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Title:

Comments: Comment on Colville National Forest Plan Revision

Dear Forest Supervisor Rodney Smoldon,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Colville National Forest's Land and Resource Management Plan Revision.

Despite its vital habitat and connectivity values for wildlife and cherished recreation areas, only a small fraction of the Colville National Forest is currently protected. Wild roadless areas on the Forest should be protected in perpetuity. They conserve critical habitat, preserve wildlife connectivity, support outdoor recreation, and benefit local economies.

Please recommend the following wild roadless areas on the Colville National Forest as wilderness: Profanity, Bald Snow, Hoodoo, Abercrombie-Hooknose, Salmo-Priest Adjacent, Thirteenmile, and Quartzite.

I oppose the proposed Special Interest Area designation because it is toothless and too weak, and request wilderness recommendations for all deserving roadless areas on the Kettle Crest.

I most like Alternative P for its goals to restore ecological resilience, reduce damaging roads, and increase use of fire as a restoration tool. I urge you to adopt Alternative P after adding explicit safeguards for large old trees, improving aquatic habitat protections and habitat connectivity, and adding the wilderness recommendations noted above.

Thank you again for accepting public comments on this important issue.

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