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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.

My name is Abraham Jindrich. I hunt, backpack, fish, and escape the modern world in many parts of the Great Burn WSA. Including my jaunts across the imaginary political line that divides Montana and Idaho. This is an island of non-motorized country that is nearly circumscribed by MVUMs. As any quick look at an online mapping system will corroborate. I have no complaint with mechanized users on already established roads/trails, of which there are many. But what I cannot understand is why USFS is considering opening more of the estimated 2% of the continental United States that is currently inventoried roadless to a user group that can operate on roads/trails in 98% of our nation's continental holdings. If USFS's ostensible mission is a balanced use of the land under its stewardship, then opening more acreage to motorized/mechanized use strikes one as ludicrously imbalanced. Aside from the well documented impacts on wildlife, the accelerated erosion risks, and noise pollution, that come with motorized use, I am concerned with the continued siege waged on the few isolated and statistically small pockets of our nation, and in this case, my back yard, with the goal of opening these places to the same same vehicles that populate the streets of every neighborhood in America where they are already free to operate and subject me to the decibel and smoke content of their exhausts. These roadless areas are different, and should remain so. As I said above, I have no problem with the use of existing developed roads/trails for motorized use. But users like myself who choose to try and live free of the influences of modern society from time to time are left with an ever shrinking slice of the pie. This draft plan to release acreage to a vocal minority is a step in the wrong direction in the stewardship of the great burn.

Most memorable was an overnight trip to Goose Lake via the West fork of Fish Creek. At Goose lake (should be called Moose lake as all we saw at the lake was an all night snorkeling buffet for a young bull moose), we spent a night in complete solitude aside from the aforementioned moose. The next day we were faced with a choice: hike the divide to Fish lake (much larger lake, but subject to the whims of tune cranking, cooler-full-of-beer, ORVer's - or- divert to the Siamese lakes which boast no mechanized access. While I cannot guarantee that I would have actually had to contend with cranked tunes and the always scintillating antics of beered-up gentry (not that I mind beered-up antics from time to time, but there is a time and place for everything), we instead chose the Siamese lakes. After a day of ridge top huckleberry picking, and ample wildlife viewing, we found ourselves confronted with a pair of stunningly quiet, clear, and deserted bodies of water. Campsites empty and awaiting occupants willing to make the sweat sacrifice to attain this station. Trout gliding lazily, and ravenously at the surface, making fishing a delight. All I can say for sure is that I am glad I stayed away from motorized access. Two nights and three days upon this landscape and I didn't see, let alone hear, another human being. If this isn't wilderness, then I can't claim to know the definition of the term.

As a taxpaying, funding member of the USFS, I would like to see the elected representatives of my home state of Montana, and all representatives for that matter, do something with all that hot gas they belch from their bowels and actually visit these places that are under consideration for wilderness protection. God forbid they actually take a vacation in their home state and take a hike. If they did, they might notice and at once take measure of the serenity, and the always on special "peace of mind" that Hank Williams Jr. sang about in his "Montana Cafe". This IS wilderness, anyone denying such has a mineral/timber rights deal to broker. I understand that you all on the forest planning board have a difficult task in balancing usages, but this area seems a poor choice for expanding motorized use given its many wilderness qualities.

2% of our continental landmass is roadless. 98% is open to motorized use, and according to a report by the Boise based Winter Wildlands Alliance, of the 176 million acres of national forest land that receives sufficient snow to support winter activities, 53% is already open to snowmobiles. It seems that no more land need be opened to one single user group's interests since they already have access to over half the available terrain. Especially not in an area that is already considered to have all the requisites for wilderness designation.

My familiarity with the Cayuse and Kelly Creek drainages are non-existent. However, I have never seen a creek, river, lake, or any other body of water anywhere, private or public that did not strike me as wild and scenic. Personally I think that all bodies of water in our great nation should be protected from any form of rapacious behavior, be it individual or collective.

I find it incomprehensible that we cannot overcome our collective myopia to the values that places such as the Hoodoo roadless Area offer us. As much as our venerable founding constitutional documents guaranteed us "freedoms of-fill in the blank", they also offer us "freedoms from" for example: nowhere in the positing of freedom of religion is there any prohibition of the freedom from religion. I for one would like freedom from the noise, erosion, and lack of care that comes with the ease of access that motorized travel allows. In my limited experience, there is a different attitude exhibited toward the landscape in different user groups. I have had many awful experiences in places that allow motorized access, and very few in places where sweat equity was the price of admission. I am completely in favor of everyone having a place to recreate in the way they see fit. But please, leave those of us who choose the silent, self-powered experience a place to exercise our right to freedom from the intrusions of modernity. As the statistics point out, our 2% slice of America is already small. It seems we're not asking for much. Leave a little for us.

I want to express my deep gratitude and respect for all of you on the forest planning team who have the unenviable position of trying to satisfy everyone all of the time. I understand that there are many competing interests, both private, corporate, and political that must be juggled in order to keep the peace. Thanks for doing all you can to better our unique legacy of public lands in this country. I hope we can keep the legacy alive. Keep up the good work!