

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/3/2020 1:52:34 AM

First name: Susan

Last name: Miller

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.

My name is Susie Miller and I am 80 years old. I have hiked and camped in the Hoodoo Roadless Area for many years. I have loved the wilderness aspect of the area and the fact that there are no motorized vehicles. Above all, I want to protect the area for ever, whether I will be able to walk into it ever again or not. I am an advocate for the creatures, trees, plants, water and every living thing that can't speak at hearings or write letters.

As a former member of the board of the Great Burn Study Group, I have done volunteer work on White Bark Pine studies, pulled many bags of weeds, carried out trash, taken apart fire rings, and backpacked and camped on ridges, near lakes and rivers with small groups of colleagues and friends. I have been struck by the beauty, the quiet, the camaraderie, and the bounty of wildlife. I have also witnessed the carelessness of some campers, and the illegal trails made by motorized vehicles. Camping once at Dalton Lake, we found parts of a trespassing snow mobile left in the wild, which we carried out. I strongly believe that large roadless areas should be left that way, especially for the connectivity it gives to wildlife. If roadless areas are carved up and motorized vehicles or mountain bikes are allowed, it will infringe on certain species of wildlife. I have seen this near our home in Arlee where we live in close proximity to grizzly bears, wolves, mountain lions and other wildlife. The corridors are essential, even close to human habitation.

I would like to see the whole 151,874 acre Hoodoo Roadless Area continue to be managed as Recommended Wilderness.

I am against opening up 53,000 acres in the Hoodoo Roadless Area to snowmobiles. The entire Great Burn is a critical migration corridor for lynx, grizzly bears and wolverines. Mountain goats would suffer from the introduction of snowmobiles.

I am interested in seeing that The Northfork of the Clearwater River, the Southfork of the Clearwater River, Little Northfork Clearwater River, Kelly Creek, Cayuse Creek, Weitas Creek, Fish Creek, Hungry Creek, Meadow Creek, and Johns Creek all be recognized as Wild and Scenic. Water is the most important resource on the planet as all life needs it for survival. Watersheds, rivers and streams of the New Perce-Clearwater provide many ecological, economic and social benefits to the state of Idaho, to Montana, and to the surrounding areas. Recreation, agriculture, drinking water for urban areas, small hydro power can all benefit from the pristine water in the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest.

I think the proposed Mallard-Larkins Wilderness area should be preserved. It is an incredible recreation area and it benefits both wildlife and people who seek a more primitive outdoor experience

Thank you so very much for doing the extensive outreach that you do. The gathering in Missoula last week was a good chance for dialog, listening, and learning. I truly appreciate the enormous job it must be to create a thoughtful strong forest plan that will last for decades and protect our natural resources.