Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/15/2020 9:36:46 PM First name: Beth Last name: Rothermel 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 write to express my deep concerns over potential changes to the Hoodoo Roadless Area, including opening 53,000 acres to snowmobiles, as well as proposals to shrink or eliminate Great Burn Recommended Wilderness. We face the potential for more mass extinctions of many species of animals due to climate change in the near future. These changes to the wilderness area will only make this situation more dire.

A recent talk made me especially aware of potential threats from snowmobiles to mountain goats, a precious species important to this area. This area also has tremendous historical and cultural significance dating back generations.

I strongly urge that the entire 151,874 acre Hoodoo Roadless area continue to be managed and protected as Recommended Wilderness. There are many other areas throughout Idaho and Montana where snow mobiles may go, and wilderness continues to disappear!

As I have noted, I am worried about threats to mountain goats, but also I am deeply concerned about maintaining the contiguous nature of the Idaho and Montana line for all the other species, such as grizzly bears, that travel through the area. Animals do not understand such boundaries.

I also strongly urge the forest plan to include recognition of the Cayuse Creek and Kelly Creek and all of its forks as Wild and Scenic rivers. We in Montana know too well the adverse and deadly effects of human activity on lakes and streams given our history.

This decision making process needs to take into account values important to Montanans, given that the Great Burn runs through both our states. Collaboration matters, not divisive decision making.

I thank the forest planning team for taking time to seek public comment and use it as well as credible and deep research in the decision making process.