoo.com
76 Mountain Lane Divide, MT 59727 Preferred contact method: email

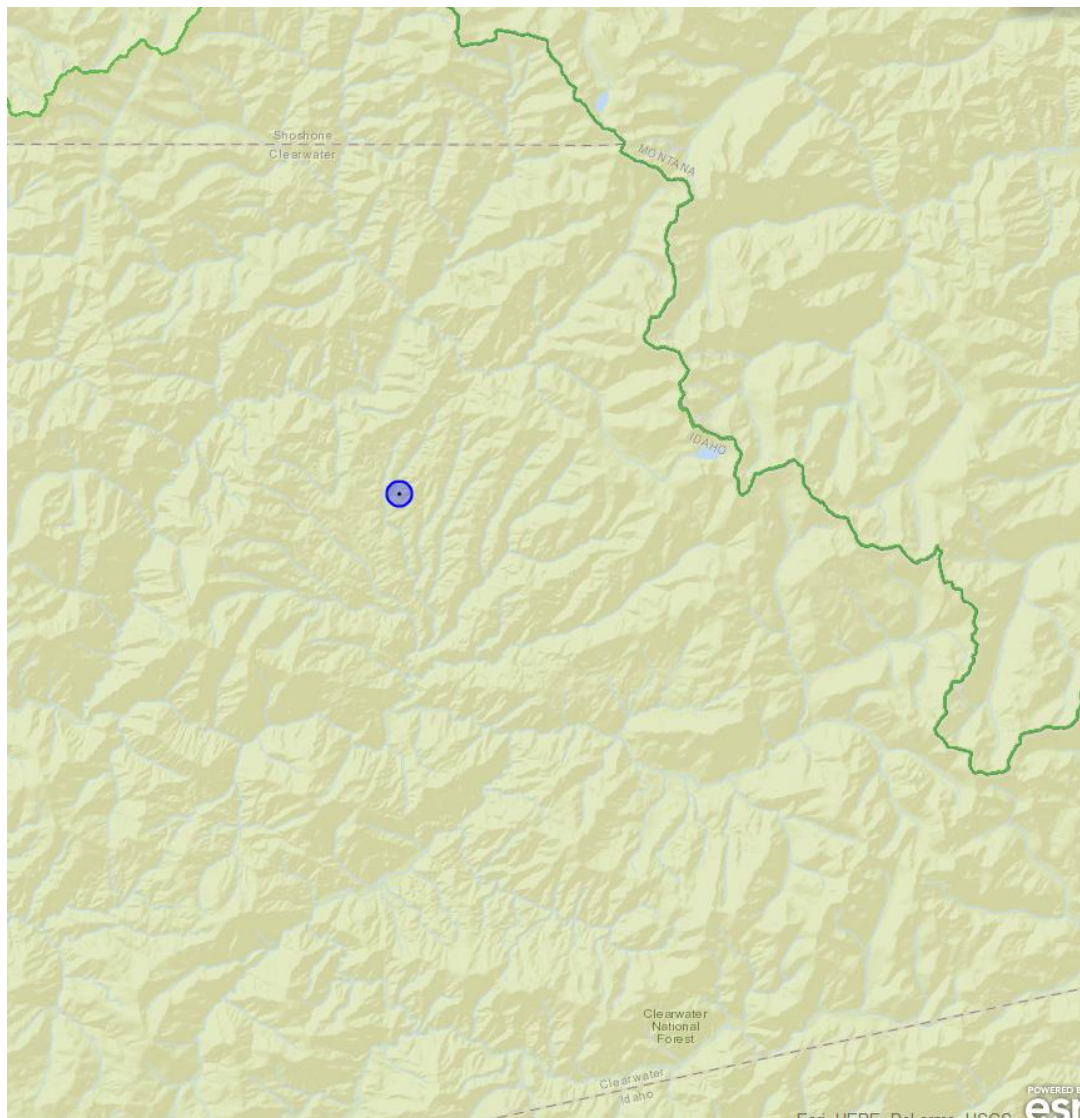
No Map Point

Comment ID: 12994 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I am the president of the Jackpine Savage Snowmobile club in Wise River Montana. We have approximately 100 members. I am also a member of the Dillon, Missoula and Anaconda clubs. My two boys and I along with many friends have ridden and enjoyed the Great Burn area for some time. We are all very environmentally sensitive and would never harm anything in the backcountry we ride. I am very sad to see the Great Burn closed to snowmobiling. I have never seen any physical damage, personal conflict or animal conflict in this area. There is no sign of our use once the snow leaves. I cannot understand why we need more wilderness when there are millions of acres adjacent to the Great Burn area. The economic loss would also be significant to local and regional businesses. Please re-open our historic trails for winter use.

Contact Information: Johan Olson skip.olson1@yahoo.com

76 Mountain Lane Divide, MT 59727 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 13005 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

Don't lock up any more wilderness with the new forest planning and travel plan, especially with the great burn and Beaver ridge areas. There are no user conflicts or documented species problems. There is a lot of recreation on these areas, especially with snowmobiles. Mother nature already sets her boundaries for access. Do not give in to special interest groups who want to deprive us of our right to God's creation.

Contact Information: Sheryl Nuxoll snuxoll@senate.idaho.gov
P O Box 187 Cottonwood, Id 83522 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13032 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

I'm seeing lots of comments about snowmobiles being detrimental to Goats. Unfortunately these comments are not backed up with documented evidence, just hearsay. I have never seen a mtn. Goat or any sign of one in 30 years of snowmobiling in the Great Burn. What would they eat in 15 ft. of snow? Goats winter in lower areas where they can get food and water. Go on Google and check it out. There is everything you ever wanted to know about Goats. I would offer that wolves are the real detriment to Mtn. Goats.

Contact Information: stan spencer stanspencer@montana.com
2775 terrace drive Missoula Mt. 59803

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13033 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

10 of my very close friends/ family have been riding snowmobiles in the Great Burn area for 25 years. Individuals who don't use and appreciate the Great Burn are trying to take it away. We ride the Great Burn area and it has more than 15 ft. of snow. They say we negatively effect wildlife. With 15 ft. of snow, we have NEVER in 25 years seen ANY kinds of wildlife or any sign of wildlife. When spring comes are tracks melt away and snowmobiles leave no sign. People come from all over the U.S. to ride in the Great Burn. If this area is shut down, restaurants, hotels, gas stations, etc will go bankrupt. Small towns rely on snowmobilers to keep businesses open in the winter. If this area is shut down, our local economy will suffer greatly. We already have millions and millions of acres of wilderness that we can not recreate in. We don't need any more wilderness. Snowmobiles DO NOT cause any harm to the Great Burn area. PLEASE fight to keep this area open to snowmobiles. Thank you.

