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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments: Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Proposed Forest Plan Revision

Dear Supervisor Brazell,

Please maintain the 40 year legacy of Recommended Wilderness in the Great Burn by selecting Proposed Action Option A for the Great Burn Recommended Wilderness. Only Option A guarantees traditional quiet recreation opportunities, critical winter habitat for sensitive species like mountain goats and wolverines, and connectivity for grizzly bears and other species between the Great Burn and the Cabinet-Yaak and Crown of the Continent ecosystems. Please eliminate Option B which creates a motorized recreation management nightmare for the Nez Perce- Clearwater and Lolo National Forests by carving unenforceable boundaries in Recommended Wilderness.

The Great Burn proposed Wilderness is a very special place to me, and I want to see it remain Recommended Wilderness in this forest plan revision. I have spent countless days backcountry skiing, working on bear genetics, hunting, maintaining trails, and backpacking the the Great Burn. The solitude, sense of place, and incredible opportunities for wildlife encounters in the Great Burn are special - they stand out when compared to other areas. These outstanding qualities would be greatly harmed by increased motorized use. The whole Great Burn area deserves to be wilderness, but until Congress can again take up the designation, I believe that the U.S. Forest Service has the duty and the foresight to maintain the wilderness qualities of the area through administrative protections. Thank you for keeping an Idaho-Montana gem intact during this planning cycle. The Great Burn is important, and it's important because of the Wilderness quality core lands that it provides.

Sincerely,

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