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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a public land owner of Forest Service-managed lands in the Yaak. I urge you to please abandon the current northern route proposal that goes through 27 miles of grizzly habitat in the northern Yaak. Visitors are known to surprise and displace grizzly bears and a thru trail will attract many visitors like the Pacific Crest Trail, Appalachian Trail, and the Continental Divide Trail. Often it is the bear who loses, due to human ignorance/apathy of being "Bear Aware" and storing food attractants or surprising bears. There is a viable alternative in a proposed Southern Route which would avoid core grizzly habitat while still providing trails in the Yaak. Grizzlies are barely hanging in the Yaak and EVERY attempt should be made to discourage more visitor use such as the northern route of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail. Thank you for your consideration. Please keep me updated on the development of the PNT Comprehensive Plan outcome.