Contact Information: Bryce Larson procutmt@gmail.com
445 Rollins St. Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13039 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

While I am not what you would consider an extreme snowmobile rider, my family and I have snowmobiled in the Lolo Pass and Beaver Ridge (Great Burn) areas for many years. We enjoy the beautiful outdoors together as a family. In all the years of riding, we have never encountered any wildlife or skiers in the Great Burn area; only other snowmobilers. Snowmobiles leave no sign of being there when the snow melts. If this area is closed, you will force all winter recreationists into a small area which will only increase conflict. The Great Burn area is a very fun and challenging place to ride for a diverse group of abilities. It is one of the few areas around left to ride. There is absolutely no reason that this area cannot remain open to all winter recreationists as it has historically been. We are not asking to open up more areas, only to keep what is already established. Please do the right thing and respect the rights of all.

Contact Information: Jennifer Morgan jjmorgan@montana.com
PO Box 3675, Missoula, MT 59806 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13052 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

I see no real backing for closing this. The largest two reasons stated are for quiet winter recreation and wildlife protection. There is already an over abundance of UNUSED wilderness in Montana and Idaho. Look at a map! Drive into any of these wilderness trail heads in the winter (if you can get to them) and see the usage. There isn't any. The so called backcountry users simply do not hike , ski , or snowshoe several miles in to recreate in winter daylight alone doesn't allow it. Sledgers can get there play and be out of everyone's way both in sight and sound. Everyone forgets these aren't the sleds of the 70's. Technology has caught up to the sport and we too care about the environment! As far as the wildlife comments, you can't argue with people that have never been there and only go off of what they hear. There is NO big game at the elevations we are talking in mid-winter period! Lack of snow, shelter, water, food all prohibit them from staying. Ever hear of Migration and Hibernation.

Contact Information: Dave Morgan amireps@montana.com
644 cougar lane Stevensville Montana 59870 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13090 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Lands

I have been snowmobiling in the Beaver ridge, Williams lake, Hoodoo Pass area for some 20 years now. Up until 10 years ago; my friends and family didn't have the kind of sleds it takes to get into some of these areas with out perfect snow, but now we are able to access these areas in just a few hours and can spend the day so far back in the high country that it would take you days to walk into in the summer. This is a special kind of area to us snowmobilers, we literally have it all to our self's when we are there. I have never seen any other people besides snowmobilers in this area. Snowmobiles leave no trace in this area after the snow melts, and as far as animals; I have never seen any animals where we go, only a few in the low country, which is very seldom. The thing is; it's just too high and there is just too much snow for anything to exist. I reluctantly support a wilderness designation for the Great Burn that includes boundary adjustments to permanently keep our historic snowmobile areas open.

Contact Information: Mike Krout highlow61@yahoo.com
412 Rippling Woods Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13104 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I have been snowmobiling in the Great Burn/Beaver Ridge area for about 16 years. I'm opposed to the recently released Clearwater/ Nez Perce winter travel plan for the following reasons. 1. This area borders the largest Wilderness area in the lower 48 states. There is no need for more Wilderness. 2. No user conflict exists in the winter. Snowmobiling use is increasing and other uses are static. 3. No similar areas for back country snowmobiling exist for hundreds of miles. 4. No "documented" evidence of wildlife disturbance. 5. The precedent has been set for boundary adjustments to RWA's, airstrips and jet boat use. 6. The economic impact of the loss of these snowmobiling areas cannot be ignored. I urge the use of these historical snowmobiling areas to remain available in the Clearwater/Nez Perce Forrest plan.

Contact Information: Dennis Linneman dmlinn54@hotmail.com
12880 Triple L Lane, Lolo, MT 59847 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13106 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

Please reconsider the winter travel plan in the Clearwater Nezperce National Forest for what's known as the "Great Burn" and its surrounding areas. These areas have extensive documentation of years of family enjoyment via over snow travel by means of snowmobile. To the best of my knowledge there are no known issues of user conflicts, animal disturbance, or property damage in these back country areas during the months of winter travel that I'm aware of. The permanent closure of such areas will have the greatest impact on our youth just getting started in enjoying some of life's greatest gifts in the form of outdoor recreation which is part of the foundation of what we consider good clean healthy values in our greatest gifts - our youth. Again if not for the sake of us that have had many great experiences riding the Great Burn area please reconsider the closure for the better of our youth.

Contact Information: John Cowan jjllcowan@msn.com
324 Explorer Way Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13117 Received: Apr 03, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

The Great Burn is a great snowmobiling area with no wildlife activity in the winter. The snowmobile foot print disappears with the snow. I have been riding in this area for the past ten years and have never seen anyone but snowmobilers there. Please keep this area open to the people that keep the economy going.

Contact Information: Clay Gilleard aandbgilleard@gmail.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13121 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I have been snowmobiling on hoodoo pass and in the goose creek and steep lakes area for over 30yrs. I have never seen a mountain goat or any mountain goat tracks on any of my adventures. There is 12ft to 15ft of snow up in these area's and nothing for the mountain goats or any other wildlife to eat. I support the boundary changes so that historical snowmobile use can continue in these area's Hoodoo Pass and state line trail 738, goose creek, and steep lakes area. We have enough wilderness already. There's only one other place that comes close to riding in goose creek and steep lakes area and that's in Canada....and that be REVELSTOKE.

Contact Information: michael gullette mgullette@montana.com
po.box1038 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13126 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Please Do Not Follow in California,s foot steps!! Please Do Not Follow in the foot steps of these Enviros, There studies and the F S are not right we need to keep our Forest open for EVERYONE to use not just these smaal groups of people that just sit in there concrete building and have never been in the Forest. I live in the Sierras here in California and my Business depends on people that use the Forest for everything!! Keep the Forest open For ALL TO USE!! We the recreationalist are tired of giving up more !!!

Contact Information: Rourke Hembree rourkehembree@gmail.com
PO Box 28 Mi Wuk Village Ca 95346 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13130 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I do not support this closure of snowmobile travel in the Great Burn. There is no documented ecological reasons behind this. This is a great place responsibly enjoyed by many when snow covers the land. Spring sun erases any tracks from snowmobile use. Over three million acres of non-motorized wilderness exist in close proximity, while motorized recreation continues to grow.

