

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/4/2018 3:51:00 AM

First name: Josh

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments On Draft Wild and Scenic Suitability Report for the Nez Perce - Clearwater National Forests

Dear Nez Perce Clearwater National Forests,

Dear Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest,

I am writing a citizen that values the unparalleled access to nature that Americans enjoy thanks to the foresight of our ancestors to set aside public land for the benefit of all. The grandeur of America's mountains, rivers, forests, grasslands, deserts, lakes, and oceans is the envy of the world and a source of national pride, spiritual renewal, and economic benefit. As an angler, the waters of Idaho, particularly the Clearwater, Lochsa, Selway, and Salmon River drainages are legendary. They are some of the best strongholds for native cutthroat and bull trout, and were historically some of the world's finest steelhead and salmon streams. The genetics of these fish need protection from all sorts of human impacts, including dam building. The construction of Dvorshak Dam on the North Fork of the Clearwater, and the decimation of the steelhead population with the longest migration and some of the largest fish recorded, is exactly the kind of event the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is meant to prevent.

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,

Josh Kelly

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