

“Objection Regarding the Revised Colville National Forest Plan”

Email to: [objections-chief@fs.fed.us](mailto:objections-chief@fs.fed.us)

Chris French: Objection Reviewing Officer

Mr. French, Please consider my comments as objections from an “interested person”.

In my original comments to the draft I stated a sincere concern about wilderness and backcountry land use designations and the effects they might have on private land ownership with homes close by, and small communities like Metaline, Metaline Falls, Chewelah with regards to wildfire. All wilderness and backcountry land use designations have Wildland Urban Interface boundaries within them or very close by. These types of land use designations that limit or exclude forest management puts other adjacent ownerships at high risk for catastrophic loss.

Also in my original comments to the draft I wrote about the actual boundaries of wilderness recommendations. I had reviewed Abercrombie, Quartzite, Twin Sisters and Profanity areas either on the ground or by aerial photography study. Based on what I had seen I suggested that all the potential wilderness(PWA's) areas be reviewed by a team of local folks to include all three county governments, because I feel that the original review was flawed and should be redone. I had included a map of the northwestern section of the Abercrombie area just to display an example of what I had seen on the ground. I will give the Colville Forest credit here because they reviewed the Abercrombie area and made the suggested changes to this area but I feel that none of the other areas got a second review.

I am in favor of protecting these special areas but setting them aside as wilderness is not in the best interest of the local communities and adjacent land owners.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment, object.



Gary R. Nielsen  
838 Highway 20 East  
Colville, Washington 99114  
(509)684-6898  
[grnielsen@ultraplix.com](mailto:grnielsen@ultraplix.com)