Contact Information: Jacob Fallis jnfallis@gmail.com
18600 Sorrel Springs Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13135 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I do not support wilderness designation for the Great Burn area or management as a defacto wilderness area. Our area already has huge expanses of wilderness, and its interior receives little recretaional use. In the event of Wilderness or RWA designation, proposed boundary adjustments for snow mobile winter use are critical. These are areas of high current snowmobile use and such use does not adversely impact either the environment or other users.

Contact Information: Arthur Gidel artgidel@msn.com

No Map Point

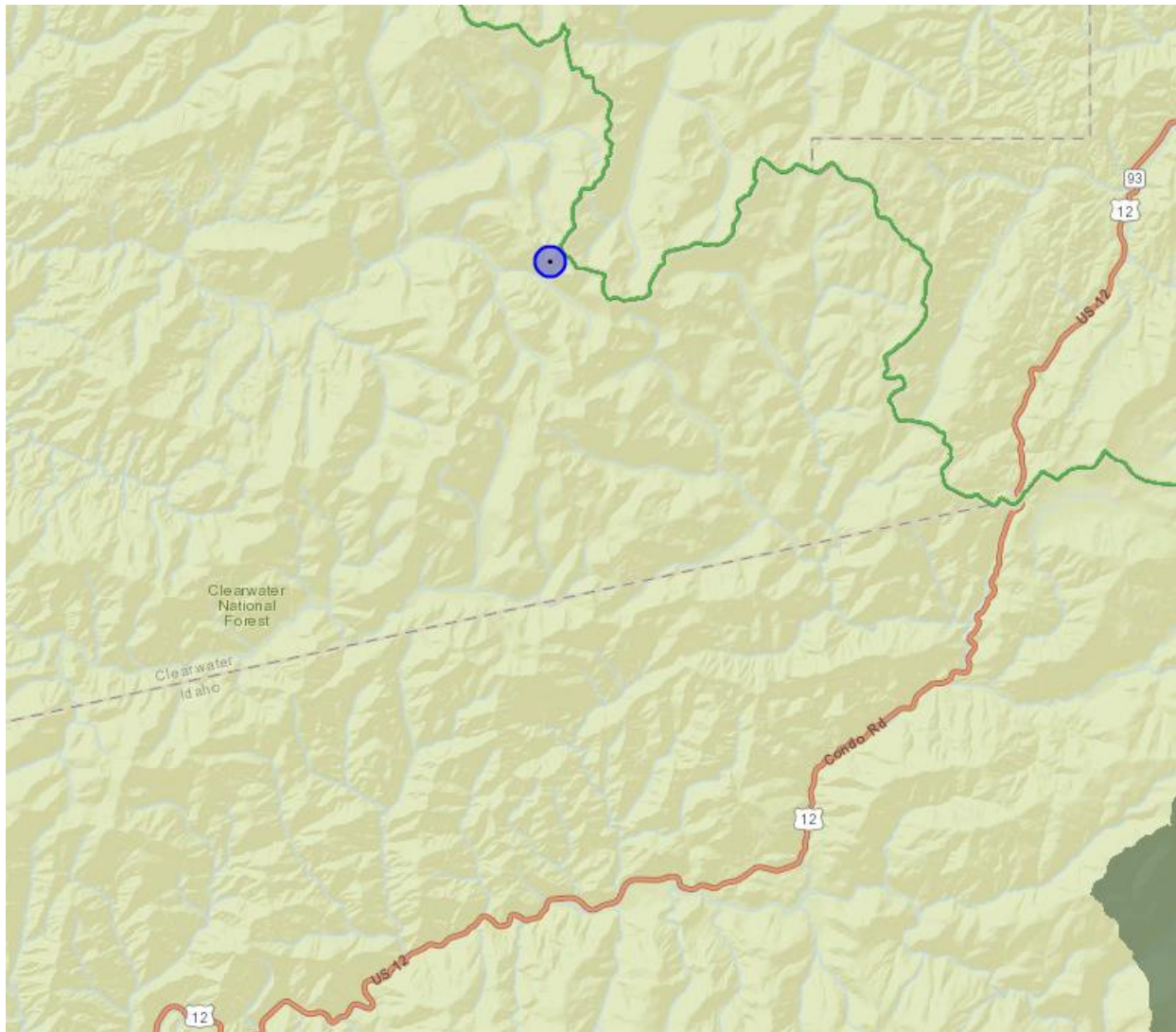
Comment ID: 13140 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Region 1 guidelines allow motorized in RWA.No documented need to close 100% when about 9% left open would maintain traditional user experiences.Many illegal procedures and CEQ rules violations used in developing TMP. There are no adverse species impacts.

Contact Information: dirk ibsen dirktoesup@aol.com
9720 keegan gulch,msla,mt,59808 Preferred contact method: mail

