

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/15/2020 10:27:44 PM

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Organization:

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Comments: Management Plan - The GREAT BURN

To U.S. Forest Service Management Planners

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest

To Whom it May Concern:

As a member of Montana Conservation Elders, I and my colleagues have watched decades of change come to our State and its public lands. We have participated, in a variety of ways, in countless exercises to help the Forest Service come up with the most professional and fair resource management plans.

This letter is in support of Wilderness designation for the Great Burn.

The Great Burn has become, from its holocaust of more than a century ago, a place of great calm, yet vibrancy due to the variety of living creatures inhabiting its nearly 300,000 acres. Its history of natural recovery makes it a deserving choice for formal Wilderness: a haven for the evolution of flora and fauna and a quiet place for humans to visit but not remain.

Given that the U.S. Forest Service has not presided over creation of a single acre of formal Wilderness in decades, I do not think it unreasonable for the agency to endorse for "quiet foot recreation" an area with the spectacular qualities of the Great Burn.

Thank you for considering these remarks.

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