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Organization:

Title:

Comments: No snowmobiles in proposed Great Burn Wilderness

Dear Mr. Brazell:

Please consider this message as our comment on the proposed plan revision for the Nez Perce/Clearwater. Although we live far from the site, I am a native of the Northwest and we have friends in Idaho who know this area intimately.

Please reject any idea of opening any part of the proposed Great Burn Wilderness to snowmobiles. We support the 2011 travel plan that restricted motorized use in the Great Burn with the express purpose of protecting the wildlife and wildland values of that area. That protection is still needed. Many Idahoans and visitors supported the Forest Service in making that decision.

We support the expanded boundary of the proposed Mallard-Larkins Wilderness, using geographic features that can easily be identified on the ground. This boundary will help protect wildlife and wilderness values.

We also favor the wilderness proposal for East Meadow Creek, which should be expanded to add West Meadow Creek. The expansion will protect the whole watershed, with its anadromous fishery and cultural features.

We ask you to keep snowmobiles and ORVs out of all proposed wilderness areas. If they are allowed, those vehicles would jeopardize the future wilderness designation and degrade the wildlife and wilderness values of the area. Even if they left no physical impacts, the presence of snowmobiles and ORVs would create an expectation that those uses could continue indefinitely.

Thank you for considering our thoughts.

Sincerely,

George and Frances Alderson
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