No Map Point

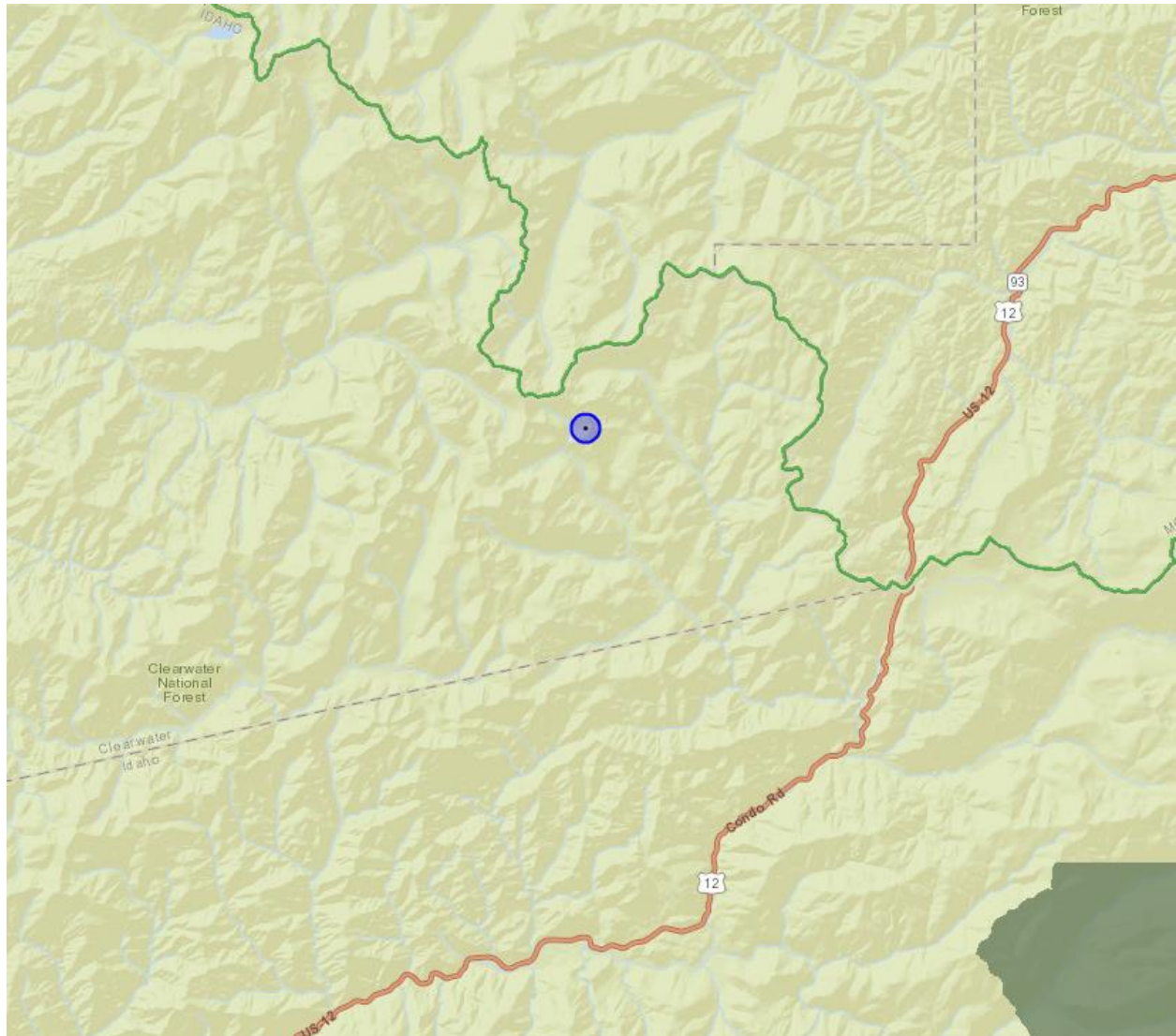
Comment ID: 13146 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: General comment
comments submitted under recreation.no need to close 100% of this to traditional motorized winter use
when you cal leave 10% open. There is no need for additional aefacto wilderness.
Contact Information: dirk ibsen dirktoesup@aol.com
9720 keegan gulch,msla,mt 59808 Preferred contact method: mail



Comment ID: 13151 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recommended
wilderness act created 9m acres wilderness. we now have 112m acres. Unless congress create more we do not need more lands managed administratively as defacto wilderness. There is much of this area which could be managed for winter motorized without adverse affects.

Contact Information: dirk ibsen dirktoesup@aol.com

9720 keegan gulch,msla,mt,59808 Preferred contact method: mail



Comment ID: 13154 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: General comment

I believe that keeping the very small areas that snowmobiles have been using for many years will not have any negative effect on the wildlife or land. The continuing closure of the national forests without any regard for economic harm that it causes must end. There must be compromise and cooperation from everyone. Blind support of environmental extremist's must end.

Contact Information: Neal Olson nealrolson@gmail.com

9550 Obrien Creek Road Missoula, MT Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13155 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I support the boundry changes for the great burn proposed wilderness. I have never seen any mountain goats or any other kind of wild life while snowmobiling on hoodoo pass or the goose creek area. There is nothing for them to eat up there in 15ft of snow. I have been riding in this area for about 15yrs now, when the snow melts our tracks are gone too. We don't need anymore wilderness , we have enough. Please change the boundries on the great burn so that historical snowmobile can continue.

Contact Information: craig sheppard debcraig07@yahoo.com

pobox231 superior mt 59872 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13158 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I have snowmobiling in the hoodoo pass and steep lakes and goose creek area for about 15yrs and never seen a mountain goat or tracks of a goat or any other kinds of wildlife. There is 10ft. to 15ft. of snow up there in the winter time and nothing for them to eat. I support the boundary changes or adjustments to the boundaries so that snowmobile use can continue in the goose creek and steep lakes area. The boundaries should also be adjusted in the beaver ridge area and williams lake area. There are more snowmobilers using these areas, than they are wilderness supports. When the snow is gone our tracks are gone too. I think its a good idea to change or adjust the boundaries so that historical snowmobile use can continue.

Contact Information: Bill Vigue cana@blackfoot.net

8118southside rd. superior mt 59872 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13161 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

The goats that are up around heart lake and pearl lake in the summertime all move out to landowner mountain and the back side of windfall lake for the winter time. We have watched the goats on landowner mountain for the last 30yrs. spend the winters there or back by windfall lake. They migrate out of the deep snow just like everything else does.

Contact Information: mike gullette mgullette@montana.com
pobox 1038 superior mt 59872 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 13318 Received: Apr 09, 2014

Study's have shown that numbers have decreased since the 90's- They have blamed Global warming and Recreational use for this. Another study shows that these 2 items had NO effect on goats and that numbers increased East of the Continental divide. If there was Goats on Rhodes peak in the 1970's, there are none now, the GB area does not support Goats in the winter for the simple fact that the winters are to extreme. Have you been on Rhodes in FEB.? Further more, we all have seen what the Wolf has done since it's great come-back of the 90's..They wiped out all of the wildlife through out Western MT. and ID. There are factors at play with all of the wildlife here, Snowmobiling and other Rec. users are not to blame for it.
No Contact Information

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13171 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

Contact Information: Mark Ekstrom ekstrom15@hotmail.com
12050 Merwin Ct. Missoula, Mt. 59802 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13178 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

Closing the great burn will force people to snowmobile in the lolo pass area and seeley lake area. forcing everyone into one area will create conflict between users. So many people and not enough area to ride. Working for a snowmobile dealership this will directly affect my job. Forcing people to travel further to ride and eventually loose interest in the sport. The amount of snow fall in that region is so great the environmental impact is minimal to not at all. The intense amount of snow makes for a very harsh climate for any large animal to live in. In my 10 plus years of riding in the area the only animal tracks I have ever seen were rabbits. no large game. By the time the goats would be returning to summer snowmobiling is over.

