Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/28/2024 4:11:44 PM First name: Stephen Last name: Seninger Organization:

Title:

Comments: After a careful study of the Nez Perce-Clearwater Final Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Final Forest Plan #44089 I have the following comments and objections based on my career as a professional economist and as an active backcountry hiker and camper for more than 25 years in the Hoodoo Roadless Area. I. Opening a protected wildlife wilderness area maintained by years of work and resources, to mechanized mountain bike and winter motorized recreationists ignores science based negative impacts on wildlife habitat and connectivity with other wilderness areas.

2. There is no science based credible evidence on social and economic benefits offered in the proposed forest plan to support opening a protected wilderness area to winter motorized and mountain bike travel along trails used by backcountry hikers, campers, skiers, and trail riders.

3. The final EIS and draft plans do not offer any science-based evidence on the importance of wilderness solitude and quiet trails to hikers, campers, backpackers, skiers, and trail riders from Washington, Idaho, Montana, and other states throughout the nation. Having served as a trail host at Heart Lake Trailhead for several seasons I can attest to the geographic, age, and experience-first timers to returning hikers and backpackers-diversity of backcountry recreationists in the Hoodoo protected roadless area.

I therefore object to and do not support opening this area up to motorized and mechanized activities.

Thank you for considering my objections.

Regards, Stephen Seninger

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