

Ron Hamilton

Nov. 23, 2018

Keith Lannom, Forest Supervisor
Payette National Forest
500 North Mission Street Building 2
McCall, Idaho 83638

RE: Comments Granite Meadows Project Proposed Action

Dear Supervisor Lannom:

I strongly support your Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration for the Granite Meadows project area. One addition I would suggest you make to the conditions in the multiple resource areas is the economies of the surrounding dependent communities. As a member of the Payette Forest Coalition I believe that we had agreed that it was not only important but, it was necessary to carry out the restoration projects.

An element that is not identified or discussed in any detail is the large amount of Idaho Roadless Area. Of great importance is the actual location of the areas on the project map and the identification of themes on that map as well as the maps on the Payette Forest Management Plan of the areas. Much like the Forest Plan the Idaho Roadless Area Rule established management themes for portions of each of the identified Idaho Roadless Areas. Your project area map does not identify the Idaho Roadless Area by name and management theme. The theme is extremely important to determine what would be feasible or suitable management prescriptions or expected outcomes.

I request that in your project records and to the commenting public that a map that discerns themes be provided. In the Federal Register/Vol. 73, No. 201/Thursday, October 16, 2008/ Rules and Regulations, page 61490, part 294.22(c), it points out that the Forest Service Chief, "maintain and make available to the public a map of each Idaho Roadless Area." That includes corrections or modification (292.27). At least one such map should be available to the Payette Forest Coalition as they collaborate with the Forest Service on this project.

This is important, since it appears that Patrick Butte is the IRA in the project area. During the development of the IRA, Congressman Larry LaRaco had a Wilderness proposal that altered some boundaries, as did timber sales that were conducted that potentially altered the roadless character of the area. All of these items could influence the project's proposals.

Thank you for reviewing my comments.

Ron Hamilton