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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments On DEIS and Wild and Scenic Suitability Report

Dear Plan Revision Email Nez Perce Clearwater National Forests,

Dear Forest Planner,

I am writing to ask that all 89 streams that you have found eligible for Wild and Scenic designation remain protected as eligible in the new forest plan, and to voice support for their suitability for designation.

I am a native of the northern Mountain West, and have often paddled and explored in this area and on these streams. They meet all the criterion for Wild and Scenic designation and are most valuable to us as a society as protected rivers.

In the "Summary of Ecologic, Social and Economic Impacts" in this report (https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.fs.usda.gov%2FInternet%2FFSE_DOCUMENTS%2Fseprd684953.pdf%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR1LG-b-JIVD4Rxj8izg_hC-fnlZVQ8zfjslkd8MvHWTksqvlgleLsvA1BE%23page%3D17&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cb134843716be4463d91308d7e3c107b1%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C1%7C637228290504800805&data=XtwCOCssgjIAnIEJM90ePS0fRdcoFdN957lwXPosU18%3D&reserved=0), protecting all these streams would be best for 18 of 22 measures listed - and yet protecting all streams was not even considered! Additionally, in listed social benefits, you fail to consider any ecosystem services provided to communities from these streams, and fail to consider jobs and local income that comes from tourism to protected places, which studies have shown are far greater than those benefits to communities surrounding natural areas without designations. Finally, you fail to even rank the alternatives (or consider an alternative protecting all streams) on ecological benefits.

My interest in wild rivers is not met or even considered by the Draft Plan in any alternative. Even the best alternative removes eligibility protections from over half of the streams you've found eligible, and thus the range of alternatives is too narrow.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Liddell

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