168 Timberline Drive Pierce, Idaho 83546 9/22/2023

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest North Fork Ranger District 12740 Highway 12 Orofino, Idaho 83544

Dear Ranger Andrew Skowlund;

The closure of the Fish Lake Trail on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest due to pressure from extreme environmental groups is absurd. Finding flaws in the elk habitat requirements to stop motorized access was a ploy that we citizens of Clearwater County do not appreciate. Many people, me included, spent endless hours and made financial sacrifices to be sure that trail was environmentally sound in providing ATV access to our beautiful Fish Lake. As one of the only high mountain lakes available to the handicapped and elderly in a back country setting, any reason to shut it down should be looked on with suspicion. The project work done to improve and make the trail safe and environmentally friendly was done in conjunction with and alongside Forest Service personnel.

It is my hope that the Forest Service would develop some backbone and courts would recognize vice in those who try to play political games with our public lands.

Janue R. Harting

Janice R. Hartig