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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'm a hunter and angler who appreciates the wild backcountry experience. My wife and I regularly backpack into the Great Burn area to fish, watch wildlife and enjoy the quiet slice of paradise so near our home in Missoula, MT.

We celebrated our anniversary in the Great Burn last summer. Our anniversary dinner consisted of freeze dried pasta, wine in a can and some Bananagrams on a rock overlooking an alpine lake with mountain goats off in the distance. It was lovely.

I'd like to see the Hoodoo Roadless Area (all of it) remain recommended wilderness so future generations - including our yet-to-be-born kids - can experience this wild country in the same way my wife and I do now.

Winter is the toughest time on many critters in the Great Burn, including the population of mountain goats. As a hunter, I'm rooting for these animals to continue to thrive in hopes of someday having an opportunity to hunt these special animals in this wild country, where they surely have the upper hand. Motorized recreation, especially in the winter, displaces these animals and stresses them out during the time of year they need to conserve calories to stay alive. There's no shortage of places to snowmobile, but there is a shortage of places to see - and maybe someday hunt - mountain goats.

Wild, free-flowing rivers produce the best habitat for wild trout. As an avid angler, I encourage wild and scenic designations for Cayuse Creek and Kelly Creek, and all of its forks so my kids can experience the joy of catching a wild trout on a fly.

I'm in favor of multiple use, responsible timber harvest and controlled burns, but some places need to be kept wild. The Great Burn recommended wilderness area is one of those places.

I appreciate you taking the time to hear from - and consider - the input from various stakeholders and user groups here. You'll find that many folks value (and use) these areas just the way they are.