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Title:

Comments: I am particularly concerned about the plan to open parts of the Great Burn to motorized vehicle use especially snow mobiles during the winter when wildlife is already stressed. The Great Burn contains important habitat for threatened lynx, threatened wolverines, mountain goats, as well as over wintering elk, grizzly bears and deer. It goes against the best science to open this area to motorized vehicles as well as mountain bikes. This area has been proposed for wilderness status. Allowing motorized vehicles and bicycles into this wilderness gem is more of a political Kow Tow to a small but vocal user group that already has plenty of places to recreate without disturbing wildlife in one of the best last strong holds. Motorized and mechanized use should continue to be prohibited. Illegal use in the past should not justify giving in to the very groups that have been breaking the law. The so called "Sled Patriots" say that they take the noise with them when they leave. That's like saying that there is no sound left after someone drops a bomb on a church (the church being this special wildlife habitat). Numerous studies have shown that loud disturbances during critical winter months has very negative effects on affected wildlife. Manage this area as the special area it is. **USE THE BEST SCIENCE.** There is no valid justification for opening the Great Burn to motorized and mechanized use. With the wolverine and lynx already listed you are courting lawsuits based on your proposed plan. Save the tax payers money and manage their area with the care it deserves.

There should also be no logging of old growth trees in this plan as they store more carbon and provide more habitat than second growth. How long does it take to grow a 300 year old tree????