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Comments: As a passionate hunter and graduate student in Range Science at MSU, I have a strong appreciation for the benefits our fire-adapted ecosystems in Montana can experience with good fire-management. Prescribed fire is a significant part of good fire management and an important tool for managing: fuels, plant structure and therefore habitat heterogeneity, plant species richness, grassland maintenance and herbaceous production for livestock, permanent carbon sequestration through promotion of grasslands rather than timber, and many more.

I support the Forest Service in their goal to expand their use of prescribed fire in the Lolo National Forest, so long as it is done responsibly, so the trend toward the increased use of fire as a management tool may continue.