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Organization:

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Comments: The primary motivation for my comment is to voice full support for wilderness designation throughout the Nez Perce-Clearwater Forest. Formative college experiences with the Great Burn Conservation Alliance in 2005 (then the Great Burn Study Group) played no small part in the career I have chosen and the wilderness values I hold today. Surveying wilderness character in Hoodoo area as a college student taught me about the rarity of roadless areas, and the value of wilderness in the conservation of biodiversity. I support Alternative W for the Recommended Wilderness because I believe the Nez Perce-Clearwater has a priceless gift that no other landscape in North America can match: enormous blocks of contiguous, roadless, wild country that are ripe for Wilderness designation.

I value the diversity of fish and wildlife on the Nez-Perce Clearwater, and the roadless, connected, unmotorized habitats where they thrive best. I am especially passionate about the conservation of fisher, wolverine, Canada lynx, and harlequin duck, as well as those issues surrounding the Bitterroot Grizzly Bear Recovery Area and the Rocky Mountain Refugium of unique, rare, and endemic species. I was very pleased to see the mention of beavers as a partner in watershed restoration (3.2.2.1-18), and I would support more emphasis on their keystone role wherever possible.

Thank you for considering this comment, and please feel free to contact me with any questions you have.