

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/19/2020 6:00:54 PM

First name: Bill

Last name: Papesh

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide some comments on the Forest Revision Plan. While I am not an Idaho resident, I frequently travel to Idaho (where I own a second home) to take advantage of your State's recreational beauty and facilities. I want to emphasize that the economic benefit to Idaho residents living adjacent to the Nez Perce-Clearwater Forest from visitors should be considered before initiating any changes. Many out-of-state residents who own secondary property in the area make significant contributions to civic and recreational organizations that supplement activities of local residents. For perspective, in North Idaho I've personally had the opportunity to serve with a volunteer fire department, currently serve on a County Snowmobile Grooming Committee, have served on a State Water Advisory Board and volunteer for a number of Idaho charitable organizations. I, along with many other secondary home owners, are equally, if not more active, in our vacation communities than the community where we reside so we appreciate your consideration of our input.

Winter use by snowmobiles in the Great Burn and Hoodoo Roadless Area provide unique riding opportunities without any apparent environmental damage during a time of the year when economic stimulus is very important. Motorized recreation in the Forest in other months provides important benefits to visitors and to the local economies. When possible trails that support some 16% of those motorized users should be kept open. While I realize there are budget constraints, any closure and gate placement should be limited, and when possible, local clubs and residents should be encouraged to facilitate "brushing" and other trail improvements.

My sense is that the DEIS fails to consider the significant growth of off road vehicles (ORV): side-by-sides,UTVs, ATVs and 4-wheelers, which is likely to continue. I encourage the Forest Plan to address this growth in developing a long-term solution.

Finally, as the Forest is already home to many Wild and Scenic Rivers I oppose new designations of such. While there exists a significant number of federal laws that protect rivers I am opposed to suction dredge mining in the River system. I feel the negative impact on fisheries is not debatable.