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Comments: Here are my comments of the Huckleberry Loop project for roads and recreation.

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Roads and Trails Recommendations for Huckleberry Loop

Things that should not even be considered:

1}} Any loop or ATV trails in either Bear or Indian Drainages. These are the bull trout drainages. Payette Forest already has a lawsuit against them concerning bull trout and this would not help the FS cause.

2}} ATV trails in any of the northern section of the project area.

That is where the elk security is. There has been discussion of elk harvest being determined on elk numbers in private ground below Council. Elk in the upper end of the project area would almost certainly winter in either the breaks of Hells Canyon or Rapid River and not affect the private ground.

3}} Any ATV trail open during hunting season.

Things that should be considered.

1}} An ATV loop in the lower Lick Creek area. Say connecting Roads 50755 to 50751 to make a closed loop. This is not a bull trout area and is closer to Council. It is below most of the elk security zone.

2}} ATV loops or trails in the North Hornet area say around Peck Mountain. This is in part of the original area that was pulled from the project supposedly for grazing concerns. It is also has unofficial trails going everywhere in the area. There seems to be little or no law enforcement. It is close to Council so they could supposedly have economic benefits. It is not a bull trout area; in short it is a sacrifice area for ATVs. Why not make it official and make the loops there and keep them out of the other parts of the project.

3}} A groomed snowmobile trail to Smith Mountain from Bear on the Black Lake Road. Some snowmobiles already go up there because it has great skiing off the south face of the mountain. It would not be used during

hunting season and would probably not affect the bull trout. Supposedly there are limits to how many groomed snowmobile tracks can be allowed on the Payette but I don't think this would cause many conflicts. It is also closer to Weiser, Ontario, and even Caldwell than I think McCall and could give Council some motorized recreational use during a slow time of year there that would probably not cause too many conflicts.