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Comments: I know the PNNST well. I conducted research along the trail and with thru-hikers in 2017 and then thru-hiked myself in 2022. As the comprehensive planning process moves forward, what I hope to see is the maintenance of wilderness characteristics and the choose-your-own-adventure spirit that is a trademark of the trail experience. Keeping the trail in remote, often unmaintained areas is a part of the PNNST that it's hikers seek out and enjoy. The ruggedness and challenge of the trail keeps the usage low (in comparison to the PCT) and the trail culture reflects this. The trail should also avoid re-routing the segment in the Yaak region of the Kootenai National Forest. This segment is an incredible experience for beauty and remoteness and keeps the trail mostly on trail and off of roads. While concerns about bear interactions are valid, hikers move through this area quickly and are typically very good about maintaining a clean camp environment. The PNNST is a spectacular opportunity for individuals to experience remote landscapes and personal/environmental challenges. Keeping the 'wild' character should be primary in future planning.