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Organization:

Title:

Comments: [External Email]Lolo National Forest Plan

These are my concerns:

The plan has vague and/or insufficient goals and objectives related to maintaining adequate stream flows through water storage. A strategy we impel Lolo National Forest to include in this plan is the utilization of a variety of storage tools (both natural and man-made) that increase our ability to capture and preserve crucial water supplies for use during the hottest, driest months. These storage tools could include natural storage solutions such as beaver or wetlands, or man-made storage infrastructure, such as strategically located alpine reservoirs (headwater storage).

There is little focus on protecting vulnerable native species [ndash] including genetically pure cutthroat trout, which increasingly face hybridization with non-native species; and bull trout, classified as "Threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. There is a worldwide biodiversity crisis which we should not add to.

I object to the proposed allowance of motorized recreation in the Rattlesnake, LaValle, and Butler Creek watersheds. The Rattlesnake is home to stable populations of bull trout, while LaValle and Butler Creek have genetically pure cutthroat trout. Existing roads already deliver sediment to these streams, but allowing much higher-impact motorized recreation would drastically worsen water quality and degrade these native fish strongholds. That would make no sense at all. Motorized recreation destroys habitats.

Thank you for your consideration!