

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/20/2020 5:21:47 PM

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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'm a 50 year old attorney who grew up on Flathead Lake. Montana is known as the Last Best Place for a reason - it is one of the few remaining bastions of the natural west, and its open spaces and wildlife deserve to be fully protected and preserved.

Anyone who's hiked to a pristine natural lake in the Great Burn, typically encountering less than a dozen other humans even on a summer afternoon, can speak to the solace and sanctity of this place. There are few other locations remaining in the lower 48 where one can witness nature as it likely existed 200 years ago. The Great Burn is one of those unique jewels.

It is crucial that this environment be protected from intrusion by mechanized vehicles and the increased human traffic they enable. Significant amounts of land have already been opened to such activities and cannot be brought back to original form. Let's preserve the Great Burn.

Again, opening this pristine environment to mechanized winter activity is a one-way street - once exposed and altered, it cannot be restored. I am confident there are ample amounts of open land already accessible to such vehicles - the Great Burn should be protected from such activity.

I don't know these waters personally but I do know and value natural rivers and lakes in Montana, and have seen the permanent transformation wrought when they are opened to mechanized traffic. These are limited resources that simply cannot be returned to natural form; wild waterways such as the Cayuse and Kelly should be protected to the maximum extent possible.

Let's absolutely preclude mechanized traffic, and take the steps still available to us to limit overuse of wild areas such as the Grand Burn. Preserving nature and indigenous wildlife must be a top priority as we seek to address climate change and check the spoliation of our remaining natural resources.

We absolutely value and respect the work of the forest planning team to protect and preserve our natural habitat.

Thank you for the careful thought and effort you bring to this task.