Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/9/2020 3:03:32 PM

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Title:

Comments: Allowing motorized use in the Great Burn would negatively impact our goat and wolverine populations, among other wildlife concerns. I for one would like an opportunity to get a goat tag before I die, and it's going to take quality habitat on both sides of state lines to bring back healthy population numbers.

Hunters, in particular, care about these two species because 1) we'd like to see mountain goats on the Montana side thrive to the point of sustaining a huntable population and 2) as a candidate to be listed as a Threatened Species under the Endangered Species Act, it's in everyone's best interests to provide habitat security for the wolverine. We all know that once a species gets ESA listed everyone's hands get tied and other productive work in the forest may suffer. While I absolutely appreciate the ESA when it becomes necessary and species recover and become delisted, let's use some forethought and just prevent listing in the first place.

Shrinking or eliminating any of the Recommended Wilderness could open up the Great Burn to road building and increased resource extraction that would threaten and forever alter this important habitat and landscape. Once again, quality habitat is becoming scarce these days, let's leave this habitat intact and without disruptive roads.

Increasing winter motorized use and removing Recommended Wilderness on the Idaho side will certainly increase the likelihood of the Lolo National Forest doing the same on the Montana side, which is another reason to oppose this.

Both sustaining healthy numbers of wild westslope cutthroat trout (and close enough for Montanans to catch them), the South Fork and Kelly Creek in particular should both be considered for Wild & Description (assignations).