Efficient Public Collaboration

224 Marine View Dr.

Lewiston, ID 83501

208-553-3382 Cell

Cheryl Probert

Forest Supervisor, Nez Perce-Clearwater NF

903 3rd Street

Kamiah, ID 83536

208-935-2513

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To: Cheryl Probert, Forest Supervisor

Efficient Public Collaboration (EPC) is a new innovative collaborative created almost two year ago. EPC works collaboratively to find resolutions to natural resource issues and to make recommendations to public agencies. EPC’s common purpose/goal is to facilitate a dialogue with as broad a set of public interests as possible and within the parameters the Forest is operating under. EPC is a platform to bring public interests together, not to negotiate over how to divvy up the pie, but to facilitate the diverse public interests in a collaborative process focused on a common purpose, a purpose greater than each individual interest.

EPC collaborated on three topics related to Forest Plan Revision:

1. Recommended Wilderness
2. Access/ Recreation (ROS), including a map of ROS
3. Wild and Scenic Rivers: Specifically, the North and South Fork Clearwater Rivers

Attached are the recommendation for the first two items. The recommendation on Wild and Scenic Rivers will be sent separately as it is being finalized.

A couple items EPC would like to highlight as part of our recommendation

Item 1- Recommended Wilderness: EPC had previously made a recommendation concerning the Hoodoo Roadless Area and would like that recommendation considered in addition to this recommendation since it go into more detail that this document. The specific concerning access to the areas are addressed in the 2nd recommendation through ROS.

Item 2: Access/ Recreation (ROS): In the Hoodoo Roadless (Great Burn Recommended Wilderness Area) EPC did not recommend as wilderness, but did recommend winter non-motorized with one exception. That exception is that part of this roadless area (less than 25 percent) be allocated as semi-primitive motorized. We did not identify this area on the map as we did not have the technical ability to do so, however, we do believe the Forest has the knowledge to identify this area. EPC’s recommendation is that a general area be identified. Later, through a site-specific document, the areas specifically open to snowmobiling would be identified, using an adaptive management approach. We also recommended, to achieve a desired condition of protecting wildlife and allowing use, that coordination between the Forest, user groups, and IDFG using an adaptive approach be a Goal. EPC felt that identifying the specific areas in the Forest Plan now was a site-specific decision and the ability to adaptively manage would be lost.

The other areas we want to highlight is the Bighorn -Weitas and East and West Meadow Creek Roadless Areas. These areas were recommended to be managed for backcountry or primitive motorized experience. This would be accomplished by having a mix of semi-primitive motorized and non-motorized areas as our map indicates. However, we did not feel we had the most accurate information for our map. Our map indicates our intent; however, we are aware that there would be changes base on better information.

If there is any information in this recommendation you find is not accurate, we would greatly appreciate letting us know so we can re-evaluate our recommendation. EPC is a new collaborative and its process is not well understood; it is significantly different than other collaborative. If there are any questions about EPC please let us know as we are excited to explain the process to others. We can be contacted at 208-553-3382 or stoneflyconsulting12@gmail.com

Sincerely,

/s/ Marty J Gardner

Marty J. Gardner

Chair: Efficient Public Collaboration

cc Zach Peterson, Forest Plan Revision Team Leader

 Mike Hanna, Senator Risch’s Office

 Tony Snodderly, Senator Crapo’s Office

 Clinton Daniel, Congressman Fulcher’s Office

 State Senator Carl Crabtree

 State Representative Pricilla Giddings