

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/2/2024 8:00:00 AM

First name: Roger

Last name: Furlong

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Ms. Martin:

I am writing in response to the Final Revised First Plan for the NPCNF that has been released.

I am very disappointed in the outcome. The area known as the Great Burn, in both Montana and Idaho is one of the last remaining roadless areas in the lower 48. The area has been under wilderness study status for many years and for good reason.

By releasing these lands to motorized use, you are permanently precluding its' designation as true wilderness, something that it clearly deserves. By allowing motorized use in Idaho, nobody is under any illusion that this will be abused and that motorized use will occur across the border in Montana. There is no effective way to ensure that this does not happen and therefore it will.

Appeasing a small number of motorized users, who already have hundreds of miles of trails designated for their use, will result in the degradation of important and limited remaining habitat.

I'm sorry you have chosen to go this route and history will judge it for what it is: a callous and short-sighted disregard for what remaining natural and untrammelled wild lands we still have.

Please reconsider your unwise decision before it is too late.

Sincerely,

Roger Furlong