

Ten Lakes

Montana Wilderness Study Act Area

Final Report & Proposal

02529

Revised
DRAFT

Sen 6/19/85

United States
Department
of Agriculture



Forest Service

Kootenai
National Forest



**Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area
Final Report and Proposal
(P.L. 95-150)**

Type of Action

Legislative

**Responsible
Federal Agency**

Forest Service, USDA

**Responsible
Official**

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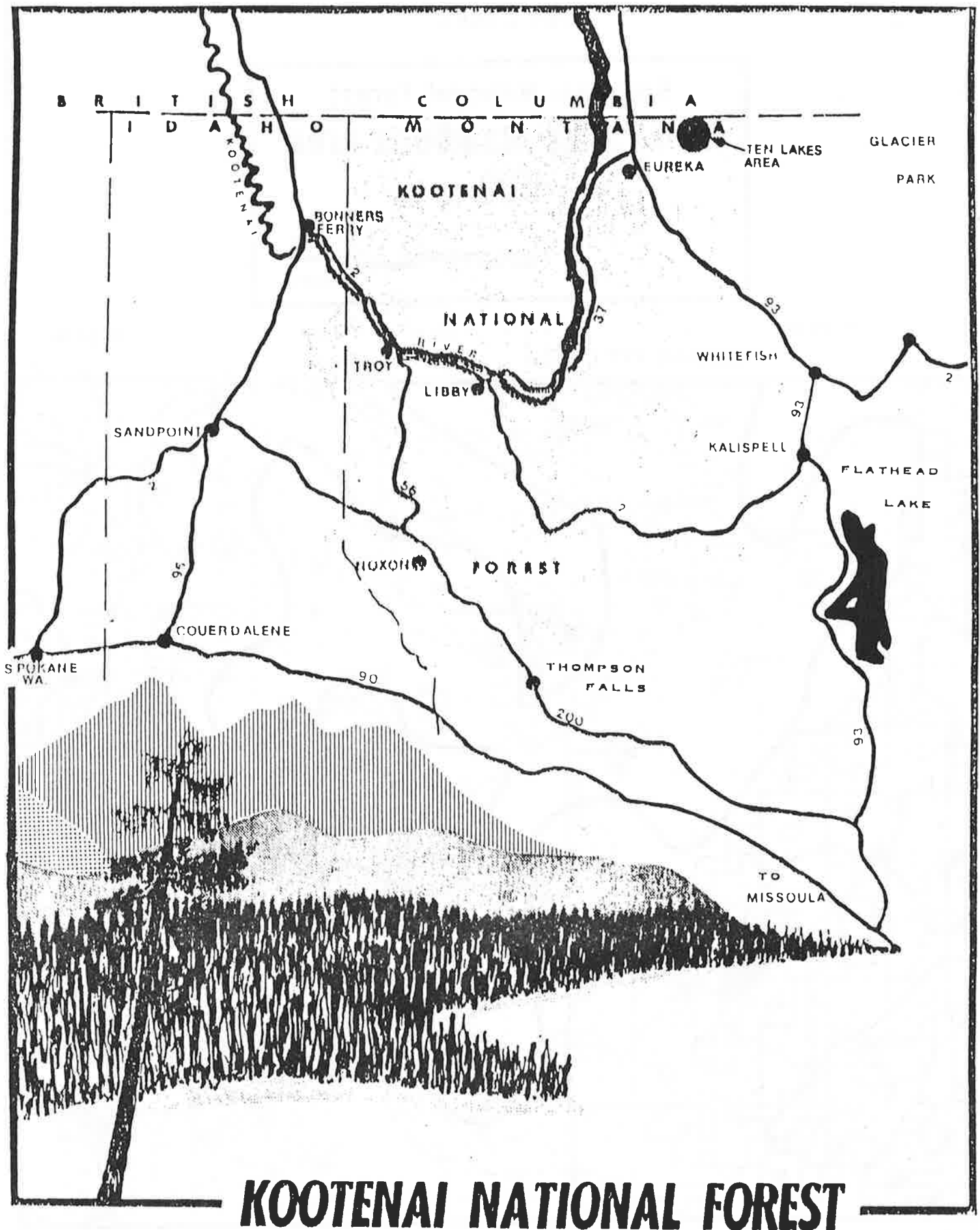
Abstract

This Final Report and Proposal includes a wilderness recommendation on 26,000 acres of the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act area, located in northwestern Montana astride the Whitefish Mountain Range, bordered by Canada to the north. The remaining 8,200 acres of the 34,200 acre area are recommended for nonwilderness designations including roadless management (5,300 acres) and developmental designations with activities that favor wildlife. The recommendation is based upon 8 years of study, analysis, and evaluation of public comments and follows the public review of the Draft Report and Proposal released in November 1982. Altogether, seven alternative management schemes for the Ten Lakes study area were developed and analyzed, including the final Proposed Action. Publics identified that would be adversely affected by a wilderness designation for the majority of the area include the oil and gas industry and snowmobile enthusiasts. Public benefits derived from a wilderness designation include protected grizzly bear habitat, retention of the area in a primitive state, and protection of the sensitive landscape visible from the Tobacco Valley and U.S. Highway 93. This recommendation will be forwarded to Congress where the final decision will be made.

**Date of Transmission
to Environmental
Protection Agency
and the Public**

Summary of
Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area
Final Report and Proposal
(P.L. 95-150)

Kootenai National Forest

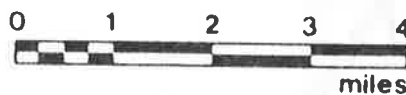


KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

Montana Wilderness Study Act Area Ten Lakes

02529

Kootenai National Forest Ten Lakes Roadless Area 683

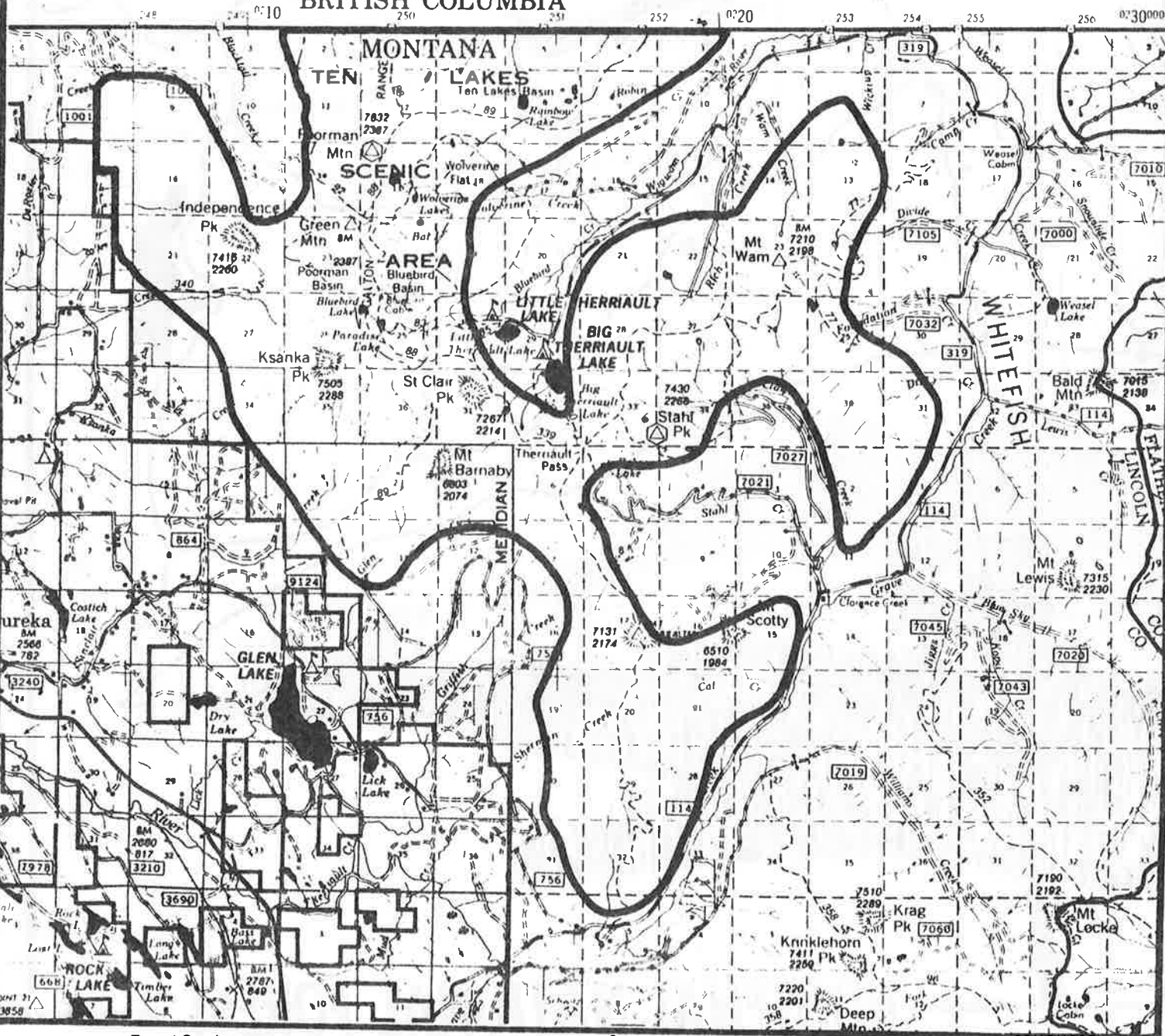


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TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA SUMMARY

This final Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act (MWSA) area Report and Proposal is the administrative recommendation to Congress for their review. The Proposal recommends 26,000 acres of wilderness. The remainder of the 34,000 acre MWSA area is primarily designated for roadless management with a small portion designated for developmental activities to favor wildlife. This final recommendation is based upon the analysis of the resources present in the area, an examination of the public response to the original Draft Report and original Proposal, and a consideration of the tradeoffs involved in a wilderness designation. The following chart displays the recommended disposition of the Ten Lakes MWSA, also referred to as the Ten Lakes Roadless Area (#683).

TEN LAKES MWSA AREA (01683)

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>% of Total MWSA</u>
Recommended Wilderness	26,000	76
Recommended Nonwilderness	8,200	24
Total MWSA	34,200*	100
Recommended Nonwilderness	8,200	24
Designated Roadless	5,300	16
Designated Developmental	2,900	8
Designated Developmental	2,900	8
Wildlife	700	2
Timber/Wildlife	1,500	4
Timber/Wildlife/Visual	700	2

* This figure is the correct figure for the MWSA total acres. The Draft Report and Proposal erroneously reported a 35,900 acre figure.

This wilderness recommendation is consistent with an additional 7,000 acres outside and adjacent to the wilderness study area boundary that is being analyzed in the Kootenai National Forest Plan. This adjacent area is referred to as the Ten Lakes Contiguous Roadless Area (683A) and is presently being reviewed by the public for their comment. If the public and Congress concur, this combined potential wilderness recommendation would total 33,000 acres. The following table displays the recommended disposition of the Ten Lakes MWSA and the adjacent area.

TOTAL TEN LAKES MWSA & ADJACENT AREA

<u>TEN LAKES MWSA AREA (683)</u>		<u>ADJACENT AREA (683A)</u>		<u>- TOTAL AREA</u>
<u>Designation</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>- Total Acres</u>
Recommended Wilderness	26,000	Recommended Wilderness	7,000	33,000
Recommended Nonwilder.	8,200	Recommended Nonwilder.	100	8,300
Total MWSA	34,200	Total	7,100	41,300

In the Ten Lakes MWSA area, six alternatives were originally developed and analyzed, ranging from the Current Direction (Unit Plan designations) to full wilderness (Alternative C). Based upon the public response to the original proposed action, which recommended a mix of roadless and developmental management but no wilderness, the Revised Proposed Action was developed. The Revised Proposed Action includes incorporating the public's desire for nondevelopment for the Ten Lakes area through both a wilderness and nonwilderness designation. Some development of resources is recommended where deemed appropriate. The revised proposed action follows closely the recommendations contained in the June, 1984, Montana Wilderness Bill which did not pass before the close of the legislative session.

