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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments On DEIS and Wild and Scenic Suitability Report

Dear Plan Revision Email Nez Perce Clearwater National Forests,

I am writing to ask that all 89 streams that you have found eligible for Wild and Scenic designation remain protected as eligible in the new forest plan, and to voice support for their suitability for designation. My interest in wild rivers is not met or even considered by the Draft Plan in any alternative. Even the best alternative removes eligibility protections from over half of the streams you've found eligible, and thus the range of alternatives is too narrow. The alleged focus on "basin integrity" is rendered entirely moot by any removal of eligibility. As a seasonal resident of the region, as well as a person locally employed in the outdoor recreation industry- I feel that holistic protection of these waterways is integral to the region's value. I mean this both in terms of the commodification and ecological soundness of these waterways (and the region more broadly as a destination)- which are intrinsically linked. The pristine character of Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest and the extensive degree which waterways are protected (eligible for Wild and Scenic designation) within it- is, in itself, an ORV. The sanctity of this region defines its appeal. Removal of protection threatens the value of the region. Additionally, any rollback in protected statuses sets a dangerous precedent and serves to denigrate the historic role and significance of the USFS.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Kale Cimperman

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