Contact Information: Shane Richmond richmondshaner@yahoo.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13182 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Lands

This response is in reference to the "proposed action" for the travel plan involving The Great Burn. I do not believe we need more wilderness being that adjacent to the proposed Great Burn RWA there is 3.873 million acres of Congressionally approved wilderness. If the Forest Service is to deny access by snowmobilers to Recommended Wilderness Areas, the Great Burn's Recommended Wilderness Boundry should be adjusted to exclude the area they utilize. Snowmobiling in the Great Burn has not demonstrated any resource or social impacts. The 2012 Travel Plan did not present any documented evidence that would substantiate a need to close the historic snowmobile areas to snowmobiling. I have personally snowmobiled in the Great Burn for 21 years and have not had one single conflict with any other users. Our group has taken great pride snowmobiling in The Great Burn area using it responsibly, making sure when the snow melts there is no trace we were even there.

Thank you, Mark Ekstrom

Contact Information: Mark Ekstrom ekstrom15@hotmail.com

12050 Merwin Ct. Missoula, Mt. 59802 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13183 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Who uses this area between December 1st and May 1st? Answer? Only those who own a snowmobile! The reality of a proposed wilderness area is that it limits the access to the greater population to only a few months of the year. I have never seen a cross-country person 20 miles back in this area in January or February. Not that they cannot get there, but the logistics limit their ability to ski there. The reality of a wilderness or proposed wilderness, is that it takes away from most people the ability to enjoy the experience. How do the handicap see this area? How about the elderly? What you are proposing is limiting this area to an elite few healthy individuals who have the ability to hike in the summer months only! Let it be enjoyed by all!

Contact Information: Susan Leibenguth sleibenguth@gmail.com

6407 McClain Creek Road Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13186 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

I would like to see the area of Kid Lake, Leo Lake, Williams Pk left open to snowmobiling. I have been riding in this area along with many other people for atleast 20 years. In that 20 years of riding there I have never seen any backcountry skier, snowshoer or any recreationalist other than snowmobilers in the area. I have also never seen any wildlife in the above area in the winter other than an occasional bird or squirrel. There is to much snow to support wildlife in the winter months. Closing it to snowmobiling makes no sense to me. There is no one else that can access the high alpine areas we ride in the winter besides snowmobilers. By closing it, no one can enjoy it during the winter months. Please make an exception to leave the area as it is and open to snowmobiling.

Contact Information: Jeff Kroll JKroll20@gmail.com
6520 Ruby Lane, Lolo MT 59847 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13190 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Infrastructure

Clearwater National Forest should provide historic backcountry riding for snowmobilers in the Great Burn area (GBA). This area meets the recreation opportunity spectrum for backcountry riding that is a reasonable distance from home. South of the GBA is the Selway-Bitterroot, Frank Church, and Gospel Hump congressionally approved wildernesses that is 3,873,000,000 acres. Population centers in the region are not demanding additional wilderness acres. Congress has not approved the GBA for wilderness and region one guidelines allow for adjustments to proposed recommended wilderness areas for historic motorized use. On March 8, 2014 Clearwater NF Collaborative participants proposed accurate GBA boundary adjustments reflecting the historic acreage used by snowmobilers. The distance to access the GBA allows for absolutely no user conflict. There is no evidence of any animals that need protection in the GBA. Please recognize this reasonable information or legal action will overturn your 2012 travel plan

Contact Information: william porter mtmtnrider@bresnan.net
3925 mount avenue missoula, mt 59804 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 13243 Received: Apr 06, 2014

please correct the wilderness acre amount, I accidently put to 3 to many zeros.

No Contact Information

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13191 Received: Apr 04, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

The Great Burn area is one of the greatest snowmobiling areas in the eastern Idaho area. I understand the reasons and need for wilderness but there is enough wilderness. This area is surrounded by wilderness. More and more areas of historic snowmobile use are being taken away by the few who don't even use these areas or intend to use these areas. If more wilderness has to be added to the Great Burn area I believe the boundary adjustments to a proposed RWA to allow motorized use to the historic areas where snowmobiling has existed for many years. The boundary adjustments within the Great Burn RWA presented on March 8, 2014 reflect the historic area we use. The 2012 Travel Plan does not have any evidence that shows a need to close these historic snowmobiling area to snowmobiling. Please adjust the boundaries to allow for snowmobiling to continue in these historic snowmobiling areas.

Contact Information: chance hiday hiday@q.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13212 Received: Apr 05, 2014 Keyword: General comment

I have been snowmobiling the Great Burn area for 25 years. The riding area is limited to a very small portion of it. Keeping this small portion open to snowmobile's is a reasonable compromise and will not harm the wildlife or the environment.

Contact Information: Chuck Wiech c-wiech@msn.com

1546 Boyer Lane Frenchtown MT 59834 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13218 Received: Apr 05, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

Once upon a time, the powers that be left some space open for other users, including us snow-mobilers. We can say PLEASE all we want. We are just playing cowboys & indians. Bye, bye Great Burn. No more wilderness.

Contact Information: Mark Courter Mark.Courter@Gmail.Com

20785 Jones Rd Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13233 Received: Apr 06, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

In response to the recent release for FS maps closing Great Burn areas to snowmobiling. For 10+ years I've snowmobiled in many of the now "Closed" areas per the recently released map riding with generations older and younger. The closure is a mistake, limiting access to solitude, remote areas, and winter enjoyment for all generations. The FS Collaborative sessions have been open allowing me to respond multiple times. The information presented and debated in the sessions, shows little to no material impact from snowmobiling. Closure in spite of my views and those of us who use the areas regularly in the winter seems unwarranted. My previous communications and those discussed in the open FS Collaborative sessions included: no impact to wildlife, no conflict with other users (skiers-snowshoers-hikers), no impact to the terrain since it is protected under 12+ Feet of snow Please immediately reconsider reversing the closures.

Contact Information: Jeff Hood jeffreyjhood@hotmail.com
643 N. Cleveland, Moscow, ID 83843 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13296 Received: Apr 07, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

considering that the impact study says that snowmobiles do little to no harm, its a very sad day to close it off. i think you should reconsider.

Contact Information: erik karlsen eriksrepair@gmail.com
25873 dodd blvd lakeville mn 55044 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13343 Received: Apr 10, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

I moved across the country from MI to MT to explore the mountains on my snowmobile. The Great Burn Area was one area that I want to explore. I can find no documented evidence that snowmobiling is degrading the terrain or endangering the wildlife. I would like for this entire area to remain open.

