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Comments: I appreciate that the proposed action has retained the 1986 Recommended Wilderness Areas as a starting point, and I would like to offer some suggestions for what the Forest Service should include in the plan alternatives.

The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act is a great collaborative proposal from a large coalition of Montanans and should be respected. Please adopt their recommendations into the Lolo Forest Plan including wilderness designation for the West Fork Clearwater Area adjacent to the Mission Mountains.

I was pleased to observe the Lolo proposed plan incorporated requests from local citizens regarding the Lolo Peak area by retaining the 1986 recommended Wilderness area and extending the boundaries of the research natural area.

The Rock Creek area is a Montana treasure. It is important that the entire watershed is protected to maintain the purity of the water quality and its importance as a wildlife corridor. Please, in addition to the wilderness designation of the Quigg Roadless Area consider a wilderness designation for the Stony Mountain Roadless Area.

The Great Burn is one of the wildest areas in the Lower 48 and provides vital habitat for wolverines, mountain goats, grizzly bears, and other sensitive species. It is critical that the Forest Service continues to designate the Hoodoo recommended Wilderness along the same boundaries that have been in place for nearly 40 years. I would also like to see the Ward Eagle and Meadow Creek-Upper North Fork roadless areas managed as recommended Wilderness to protect the area's incredible wild character.

The Cube Iron-Silcox area is a wild roadless complex that provides excellent connectivity between the Cabinet, Bitterroot, and Mission Mountains. I would like this area to be managed as recommended Wilderness to protect species connectivity and ensure opportunities for quiet recreation.

I would also like you to reconsider the Clark's Nutcracker for Species of Conservation Concern designation. It is documented that White Bark Pine Forests are shrinking because of climate change and the number of Clark's Nutcrackers with it. The Flathead National Forest has recognized it as a SCC because of this, please consider including the Clark's Nutcracker in the list for the Lolo National Forest also.

Wildness and wilderness are a rapidly decreasing commodity in our national forests and the areas that meet these requirements need to be preserved and protected not only for the species that need them but also for future human generations so they can experience the solitude and peace that comes with entering these areas.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed action and for all the work that has gone into the plan revision process so far.