

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/10/2019 2:29:20 AM

First name: Matthew

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Protecting Idaho's wild places is close to my heart because it's in these places that I connect to my heart and learn new things about myself. Preserving these special places is ever important as population grows and resources are diminished and our wild places slowly disappear. Nature provides us a unique experience, one free from distraction of the modern world and totally in the moment. The pace of society makes it hard to get quiet and listen to what's going on inside so having these places available is important. Over the past few years I have spent a lot of time in the Lost River Range and it has all the Wilderness qualities that you are evaluating for: high peaks, rare wildlife, stunning scenery, remote, quiet, rugged and untrammelled. My most recent memory is of summiting Leatherman via Sawtooth Gulch. I call it my magical mountain experience. On this hike we saw no one, ate wild raspberries, enjoyed beautiful views, challenged ourselves on exposed slopes to get to the summit, saw Bighorned Sheep and increased our compassion for mankind through our sense of awe and feelings of gratitude that this adventure made us feel. Please consider protecting this for future generations to enjoy!!!