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First name: Jack Last name: Beaver Organization:

Title:

Comments: greetings,

I am writing this letter about my experiences in the Great Burn. While living in Missoula, from 1976 to 1984, my first exposure to the Great Burn was to resupply a friend of mine, who with two others, was performing a campsite survey. Funny story; I'll spare you. We went in up Fish creek, to upper Siamese lake. It was magical. Very few people did we see that first year. Over the years, my friends and I traveled to many different parts of the G.B. on both sides of the border. On one occasion I took someone, who had limited outdoor experience, past Siamese lake to the divide. Upon reaching a wonderful vista, my friend looked out and said "so this is Idaho" I'll never forget his comment. The continuity of this amazing place cannot be interrupted or broken by a vast range of mountains or a line on a map. Only we can disrupt this connection. And Montana and Idaho are deeply connected by this wild land, as are the wildlife and we as people. My last trips into the G.B.I was surprised at the number of people on the trails, camping ,fishing. It would be nice to be there when they crest the divide to hear what they have to say.