

Dear Colville NF Supervisor Rodney Smoldon,

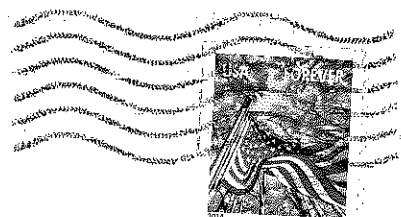
I am an enthusiastic supporter of the proposal to turn some of the Forest's roadless areas into wilderness areas. To this end I believe Alternative P will provide the best opportunity to protect these places. Last year I moved from Bellingham to Spokane and I have been on several hikes in the Sherman Pass area. I was surprised to learn that these were not within designated wilderness areas, and a forest as large as the Colville deserves to have more areas protected for wildlife and non-motorized recreation. Proximity and access to wilderness areas near where I live is actually a significant factor that will determine whether or not I choose to stay in Spokane, and this is true of many young professionals who have flexibility in where they choose to live. I urge you to protect these places.

Phil Johnson

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SPOKANE WA 990

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Rodney Smoldon, Forest Supervisor
C/o Colville Forest Plan Revision Team
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