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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Cube Iron Cataract roadless area is a unique, wild place that currently provides habitable country for wildlife, as well as provides a significant travel corridor for other species, such as grizzlies. Without development, motorized, and mechanized use it has retained its wilderness qualities, maintaining a healthy watershed that is a reflection of its current uses.

The CIC is located in a pocket of northwest MT on Lolo National Forest where there is an abundance of opportunity to motorized use and roads. The loudest voices against conservation efforts want to have access in their side-by-sides, trucks, and dirt bikes to every high point in Sanders County. Let there be some places that are left untouched from the diesel and littered natty ice beer cans. Let there be a haven where water and lands are pristine and wildlife is abundant. Let there be this wild, roadless area where families make generational memories.

Our family worked and lived in Thompson Falls. We raised our kids there. We have hiked miles throughout the CIC, summited peaks, geocached, picked berries, camped and fished the lakes and creeks in solitude. Those experiences would not be the same if a side-by-side whizzed past us or a chainsaw fired up replacing the sounds of wind, trickling water or birds with noise pollution. We worked to support the CICC who maintains trails in coordination with federal efforts to increase capacity and safe access. Allowing mechanized use will put more pressure on that need for maintenance, as well as increase dangers associated with reckless speeds and ill-coordinated events from mountain bikers/associations.

Mountain biking, motorized use, and development have their place...it just isn't the Cube Iron Cataract. Thank you for your consideration to designate this sacred, roadless area to wilderness management.