Oil and gas interests and snowmobiling enthusiasts would be the most adversely affected by a wilderness designation. The area in which Ten Lakes is located is considered to have one of the highest potentials on the Forest for oil and gas resources. Oil and gas leases would not be let in the 26,000 acre recommended wilderness and would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis on the remainder of the MWSA area. Oil and gas leases could be let if Congress were to grant an exception for this use in wilderness legislation.

Snowmobiling, an established use in the area since the early 1960's, would be prohibited in the recommended wilderness though available in the remainder of the study area. As in the case of oil and gas leasing above, snowmobiling would be allowed in a portion of the recommended wilderness only if Congress granted an exception in the legislation.

Benefits of a wilderness classification include preservation of the primitive character of the area, protection of grizzly and caribou habitat, and protection of the visual resource along the Eureka Face, a sensitive area highly visible from the Tobacco Valley and U.S. Highway 93. Based upon the analysis of the public comments, a wilderness classification for the Ten Lakes MWSA would meet with local and regional approval.

The Final Report and Proposal document contains a description of the Proposed Action and a copy of the original Report and Proposal from which the Final is tiered. Also included are the analysis of the public comments on the original Draft Report and Proposal, copies of the letters received, and the public hearing records.

Pending the final decision by Congress, the Ten Lakes MWSA area will be maintained in an undeveloped state to protect its wilderness potential.

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**Ten Lakes
Montana Wilderness Study Act Area
Final Report and Proposal
(P.L. 95-150)**

Kootenai National Forest

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BY _____
Attorney General

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Department of Justice at Washington, D.C., this _____ day of _____, 1985.

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10/10/85

1. The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the work done during the past year.

2. The work was done in the following areas: (a) General management of the forest, (b) Fire management, (c) Timber management, (d) Wildlife management, (e) Recreation management, (f) Research and development, (g) Education and public relations, (h) Administration.

3. The work was done in the following areas: (a) General management of the forest, (b) Fire management, (c) Timber management, (d) Wildlife management, (e) Recreation management, (f) Research and development, (g) Education and public relations, (h) Administration.

4. The work was done in the following areas: (a) General management of the forest, (b) Fire management, (c) Timber management, (d) Wildlife management, (e) Recreation management, (f) Research and development, (g) Education and public relations, (h) Administration.

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6. The work was done in the following areas: (a) General management of the forest, (b) Fire management, (c) Timber management, (d) Wildlife management, (e) Recreation management, (f) Research and development, (g) Education and public relations, (h) Administration.

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8. The work was done in the following areas: (a) General management of the forest, (b) Fire management, (c) Timber management, (d) Wildlife management, (e) Recreation management, (f) Research and development, (g) Education and public relations, (h) Administration.

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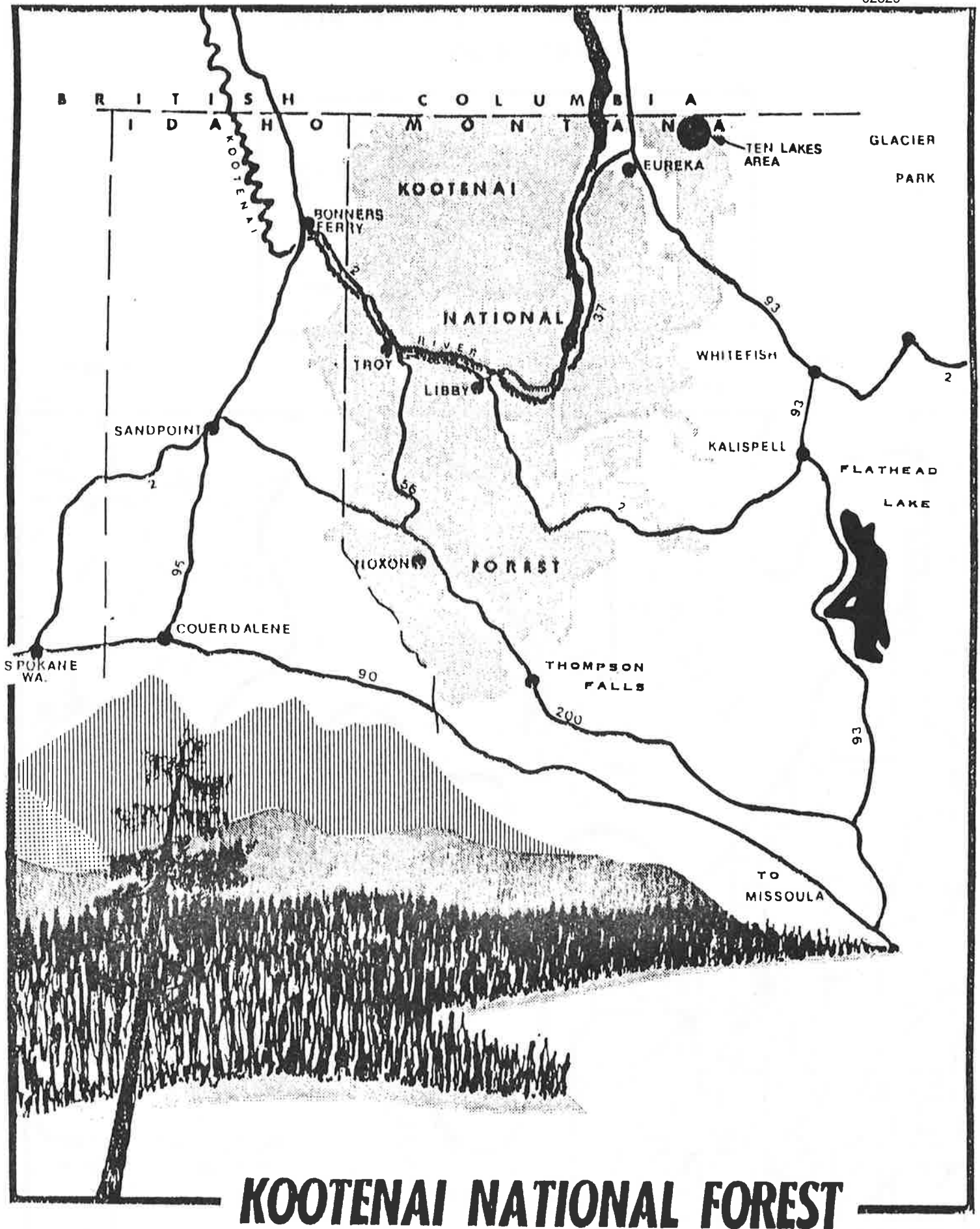
12. The work was done in the following areas: (a) General management of the forest, (b) Fire management, (c) Timber management, (d) Wildlife management, (e) Recreation management, (f) Research and development, (g) Education and public relations, (h) Administration.

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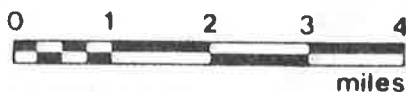
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Montana Wilderness Study Act Area
Ten Lakes

02529

Kootenai National Forest
Ten Lakes Roadless Area
683

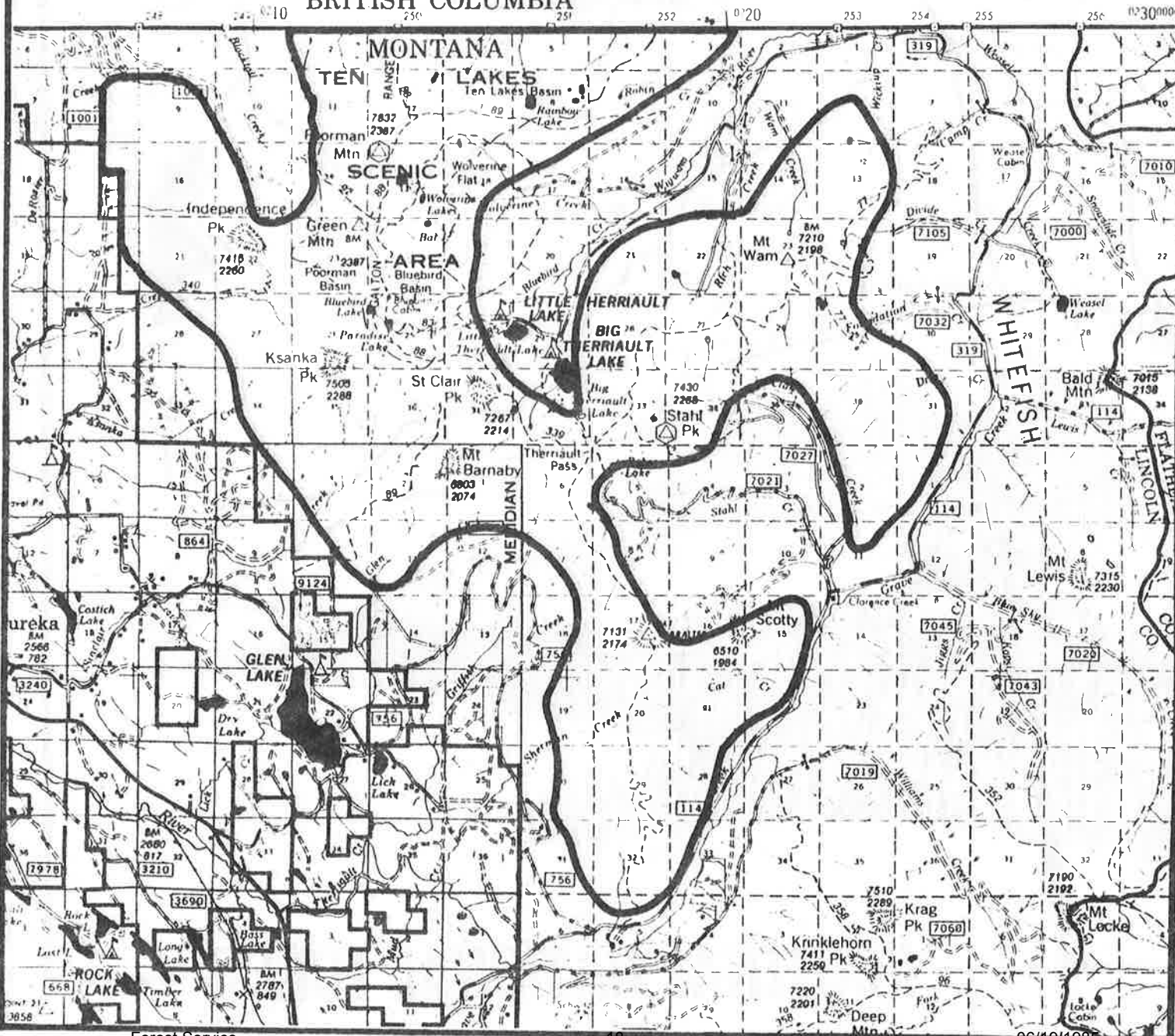


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I. Introduction

A. Background and Document Organization

This Final Report and Proposal for the 34,200* acre Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act (MWSA) area, reflects the culmination of eight years of study, involving resource data gathering, developing alternative management schemes, and soliciting and evaluating public comments on how the Ten Lakes MWSA area should be managed.

This document focuses on the Final Proposed Action which includes a wilderness recommendation on 76% of the area (26,000 acres), roadless management on 16% (5,300 acres), and the remaining 8% (2,900 acres) recommended for developmental activities primarily to benefit wildlife. The Final Proposed Action supercedes that offered in the November 1982 Report and Proposal (which did not recommend wilderness) and should be viewed in the context of the Proposed Action presented in the Kootenai National Forest Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Although both documents reflect separate studies and can be considered exclusive of each other, the Forest Plan contains a wilderness recommendation for areas adjacent to the Ten Lakes MWSA which, if implemented, would add to the Proposed Ten Lakes Wilderness that is discussed in this Final Report and Proposal.

This document includes a discussion of the results of public involvement and how that involvement led to the Final Proposed Action. Also presented is a description of the Final Proposed Action, a discussion of the resources present in the area and the outputs to be expected, and a discussion of the effects of implementation. The original November 1982 Report and Proposal is contained in Appendix A. Appendix B contains the analysis of the public comments received in response to the November 1982 document while Appendix C contains copies of the responses to the original Report and Proposal. Appendix D is the record of the public hearings conducted during the public review period.

