Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/28/2024 3:19:48 PM First name: Dustin Last name: James Organization: Wallowa Valley Trail Riders Association Title: President

Comments: I understand the need to adapt new regulations to old policies and update the forest plan to more align with new technologies, sciences and procedures. However, I feel that the real issue is that the FS has done nothing over the last 20 years but " manage by closure" the fire and habitat issues are more of a shortcoming of lack of boots on the ground doing work and the complication of the processes needed to maintain a healthy forest due to severe red tape and failed processes in the policy department. This plan needs to simplify healthy forest practices and bring it back to the basics.... Timber harvest, grazing and recreation.

You need to make sure that recreational access is a weighted part of you need to change and a large part of your management scope. The need for recreation in the forest weighs heavy on the socio-economic health of the surrounding areas. From heritage, hunting for food, firewood cutting for heat in the winter, berry picking, access for handicapped and elderly or for motorized and mechanized travel fur fun. It must have a home in this revision.