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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Lolo NF

I have been exploring the Lolo NF for decades. I urge the FS to expand its recommended wilderness across the forest.

The areas I am most concerned about are the Cube Iron Silcox area. This area has some rugged terrain and is part of the Greater Cabinet Mt Ecosystem. It is a natural passage for wildlife cross the Clark Fork River north and south. Ferdinaid Silcox was one of the early leaders of the FS and it would honor his legacy to recommend wilderness for the area.

The Great Burn is one of the gems in the West. With a fire altered timberline, a string of lakes along the Idaho Mt border, old growth cedar groves and spectacular streams like Fish Creek and Kelly Creek (on the Idaho side) this area should be recommended wilderness.

North of the Great Burn lies a number of smaller roadless areas like the North Fork of the Clearwater and several others that should be protected to provide secure habitat for wildlife.

I am pleased the FS recommended Quigg Peak roadless area for protection, but I am baffled why the Stoney Mountain area of the Sapphire Range is not recommended. Again as with Great Burn, the Sapphire Range is the watershed for Rock Creek and its critical aquatic ecosystems.

I trust the Lolo will do more to protect these critical lands.

Thanks.

George Wuerthner