

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/9/2018 3:43:51 AM

First name: Ben

Last name: McMurtry

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments On Draft Wild and Scenic Suitability Report

Dear Nez Perce Clearwater National Forests,

Dear Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest,

I have grown up in Idaho and lived in Moscow for most of my life. My earliest and fondest memories of childhood were the days spent on rivers. As I have grown I have had the fortune to explore more of Idaho and the United States. What makes Idaho unique is its untouched natural landscape and 10,000's miles of streams. In a time of massive urban growth and with climate change accelerating at a pace that is shocking the scientific communities, I cannot think of anything more important than protecting the wild places of this great state. Clean water is more important than increased lumber production. Recreation and outfitting are important industries in Idaho and depend of clean water and healthy forests. I seasonally work as an outfitter and I will feel deeply saddened and ashamed to see my home state throw away it's most stunning characteristic. Whenever I meet someone from a different state or a different county, they always remark about the beauty of Idaho's scenery. Please protect the wild places.

I am writing to ask that all 89 streams that you have found eligible for Wild and Scenic designation remain protected as eligible in the new forest plan, and to voice my support for their ultimate designation. If you finalize the Draft Suitability Report, I ask that all 89 streams be found suitable in the final report.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Ben McMurtry

Moscow, ID 83843

mcmurts@outlook.com