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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.

Alternative Z (I believe) best reflects the management I would like to see implemented for the Hoodoo Roadless Area. Please accept these comments into the formal record.

I'm a life-long resident of Superior, MT and have been dayhiking and backpacking in most of the Hoodoo roadless area for the past 50 years. I especially love the Rhodes peak, Williams peak, Shale mountain, Cache saddle, Granite peak and Leo lake areas for their beauty, solitude, remoteness and wildlife viewing opportunities. I have backpacked into these areas twice per year since 1973. In the journal/register on Rhodes peak, I've made 20+ entries from various backpacking trips through the years.

In the 1970's until the late 1980's you could see an abundance of elk and mule deer in most of the Hoodoo roadless area. Mountain goat populations in the Goat lake, Rhodes peak, Williams peak, Cache saddle and Shale mountain areas were also very plentiful.

I counted over 300 elk and 85 mountain goats in various herds/groups during our first backpacking trip to Rhodes Peak, Williams peak and Goat lake in 1973.

With the proliferation of introduced wolves, elk populations have been decimated. Mountain goat populations are also very small--which I attribute more to motorized snowmobiling activity/disturbance in critical areas. On similar backpacking (in recent years) into Rhodes peak, Cache saddle, Williams peak, Goat lake and Shale mountain, I've seen ZERO elk and mountain goats.

A review of the register on Rhodes peak will further attest to this: earlier entries describe numerous mountain goat and elk sightings versus more recent entries with NO mention of wildlife sightings.

However, I have recently seen a small mountain goat herd in the Heart lake, Dalton lake and Trio lakes area.

I honestly am very confused with all the maps, information, etc., on the Nezperce Clearwater NF forest plan EIS/revision site.

However, I believe that I support alternative Z, with specific mention of NOT allowing motorized snowmobile use/disturbance in the Rhodes peak, Williams peak, Cache saddle, Shale mountain, Goat and Leo lakes areas. Also, NO allowed snowmobiling in the Heart, Dalton, Trio and Goose lake areas in order to protect mountain goat populations. All of these areas are critical to maintaining viable mountain goat populations and need to be protected from motorized use and snowmobiling disturbances.

To me the native mountain goat is the quintessential representation of the best attributes of the Hoodoo roadless area.....beautiful, wild, graceful, cautious, yet tough and hearty.

If the proposed 53,000 acres (to be opened to snowmobile use) do not include any of the above-mentioned areas (critical to mountain goat populations), I do NOT oppose snowmobile use.

In reviewing the Nezperce Clearwater NF plan alternatives/maps, I cannot decipher where the proposed snowmobile allowed areas are.

Kelly creek (and tributaries), Crooked fork, Boulder creek, Cayuse creek (and tributaries) and Silver creek all worthy of Wild and Scenic designation. I've visited them and all are incredibly wild and beautiful.

I have no more recommendations other than protecting the areas (critical for mountain goats) mentioned above from motorized snowmobile use/disturbance.

I want to thank you for all your efforts in creating various alternatives concerning the forest plan revision. Thank you for the opportunity for me to give my opinion.