B. Evolution of the Study, History and Role of Public Involvement, and Identified Issues

The first recorded public interest and discussion regarding what was to become the Montana Wilderness Study Act (MWSA) areas dates from 1958 when former Regional Forester Tebbe announced the establishment of a Hilgard "hold" area of about 150,000 acres (now part of the Taylor-Hilgard MWSA area). He agreed that the Forest Service would forego developmental activities in the area pending the completion of a wilderness study.

All or portions of the Ten Lakes and other study areas were inventoried during the first Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE I) in 1972 and 1973. Additional debate occurred between the public and the Forest Service in that process.

* This figure is the correct figure for the MWSA total acres. The Original Draft Report and Proposal erroneously reported a 35,900 acre figure.

In October 1974, the first bill was introduced to establish what was later to become the MWSA areas. The areas included Mt. Henry, Taylor-Hilgard, West Pioneer, Big Snowies, Bluejoint, Hyalite-Porcupine-Buffalo Horn, Middle Fork of the Judith, Sapphires, and Ten Lakes. After several years of debate, the Montana Wilderness Study Act was passed in November 1977 (Public Law 95-150).

In the meantime, RARE II was initiated in mid-1977 and the areas were included in the inventory and the accompanying analysis. When the RARE II Draft Environmental Impact Statement was issued, the public did not respond at any length to these areas because they were advised that a separate study under the Montana Wilderness Study Act would follow.

In 1979 following RARE II, a good deal of dialogue was directed to the Forest Service in terms of the best study process to follow, the time schedule, and the data needs. The latter subject centered around the question of the adequacy of the timber data. To help resolve this question, the Regional Forester formed a citizen's timber statistics committee in August 1979. Their recommendations were forwarded to the Regional Forester in February 1980.

Generally, public involvement activities for the Montana Wilderness Study Act areas were coordinated by the Northern Region Office which, in addition to establishing the above citizen's committee, organized public workshops for the nine Study Act areas. Workshops to identify the public issues for the MWSA areas on the Kootenai (Mt. Henry and Ten Lakes) were held in Eureka and Libby in September 1979. The workshops were conducted using the nominal group process with 66 people participating.

Issues for the wilderness study areas were identified by the Region, based on the issues raised at the public workshops. These issues were applied to all nine areas under study. The Region published a Report and Proposal pertaining to three of the study areas (Mt. Henry, Taylor-Hilgard, and West Pioneer), directing that the remaining six areas be addressed in the respective Forest Plans. The issues that had been used to direct the study of the nine areas were applied to the individual study areas and addressed in the evaluations.

The public issues selected by the Regional Forester to guide the analysis of the MWSA areas were:

Timber - What is the timber potential of the area and where is timber management most appropriate?

Recreation - What are the amount and kinds of recreation opportunities the area presently supports or is capable of supporting?

Wildlife - What are the principal game, nongame, and threatened and endangered species and what are the opportunities for habitat improvement?

Minerals - What is the hardrock, oil, and gas potential of the area and how should the area be managed for that potential?

Wilderness Suitability - What are the wilderness attributes of the study area and to what extent is the area suitable for wilderness?

Other Wilderness - What other Federal lands are classified wilderness, proposed wilderness, or are under study as wilderness in the surrounding area and to what extent should they influence the classification of the study lands?

Wilderness Quality - What consideration should be given to wilderness quality in determining which lands are proposed for wilderness?

Protection - What is the present condition and the potential for serious fire and/or insect and disease infestation; what are the current protection measures, and what measures are needed?

Community Stability - What consideration should be given to maintaining current employment levels for dependent communities?

Social Situation - What is the social structure of the communities and counties adjacent to the study area, and what potential effects should be considered?

RPA - What resources do the areas contain and how should the study area's resource outputs be allocated toward meeting the RPA program goals?

Opportunities for Physically Handicapped - How much need is there for the study lands to contribute to recreation opportunities for physically handicapped and elderly persons?

In November 1982, a Draft Report and Proposal was released to the public for review and comment. The provisions of Public Law 95-150 allowed for a 90-day review period. This period was extended an additional 45 days by the Regional Forester upon request by members of the public.

Provisions of the Bill also required public hearings as part of the public review process. Consequently, three public hearings were conducted; in Eureka, in Libby, and in Kalispell, on January 17, 18, and 19, 1983, respectively. Forty four participants presented written and/or oral comments and recommendations.

C. Results of the Public's Review

The Original Proposed Action recommended about 50% of the area for nonwilderness, roadless, management with the remainder designated for some form of development to benefit wildlife.

During the review period, 391 people responded to the original proposal including the 44 participants at the public hearings. The responses were stratified using a content analysis process. Responses included letters, petitions, and public hearing appearances. The majority of comments were received in the form of personal letters. Petitions and form letters did play a part in the total responses. There were three petitions totalling 59 signatures, all from the Eureka area. Form letters were received primarily from the snowmobile clubs in eastern Montana voicing support for continued use of snowmobiling in Montana. (See Appendix B for a detailed discussion of the analysis and evaluation of the public comments.)

About 70% of the respondents lived either within the Forest boundary or immediately adjacent to it; the respondents can thus be categorized as primarily local.

The issue of wilderness/nonwilderness is highly polarized and this is reflected in the responses to the original Report and Proposal. About 48% of the respondents flatly disapproved of the recommendations made in the original Report and Proposal preferring, instead, Alternative C which recommended that the entire area be wilderness. About 42% approved of the original proposed action (including those who approved with "conditions" or suggestions for improvement), while the remainder of the respondents offered no opinion one way or the other.

A group of local citizens in the Tobacco Valley area (representing several local organizations) formed a committee and volunteered their time and experience to prepare a "Citizens' Alternative." Their proposal requested that the existing Ten Lakes scenic area (6500 acres) be expanded to include almost the entire study area (about 35,000 acres) and that snowmobiling be allowed. (Following the preparation of the "Citizens' Alternative," a petition was received from people belonging to the groups supposedly represented by the above committee, stating that they did not support the "Citizens' Alternative.")

Of those 48% who disapproved of the original proposal and who favored a wilderness alternative for Ten Lakes, most were from the area immediately adjacent to the Forest, followed closely by people who live within the Forest boundary. The most often stated reasons for their preference were:

Nonwilderness would be detrimental to wildlife.

Timber values in the area are too low to warrant including the area in the timber base.

Because the area is the last wild remnant of the Whitefish Range, should be set aside as wilderness; area has high wilderness attributes.

Snowmobilers already have enough area in which to recreate.

Area needs to be protected from oil and gas development.

Of those 42% of the people who approved of the original Proposed Action, most were from eastern Montana, followed by people from the local area and from the area immediately adjacent to the Forest. The most often stated reasons for approving the original Proposed Action were:

Leave the area open for snowmobiling.

Timber in the area should be managed.

Area should be made available for oil and gas exploration.

There is already too much wilderness in Montana.

A Scenic Area designation would be better than wilderness because such a designation would protect the area while still allowing for some development.

To summarize, preference for a wilderness classification in Ten Lakes stemmed from a concern for wildlife (primarily threatened and endangered species), lack of developmental opportunities to justify nonwilderness, the quality wilderness attributes present in the area, and the feeling that wilderness would be the best designation to insure continued protection.

For those supporting a nonwilderness designation for the area, the primary reasons for their position stemmed from a desire to continue snowmobile use in the area, a desire to develop the resources that are present including timber and oil and gas potentials, the desire to maintain management flexibility, and the belief that there is already too much wilderness in Montana.

The polarization of the wilderness issue focuses on whether the area would be better protected as wilderness, as a scenic area, or other forms of management, roadless or nonroadless. The following is a summary of the major issues identified by the public in the review of the November 1982 Draft Report and Proposal in the order of most often expressed to least often expressed: (Other issues were addressed with less intensity. Appendix B contains all the items raised by the public in their review).

1. Issue Statement: The area should be classified wilderness because of the grizzly and caribou values in the area; wilderness provides the best protection for these areas.
2. Issue Statement: Because the area is a popular snowmobile area, wilderness should not be the designation as this would prohibit use.
3. Issue Statement: The timber values in the area are low; they neither add or detract significantly from the Forest totals and as such, do not warrant a nonwilderness classification for the area.

4. Issue Statement: Ten Lakes is the last remaining wild remnant of the Whitefish Range that contains scenic beauty and opportunities for solitude; the wilderness values outweigh the need for development.
5. Issue Statement: Snowmobile use should not be a reason for nonwilderness because (1) it is not known the extent of snowmobile use and (2) snowmobiles already have most of the Forest in which to recreate.
6. Issue Statement: The area should be protected from the effects of oil and gas development; such protection would be available if the area were wilderness.
7. Issue Statement: Timber in Ten Lakes will not contribute to the Forest's ability to meet RPA timber goals.
8. Issue Statement: There is a shortage of wilderness in Montana.
9. Issue Statement: A Scenic Area designation would not provide the same degree of protection as a wilderness; in terms of protection, wilderness classification is preferable.
10. Issue Statement: The timber values in the area outweigh the wilderness qualities and therefore should be managed.

D. Action Taken After the Public Review and Revision of the Original Proposed Action

Analysis of the public comments revealed that there is a strong desire for protection of the Ten Lakes Area. Even among those who approved of the original Proposed Action (nonwilderness) concern was expressed over too much development projected for the area. The results of the analysis of public comments were interpreted as being strongly in favor of a nondevelopment designation for the area, with a significant desire for a formal wilderness.

The original Proposed Action was deemed inappropriate in light of the public comments because of the amount of development projected, and was thus reconsidered. The reconsideration involved examining a significant amount of nondevelopment including potential wilderness boundaries that could be easily managed. The snowmobile clubs were advised that some form of a wilderness designation would probably be forthcoming and that their involvement to arrive at a suitable designation was essential. The Libby Sno-Kats, a local snowmobile club, had submitted a map of important snowmobiling areas and were interested in remaining involved in the process. Organizers of the "Citizen's Alternative" were apprised of the reconsideration and their input was sought.

During the Summer of 1984, the boundaries of the revised Proposed Action were finalized and included a wilderness recommendation. This new wilderness recommendation proposed approximately 26,000 acres of wilderness inside the Ten Lakes MWSA area and an additional 7000 acres outside and adjacent to the Study Area. This coincided closely with the Montana Wilderness Bill submitted by the Montana Congressional Delegation in June 1984. That recommendation was for a wilderness designation on 25,000 acres plus 7,000 acres of lands adjacent that were not originally a part of the Ten Lakes Study Area. A special roadless management area and some limited development was recommended on the remainder of the area. The Montana Wilderness Bill failed to pass by the close of Congress in December 1984.

The recommendation made in this Final Report and Proposal will be presented to Congress for their consideration on whether wilderness or nonwilderness should be the management direction for the Ten Lakes MWSA area.

II. The Ten Lakes Area

A. Area Description

The Ten Lakes MWSA roadless area is located in the northeast corner of the Forest, adjacent to the Canadian border. Portions of the area have been in a "protected" status since 1964 when a 6,500 core area was designated the Ten Lakes Scenic Area. This core area is mountainous, with talus slopes, rock outcroppings, and bare ridges common in the upper elevations. Prominent mountain peaks are Ksanka and Independence in addition to Poorman and Green Mountain and St. Clair Peak, which surround the inner core area. Subalpine basins with clear lakes, beautiful mountain meadows with an abundance of flowers, and gnarled veteran alpine larch and whitebark pine, make this "core" an area of scenic beauty.

The lower elevations of the surrounding roadless area contain some commercial forests. Dominant timber species in the "core" subalpine basins where the timber quality is poor, are Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, whitebark pine, lodgepole pine, and alpine larch. The growing season is very short and snow depth usually exceeds 12 feet.

The entire area is generally surrounded by signs of past forest management activities, roads, or population centers. The Ten Lakes MWSA area is directly west of the Thompson-Seton and Tuchuck roadless areas and overlooks the Tobacco Valley where the towns of Eureka, Fortine, and Trego are located. Many of the basins surrounding the area were logged during the spruce bark beetle infestation in the early 1950's, which explains the "finger" configuration of the area.

Existing use is considered moderate (14,900 RVD's) and consists primarily of hiking, nature photography, cross country skiing, and snowmobiling.

