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Title:

Comments: Comments on Nez Perce-Clearwater NFs Forest Plan Revision #44089

Dear Zach Peterson,

Forest Service's proposed forest management plan revision for the 4 million-acre Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest (NPCNF) is unacceptably weak.

The forest plan revision for the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests must be strengthened with the inclusion of the following elements:

- * NPCNF is key part of a Wilderness complex and must be protected according to the provisions of the Wilderness Act
- * Protect all roadless areas so they maintain the characteristics necessary to be designated as wilderness by Congress in the future. All roadless areas should be recommended for wilderness or protected by administrative non-motorized and non-mechanized backcountry designations. The FS should also limit mechanized access to provide secure areas for sensitive wildlife (wolverine, grizzly bear and even elk), and reduce erosion to streams, compaction of fragile soils, and the spread of invasive weeds.
- * Address climate change by reducing carbon emissions; promoting carbon sequestration in trees, down wood, and soils in the forest; and reducing the use of motorized vehicles and fossil fuels.
- * Exclude roadless areas, existing and potential Wild and Scenic river corridors and proposed and existing Research National Areas from the suitable timber base and make them off limits to logging.
- * Protect Water, Soil and Aquatic Resources by maintaining and/or restoring the elements which characterize good native fish habitat and high water quality by including enforceable standards that protect clean and cold water and complex, connected and comprehensive habitats. Existing wetland and stream buffers and other protection measures, known as PACFISH and INFISH, must be maintained and improved. Meaningful and enforceable standards to protect soils, as required by law, must be included.
- * Curtail clearcutting and other silvicultural prescriptions that leave large openings, which fragment the landscape. These openings adversely affect habitats for numerous species.
- * provide wildlife linkage corridors so that animals can move unimpeded across the landscape. Any reduction in population fragmentation will promote genetic diversity, adaptation to climate change, population resilience.
- * Reduce the miles of roads to improve wildlife security & paying restoration jobs.

Friends of the Clearwater have submitted Citizen Conservation Biology Alternative, a plan to protect NPCNF. It is explicable why FS has ignored their input, which is science-based and supported by many thousands of public comments. As stewards of public land, FS must fulfill its responsibility to protect NPCNF's irreplaceable 1.5 million acres of undeveloped wildlands. Please incorporate the recommendations of Citizen Conservation Biology Alternative to create a robust & Conservation Biology and Conservation Biology Protective forest management plan.

Sincerely, singgih tan xxx san jose, CA 95123