Contact Information: Tory Baughan tdbaugh@mtu.edu
38 Rockefeller Drive Kalispell MT 59901 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 13368 Received: Apr 11, 2014 Keyword: Recreation

Please do not take away our public right to use the gift of the best snowmobile areas in the world... right here in our "back yard!" Some of the best times I've had in my life... the best bonding times I've had with my Dad... the best memories of my young life that I will carry with me throughout my life have been when we were enjoying God's Creation from the seat of our snowmobiles. I want, with all my heart, to share these memories and create new ones with my own children some day. My Dad taught me to always leave a place better than we find it. I consider myself to be a young environmentalist because I take good care of our vast back country areas and leave no trace of my presence.

Snowmobiling is a great way to be environmentally responsible and still enjoy our wild areas without harming it or the wildlife that has moved to lower, winter ranges when the snow is too deep up where we go on snowmobiles.

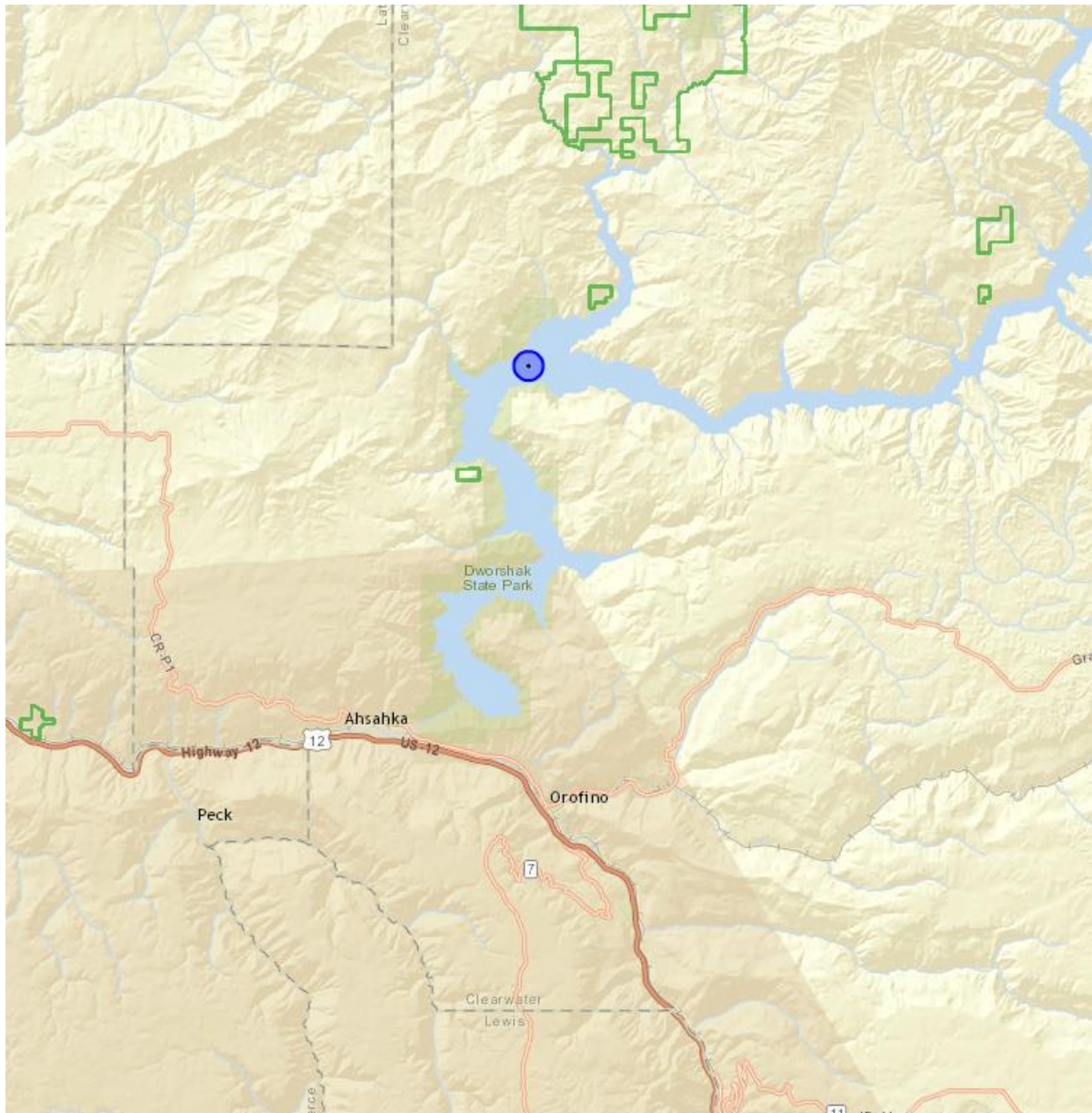
Contact Information: Lila Musegades lm@gmail.com

No Map Point

Comment ID: 14748 Received: Jun 09, 2014 Keyword: Campgrounds

I love going boating on the dworshak reservoir in the summer. There are so many different kinds of fish to catch and it is absolutely beautiful. It would be amazing if the water wasnt so deep so more people could go swimming. Its also a great place to see wildlife. I hope that all the different animals are protected.

Contact Information: Ali Hansen t17.hansalex@s.jsd171.org
p.o. box 175, Weippe, ID 83553 Preferred contact method: mail



Comment ID: 15086 Received: Jun 30, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

I backpack in the great burn area each year. This area should be better protected. I recommend closing the trail to Fish lake to all vehicles. Near fish lake the hill sides and meadows contain scars (ruts) from vehicles that leave the access trail. In addition, the noise from these vehicles, racing up and down the trails spoils the wilderness experience. Close this trail to vehicles

