

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/6/2020 9:49:25 PM

First name: Rachele

Last name: Barker

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.

I am a current citizen of Missoula, MT, and an avid outdoor recreationalist and enthusiast. I care about preserving the Great Burn Recommended Wilderness Area for non-motorized recreation usage, but more importantly to preserve its natural environment and wildlife habitat, as well as the history it carries.

I have not yet had the opportunity to explore deep into the Great Burn, but I have spent a lot of time on the other side of Highway 12 and other surrounding areas, including areas between Alberton and Highway 12. I've been wanting to explore the Great Burn for years and plan to make it happen this summer. I care about my local geography - knowing the land makes me feel more at home.

I absolutely agree with the MWA - please protect the entire 151,874-acre Hoodoo Roadless Area. Let's preserve swaths of land like this for its beauty, the environment, the wildlife habitat, its history, and for our future generations to enjoy.

The long-term costs of allowing motorized activities in the Great Burn outweigh the short-term benefits. As much fun as motorized snow sports can be, they would harm a fragile ecosystem. Snowmobiles are loud and disruptive, and the increased traffic in the area has the potential to be detrimental to the area.

It sounds like some recommendations for ORVs are scenic value, habitat, and fish. Scenic value is subjective - in my opinion Cayuse and Kelly Creeks both meet this qualification. If you disagree, then I hope that other aspects of these creeks meet quantitative qualifications for ORVs.

This area is significant for the history of the fire of 1910, if not for anything else. Learning of the fire and its consequences has fascinated me, and seeing how the forest is affected over 100 years later has been educational as well.

I'm sure a lot of hard work, time, energy, and effort was put into this forest plan. I appreciate your dedication, and I hope you take the time necessary to make the wisest decision with the most long-term benefits - please protect the Great Burn. Thank you!