B. Wilderness Attributes

1. Natural Integrity and Appearance

Overall, the natural integrity is high with the Stahl Peak lookout, Wolverine Cabin, and trails the only manmade features within the boundary.

2. Opportunities for Solitude

Opportunities for solitude are good within the core of Ten Lakes but range from poor to moderate in the remainder of the area. This is because of the open ridges that face out into developed areas which tends to detract from the opportunities for solitude.

3. Primitive Recreation Opportunities

Good opportunities for primitive recreation exist such as hiking, camping, and wildlife observation. Challenging experiences include rock climbing and wildlife photography.

4. Other Features

The area is a part of the Whitefish Range of the Northern Continental Divide grizzly bear ecosystem. Other features include panoramic views of Glacier Park from the open ridges.

5. Manageability and Boundaries

There are three patented mining claims and a few old logging roads just within the boundary that present nonconforming uses.

The MWSA area has a convoluted configuration which inhibits wilderness boundary management. This configuration results from heavily logged basins which creates a roadless area of exposed "fingers" extending into developed areas. The boundary lines are located, for the most part, on midslope contours which would be difficult to identify and administer. Opportunities for improving the boundary do exist and have been incorporated into the Final Proposed Action.

C. Current Resource Situation

1. Recreation

The Ten Lakes MWSA area has the potential to provide about 16,900 RVD's of roadless recreation. Current use of the area is moderate with most activity focused in campgrounds immediately outside the roadless boundary from where day hikes into the area are made. Some snowmobile use occurs primarily in the Wolverine and Bluebird Basins, and across Therriault Pass.

2. Timber

About 18,400 acres are considered tentatively suitable timberlands. Most of the timberland is located on lands with 55%+ slopes which would require skyline or aerial harvest methods.

3. Wildlife and Fish

The area contains elk, whitetail and mule deer, bear, and moose habitat. Small portions of winter range (500 acres) are also located in the area. Ten Lakes is part of the Northern Continental Divide grizzly bear ecosystem and sightings have been made. Evidence indicates that caribou use the area though the extent is not known. It is assumed that the use is transient and that the main herd is located in Canada. Research efforts to determine the status of the caribou are presently underway.

Bluebird, Rainbow, and Wolverine Lakes support a cutthroat trout fisheries.

4. Minerals, Oil and Gas

The mineral potential is considered low. The MWSA area lies within the overthrust belt. As such, the area is considered to have one of the highest oil and gas potentials on the Forest though no leases are in effect inside the MWSA area. All the surrounding area is under lease.

5. Range

The area has the potential to provide about 1,000 AUM's of livestock forage, all of which would be on transitory range. There are no grazing allotments in the area.

6. Cultural Resources

There have been no prehistoric sites identified in the Ten Lakes MWSA roadless area. Based on surveys done in similar areas, the probability of sites occurring is considered low. Seven historic sites have been recorded including the Wolverine Cabin, a border guard station, and five mining sites.

7. Water

The area contains portions of the Blacktail, Ksanka, Sinclair, Therriault, Stahl, Wolverine, and Bluebird Creek watersheds. Precipitation ranges from a low of 20 inches in the Ksanka Creek portion of the area to a high of 65 inches in the Blacktail and Bluebird Creek portions. Runoff varies from 5 to 60 inches, depending on the drainage. Water quality is considered high, even during peak runoff periods.

D. Management Considerations

1. Land Use Authorizations

There are no special uses.

2. Fire

The area has had moderate fire occurrence (12 fires in the last 23 years). The fuels situation is primarily dense conifer with downed woody materials as ground fuels.

3. Insect and Disease

Mountain pine beetle and spruce bark beetle activity is occurring in the area. There are about 5,600 acres of susceptible lodgepole and spruce that are affected.

4. Non-Federal Lands

There are three patented mining claims totalling about 100 acres within the area.

E. Proximity to Other Wilderness and to Population Centers

Ten Lakes is about 65 miles from the existing Cabinet Mountains Wilderness and about 40 miles from Glacier National Park. The area is about 60 miles from the populated Flathead Valley and 200 miles from Missoula, Montana, the nearest population centers.

F. Contribution to National Wilderness Preservation System

This area contains portions of the Northern Continental Divide grizzly bear ecosystem which is represented in the existing wilderness system.

III Final Proposed Action

A. Intent

The intent of the Proposed Action is to preserve the majority of the primitive character of the Ten Lakes MWSA through a combination of a wilderness designation, where a boundary can be easily identified and managed, and through other nondevelopmental designations such as semiprimitive nonmotorized recreation where a wilderness classification would not be appropriate. Where the timber resources in the area are considered more appropriate for management, designations are made that allow some activities to occur, primarily for wildlife benefits (involves about 6% of the area).

B. Description

1. Wilderness

The Final Proposed Action contains 26,000 acres of proposed wilderness which is approximately 76% of the area. Excluded from the proposal is the extreme eastern portion located along the Mt. Wam ridge. Proposed management in that area is nonwilderness (roadless) recreation on approximately 5,300 acres (16% of the area). (See Alternative Maps). Pockets of development are designated in the lower portions Sinclair Creek, Clarence, and Rich Creek drainages. This developmental designation is adjacent to existing roads and is primarily to benefit wildlife.

The final Proposed Action map reflects the total wilderness recommendation which includes about 7,000 acres of land outside the MWSA boundary, identified as "Ten Lakes Contiguous Areas 01683A" in the Forest Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). These contiguous areas are not evaluated in this Report but, rather, are discussed in the DEIS, Appendix C.

2. Timber and Road Construction

About 2,200 acres are designated for developmental activities which include some timber harvest and a limited amount of road building. Timber management would occur in commercial timber lands located within grizzly habitat and would be conducted with prescriptions favoring the grizzly bear. The prescription regulates the scheduling of activities so that they occur during periods of nonuse by grizzlies and provides for road closures when the harvest activities are complete.

No timber harvest is projected until the third decade when an estimated 1.4 MMBF would be harvested annually. Approximately 4.2 miles (total) of new road construction would be needed to harvest the 14 MMBF.

3. Wildlife & Fish Including Threatened and Endangered

The entire area lies within the Northern Continental Divide Grizzly Bear Ecosystem (NCDGE) and numerous sightings of grizzlies have been made. The estimated grizzly population in the NCDGE ranges from 440-660 bears. The Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan calls for a target population for the NCDGE ecosystem of 560 bears, of which the Kootenai's share is 13. The Final Proposed Action would provide a low risk of failure in meeting the recovery goal.

Evidence of caribou use in the Ten Lakes area has been found although the extent of that use has yet to be determined. A wilderness and roadless designation for the area would protect the available habitat.

There are about 500 acres of big game winter range located within the area that would be managed for big game primarily whitetail deer. These acres are designated nonwilderness in the Final Proposed Action.

The cutthroat trout fisheries in Bluebird, Rainbow, and Wolverine lakes would be maintained.

4. Minerals, Oil and Gas

Approximately 76% of the Ten Lakes MWSA would be unavailable for mineral, and oil and gas exploration and development. The mineral potential is considered low but the oil and gas potential is rated as having one of the highest potentials on the Forest. No leases would be let for oil and gas exploration in the proposed wilderness. The configuration of the area is such that directional drilling from outside the area would be possible if Congress were to grant an exception to allow oil and gas exploration. Lease applications on the remainder of the area not designated wilderness would be available for leasing consideration in a separate environmental assessment process.

5. Visual Resource

The landscape along the Eureka Face (that portion of the area that faces out into the Tobacco Valley and is highly visible from Highway 93) would be maintained in a natural appearance. The development that would occur in the Sinclair Creek drainage, located along the Eureka Face, would be conducted with limitations designed to protect the

6. Recreation

About 13,000 RVDs of wilderness use would be provided in the Final Proposed Action, with about 1,250 RVDs of seimprimitive nonmotorized recreation provided. Although a small portion of the area would be developed, roads would be restricted and thus would be unavailable for motorized forms of recreation.

Snowmobile use would not be available in the recommended wilderness but would be allowed in the nonwilderness portions.

7. Range

No grazing opportunities would be available and thus no livestock AUMs would be produced.

8. Present Net Value

The PNV of the Proposed Action is \$3,156,000.

9. Insect and Disease

Of the projected timber harvest, about 25% would be lodgepole pine susceptible to mountain pine beetle infestation. Most of the lodgepole pine currently susceptible would be unavailable for harvest.

The following chart displays the outputs that would be expected from the Final Proposed Action.

**OUTPUTS for SELECTED RESOURCES
that are associated with the
FINAL PROPOSED ACTION**

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>UNITS</u>
Wilderness Designation Acres	26,000
Roadless Designation	(5,300)
Developmental Designation	
Wildlife	(700)
Timber & Wildlife	(1,500)
Timber, Wildlife, & Visual	(700)
Total Nonwilderness	8,200
 Timber Harvest (MMBF)	
Total Decade 1	0
Total Decade 3	14
Total Decade 5	0
 Roads	
Miles of New Roads	4
Miles Restricted	4
 Acres of Grizzly Bear Habitat Available for Grizzly Bear Recovery (Situation 1)	34,200
 Acres of Big Game Management	2,900
Winter Range	1,400
Summer Range	1,500
 Acres of High Potential Minerals or Oil/Gas that are Inaccessible	
Minerals	0
Oil & Gas	26,000
 Recreation RVDs (Total)	15,500
Primitive (wilderness)	13,000
Semiprimitive-Nonmotorized	1,200
Semiprimitive-Motorized (Snowmobiling)	1,300
 Range - AUMs	0
 Number of Jobs	17
 Returns to the Treasury	
Total Decade 1	0
Total Decade 3	\$63,000
Total Decade 5	0
 Present Net Value (1978 Dollars)	\$3,156,000

IV. Effects of Activities

This section discusses the effects of activities that would occur if the final Proposed Action were implemented. The discussion focuses on the effects of wilderness designations and nonwilderness designations, both roadless and developmental with activities associated with wildlife management.

A. Effects of Wilderness Designation

The Proposed Action recommends 26,000 acres of wilderness be designated in the Ten Lakes MWSA. There are no specific ground-disturbing management activities associated with wilderness although the establishment of wilderness may, in itself, have effects on other resources and uses.

A wilderness classification will protect the naturalness of the area. Primitive recreation opportunities would be maximized and security would be provided for big game and grizzly bears.

There are about 18,400 acres of suitable timberland that would not be available for harvest.

Grizzly bear habitat (Situation 1 - critical to the recovery of the species) covers the entire study area. Wilderness management would provide security to the bear by prohibiting roading thereby reducing potential increases in human activity. However, opportunities to increase forage for bears through prescribed burning and timber harvest would not occur.

Opportunities to manage big game summer and winter range where it occurs would not be available. Management activities associated with wildlife habitat management include timber harvest and prescribed burning. However, the security provided by wilderness would be beneficial to wildlife in that access into the area would be limited.

Wilderness will prohibit the exploration for, and removal of, mineral resources. Under the Wilderness Act, the land would be withdrawn from mineral entry for hard rock mining. This restriction is not considered significant to hardrock minerals because the mineral potential is considered to be low. The oil and gas potential is rated as being one of the highest on the Forest. (Overall the potential for oil and gas on the Kootenai National Forest is considered moderate). Oil and gas leases would not be let. However, the configuration of the area is such that opportunities for directional drilling exploration would be possible if Congress were to grant an exception that would allow this activity.

Activities permissible in wilderness, when authorized by the 1964 Wilderness Act or wilderness management plans, cost more than activities in areas without the restrictions. Restrictions apply primarily to mode of transportation, use of chainsaws in the wilderness, and removing signs of the intrusion after project completion. When permitted, activities such as disease and pest control and fire suppression, would be conducted while protecting the wilderness values which, in turn, requires more time, adherence to more stringent requirements, and more money being spent.

Social and economic effects would center around the resource values of recreation, wildlife, wilderness, and timber. Primitive recreation activities such as hunting in a roadless setting, would continue. Timberland inside the proposed wilderness would not be available, thus not supporting the local wood products industry. Those publics valuing wilderness would be supportive of the Final Proposed Action.

