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Last name: Irely

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.

The Great Burn is one of the most important wilderness areas to me. I first visited the area in about 1997 and have returned to it on several occasions since. In 2006 I skied from Hoodoo Pass to Schley Pass and it was one of the best backcountry experiences in my life. I believe the Great Burn provides unique wilderness skiing touring opportunities.

The Great Burn provides unique wilderness ski touring opportunities because most ridgelines have a steep, glacially sculpted side that provides amazing ski mountaineering opportunities while the sunnier side of the ridgelines tend to be much less steep and have less complicated terrain features, which makes for easy and safer wilderness ski touring. Secondly, the Great Burn gets a relatively large amount of snowfall for its elevation, which adds to the delight of skiing along the Great Burns ridgelines and through its forests.

Because of the unique wilderness skiing opportunities the Great Burn provides, because of the unique natural beauty of the Great Burns open ridgeline spines, which make for scenic backpacking and horse packing experiences, and because of the proximity of the Great Burn to wilderness users in Spokane, Coeur d'Alene, and Missoula, I recommend that the entire 151,874 acres of the Hoodoo Roadless Area be managed as Recommended Wilderness. Wilderness is the best use for these 151,874 acres for the benefit of the American public now and for future generations.

The Hoodoo Roadless Area provides unique wilderness skiing opportunities that I highly value. Those unique values would be lost if 53 thousand acres of the Hoodoo Roadless Area was accessible by snowmobile.

I support Kelly Creek for Wild and Scenic River status.

I have always wanted to backpack through the Mallard Larkins and so would appreciate that roadless area being closed to motorized use as well.

I've seen how hard you all work on these forest plans so I just wanted to thank you for your public service. I

believe the Forest Service is doing the right thing by involving the public in the planning process. I know it is not easy, but I do believe it is the best way to sustain the ecological, economic, and social values of our National Forest System.