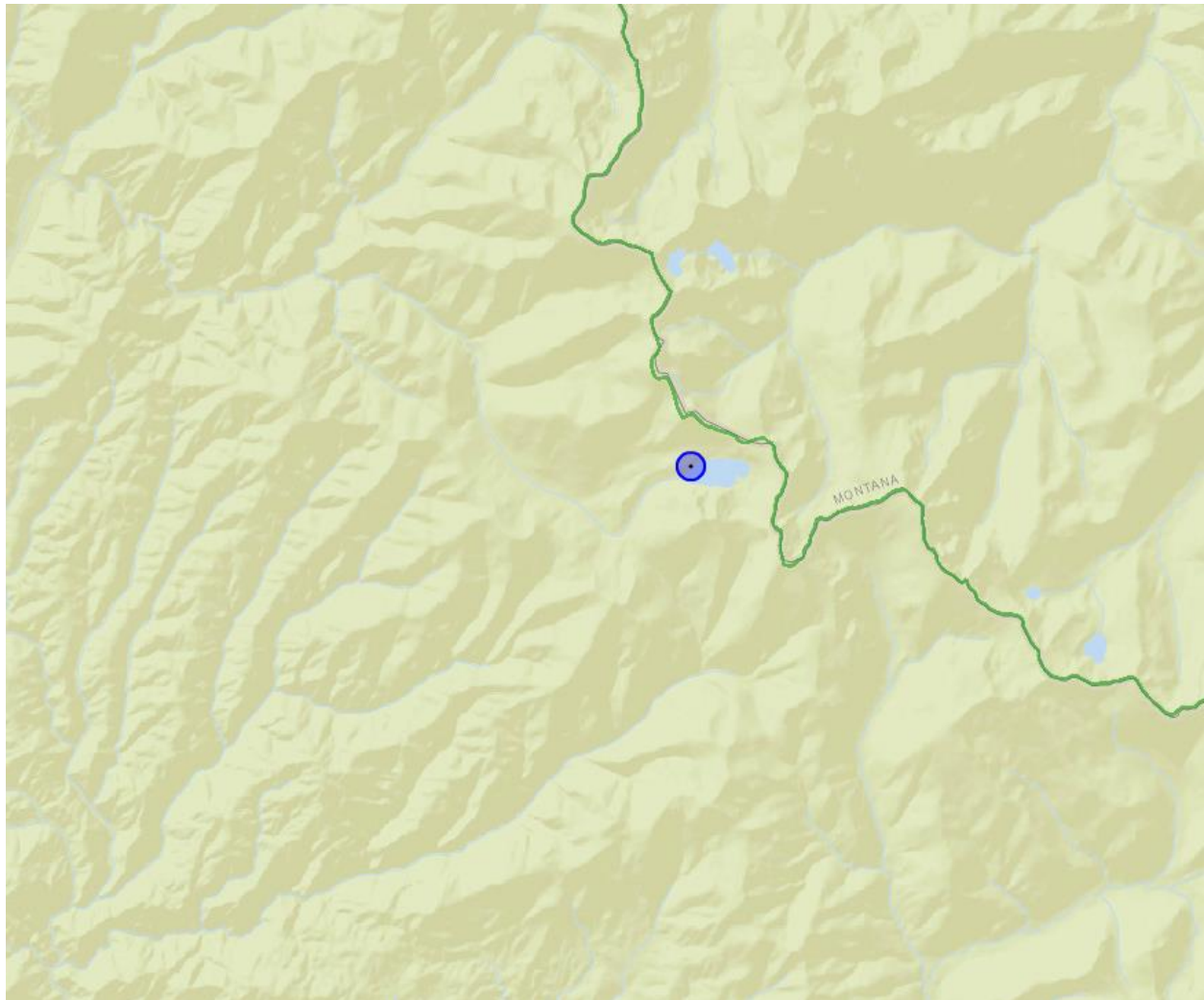
Contact Information: Dennis Forsberg dforsberg01@gmail.com
810 E Everett Ave, Spokane, WA 99207 Preferred contact method: email

Replies:

Reply ID: 15733 Received: Jul 28, 2014

Please keep land open to all types of outdoor enthusiast, to be fair. All users of the wilderness need to share and compromise. Please don't close land to OHV.

Contact Information: Mike mdwilson@glacierbancorp.com



Comment ID: 15730 Received: Jul 28, 2014 Keyword: Recommended

Please keep snowmobiling land open: without the sleds think of the bottom line impact come February, this sport supports many businesses.

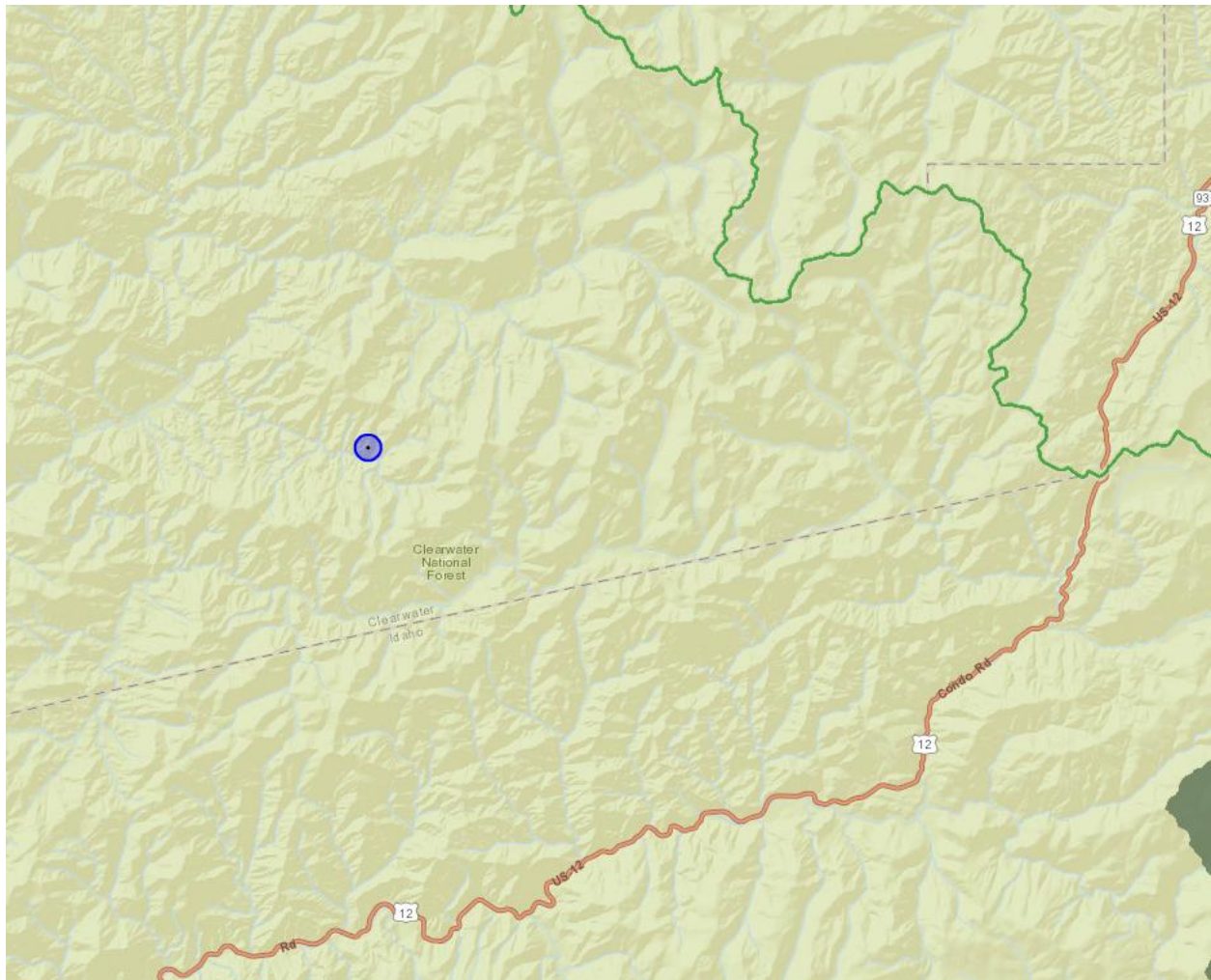
Contact Information: Michael Wilson mdwilson@glacierbancorp.com
2317 Garland, Msla 59803 Preferred contact method: email

