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Organization:

Title:

Comments: After attending the open house in Missoula and looking over the material my primary comment is directed at the idea of opening up portions of the Great Burn proposed Wilderness area to snowmobiles. While I think that the entire area of the Great Burn should stay intact and would urge you to keep the boundaries where they are currently my biggest concern is the northern area that you are proposing to open up. I understand there is currently illegal use of the area. As a sociologist the idea that it is being opened up because a small portion of society is already using it illegally is appalling. This is not how we maintain control or enforce the rules. As a conservationist I believe strongly that opening this area would have a dramatic impact on the wildlife of the area. Specifically, I am concerned with the goats and the wolverine. Please do not choose the option that changes the boundaries of the proposed Great Burn Wilderness. These changes make no sense for the long term health of the area. Secondly they are not enforceable as they are seasonal. You cannot possibly keep other motorized users out of this area outside of winter once it has been opened. There will be increased use throughout the year having an even bigger negative impact than just the snowmobile.

Thank you and good luck in your decision making.