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Comments: Last summer, I had the pleasure of hiking through parts of the Great Burn region on behalf of the Great Burn Conservation Alliance as part of their Stateline Project. I hiked to a number of lakes to survey the use of primitive campsites and other human activity. These trips were not for the faint of heart; long hikes, steep trails, and untamed vegetation were to be expected. Yet, as any visitor to the backcountry or wilderness will tell you, the trying journey made reaching the destination all the more worth while. Just a short drive over from my home in Missoula, I was truly taken aback by this area's beauty and humbled by the solace it provided. I realize I am profoundly lucky to have had the opportunity to visit this area, and I hope others can share in my experience. Opening up this area to roads and motorized vehicle, however, will not only threaten this experience for people, but it will also degrade vital habitat for wolverines, mountain goats, and other native species. The management of this area as Wilderness presents an opportunity to preserve a unique, diverse, and complex ecosystem and the sublime experiences that await its determined and curious visitors. On the other hand, reduced protections and increased development of this area may permanently take all that away. The Great Burn, therefore, should be maintained and protected as it has been since 1987.