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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Potential Species of Conservation Concern (Lolo National Forest Comment)

As an avid recreationist on the Lolo National Forest, I do see that it is important for species habitat, but it is also important to allow access for hikers, bicyclists, and motorized enthusiasts. Hikers, bicyclists, and motorcyclists need trail access and snowmobilers need access for different varieties of terrain. These activities require physical fitness and lead to a healthy lifestyle. If the number of PSCC's keeps growing, it will lead to restrictions, access depletion on the Lolo NF and dissension among user groups. While navigating the Lolo NF, I have never seen anyone harassing wildlife or seeking to destroy habitat.

Examples of human activity that occur in and over the Great Burn:

Every day airplanes fly over the Great Burn, Forest Service trail crews and volunteer groups use powersaws to buck lodgepole out of trails in the Great Burn during summer months. Wildlife seems to be thriving even with chainsaw noise and airplanes flying over. Snowmobiles are not allowed in the Great Burn, but this activity would be the least impactive if allowed. Snomobile tracks disappear and no erosion occurs.

During winter months the elk and deer move to lower elevations for forage. Mountain goats are prevalent on Landowner Mountain on the Superior Ranger District especially winter months. They can even be seen meandering on Trout Creek Road with snowmobile traffic going by.

Hopefully the Lolo Forest Revision will benefit wildlife and all user

groups.

Thanks,

Kevin Elmstrom

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