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Comments: I have recently reviewed the released Nez Perce-Clearwater Forest Plan Revision Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Revised Forest Plan. None of the alternatives presented reflect the management I would like to see implemented for the Hoodoo Roadless Area. Please accept these comments into the formal record.

I am a resident of Montana, and have recreated in the state as well as worked to conserve it. The Great Burn Recommended Wilderness Area is important because it serves as a critical wildlife habitat that is not overly fragmented by roads and other motorized aspects. The uninterrupted acres allow for healthy ecosystems and populations and act as a large buffer for wildlife during times of ecosystem stress in other locations.

I have not had the opportunity to experience the Great Burn Wilderness, but I look forward to future experiences.

I share the view with the MWA that the entire 151,874-acre Hoodoo Roadless Area should continue to be managed as a Recommended Wilderness.

The Hoodoo Roadless Area should remain non-motorized because motorization involves sound pollution, air pollution, the destruction of plant life, disruption of wildlife pathways and needs, as well as the habitat fragmentation brought on by roads and traffic. Moreover, allowing for road-building may lead to the allowance of more activities that would disturb the wildlife and be detrimental to the overall ecosystem health.

The forest plan should recognize the Cayuse Creek and Kelly Creek with all of the forks, as worthy of Wild and Scenic River status. These rivers and creeks are connected to ecological watersheds that are underrepresented in the current protection system, and they later feed into other systems of protected land. Protecting these water bodies and maintaining their quality means guaranteeing the health of ecosystems and rivers elsewhere in the state, including important recreation areas and public water uses.

The Great Burn represents an accomplishment to maintain areas of uninterrupted wilderness that allows humans to responsibly interact with the non-human world. It is also a key link between other systems of protected areas, and should ultimately be designated a wilderness area for the continuance of the functioning of its ecosystems and its enjoyment by the residents around it.

I would like to thank the forest planning team for their work in creating the forest plan, and for involving the public in their deliberation.