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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.

The Great Burn is my favorite place to hike, due to the fact that is easily accessible from Missoula, but still offers the opportunity to go on hikes where you see more goats and bears than people. The first time I went to the Great Burn, my wife and I camped at Heart Lake and spent a day hiking the ridge trail along the state border. On our way up to the ridge, we came across a family of mountain goats at Pearl Lake and spent a pleasant hour communing with them, watching them eat and communicate with each other. I worry about the ability of other hikers to have such an experience if snowmobiles are granted access to areas in close proximity to Pearl Lake.

As such, I would like the entirety of the Hoodoo Roadless Area to be managed in such a way that its wilderness character is preserved.

Humans are perhaps the most adaptable species on the planet- we can survive and thrive in any number of habitats. I believe we have a responsibility to preserve space for other species to thrive, too, which includes restricting some of our behaviors that are most intrusive on the lives of others to limited areas. Given the current technology in snowmobiling, we can snowmobile almost anywhere there is snow; however, mountain goats require remote rocky cliffs for their lifestyle. It seems reasonable to collectively organize our recreation activities (particularly snowmobiling) in such a way that allows these creatures to live an existence that isn't full of human-induced stressors.

I am not as familiar with the Mallard-Larkins Roadless Area as I am with the Great Burn, but knowing that it, too, offers quality habitat for goat and trout (among other species), I would like it to be managed as a recommended wilderness area as well.

I appreciate the challenging nature of composing a forest plan document, so I would like to thank you for your consideration of my input. I value the fact that American citizens' voices are incorporated into this process.