Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/24/2020 4:20:30 PM First name: Cathrine Last name: Walters Organization: Title:

Comments: I have recently reviewed the released Nez Perce-Clearwater Forest Plan Revision Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Revised Forest Plan. None of the alternatives presented reflect the management I would like to see implemented for the Hoodoo Roadless Area. Please accept these comments into the formal record.

I live in Missoula, MT and live here to be close to Montana and Idaho's wild and public lands. I am a photographer and lover of the outdoors. I spend the majority of my time hiking, hunting, climbing, backpacking and exploring our public lands. I completed a solo backpacking trip in The Great Burn in a few years ago, then brought my partner the next time because of its solitude, beauty, and difficult access.

I've taken many trips into the The Great Burn. I've quietly picked morel mushrooms after the fires up Fish Creek, day hiked to Heart Lake running into horsemen and other quiet users. My first backpacking trip into the Burn was a solo experience with my dog, starting at Straight Creek from Fish Creek Rd. After hiking 10 miles through large old growth cedars and an overgrown and sometimes hard to follow trail, we arrived at Goose Lake where we watched a moose eating from the bottom of the lake all day. He didn't mind us at all. Our next day was slow as we were stopped by bushes packed with huckleberries. We made our way along the Idaho/MT border taking in the expansive and incredible views on both sides of the ridge. We saw deer, elk, rodents and birds and heard nothing but the wind. From here, the next logical place to camp is Fish Lake, but we learned that IDAHO ALLOWS MOTORIZED ACCESS TO FISH LAKE, SO WE AVOIDED IT. I imagine we are not alone in that behavior. Other humans and wild animals will avoid loud, smelly, motorized trails because those sights and sounds don't belong in our wild and public lands. The Great Burn should move from a recommended wilderness to Wilderness, for people to recreate silently and wildlife to inhabit it naturally.

I would like to see the entire 151,874 acre Hoodoo Roadless Area continue to be managed as Recommended Wilderness, and push to move it to full Wilderness protection. We need to preserve these wild and quiet places for ourselves and future generations. The human spirit requires these quiet, natural and open spaces.

The Hoodoo Roadless Area is already surrounded by motorized use in Idaho. I already avoid those areas due to the obnoxious sounds machines make, the trash they leave behind, and the gas smell they leave in the air. It completely alters the human experience of quiet and solitude and what areas are non-motorized should remain that way.

The forest plan should recognize any and all creeks worthy of Wild and Scenic status, including Cayuse and Kelly Creek. While I may not have personally visited these creeks, I would like to in my lifetime. And when I do, I would expect them to maintain their wild and scenic qualities for generations to come.

Anything that could qualify as Wilderness should be managed that way. There are simply too many public lands being opened up to the extractive industries. The short term financial gain for a few is not reason enough to limit a lifetime of quiet, recreational experiences for all.

Thank you for considering my comments while you create a plan for this forest. If funds are the issue, tourism dollars to these wild, quiet, and beautiful places earns more for our states.