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Title:

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.

Hello. Please accept these comments for the record about the Great Burn (Hoodoo Roadless Area)

I am 70 years old. I and my wife and kids have backpacked in the Great Burn roadless area many times. The kids are grown now and on their own, but they still tell me about their favorite trips in this wild area. The things they mention most is the incredible diversity and number of wildlife sightings. We have seen moose, elk, mountain goats, mountain lion, porcupine and others. On our walking trips in this area we experienced quiet, solitude, awesome lakes, incredible ridges and peaks and quiet days and nights. I understand that the Nez Perce Clearwater Forest has proposed to decimate this incredible wild area by letting noisy, disruptive snowmobiles intrude into this area. I understand also that your plan would unwisely shrink or even possibly eliminate the area of land proposed for Wilderness. I find this unbelievable. Why would you do that? Why would you purposely destroy the largest undeveloped, quiet piece of back country paradise in the lower 48 states? Your plan would not only greatly diminish the Wilderness potential of this grand area it would also lead to the reduction of possible elimination of the Mountain Goat population. I find that unfathomable.

Do not allow snowmobile in this wildlife paradise. Do not shrink the amount of land proposed for Wilderness. Do get together with the Lolo National Forest and craft a joint forest plan for this area that protects it on both sides of the Montana/Idaho border.

On one of our backpack trips with the kids 25 years ago they experienced the wonder of the wildlife that populates this area. They saw Moose, Elk and Mountain Goats and even a Mountain Lion. At night during one of our backpack trips the boys decided one night to sleep under the stars with no tent over their head. They were no sooner bedded down when they were surprised by the sound of a Moose crashing threw the willows. They were even more startled when that Moose came running through our camp and jumped over both of the boys. They still talk about that night in the Great Burn.

Your forest plan should recommend the entire Great Burn (Hoodoo Roadless Area) on the Idaho side as proposed Wilderness. You should also collaborate with the Lolo Forest to do the same on the Montana side of the border. Your plan should not shrink this area nor should you allow snowmobiles, off road motor vehicles or mountain bicycles.

The Hoodoo Roadless area is the best unprotected wildlife habitat in the lower 48 states. If you allow motorized vehicles in here it will be death to the great herds of Mountain Goats. It will also reduce the number of Moose and Elk. Motorized vehicles do not belong in the Hoodoo Roadless Area. This place is a paradise of quiet human powered recreation. Leave it that way.

Some of the creeks in the Hoodoo are so wild and pristine that they demand to be protected as "Wild and Scenic" The ones I am familiar with are Cayuse Creek and Kelly Creek. Please do protect these waters as Wild and Scenic.

Since the best use of the Hoodoo/Great Burn on both sides of the state line is Wilderness your plan should do nothing to diminish the wild, quiet, wildlife rich diversity to be bound here. You absolutely should collaborate with the Lolo Forest on the Montana side t protect this area as proposed for Wilderness.

Thanks so much. Please keep me on your mailing list for this project.