

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/29/2016 1:22:56 AM

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Comments: Comment on Colville National Forest Plan Revision

Dear Forest Supervisor Smoldon,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Colville National Forest's Land and Resource Management Plan Revision. As they are for so many others, the Forest and its roadless areas are very important to me. While my address is not currently in Washington State, I visit the Colville NF and surrounding areas 1-2 times a year (as I have since about 1979) and am a Stevens County taxpayer. I hope that you will recommend strong protection and conservation measures for roadless wildlands and to maintain and enhance fish and wildlife habitat on the Forest - so important for ecological connectivity.

So little of the Colville National Forest is big "W" Wilderness, the designation that maximizes protections for undisturbed natural processes and remote wilderness experiences. This plan revision provides the opportunity to move key roadless areas a step closer to this designation. I hope you will recommend Wilderness designation for at least the following wild roadless areas: Profanity, Bald Snow, Hoodoo, Abercrombie-Hooknose, Salmo-Priest Adjacent, Thirteenmile, and Quartzite. I do not feel a Special Interest Area designation provides sufficient protections.

Of the alternatives presented, I prefer Alternative P. But I urge you to strengthen protections in this alternative for large old trees, watershed health, and wilderness quality lands, incorporating the Wilderness recommendations noted above.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I am enthusiastic about the potential the plan revision has in maintaining and enhancing the ecological and wilderness values of the Forest.

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