B. Nonwilderness Designation - Roadless

This designation would occur in the extreme eastern portion of the area, along the north-south ridge radiating from Mt. Wam. The designation totals about 5,300 acres. There are few, if any, ground-disturbing management activities specifically associated with this unroaded management.

The roadless character of the area would be maintained in this emphasis as would the semiprimitive recreation opportunities. Old growth timber habitat will be provided and security for grizzlies and big game would be maintained.

Oil and gas lease applications would be evaluated through the environmental assessment process. Leases could be granted with restrictions to protect the primitive character of the area as much as possible.

Like wilderness, roadless designations require stiffer requirements for conducting activities, requirements that are designed to protect the qualities inherent in a roadless designation. Restrictions on access and mode of travel are major limitations for conducting activities, often making the activity expensive to accomplish. Such activities can include wildlife and fish habitat improvements, mineral, oil and gas exploration/development, insect and disease control, and wildfire suppression.

The social and economic effects are primarily the benefits of semiprimitive recreation opportunities. Timber would not be available for harvest in this designation.

C. Nonwilderness Designation - Developmental

About 2,900 acres are designated to developmental activities designed primarily to favor wildlife, i.e. big game and grizzly bears. Timber harvest and associated activities, such as road building, have more effect on the physical and biological environment than any other forest management emphasis. The extent of the effects are dependent on management prescriptions selected.

Activities are not scheduled to occur until the third decade. Total road miles expected to be needed to manage the area is estimated to be 4.2 miles but, because of the requirements of the prescriptions favoring wildlife, the roads would be closed after the activity is complete.

As roading and other development occur, the naturalness of the area will be impacted. Roading foregoes the opportunity to reconsider the area for wilderness in the future and reduces the opportunity for primitive recreation and experiences of solitude.

Timber harvest and roads could result in a short term displacement of big game. Activities conducted in big game habitat are coordinated with wildlife needs and include the closure of roads upon completion of the activity and insuring that adequate cover is left. Long term benefits to wildlife include maintaining and improving wildlife forage.

Timber management activities can directly affect the grizzly population in the short term by logging activities and the long term by road access into a roadless area. Access into the area could displace the bear and increase the opportunity for human/bear encounters. Timber management activities, if well coordinated, can produce benefits by producing more desirable forage for grizzlies through certain timber harvest and site preparation practices such as small clearcuts and broadcast burning instead of tractor piling. Roads would be closed in a timely manner to minimize human/bear encounters and displacement.

The harvest of some of the mature lodgepole pine will provide an opportunity for control of insects and disease because all diseased or susceptible trees are removed and a young, vigorous stand is installed. It is expected that about 25% of the projected timber harvest would be lodgepole pine.

Social and economic effects are related primarily to the resource values of timber, wildlife, wilderness, and recreation. The harvest of timber is important to the economic base of communities in the local area. Timber from the Ten Lakes MWSA area would contribute to the economic base although that contribution would be small. Hunting experiences could be altered in those portions of the area scheduled for development because of the change in the roadless setting to a roaded natural setting. Road closures would retain the area closer to its existing character. Concerns about impacts on grizzly bear, big game, and other species could be raised by the activities scheduled in this emphasis, but would be addressed by efforts to mitigate the impacts.

V. Summary of the Final Proposed Action

If the Proposed Action were implemented, there would be little change from the way the area is presently being managed. Except for the few areas of proposed development along the edge of the area, the primitive character of the Ten Lakes MWSA area would be maintained. There would be few visible manmade intrusions to impact the naturalness of the area.

Grizzly habitat would be protected as would old growth timber habitat. Water quality would be maintained and yields would not exceed that which would be expected to occur naturally.

Snowmobiling, an established use in the area since the 1960's, would not be permitted in the recommended wilderness area but would be allowed to continue on the nonwilderness portions.

Oil and gas leasing would not be permitted in the recommended wilderness but could be allowed elsewhere in the area. Limited timber harvesting would occur on small portions of the area, primarily to enhance wildlife habitats.

Based upon the results of the public's review of the November 1982 Draft Report and Proposal, a wilderness designation would be acceptable to the local and regional publics. Snowmobiling and oil and gas interests would be the most adversely affected as would the timber industry but to a lesser degree.

Pending the final decision by Congress, the Ten Lakes MWSA will be managed as a Wilderness Study Area in order to preserve its existing primitive character.

The following Table displays the significant points for all the alternatives considered during the study of the Ten Lakes MWSA, including the Final Proposed Action.

TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (PL-95-150)									
COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES									
(Average Annual Results)									
Resource Item or Results	Unit of Measure	Decade	Current Direction (No Action)	Original Proposed Action (11/82)	ALT A	ALT B	ALT C	ALT D	FINAL PROPOSED ACTION
WILDERNESS									
Recommended to Congress	Acres	1	0	0	16,400	29,600	34,200	6,500	26,000
Roadless Acres Recommended	Acres	1	16,400	18,600	0	0	0	12,100	5,300
Total Wilderness and Roadless Acres Recommended	Acres	1	16,400	18,600	16,400	29,600	34,200	18,600	31,300
TIMBER									
Allowable Sale Quantity	MMBF	1	1.1	0.0	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
		2	0.2	3.8	2.2	0.2	0.0	3.8	0.0
		3	0.5	3.5	8.2	0.5	0.0	3.5	1.4
		4	0.0	2.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0
		5	0.2	1.8	0.5	0.2	0.0	1.8	0.0
Suitable Timberland (Areas Available for Timber Mgmt.)	Acres	1	5,700	16,500	18,600	5,500	0	16,500	2,200
Proportion of total Timberland available for management (Regulated)	Percent	1	29	85	96	27	0	85	11
FACILITIES									
Local Road Construction and Reconstruction	Miles	1	1.0	0.3	0.5	1.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
		2	0.4	2.0	1.3	0.4	0.0	2.0	0.0
		3	1.1	2.0	7.7	1.1	0.0	2.0	0.4
		4	0.0	1.7	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0
		5	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0
Total Roads Eventually Constructed	Miles	5	32	69	106	32	0	69	4
RECREATION									
Roaded Management Areas	Acres	1	5,660	8,900	18,560	5,500	0	8,900	2,900
Roadless Management Areas Including Wilderness	Acres	1	28,540	25,300	15,640	28,700	34,200	25,300	31,300
Area Available for Snowmobiling	Acres	1	34,200	34,200	18,500	6,200	0	28,000	8,200
	Percent		100	100	54	18	0	82	24

TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (PL-95-150) COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES (Average Annual Results)									
Resource Item or Results	Unit of Measure	Decade	Current Direction (No Action)	Original Proposed Action (11/82)	ALT A	ALT B	ALT C	ALT D	FINAL PROPOSED ACTION
VISUAL QUALITY									
Protective VQO's on Suitable Timberland (Retention & Partial Retention VQO's Combined)	Acres	1	3,000	12,100	7,500	3,600	0	12,100	2,000
	Percent	1	53	73	40	65	0	73	91
Preservation VQO's	Acres	1	0	0	16,400	29,000	34,200	6,500	26,000
Retention VQO's	Acres	1	32,200	26,000	700	2,600	0	19,500	5,300
Partial Retention VQO's	Acres	1	1,000	4,900	6,800	1,000	0	4,900	2,700
Total Acres of Preservation, Retention, & Partial Retention VQO's	Acres	1	33,200	30,900	23,900	33,200	34,200	30,900	34,000
WILDLIFE									
Supportive Grizzly Habitat	Acres	1	30,900	33,000	22,700	31,200	34,200	33,000	34,200
Total Road Restrictions Eventually Required	Miles	5	22	34	66	22	0	34	4
Total Roads Remaining Open	Miles	5	10	35	40	10	0	35	0
OIL & GAS EXPLORATION¹									
Special Condition Areas Including Restricted Occupancy	Acres	1	28,900	32,800	22,400	31,200	34,200	32,800	34,200
Restricted Occupancy Area	Acres	1	25,000	26,100	17,400	30,400	34,200	26,100	34,200
INSECT & DISEASE SALVAGE									
Portion of Area Available for Salvage	Acres	1	34,200	34,200	19,500	6,300	0	29,900	8,200
	Percent	1	100	100	54	18	0	82	24

TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (PL-95-150)									
COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES									
(Average Annual Results)									
Resource Item or Results	Unit of Measure	Decade	Current Direction (No Action)	Original Proposed Action (11/82)	ALT A	ALT B	ALT C	ALT D	FINAL PROPOSED ACTION
LOCAL ECONOMY									
Changes In Total Employment from the 1980 Base Year	Jobs	1	+18	+6	+19	+18	0	+5	0
		2	+5	+63	+32	+5	0	+62	0
		3	+11	+60	+109	+11	0	+58	+21
		4	+4	+47	+20	+4	0	+44	0
		5	+7	+43	+10	+8	0	+39	0
Returns to the States ² (1978 Dollars)	Thousand Dollars	1	30	0	35	30	0	0	0
		2	8	153	80	8	0	153	0
		3	24	167	413	24	0	167	2
		4	0	229	148	0	0	229	0
		5	35	179	37	35	0	179	0
ECONOMIC COMPARISONS									
Returns to the U.S. ² Treasury (1978 Dollars)	Thousand Dollars	1	120	0	138	120	0	0	0
		2	32	613	320	32	0	613	0
		3	95	669	1654	95	0	669	6
		4	0	914	593	0	0	914	0
		5	139	717	148	139	0	717	0

NOTES: ¹ Not leaseable until Congress acts

² Final Proposed Action values are not directly comparable because different model values were used between the Draft and the Final Report

Ten Lakes

Montana Wilderness Study Act Area

Final Report & Proposal

Appendix A - Original Draft Report & Proposal

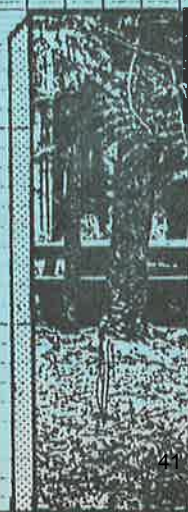
DRAFT

United States
Department
of Agriculture



Forest Service

Kootenai
National Forest



This errata relates to the following November 1982 Draft Report and Proposal for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act area. The following document is complete except for the alternative maps that accompanied the original document. The maps accompanying the Final Report and Proposal include the original alternatives.

Page 1 - Table of Contents

Item 7f. Should read -

f. Comparison of Nonpriced Net Public Benefits

Page 7 of Summary and on page 11-19a of the main document - Chart entitled "Summary of Net Public Benefits"

Area allocated to roadless management including wilderness for Alternatives D and Proposed should be 18,600 acres, not 18,800 acres as written.

Opportunity cost for Alternative B should be \$1,900,000 not \$1,904,000.

