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Comments: I support the Forest Service's efforts in managing fuels, reducing wildfire risk, and maintaining ecological function as outlined in Payette National Forest Resilience and Fuels Reduction Prescribed Fire Project #63166.

One area of the project document that I would like the Forest Service to reconsider in Project Design Feature FWT-10. FWT-10 states "No targeted treatments in lethal fire regimes." Changing climate has and will continue to profoundly affect the frequency and severity of wildfires within western ecosystems. The scientific and empirical evidence of this change is clear with longer, hotter, and drier fire seasons. These conditions present challenges in protecting life and safety, communities, and infrastructure from wildfire events. Some of the most challenging wildfires to control occur in "lethal" fire regimes; their heavier fuel loading and ladder fuels lead to increased resistance to control, torching and crowning fire behavior. Please consider allowing mechanical and prescribed fire treatment within lethal fire regimes, where appropriate, in order to better meet this project's purpose and need.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.