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Title:

Comments: [External Email]Lolo Peak/Carlton Lake Basin and Wild Cube Iron comments

I am writing to ask you to protect Lolo Peak/Carlton Lake Basin and the Wild Cube Iron as Wilderness areas.

The Carlton Lake Basin is a key wildlife corridor between the S. Fork Lolo Creek recommended Wilderness and the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness. Along with Lolo Peak, Carlton Lake Basin provides habitat for unique and threatened species- like the unique larch trees established there. With climate change threatening our ecosystems, we need to maintain as much ecological integrity as we can.

This includes protecting these areas from motorized vehicles which often go off designated trails and degrade ecosystems (an ongoing issue I see while hiking our forests).

Lastly, In the northwest corner of the Lolo, the Cube Iron area serves as a vital wildlife corridor connecting the Cabinet, Bitterroot, and Mission Mountains. Rather than managing these roadless areas as nonmotorized backcountry, I hope you would recommend this area for Wilderness- protecting its incredible wild character, habitat for threatened species, clear waters, and wildlife connectivity.

Please protect these lands for our wildlife and our future generations.

Thank you,