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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I would like to comment on the proposed plan as both an active backcountry skier and mountain biker. First, I support designation of a semi-primitive nonmotorized setting for Lolo Pass, Hoodoo Pass, St. Regis Basin, Wisherd Ridge, Marshall Mountain and Morrell Mountain. I frequently backcountry ski at Lolo Pass, Marshall, Wisherd Ridge and Morrell Mountain. As part of this, please restrict motorized access into the Crystal Ampitheater area at Lolo Pass, which I greatly enjoy as a backcountry skier.

In addition, I want the trails around Heart Lake to remain primitive and nonmotorized, but I do not support wilderness designation. Although I am now at the age where I cannot enjoy it as such, this is one of the few historic high-alpine mountain bike rides on the Lolo NF, and I would like others to be able to mountain bike there. I would like the Lolo NF plan to align with the Nez Perce-Clearwater NF plan, which recommends that the stateline trail be managed to allow summer bike travel.

I also support the recommendations for the Lolo Creek area. The four miles of trail to the wilderness boundary on Carlton Ridge is excellent backcountry mountain biking close to Missoula's urban area. I lead the Mountain Bike Missoula crew that clears this trail every spring for the enjoyment of mountain bikers and all other trail users.