Page 21 of Summary and on page 11-20 of the main document - Chart entitled "Comparison of Alternatives"

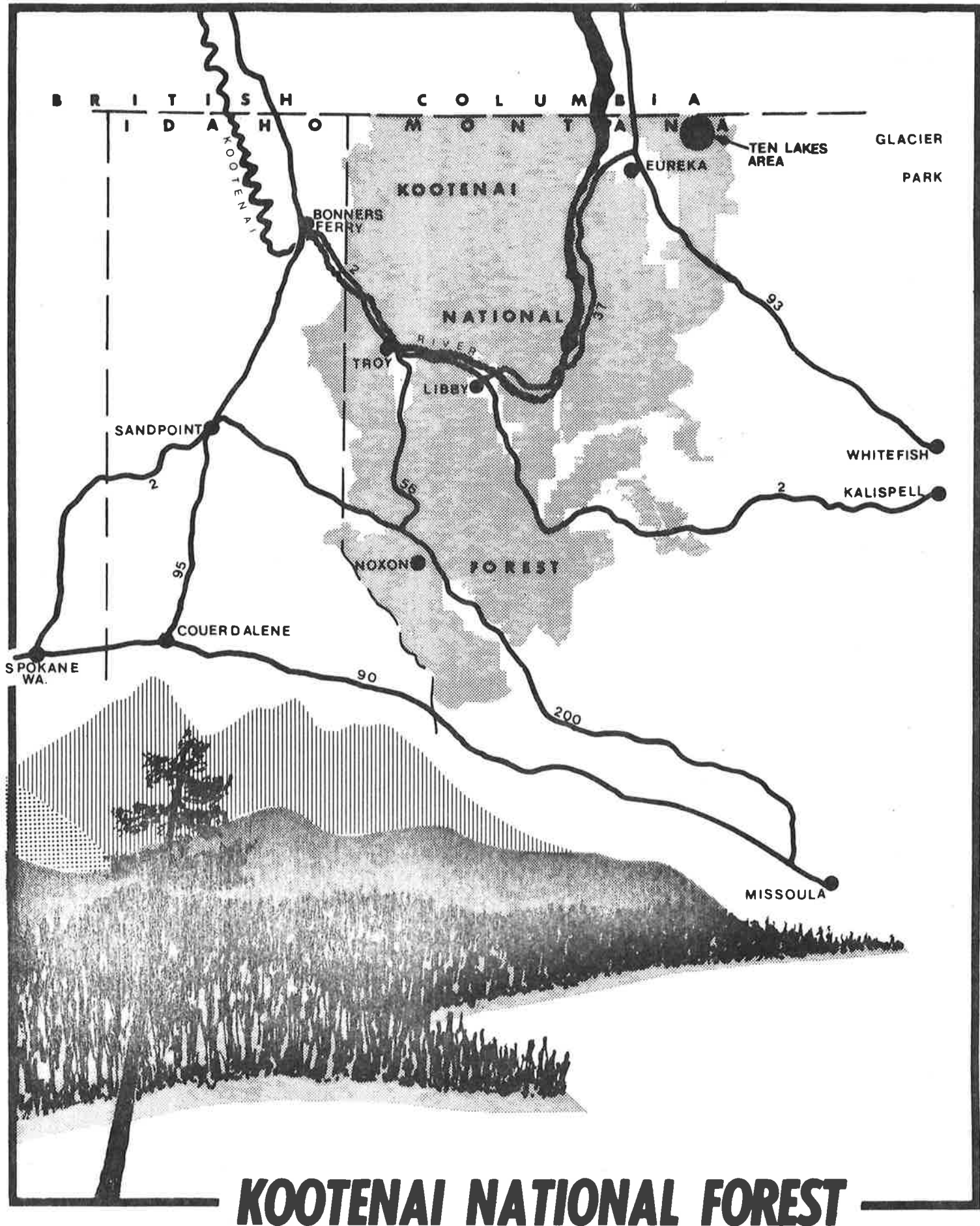
Roadless management areas including wilderness for Proposed Action and Alternative D should be 18,600, not 18,800.

Page 1-1 (and throughout the document)

Wherever the term "Environmental Impact Statement" or "DEIS" is used, substitute "Report and Proposal."

SUMMARY
OF THE
REPORT AND PROPOSAL
FOR THE
TEN LAKES
MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST
NORTHERN REGION
FOREST SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

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SUMMARY

I. PURPOSE AND NEED

On November 1, 1977, Congress passed the Montana Wilderness Study Act (MWSA) (P.L. 95-150). Two of the nine areas, Mt. Henry and Ten Lakes, are on the Kootenai National Forest. Mt. Henry (24,700 acres) was addressed in a Regional Draft Environmental Impact Statement along with two other study areas in Montana (Mt. Henry, Taylor-Hilgard, and West Pioneer MWSA areas, September 1980). The Ten Lakes MWSA Area was analyzed during the Kootenai Forest planning process.

This summary discusses the Draft Environmental Impact Statement displaying the environmental consequences that would result from implementing the Proposed Action for Ten Lakes which is nonwilderness, as well as five other alternatives.^{1/} These alternatives, including the Proposed Action, were formulated to respond to the public issues determined during the MWSA public workshops in September 1979, and include:

- A. Timber - What is the timber potential of the area and where is timber management most appropriate?
- B. Recreation - What are the amount and kinds of recreation opportunities the area presently supports or is capable of supporting?
- C. Wildlife - What are the principal game, nongame, and threatened and endangered species and what are the opportunities for habitat improvement?
- D. Minerals - What is the hard rock, oil, and gas potential of the area and how should the area be managed for that potential?
- E. Wilderness Suitability - What are the wilderness attributes of the study area and to what extent is the area suitable for wilderness?
- F. Other Wilderness - What other Federal lands are classified wilderness, proposed wilderness, or are under study as wilderness in the surrounding area and to what extent should they influence the classification of the study lands?
- G. Wilderness Quality - What consideration should be given to wilderness quality in determining which lands are proposed for wilderness?
- H. Wilderness Diversity - What consideration should be given to a diversified National Wilderness Preservation System when proposing lands for wilderness?

^{1/} The recommendations are preliminary administrative recommendations which will receive further review and possible modification in the Offices of the Chief, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the President of the United States. Final decisions on wilderness designation have been reserved by the Congress to itself.

II. ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

A. Alternative Formulation

The following alternatives for the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area were developed to respond to the intent of Public Law 95-150, the Montana Wilderness Study Act. The intent was to analyze the wilderness suitability of the Ten Lakes MWSA and present to Congress a recommendation for wilderness, part wilderness, or nonwilderness.

All the alternatives were formulated based on the Forest Plan alternatives and with the help of public involvement. The formulation of the Ten Lakes Alternatives included a determination of a high as well as a low level of resource production potential (supply) including present net value.

These supply potentials helped define the decision space available for each resource. Opportunities to resolve the issues were then identified for each resource, including present net value (PNV), comparing existing and projected use (demand) to the high and low supply levels.

Summary Figure TL-1 at the end of this summary displays various outputs and effects which are considered indicative of how well the issues were resolved under each alternative.

B. Alternatives Considered in Detail

The alternatives considered for Ten Lakes included the following:

Ten Lakes Current Direction (No Action)^{2/}

This alternative proposes that the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area be nonwilderness and managed in accordance with the current Unit Plan allocations which recommends the maintenance and expansion of the original 6,500-acre Ten Lakes Scenic Area. The allocations and land uses include a 16,400-acre roadless recreation area (which includes the original scenic area plus the recommended expansion) visual resource management, grizzly habitat management, and timber production. The intent of this alternative is to continue the existing resource use based on previous planning efforts and decisions which included public involvement.

Ten Lakes Alternative A

This alternative proposes 16,400 acres for wilderness classification out of the total 35,900 acres in the study area. The 16,400 acres consists of the original and expanded Ten Lakes Scenic Area that was mentioned in the Current Direction alternative, above. The intent of this alternative is to provide a wilderness area on the lands presently being managed as roadless while providing high levels of commodity outputs on the remaining lands.

^{2/} Current Direction, as used in this Report and Proposal, refers to the Unit Plan Allocations proposed in the Eureka-Grave Creek Planning Unit. The present status of the area is wilderness study, where no developmental activities will occur.

C. Comparison of Nonpriced Net Public Benefits

The alternatives were evaluated to determine which one produced the highest net public benefit. Net public benefit is an important objective since it permits the determination of the overall value to the public of all benefits less all costs. These benefits and costs occur regardless of whether they are priced (present net value) or nonpriced.

The present net value component of each alternative is displayed in Summary Figure TL-3 on page 7. Each alternative is compared as to how well it addresses the nonpriced components of net public benefit. The nonpriced components of net public benefits include:

1. Dispersed Recreation Opportunities

PNV accounts for the quantity of dispersed recreation use but the value or cost of displacing an established or desired use is not considered in FORPLAN.

The Ten Lakes Scenic Area is a popular spot for snowmobiling and this use is projected to increase. A wilderness designation would terminate any existing and projected snowmobile use. The alternatives were analyzed for their effect on snowmobile use and compared to the PNV. The amount of area available for snowmobile use is used to evaluate the effect on snowmobiling.

2. Oil and Gas Exploration Opportunities

The value of providing a minimum of restrictions on potential oil and gas exploration is not considered in FORPLAN. The Ten Lakes Area is located within the western edge of the Overthrust Belt. This geologic formation is presently being prospected by the oil and gas industry and interest in leasing is apparent. Oil and gas leasing and exploration is permitted in wilderness but it usually requires special conditions which restrict the location of occupancy of the surface. Similar requirements are also recommended in roadless recreation areas such as the Ten Lakes Scenic Area.

The alternatives were analyzed for their effect on oil and gas exploration and compared to PNV. The amount of area resulting in restricted occupancy conditions was used to evaluate the effect on oil and gas exploration.

3. Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species Protection (Grizzly)

The value of maintaining or enhancing viable populations of a T&E species such as the grizzly bear is not included in PNV. The entire Ten Lakes area is located within Grizzly Situations 1-4 (Grizzly Management Situations are rated as to how crucial an area is to the bears livelihood, i.e., Grizzly Situation 1 is

Summary
Figure TL-3

SUMMARY OF NET PUBLIC BENEFITS
(In Descending Order from the Highest Present Net Value)

Indicators of Net Public Benefits	Priced Benefits		Nonpriced Benefits									
			Roadless Dispersed Recreation Opportunities		Oil & Gas Exploration Opportunities		T&E Species Protection		Visual Quality Protection			
	Present Net Value	Opportunity Cost ^{1/}	Area Allocated to Roadless Mgmt. Including Wilderness	Area Available for Snowmobile Use	Area Requiring Restricted Occupancy Conditions	Area Allocated in Support of Grizzly Bear	Amount of Suitable Timberland Allocated to Retention & Per- tial Retention.					
Alternative	\$	\$	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent
Alt. A	2,385,000	0	16,400	46	19,500	54	17,400	48	22,700	63	7,500	40
Alt. D	2,088,000	297,000	18,800	50	29,400	82	26,300	73	33,000	92	12,100	73
Proposed Action	2,073,000	312,000	18,800	50	35,900	100	26,300	73	33,000	92	12,100	73
Alt. B	485,000	1,904,000	29,600	82	6,300	18	30,400	85	31,200	87	3,600	65
Current Direction (No Action)	481,000	1,904,000	16,400	46	35,900	100	25,000	70	30,900	86	3,000	53
Alt. C	74,000	2,311,000	35,900	100	0	0	35,900	100	35,900	100	0	--

^{1/} Opportunity costs are calculated as the difference between each alternative and the Maximum PNV Alternative (Alternative A).

E. Wilderness

During RARE I and RARE II, the Ten Lakes was evaluated for wilderness using the 200-point quality Index Rating (where it received 140 points), the Northern Region 100-point system (where each segment of the area received 64, 44, and 50 points), and the 28-point Wilderness Attribute Rating (WARS), where the area received 20 points.

The reviewers concluded that the area rated high in naturalness and natural integrity, but that opportunities for solitude were limited in portions of the area because of existing roads and previous logging activity adjacent to the Study Area. The scenic "core area" (6,500 acres) is considered to have the highest wilderness quality and suitability.

The Current Direction (No Action) and the Proposed Action will manage this scenic "core area" as roadless to protect the primitive characteristics. An additional 10,000 acres of roadless management is also provided in both the Current Direction (No Action) and Proposed Action.

F. Wildlife and Fish

Common big game species include elk, moose, black bear, whitetail deer, and mule deer. Most of the area serves as late spring, summer, and fall range. It is estimated that the area supports between 40 to 60 elk. Grizzly bear sightings have been made in the area and virtually the entire Study Area is delineated as essential habitat for grizzly bear and Northern Rocky Mountain wolves. The small lakes and ponds support cutthroat and the streams support brook trout.

G. Minerals and Oil/Gas Exploration

Minerals

The area has a long history of mineral prospecting and development with the major minerals being copper, silver, and gold claims. Three patented mining properties within the study area total 99 acres. Most of the current interest is associated with copper deposits. Despite the historic and recent mineral activity in the area, the nonenergy mineral resources are considered to be minor in comparison to other parts of the Kootenai Forest.

Oil and Gas

The chance of oil and gas-bearing rock strata existing at depth beneath overthrust sheets in the study area is a geologic possibility. Recent oil and gas discoveries within the Fold and Thrust Belt (which runs through the Study Area) have occurred in Canada, Montana, Wyoming, and Utah, thus increasing probability of a successful find. Oil and gas leases have been issued to explore lands surrounding the Study Area, although no leases have been made on lands within the Study Area. Should positive results be obtained in adjacent areas, the Ten Lakes area could receive additional industry interest.

