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Comments: I write in full support of the 271 page objection submitted today by Friends of the Clearwater et.al., and submit the following comments in response to Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests Land Management Plan/draft Record of Decision/Final Environmental Impact Statement/list of Species of Conservation Concern.

My most serious objection is that the entire plan assumes federal national forests play no significant role in relation to mitigating climate change. Along with reduction of industrially-produced carbon emissions, leaving forests standing as forests and complex native ecosystems is arguably the single most important thing the US government can do to address climate change and reduce its net negative effects on our national economy, and on the safety, quality of life, health, and livelihoods of American families and communities.

By contrast, the draft Forest Plan addresses climate change only by way of disingenuously suggesting that the proposed "management" regime of massively accelerated timber harvest will have no net negative effect on existing climate change conditions. Much of this harvest, it should be noted, is presented under the disingenuous guise of forest health, fire suppression, and protection of nearby communities, a very dangerous Trojan Horse from the perspective of projected likely negative effects of climate change, including frequency and intensity of fires, desiccation and sterilization of forest soils in clearcuts, including loss of mycorrhizal communities and networks. By contrast, natural wildfires in intact native forests follow a matrix pattern that allows much more successful regeneration of both soils and the plant communities which biologically intact and nutrient-rich soils support.

Existing roadless areas on the Clearwater and Nez Perce National Forests are a unique reservoir of biodiversity unparalleled anywhere else in the Lower 48 states. Your proposed plan protects a mere 17% of existing roadless acreage and greenlights a four-fold increase in timber harvest, somewhere around 200 million board feet. This is obviously not sustainable and constitutes a liquidation of resources that belong to all American citizens, including this Idaho family.

Equally to the point, the proposed plan includes no enforceable or even measurable standards for water quality, fisheries, or wildlife habitat. There is an extensive public record showing that industry and motorized recreational users have grown accustomed to ignoring or disregarding actual laws protecting our national forests and other public lands. Rather than roll out the red carpet for further abuses, the Forest Service needs to tighten protections and enforcement, including enhanced fines and other penalties to ensure compliance.

It is obvious to most of us living in Idaho that the Forest Service and its current leadership within this region have a long-standing unspoken and unofficial compact with industrial users of the federal public lands within our region. That compact appears to be something like a "don't ask, don't tell" carte blanche to do what you like so long as it suits you and doesn't get too much public pushback or negative exposure. This forest plan crosses a

bright red line in this respect, taking corruption and the organized looting of our federal public lands to a point where a huge number of American citizens are now saying loudly, Enough Is Enough, you must do your job and do your duty to our nation's laws and public lands. Look at the letters that are appearing in the Idaho press, and take the temperature of our region. Our local paper is the Lewiston Tribune, which has published a trove of letters opposed to this outrageously bad, crooked, and dishonest forest plan. We won't back down.