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Organization:

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.

I am a Montana resident who is concerned about the availability of solitude and wilderness designation on our public lands.

This is an area that's been on my bucket list to spend some time exploring in the summer with my boots and backpack. It's critical to humans that wilderness regions be preserved as places of refuge which is why I'm opposed to both the Nez Perce-Clearwaters recommendation to allow winter motorized access in the Great Burn and its decision to consider shrinking or eliminating recommended wilderness.

I think it's imperative that the entire 151,874 acre Hoodoo Roadless Area continue to be managed as Recommended Wilderness. As Americans, we have more than enough places to use motorized vehicles, log, and other forms of multiple use. Wilderness character is an asset that must be preserved.

I'm opposed to the Forest Service's recommendation to allow winter motorized access in the Hoodoo Roadless Area because it changes the character and the solitude of a landscape that should be protected as wilderness. I feel that there are plenty of other areas that allow for winter motorized access already and we do not need to impact this area with noise, air pollution and disruption to animals.

Recognizing both Cayuse Creek, Kelly Creek and all its forks as Wild and Scenic is taking an opportunity to put the ecosystem first. Preserving water quality and the intact ecosystems along these waterways is what's best for the environment and what befits a nation so rich in natural resources. Preservation is paramount.

I oppose the Nez Perce-Clearwaters recommendation to allow winter motorized access in the Great Burn and its decision to consider shrinking or eliminating recommended wilderness. Preserving the wild, intact ecosystem that exists in this region is what benefits humans, animals and plants. Wild regions, free of motorized noise and pollution, logging, and other extractive activities, are a finite resource on our planet. Please recognize the importance of preserving this area under the strictest wilderness recommendations allowed.

I appreciate the research, time, and expertise that must go in to creating a forest plan. We are lucky to live in a country that allows for public input in such a monumental task. The importance of this plan cannot be understated and I thank you for taking into consideration my input and desire to see this ecosystem preserved for generations.