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Comments: I am writing to express my objection to the Nez Perce-Clearwater Forest Plan's decision to open significant portions of the Hoodoo Roadless Area to motorized vehicle use, namely snowmobiles and possibly motorized snow bikes. The area's being proposed for legalized motorized travel include important denning areas for endangered wolverines. The idea that our forest management agency would put important denning sites for this animal in jeopardy is repugnant and contrary to policy calling for informed and careful management of irreplaceable resources. Mountain goats are also negatively impacted by motorized travel, a fact that has been considered in the management of the adjacent Lolo National Forest portions of the roadless area.

The Hoodoo Roadless Area has been managed for its priceless wilderness values for many years. I have enjoyed the remote wilderness character of this area many times over the years on foot, as has my family and many of my friends. A lot of people have worked very hard to preserve the Burn's wilderness character, and permitting snowmobile access to the corridor from Fish Lake to Hoodoo Pass and the Goat Lake portion of the HRA contravenes the long held values and work of these folks. There are many acres of rugged western landscape that is open to snowmobile travel, many miles of trails and roads. Backcountry roadless areas with the wilderness qualities of the Burn should be recognized and protected in perpetuity. This area is unique and important to many wildlife species. It is recognized as a key portion of landscape connectivity for grizzly bears between the northern Rockies population and the greater Yellowstone population. The idea of degrading this connectivity by introducing legal snowmobile use is unacceptable and will decrease the likelihood of delisting these animals. Please revise the Nez Perce-Clearwater Forest Plan to maintain as recommended wilderness the entirety of the Hoodoo Roadless Area.