

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/11/2024 5:59:56 AM

First name: Doug

Last name: Christison

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Boise National Forest
1249 South Vinnell Way, Suite 200
Boise, ID 83709

To Whom It May Concern

I would like to add my support for this scoping project on the Boise National Forest. My support for this project is only support, if this scoping project does not get used to lock up more National Forest Lands from those who use them.

The six points brought up in the Scoping Letter are all valid concerns that need addressed.

But regarding each and all these points I want to state my concerns.

None of the six points called out in the Scoping Letter end up locking more National Forest Lands up and end up keeping National Forest users out (other than a couple of years at the most for healing).

While addressing these six points, concern needs to be given to areas that were damaged in previous fires on the Boise National Forest. The Forest Service needs to take ownership of damages from forest fires for more than a couple of years. Road & trail infrastructure, as in plugged & washed-out culverts, washed out & damaged bridges, land, rock & snow slides, roadbeds & trail beds themselves. At the least these damages go on for years, multiple decades!

The damage from forest fires also ends up heavily silting up & damaging waterways with endangered species in them. All the while the Forest Service and other people are concerned about dust from roadways getting into the same waters.

My point being that all the Forest Service's points on repair & safety are valid. But too often these same points are used to lock up National Forest access for longer than the repair period. Also, I want to make sure that the Forest Service throwing money at forest fire damages for a couple of years & then walking away stops. Those damages listed above (and other damages) go on year after year after year after a forest fire. The Forest Service needs to take ownership of these damages for more than a couple of years!

Hopefully, while the Boise National Forest is addressing the damage from the 2024 Fire Season, they will also address damage from earlier fires, keeping my concerns in mind. These are not just my concerns. There are others who would like to sign on to some of these letters but concerns about reprisals keep them from doing so.

What is a better time to start really repairing forest fire damage than now?

Thank you for the chance to comment on this Scoping.