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First name: Bruce

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments on Nez Perce-Clearwater NFs Forest Plan Revision #44089

Dear Zach Peterson,

Round 6 The proposed revision to the NPCNF plan, seeing that it proposes so many habitat-disrupting logging, road-building, vehicular (including off-road) activities, seems designed to DECREASE CONNECTIVITY OF THE LANDSCAPE rather than to emphasize the importance of protecting larger wild habitats while seeking to provide wildlife linkage (biological) corridors so that rare species can access to a more diverse gene pool. Species with large ranges like wolverine, fisher, lynx, wolves, and mountain goats need their current corridors protected, and the management plan revision should reflect such.

I wanted to point out some specific areas certainly deserving of increased protections under the NPCNF plan revision. Such areas must include: Pot Mountain, Cove - Mallard, Weitas Creek, Kelly Creek, and Meadow Creek.

Here are a couple quotes indicating the biological significance of the Big Wild and NPCNF area.

&quot;Idaho has the largest and most unique interior rainforest in the world. While moist forests similar to the temperate rainforests of the Pacific Northwest coast were once common in our region, the forests of the upper Lochsa River and the North Fork of the Clearwater River are among the few examples of these forest refugia that remain.&quot;

So, if one was serious about protecting water quality and protecting habitat for rare species, not only would such a land manager NOT propose to cut riparian protection zones in half, but also would not be proposing that watersheds no longer need 5% old-growth protection -- which is an invitation to convert vast unique wild areas to clearcuts amidst increasingly choked watercourses and a decrease of the habitat for rare species. There needs to be more biological study and protections for the unidentified species of earthworms, and rare terrestrial beetles, plus contrasting communities of macro-invertebrates from tributary streams on both sides of the North Fork Clearwater River.

The Bull Run RNA needs to be enlarged both because most of such habitat was drowned by a nearby reservoir - which indicates that such RNA needs a buffer because it is especially blessed wwith Western redcedar, grand fir, and lady fern habitat.

Please choose an alternative (the one advised by citizens) that protects landscape integrity including all roadless areas in the NPCNF.

Thanks for your consideration, Bruce Campbell

Sincerely,

Bruce Campbell

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