

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/22/2014 3:43:38 AM

First name: Valerie

Last name: Aerni

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Snowmobiles in the Great Burn

Dear Clearwater Forest Planning Team,

My name is Val Aerni and I have worked in the Great Burn Proposed Wilderness for four seasons. Over the years I have stood in awe at the Great Burn and its potential for long term ecological integrity. In the burn I have seen wolf, moose, mountain goats, pika, whitebark pine trees, and incredible cedar groves. I have also observed erosion caused by illegal motorized vehicle use and signs of mistreatment to the landscape, such as intentional tree damage and littering. With such threats to the area already in existence, I request that you please consider the added long term effects of snowmobile use to the ecological integrity of the Great Burn when revising the Clearwater Forest Plan.

Thank you,

Val Aerni