

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/25/2020 9:42:04 PM

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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 have lived in Montana for 25 years and have extensively hiked and backpacked throughout the Great Burn.

Much of the Great Burn area has been recommended wilderness for years and to retain its value to many quiet recreationists it must stay as recommended wilderness so it can be Congressionally designated as Wilderness. That is why I advocate for it and spent so much time there.

Managing it as recommended wilderness is essential to retain its value, not only for quiet trail users (winter and summer), but for protecting the wildlife and water resources. The Great Burn is a natural cistern of clean, cold water for fish, wildlife, and communities downstream. Legendary trout streams like Kelly Creek. The valleys of the Great Burn provide superb habitat for native westslope cutthroat and bull trout.

The Lolo National Forest manages the Great Burn area as closed to all motorized recreation use, including snowmobiles. With the signing of the recent Clearwater National Forest Travel Plan the Clearwater is also closed to all motorized recreation use. The Nez-Pearce must retain this non-motorized status. The Forest Service should not open any portion of the area to snowmobiles. I support a recommendation to protect the entire area as wilderness and to prevent the decline of mountain goats and other wildlife living in the area?.

I believe that many of the rivers in the area should be recommended to be included in the Wild and Scenic River system. Such as Little North Fork Clearwater River, Kelly Creek, Cayuse Creek, Weitas Creek, Fish Creek, Hungry Creek, Meadow Creek and Johns Creek. I have hiked up and used so many of these creeks to supply our water while backpacking. They are unique in their pristine state and although I am not a fishing person, I see and enjoy many aquatic species.

The Great Burn is a keystone wildland connecting the Crown of the Continent and Selkirk-Cabinet-Yaak ecosystems with central Idahos wildlands and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Wildlife from northern Idaho and northwestern Montana find a migratory route through the crossroads of the area. Elk, mountain goats, lynx, wolverines, pikas, and numerous other rare or endangered species make their home in the Great Burn or rely on it as part of their migration routes to other wild places.

I have followed the forest planning revision over the pasts years and I appreciate how hard the planning team has worked to create this plan and the opportunities given to the public to comment on it.