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Comments: Backcountry Sled Patriots members are appreciative of the decision to both reduce the size of the Great Burn RWA and allow snowmobiling in those areas. We feel the decision to keep the remaining RWA area closed to snowmobile activity is inconsistent with the 2012 forest planning rules.

219.10 multiple use (10)(b)(iv)...management of areas recommended for wilderness designation to protect and maintain the ecological and social characteristics that provide the basis for their suitability for wilderness designation.

In particular the Fish Lake area in the RWA, which is open to summer motorized, but as I read the ROD, is closed to winter motorized (snowmobiling). This area does not have unique ecological or social characteristics. The area has been previously logged, the access road is an abandoned logging road. There are two outhouses near the lake (one apparently abandoned, the other fairly new). There is some boardwalk bridging in some wet areas. At one time there was a commercially operated lodge on the lake.

It is a nice semi primitive back country camping area but certainly does not meet the criteria for RWA status. We would like to see this area excluded from the RWA acreage or, at the very least, open to snowmobiling.