Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/30/2024 6:03:29 PM

First name: GERRY Last name: MANEY Organization:

Title:

Comments: LNF Revision; As a Montana resident for over 6 decades as well as a 40 year Forest Service

employee, I am deeply concerned and interested in the plan for the Lolo National Forest.

Wilderness is important. I am glad to see that the Wilderness recommendations found in the 1986 plan are still included today but I feel that more can be done to protect the wild lands of the Great Burn. The first step is continuing to treat the Hoodoo as recommended Wilderness using the existing boundaries that have been in place for some four decades. The Nezperce/clearwater Forest caved to a vocal snowmobile group to change the use of a vital part of the Great Burn. Please don't allow this to happen on the Lolo Forest.

I support the collaborative approach that has gone into the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act, and it's important that all parts of the plan be reflected in the Plan.

The Rattlesnake National Recreation Area is the only National Recreation Area in Montana, and it should be managed for unroaded recreation.

If USFS lands are acquired, I believe improving public access to currently inaccessible public lands should be prioritized. Land exchanges are an excellent way to increase access throughout the Forest.

Trail maintenance needs to be enhanced throughout the Forest. Mountain bikes need to be separated form foot and horse trails.

New campground should be developed whenever possible, and existing campgrounds expanded to accommodate the huge influx of citizens using these developed recreation areas.

I would like to see the Cube Iron-Silcox roadless area managed as recommended Wilderness to protect the area from future development and safeguard important wildlife corridors.

Tree thinning interspersed with wildlife security habitat and prescribed burning should both be encouraged where appropriate. Commercial logging should be used as a management tool only if wildlife and streams can be protected. Selective cuts are much more aesthetic than clearcuts and can achieve the desired results.

Wildland urban interface needs a great deal more attention and education of homeowners. This is the one area that private citizens and become involved in their landscape.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.