L. Other Biological and Social Environmental Factors

1. Cultural Resources

Prehistoric and historic sites have been identified and recorded in the Study Area. No sites are pending disturbance under the current wilderness study allocation. If future projects are undertaken, an inventory and evaluation will be performed.

2. Research Natural Areas (RNA's)

There are no existing or known potential RNA's in the Study Area.

3. Grazing

The estimated potential grazing capacity is 1,100 AUMs and all of it is transitory range.

5. Effects on Timber

No timber would be harvested in wilderness areas. Alternative C would have the greatest effect on timber harvest. Alternative D would have the least.

6. Effects on Wildlife

Wilderness would provide desirable security for elk and grizzly. Alternative C would provide the highest level of elk and grizzly security. Alternative A would provide the least security.

7. Effect on Local Economies

Wilderness tends to provide less in terms of local economic benefits than does nonwilderness because of the local economic dependency on wood fiber. This is shown in projected return receipts to the States, employment, and total personal income. Alternative C provides the least employment, personal income and receipts to the States. Alternative A provides the most employment, income and return receipts.

B. Minerals and Oil/Gas Exploration and Associated Activities

1. Effects on Wilderness

Mineral exploration and development are permitted in existing and proposed wilderness, as well as wilderness study areas. Mitigation measures would be needed to reduce the impact of exploration on wilderness but full scale mineral development could result in a loss of the wilderness resource.

Oil and gas exploration activities could be permitted in wilderness areas but the surface occupancy would be restricted by location. This should minimize the effect on the wilderness resource.

2. Effect on Protection

Minerals and oil/gas exploration activities are generally compatible with salvage harvest and fire access because of the mutual need for road access.

3. Effect on Recreation

Oil and gas exploration would be restricted to specific locations in roadless areas. Mineral exploration could affect roadless areas if roads were required to implement the operating plan. Potential mineral exploration could have a slightly higher effect on the Proposed Action, compared to the Current Direction (No Action) because of an additional 2,400 acres of roadless management.

4. Effect on Recreation

Timber management and associated road construction change roadless recreation opportunities to motorized recreation opportunities. The Proposed Action proposes 69 miles of road compared to 32 miles in the Current Direction (No Action).

Timber management and road construction can have the most significant effect on visual quality. Mitigation in the form of visual quality objectives (VQOs) are used to soften the visual impact of timber management. The Proposed Action allocates 12,100 acres of suitable timberland to retention and partial retention VQOs compared to 3,000 acres in the Current Direction (No Action).

5. Effect on Timber

Timber volumes expected under each alternative are based on the amount of capable timberland harvested and the intensity of the harvest activities. The Proposed Action schedules 16,500 acres for timber management compared to 5,700 acres in the Current Direction.

6. Effect on Wildlife and Fish

Coordination between timber harvesting and wildlife needs (including grizzly bears) is done in order to maintain big game habitat. With coordination, timber and wildlife are compatible. The Proposed Action provides more coordinated timber harvesting for wildlife than the Current Direction (No Action). No effect is expected on the existing fisheries.

7. Effects on the Local Economy

The wood products industry is the primary employer in Lincoln County, and timber is the major contributor to employment, total personal income, and return receipts to the State. The Kootenai also provides approximately one-half of the timber milled in the local area. The continued availability of the timber resource is a major concern of the local population. The Proposed Action provides higher timber yields over time than the Current Direction which results in a higher positive effect on the local economy.

D. Wildlife Management and Activities

1. Effects on Wilderness

No effects on wilderness are foreseen as a result of wildlife or threatened and endangered species (grizzly) management.

2. Effect on Minerals and Oil/Gas Exploration

Wildlife effects on minerals and gas/oil exploration are related to the special requirements and conditions that are placed on

2. Effects on Minerals and Oil/Gas Exploration

The alternatives provide roadless recreation management areas in varying degrees which would require special considerations regarding minerals and oil/gas access. Mineral and oil/gas exploration is permitted in roadless recreation areas, but access would be restricted to protect recreation values by encouraging preliminary exploration by cross-country travel where terrain permits, and helicopter use elsewhere.

Alternatives B and C have the greatest effect on minerals and gas/oil exploration because of recreation management (including wilderness). Alternative A would have the least effect.

3. Effects on Protection

Opportunities to salvage dead or dying insect-infested timber are directly related to the type of recreation being managed for. Motorized forms of recreation (excluding snowmobiles) would facilitate salvage because of the associated road networks while roadless dispersed recreation (including wilderness) can limit the ability to salvage timber because of the lack of road access. Aerial logging systems are permitted for salvaging timber in all roadless management areas except wilderness, where no mechanized equipment is permitted.

Alternative A would have the least effect on timber salvage possibilities because of roadless dispersed recreation management.

4. Effects on Recreation

No effects on recreation are expected as a result of recreation management except on a particular user group. For example, some alternatives provide more motorized forms of recreation and this would effect the user groups that prefer the more primitive forms of motorized or nonmotorized recreation opportunities.

Alternative D and the Proposed Action would provide the most opportunities and favorable setting for motorized dispersed recreation. Alternatives B, C, and the Current Direction would provide the most opportunities and favorable settings for non-motorized dispersed recreation.

5. Effects on Wildlife and Fish

Recreation allocations such as roadless dispersed recreation and wilderness are generally compatible with wildlife. Direct effects on wildlife and fish come primarily from hunting and fishing.

6. Effects on Local Economy and Community Stability

Recreation use in the Ten Lakes Study Area is expected to increase over the next 50 years, regardless of the alternative implemented. Effects of recreation on the local economy are tied

6. Effects on Wildlife

The presence or absence of roads affects elk security which, in turn, determines the quality of the habitat and the number of elk there will eventually be. One method of providing elk security is to close roads once the timber harvest activities are completed. Road closures can be seasonal as in summer range and winter range or they can be yearlong. Alternative A will have the highest number of road miles remaining open (40). The Proposed Action will have 25 more miles of road open than the Current Direction (No Action).

7. Effects on Local Economy and Community Stability

Roads and timber are interrelated. The economic benefits derived from timber harvesting, in terms of employment and total personal income, are almost entirely dependent on roads and road construction.

G. Effects on Lifestyles

Local Forest users are attracted to the Ten Lakes Scenic Area which is a popular roadless dispersed recreation area. The proposed plan perpetuates this roadless recreation area and expands it approximately 6 percent larger than in the Current Direction. Snowmobiling which is a popular local use is also continued in the Proposed Action.

H. Effects on Landownership

Three patented mining properties (99 acres) exist in the Ten Lakes Study Area and the Kootenai Forest wishes to eventually acquire these properties, if at all possible.

I. Short Term/Long Term Productivity

Short term uses are not encouraged at the expense of long term productivity. Measures have been used to insure the maintenance and enhancement of the environment and its long term productivity.

Summary Fig. TL-1

TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (PL 95-150)
COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES *
(Average Annual Results)

Resource Item or Results	Unit of Measure	Decade	Current Direction (No Action)	Proposed Action	Alt A	Alt R	Alt C	Alt D
WILDERNESS								
Recommended to Congress	Acres	1	0	0	16,400	29,600	35,900	6,500
Roadless Acres Recommended	Acres	1	16,400	18,800	0	0	0	12,300
Total Wilderness and Roadless Acres Recommended	Acres	1	16,400	18,800	16,400	29,600	35,900	18,800
TIMBER								
Base Sale Schedule	MMBF	1	1.1	0	1.1	1.1	0	0
		2	0.2	3.8	2.2	0.2	0	3.8
		3	0.5	3.5	8.2	0.5	0	3.5
		4	0	2.3	1.2	0	0	2.3
		5	0.2	1.8	0.5	0.2	0	1.8
Area Available for Timber Mgmt. & Harvest (Suitable)	Acres	1	5,700	16,500	18,600	5,500	0	16,500
Proportion of Total Capable Timberland Available for Mgmt. & Harvest (Regulated)	Percent	1	29	85	96	27	0	85
FACILITIES								
Local Road Construction/Reconstruction	Miles	1	1.0	0.3	0.5	1.0	0	0.3
		2	0.4	2.0	1.3	0.4	0	2.0
		3	1.1	2.0	7.7	1.1	0	2.0
		4	0	1.7	0.5	0.0	0	1.7
		5	0.3	0.3	0	0.3	0	0.3
Total Roads Eventually Constructed	Miles	5	32	69	106	32	0	69
RECREATION								
Non-Motorized Dispersed Recreation	RVD	1	3,700	3,400	2,100	3,700	3,800	4,500
		2	4,600	3,800	2,600	4,600	4,700	5,100
		3	6,300	4,600	3,600	6,400	6,500	6,100
		4	7,900	4,600	3,600	7,900	8,000	6,400
		5	9,700	4,900	2,700	9,700	9,800	6,500
Motorized Dispersed Recreation	RVD	1	2,000	7,000	3,000	2,000	0	5,200
		2	2,000	10,600	2,600	2,000	0	7,900
		3	2,500	13,600	3,300	2,600	0	10,200
		4	3,200	18,400	4,300	3,300	0	13,800
		5	2,700	24,500	4,200	2,800	0	18,400
Roadless Management Areas Including Wilderness	Acres	1	16,400	18,800	16,400	29,600	35,900	18,800
Area Available for Snowmobiling	Acres	1	35,900	35,900	19,500	6,300	0	29,400
	Percent	1	100	100	54	18	0	82

*Until Congress determines otherwise, the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area will be managed subject to existing private rights and uses to maintain the existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System. No timber harvest, road construction, or other activities will be programmed under any Alternative until Congress makes a final decision on the management of the area.

Summary Fig. TL-1

TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (PL 95-150)
 COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES
 (Average Annual Results)

Page 3 of 3

Resource Item or Results	Unit of Measure	Decade	Current Direction (No Action)	Proposed Action	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
ADMINISTRATION								
Total Budget Required to Implement (Operational & Capital Investments) (1978 \$)	Thousand Dollars	1 2 3 4 5	122 64 93 46 54	54 258 227 171 131	148 160 402 106 66	110 58 60 52 63	46 47 48 48 51	61 300 279 200 137
Operational Budget Required (1978 Dollars)	Thousand Dollars	1 2 3 4 5	102 61 92 46 54	54 198 221 167 128	127 147 391 104 65	89 56 66 52 62	46 47 48 48 51	61 240 273 196 134
Capital Investment Budget Required (1978 Dollars)	Thousand Dollars	1 2 3 4 5	20 3 1 0 0	0 60 6 4 3	21 13 11 2 1	20 3 1 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	0 60 6 4 3
Work Force Required	Person Years	1 2 3 4 5	4 2 3 2 2	2 7 8 6 4	5 6 14 4 2	3 2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2 2	2 10 10 7 5
LOCAL ECONOMY								
Changes in Total Employment from the 1980 Base Year	Person Years	1 2 3 4 5	+18 +5 +11 +1 +7	+6 +63 +60 +47 +43	+19 +32 +109 +20 +10	+18 +5 +11 +4 +8	0 0 0 0 0	+5 +62 +58 +44 +39
Changes in Total Personal Income from the 1980 Base Year (1978 dollars)	Thousand Dollars	1 2 3 4 5	+229 +57 +124 +32 +7	+43 +798 +739 +539 +465	+241 +420 +492 +247 +118	+229 +56 +175 +33 +76	0 0 0 0 0	+37 +787 +725 +518 +437
Returns to the States (1978 Dollars)	Thousand Dollars	1 2 3 4 5	30 8 24 0 35	0 153 167 229 179	35 80 413 148 37	30 8 24 0 35	0 0 0 0 0	0 153 167 229 179
ECONOMIC COMPARISONS								
Returns to the U.S. Treasury (1978 Dollars)	Thousand Dollars	1 2 3 4 5	120 32 95 0 139	0 613 669 914 717	138 320 1654 593 148	120 32 95 0 139	0 0 0 0 0	0 613 669 914 717
Present Net Value	Thousand Dollars	---	481	2073	2385	485	74	2080
Present Value Benefits	Thousand Dollars	---	672	2466	2784	688	177	2483
Present Value Costs	Thousand Dollars	---	191	393	399	203	103	396
Benefit/Cost Ratio	---	---	3.5	6.3	7.0	3.4	1.7	6.3
Opportunity Costs	Thousand Dollars	---	1904	312	0	1900	2311	297
OTHER OUTPUTS								
Potential Livestock Grazing	Animal Unit Months	1-	1000	1000	900	1100	1100	1000

DESCRIPTION OF ALLOCATIONS ON SUMMARY FIGURE TL-2

SEMI-PRIMITIVE NONMOTORIZED RECREATION: Intent is to provide for the protection and enhancement of roadless dispersed recreation use. Snowmobile use is permitted.