No Map Point

Comment ID: 16273 Received: Aug 15, 2014 Keyword: Wilderness

I have been snowmobiling in the Kid lake and Williams lake area for over 20 years and have never had any conflict with game and or other people. This is one of the few great back country snowmobiling areas left. I recommend that these areas remain open to snowmobiling as there is no damage done to the area and we have more than enough wilderness.

Contact Information: Bill Johns bill@summitroofing.info
4805 Deschamps, Missoula, Mt 59808 Preferred contact method: email

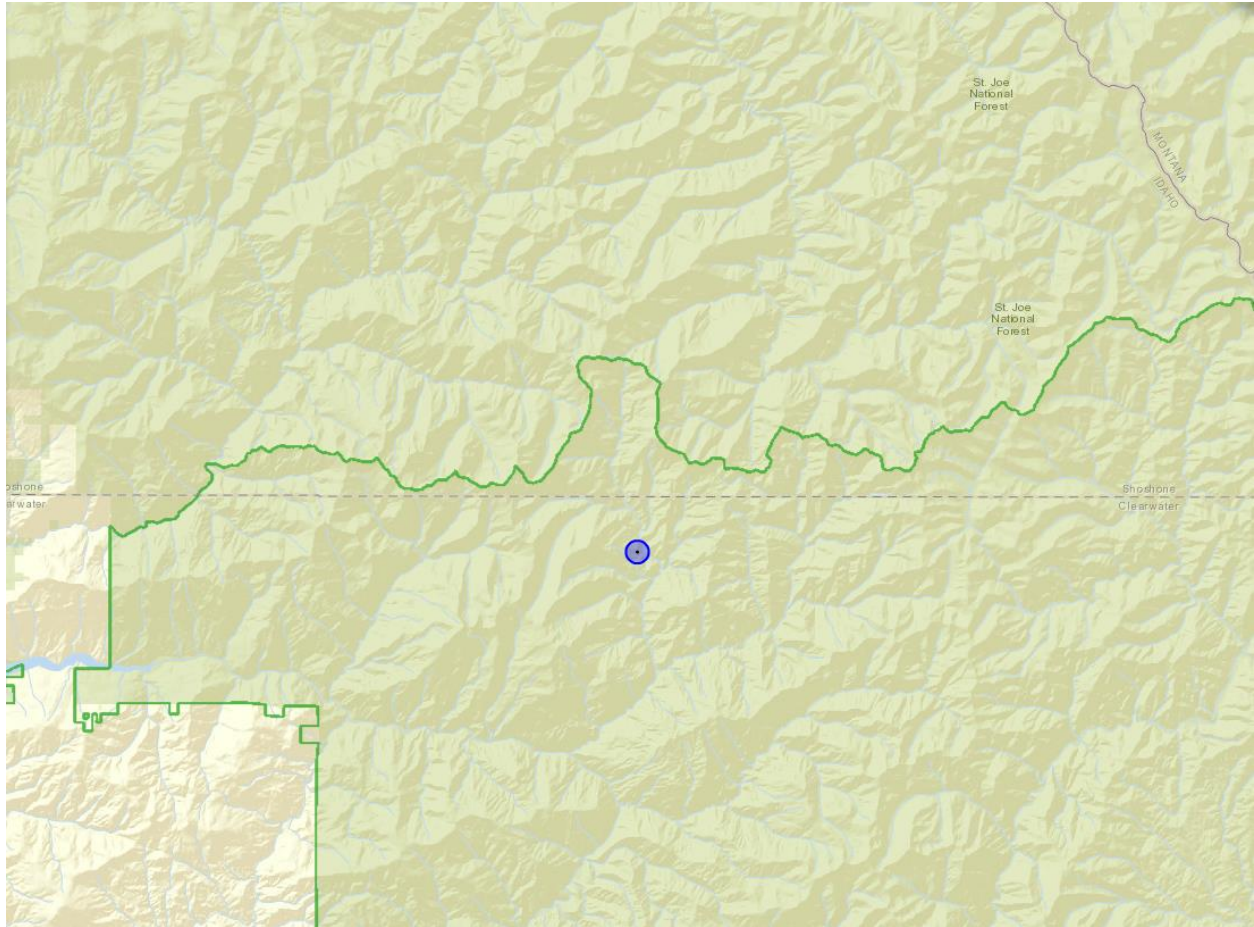


Comment ID: 16276 Received: Aug 15, 2014 Keyword: Recommended

I would recommend that all of this area be open to snowmobiles. There is no impact on the forest and it is one of the best last places to back country ride.

Contact Information: Bill Johns bill@summitroofing.info

4805 Deschamps, Missoula, Mt 59808 Preferred contact method: email



Comment ID: 19220 Received: Sep 22, 2014 Keyword: None Chosen

The expansion of wilderness and non-motorized areas severely limits access to many Americans who do not have the time or physical ability to walk miles into the backcountry. My knee does not allow me to hike any longer, the only way I can use public lands is by way of motorized vehicle. At some point the Americans with Disabilities Act has to be taken into consideration when making these decisions. Access for all, not just an elite few.

Contact Information: David DeHope davidjdehope@gmail.com
1181 Pineloch Sun Dr. Preferred contact method: none

