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Comments: Nez Perce/Clearwater Forest Plan comments

MONTANA PILOTS' ASSOCIATION

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November 2, 2014

Nez Perce- Clearwater Forest

903 3rd Street

Kamiah, ID 83536

Subject: Forest Plan Revision Proposed Action

Dear Planners:

I am the Western Director for the seven hundred member Montana Pilots Association. I would like to make the following comments on your proposed action as related to aviation:

1) FW-DC-REC-17, Page 47. Safety should always be utmost in all planners' minds. With that being said, there should be no language in the plan that would place restrictions on airstrip size if such restriction would prohibit the enhancement of safety at any airstrip.

2) FW-GDL-REC-01, Page 48. No language should be in the document that would restrict to possibility of new airstrips that would encourage future dispersed recreation opportunities.

3) Desired Conditions, Page 68 and page 72. There should be reference to the fact that various modes of access and attendant facilities make more wilderness visits possible, especially for those with limited physical capabilities. This would include trails, airstrips, bridges, etc. The document should also include wording that provides for the continued maintenance of such facilities. Such facilities and means of access can be utilized under the prior use language in the Wilderness Act.

4) Cayuse Airstrip should be specifically mentioned for continued use and provision for safety upgrades if needed for public well being.

5) Language needs to be inserted that airstrips may receive any needed maintenance for the purpose of keeping them safe for public use.

6) MA1-GDL-SMA-04, Page 73. Insert after 'trail' the words "and airstrip". Airstrips should have the same provisions for maintenance as trails. After all, airstrips are internal trailheads for wilderness access.

Sincerely,

Chuck Jarecki