

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/13/2018 7:00:00 AM

First name: Rick

Last name: Winkeller

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support the management goals of the Granite Meadows CFLRP. I believe the Wildland Urban Interface, fire protection, and the forest management components are beneficial to the area being considered and are of benefit to Idaho and the local communities in general.

As recreation is a driving force for the Idaho and local county economies, I believe the recreation component should be considered as a priority in this project. In doing so this is an opportunity to clean up and legitimize many of the existing high-use and user-created trails in the area. It is also an excellent opportunity to connect many of the established trail systems with each other in addition to making them assessable to the local communities. These would include trail systems such as the newly constructed Payette Lake Trail/Payette Rim Trail, the Bear Basin Trail network, the Brundage Mountain trail system, and adjoining neighborhoods. Other improvements that need to be considered would be the establishment of parking areas and pit toilets due to the continual growth of use of this area.

As a local resident, I believe it is also an opportunity, and should be considered a priority, to incorporate forest management and preventative fire maintenance for the health of the forest and assist in the protection of the local communities.

I believe it befits the Payette National Forest to work with and collaborate with user groups such as Central Idaho Mountain Bike Association, Central Idaho Trail Riders Alliance, McCall Area Snowmobile Club, and other user groups to improve the opportunities for the execution of the Granite Meadows Project.

Sincerely,

Rick Winkeller