

To: Keith Lannon  
Payette National Forest Supervisor  
500 N. Mission, Building 2  
McCall, Idaho 83638

DEC 14, 2018

Regarding: Granite Meadows Project

I live adjacent the Bear Basin Road, adjacent to the Payette National Forest. I have the following concerns about the Granite Meadows Project:

1. Activity on the road to the big Bear Basin where I live has been increasing. My neighbors and I have a problem with people shooting in the area. The large kiosk that the PNF put up at the Forest Boundary on the Bear Basin road has fallen down and not been replaced. The FS cop had put a notice on that kiosk that said "no shooting in recreation areas". The sign also stated how long people could camp in the area. My neighbors and I would appreciate that the sign be reinstated, and that "no shooting" be allowed in big Bear Basin area and Little Bear Basin area. Also, many new user roads are now located in this area. People are cutting lots of wood in areas that had put aside to protect wildlife and the watershed. I am glad there are plans to close these roads as part of your project.
2. The city plows the Bear Basin Road into the PNF in the winter (without a permit to plow within the forest?) which has increased traffic on the Bear Basin Road-many people park at the end of the road to access the Nordic trails instead of using the designated Nordic Trailhead parking area (that they would have to pay to use). As you know, the Bear Basin road is in the City limits. When the City first started plowing into the Forest they put up large signs that said "No Parking"-the area was to be used as a turn-around area for the plow, not a parking area for the Nordic Tracks. I would like this situation to be discussed, and hopefully the No Parking signs reinstated.
3. I am concerned that the project purpose and need/scope of the analysis does not address management of wildlife habitat for TES species (what you call "species of greatest conservation concern"?). The area is so large and all of it cannot possibly be assessed for current conditions in your time schedule. I would like PNF specialists (wildlife, watershed, etc.) to be able to actually assess the final marked harvest and fuel units within the project, and conduct time-sensitive surveys before implementation to protect site-specific resources in those units – for example, nesting habitat for TES birds and protection of perennial springs.

Thank you for all the hard work the PNF does to be transparent and successful with this project.

*Peggy (Margaret Mary) Conway*

Peggy Conway

