

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/20/2020 8:42:56 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 am a Montana resident, worked for the U.S.F.S. in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness and earned a B.S. in Wildlife Resources from the University of Idaho. I am interested in protecting all remaining habitat options for wildlife. Loss of habitat has not diminished as a major pressure on wildlife since I was in school in the 80's.

Wildness is one of the, if not the only, land use designations that recognizes the activities of man as secondary to the maintenance of natural systems. Only wilderness designation provides the needed protection to prevent lobbies for recreation or the extractive industry from accessing these areas and reducing their value as habitat. I support protecting all remaining areas being considered for wilderness status as wilderness.

I support protecting the entire 151,874 acres of the Great Burn/Hoodoo Roadless Area under wilderness designation.

The Hoodoo Roadless Area should be protected by a motorized and mechanized activity ban in its entirety and in all seasons. The amount of land by percentage of the United States that is open to any activity is tremendous, the amount remaining that is quality habitat is disturbing. The F.S. will not serve the long term interests of the nation with a short term plan to support the next wave of recreation vehicles and users. The great value of the remaining study areas is that they are the "rock and ice" leftovers of land that were hard and expensive to access, and so therefore tough terrain fun to ride through. But it is also the terrain that was left to wildlife. We cannot use it all in deference to the next fad...

Cayuse Creek and Kelley Creek drainage system should be afforded Wild and Scenic River status. Do any of us as resource managers not understand that water resources are the fundamental element that makes our country so rich on so many levels?

I would ask managers to remember that there will always be pressure to produce more board feet, to provide more recreation land for the next wave of toys, to protect and provide jobs on Federal lands. The resource is finite, it will come to an end. It would reflect well on you as managers if the process didn't consume everything and if we maintained genetically viable populations of the native species you are also charged to protect on the lands left with the required qualities of optimal habitat.

I appreciate the difficulty you face in this process, the pressures that come from many stakeholders. Unfortunately when the areas in question are gone, the damage will be done, and there will be no going back. Thank you for your efforts in dealing with tough issues.