

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/4/2014 2:16:56 AM

First name: Steve

Last name: Anthes

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comment: Forest Plan Revision for the Great Burn

Rick Brazell, Forest Supervisor

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests

903 3rd Street

Kamiah, ID 83536

Re: Forest Plan Revision

Greetings Supervisor Brazell,

The Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest's Forest Plan revision, proposing three new snowmobile areas in the Idaho side of the Great Burn, is unacceptable as it threatens one of the most pristine areas in the forest.

We support only Option A for the Hoodoo Roadless Area. We enjoy traditional quiet recreation opportunities, and support critical winter habitat for mountain goats and wolverines. Connectivity for grizzly bears and other species between the Great Burn and the Cabinet-Yaak and Crown of the Continent ecosystems is essential for wildlife preservation.

We strongly recommend you eliminate Option B and the motorized recreation management plan. As we've discovered on the Colville National Forest, ATV/OHV regulations are NOT enforceable. Any boundaries established for snowmobiles would be have the same result. Signs are either ignored or shot to pieces. Lacking a large enforcement team prosecution would be difficult...no it would be impossible. Snowmobile use areas would invite abuse to Wilderness areas in the form of user-created trails and tempt ATV/OHV, motorcycles and mountain bikers to do the same.

Snowmobiling creates a packed track on the snow allowing coyotes and other predators to penetrate wintering areas of mountain goat, wolverine, and lynx. Displacement from snowmobiles will push these species to unsuitable habitat.

Supervisor Brazell, the Forest Service should honor the 40-year legacy of Recommended Wilderness in the Great Burn. Only Proposed Action Option A for the Hoodoo (Great Burn) Roadless Area plus adding the Bighorn-Weitas Roadless Area to Recommended Wilderness status is the honorable thing to do.

Sincerely

Steve and Deborah Anthes

POB 37

Malo, WA 99150

509 779-4117