

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/29/2024 2:46:05 PM

First name: Lynn

Last name: Tennefoss

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Lolo National Forest Management Plan Team:

Thank you very much for the effort you have put into the proposed plan. I appreciate the difficulty and challenges of managing forests today, and the work that has already gone into preparing the Proposed Action.

First and foremost, I strongly applaud maintaining the existing Hoodoo (Great Burn) Recommended Wilderness boundaries, and support keeping the existing boundaries as described in the Proposed Action. This crown jewel of the forest is critical as fully natural habitat, providing a peaceful escape for people and wildlife.

I further recommend designating the Ward-Eagle inventoried roadless area and Upper North Fork - Meadow Creek inventoried roadless area as Wilderness. In the proposed plan, these areas are classified as non-motorized backcountry, but deserve "recommended" status for their outstanding wilderness characteristics and wildlife habitat value.

Overall, throughout the forest planning area, I urge you to prioritize wildlife habitat connectivity and corridor areas. The entire stateline area is key for large landscape connectivity, as well as more local elevational connectivity.

And finally, please, please keep non-conforming uses out of recommended wilderness, and enforce this provision rigorously. By maintaining no mechanized or motorized in recommended wilderness areas we can ensure these areas remain eligible for permanent protection in the future.

Thank you for your attention to these comments. I look forward to continuing to participate in the planning process.

Sincerely,

Lynn Tennefoss