SEMI-PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED RECREATION: Intent is to provide opportunities for motorized dispersed recreation in a natural appearing environment. At the higher management intensity, timber harvesting is planned to benefit the visual quality.

VIEWING: Intent is to maintain the landscape in a natural appearing setting. At the higher management intensity, timber harvesting is planned to benefit the visual quality.

WILDERNESS STUDY: Intent is to prevent loss of wilderness characteristics pending a review by Congress. All management activities are in a deferred status. Snowmobiling use is permitted pending Congress decision. Snowmobiling would be prohibited after a wilderness decision was made. The VQO is Preservation.

BIG GAME WINTER RANGE: Intent is to maintain or enhance habitat for the benefit of appropriate species.

BIG GAME WINTER RANGE/TIMBER: Intent is to maintain or enhance habitat for the benefit of appropriate wildlife species while managing the timber resource.

BIG GAME SUMMER RANGE/TIMBER: Intent is to maintain or enhance big game habitat while managing the timber resource.

WILDLIFE/TIMBER: Intent is to provide management for species richness, habitat diversity, and old growth timber-dependent species.

GRIZZLY/TIMBER: Intent is to maintain or enhance grizzly habitat while managing the timber resources.

TIMBER OPTIMIZATION: Intent is to produce high levels of timber production.

TIMBER/VIEWING: Intent is to manage for high levels of timber production while giving consideration to the visual quality.

VIEWING/TIMBER: Intent is to maintain an acceptable appearing landscape while managing the timber resource.

MINIMUM USE/STEEP SLOPES: Intent is to insure soil and water stability by minimizing disturbances to the surface.

LIMITED USE AREAS: Intent is to minimize disturbances to the surface.

Report and
ProposalThe Kootenai National Forest
Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area
(PL 95-150)

Type of Action

Legislative

Responsible
Federal Agency

Forest Service, USDA

Responsible
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Abstract: This Report and Proposal describes the Proposed Action and alternatives, including a "no action" alternative, for managing the 35,900-acre Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. The total land area lies within Lincoln County, Montana. The Proposed Action for Ten Lakes is nonwilderness. The alternatives provide different mixes of management prescriptions, resulting in different levels of outputs, goods, and services. The environmental consequences for the Proposed Action and alternatives are displayed.

Date of
Transmission to
Environmental
Protection Agency
and the Public

11/19/82

Public Comment
Period Ends

3/1/83

REPORT AND PROPOSAL FOR
TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS
STUDY ACT AREA

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST
NORTHERN REGION
FOREST SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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TEN LAKES

I. PURPOSE AND NEED

On November 1, 1977, Congress passed the Montana Wilderness Study Act (P.L. 95-150). The Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations to Congress on the wilderness suitability of nine separate National Forest areas in Montana containing 973,000 acres.

The nine Montana Wilderness Study Areas (MWSA) include the following areas:

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Forest</u>
Big Snowies	102,300	Lewis & Clark
Bluejoint	61,400	Bitterroot
Hyalite-Porcupine-Buffalo Horn	151,000	Gallatin
Middle Fork Judith	92,200	Lewis & Clark
Mount Henry	23,400	Kootenai
Sapphires	99,300	Bitterroot
		Deerlodge
Taylor-Hilgard	387,900	Beaverhead
Ten Lakes	35,900	Kootenai
West Pioneer	148,200	Beaverhead
TOTAL	1,099,700	

Congress specified that the nine areas be studied using the procedures in Sec. 3(b) and 3(d) of the Wilderness Act (P.L. 88-577). This procedure included:

- Determining suitability for wilderness preservation.
- Public notice and hearings.
- Notice to Governor of Montana, county governments, Federal Departments and Agencies concerned.
- Sixty-day review period.
- Incorporate hearing and governmental agency and department comment in the report to Congress.

Two of the nine areas, Mt. Henry and Ten Lakes, are on the Kootenai National Forest. Mt Henry (23,400 acres) was addressed in a Regional Draft Environmental Impact Statement along with two other study areas in Montana (Mt. Henry, Taylor-Hilgard, and West Pioneer MWSA areas, September 1980). The Ten Lakes MWSA area was analyzed during the Kootenai Forest planning process.

The purpose of this Environmental Impact Statement is to display the environmental consequences that would result from implementing the proposed action for Ten Lakes, which is nonwilderness, as well as five other alternatives.^{1/}

^{1/} The recommendations are preliminary administrative recommendations which will receive further review and possible modification in the Offices of the Chief, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the President of the United States. Final decisions on wilderness designation have been reserved by the Congress to itself.

DEIS Organization

Chapter II, "Alternatives Including the Proposed Action." This chapter describes each alternative in terms of resource outputs and costs. The outputs and costs are displayed by individual resource as they relate to the public issues and management concerns. Also discussed is the role and development of the maximum and minimum resource potentials (called "benchmarks") and their use in the design of alternatives. The alternatives that were considered but eliminated from detailed study are also identified and discussed.

Chapter III, "Affected Environment." This chapter describes the present situation as well as future conditions created by the implementation of each alternative. The source of this description is the information presented in Chapters II and IV.

Chapter IV, "Environmental Consequences." This chapter discusses the environmental consequences of the activities that would be required to produce the outputs described in Chapter II. The consequences are discussed in terms of long and short term effects, and any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources that might be required.

References

Throughout the DEIS, references will be made to planning records which contain detailed discussions of the process or which contain data summaries too lengthy to include in this document. All planning records are available for review at the Kootenai Supervisor's Office.

Planning Area Description

The 35,900-acre Ten Lakes MWSA is located in the northeastern corner of the Forest, bordering Canada (see map). For a more complete description of the planning area see Chapter III.

II. ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

A. Alternative Formulation

1. Development of the Range of Alternatives

Alternatives for the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area were developed to respond to the intent of Public Law 95-150, the Montana Wilderness Study Act (MWSA). The intent is to analyze the wilderness suitability of the Ten Lakes MWSA and present to Congress a recommendation for wilderness, part wilderness or nonwilderness.

As the Kootenai National Forest Plan alternatives were modeled, Ten Lakes MWSA was also modeled in different degrees of wilderness or nonwilderness, whichever was consistent with the overall intent of the Forest-wide Alternative. For instance, in Forest Plan Alternative 3 which stressed commodity production, Ten Lakes was allocated to nonwilderness with timber and wildlife management where appropriate, and to other uses which contributed to the present net value. These other uses included roadless dispersed recreation. In Forest Plan Alternative 5, which stressed recreation, wildlife, and scenic values, the entire Ten Lakes, MWSA was allocated to wilderness. The following summarizes how each Forest Plan alternative allocated Ten Lakes.

Current Direction (No Action)^{1/}

This alternative allocated Ten Lakes to nonwilderness which coincides with the area's current long term management direction as determined through unit planning.

Alternative 1

The intent was to approximate the current management situation, as expressed in the Unit Plans, but a wider choice of management prescriptions were made available in the FORPLAN model. In this alternative, Ten Lakes was allocated to nonwilderness.

Alternative 2

The Ten Lakes MWSA was allocated to wilderness in this alternative (35,900 acres).

Alternative 3

The intent of this alternative was to produce only those outputs that generated a high dollar return while minimizing costs as much as possible. The Ten Lakes Study Area was nonwilderness.

^{1/} Current Direction, as used in this Report and Proposal, refers to the Unit Plan Allocation proposed in the Eureka-Grave Creek Planning Unit. The present status of the area is wilderness study, where no developmental activities will occur.

When the Forest Plan alternatives were summarized for how they allocated the Ten Lakes MWSA, the following results were observed.

<u>Alternative</u>	<u>Ten Lakes MWSA Allocation</u>
Current Direction (No Action)	Nonwilderness
Alternative 1	Nonwilderness
Alternative 2	Wilderness (35,900 acres)
Alternative 3	Nonwilderness
Alternative 4	Part wilderness (28,900 acres) Part nonwilderness
Alternative 4a (Proposed Action)	Nonwilderness
Alternative 4a (Departure)	Nonwilderness
Alternative 5	Wilderness (35,900 acres)
Alternative 6	Part wilderness (16,400 acres) Part nonwilderness
Alternative 7	Part wilderness (29,600 acres) Part nonwilderness
Alternative 7a	Nonwilderness

It became apparent that some common alternatives for the Ten Lakes MWSA could be extracted from the eleven different Forest-wide alternatives.

These common Ten Lakes alternatives were relabeled with the following letter designations.

<u>Ten Lakes MWSA Alternatives</u>	<u>Wilderness Recommendation</u>	<u>Forest-wide Alt. Derived From</u>
A	Part Wilderness (16,400 acres)	6 ^{2/}
B	Part Wilderness (approx. 29,000 acres)	4 and 7
C	All Wilderness (35,900 acres)	2 ^{2/} and 5
Current Direction (No Action)	Nonwilderness	Current Direction, Alternatives 1, 3, 4a (Proposed Action), 4a (Departure), and 7a

After reviewing the above four alternatives identified by the Forest-wide planning process, it became apparent that two other wilderness alternatives were available. One alternative was identified as Alternative D and consists of a 6,500-acre wilderness which coincides with the original Ten Lakes classified Scenic Area boundary.

^{2/} Alternatives 6 and 2 were eventually dropped as Forest-wide alternatives. See the Kootenai National Forest Plan DEIS for more details.

More detailed information of the management practices, standards, and guidelines and the rules for their assignments to analysis areas is available for review at the Kootenai National Forest Supervisor's Office, Libby, Montana. A list of prescriptions used in the FORPLAN model appears in the Appendix.

3. The Computer Model (FORPLAN)

A large-scale linear programming model, FORPLAN, was the fundamental analytical tool used by the interdisciplinary team to simultaneously allocate land and schedule management practices over time. This model served two purposes in the Forest planning analysis.

The first purpose was to provide an objective basis for the optimum allocation and scheduling of management prescriptions for each analysis area. One or more prescriptions were selected for each of the analysis areas in each alternative. The optimal allocation and schedule of management prescriptions on analysis areas depend on the objective function and constraints on outputs and management practices used for each alternative. The analysis (allocation and scheduling) was carried out with the same objective function--the maximization of present net value for all alternatives considered in detail. Each alternative was generated by constraining the model to an optimal mix of resource outputs.

The second purpose was to provide an effective tool to quantify outputs, effects, costs, and acres allocated to management prescriptions over the entire Forest.

4. How Economics Were Used in the Formulation of Alternatives

Economic efficiency and cost efficiency are both required by NFMA (36 CFR 219) as components of Forest Plans and in the formulation of alternatives. The Kootenai National Forest took the following steps to incorporate economics into the formulation of alternatives.

First, cost and value coefficients (in 1978 dollars) were developed for each of the management prescriptions considered by the Interdisciplinary Team and used as the economic base data in FORPLAN.

Second, present net value per acre was determined for each management prescription, timing choice and intensity using FORPLAN. In addition, a comparative analysis was used to identify cost effective prescriptions for those land uses not producing quantified outputs, such as administrative sites. Those prescriptions meeting the test of economic and/or cost efficiency consistent with the need to address the issues and concerns were then incorporated into FORPLAN.

6. Net Public Benefits (NPB)

Because dollar values cannot be assigned to all Forest resource outputs, an additional evaluation criteria called Net Public Benefits will be used. NPB is the combination of the priced (present net value) plus the nonpriced values (or benefits) considered.

Net Public Benefits represent the overall value to the Nation of all benefits, less all costs. The Interdisciplinary Team considered the priced and nonpriced components of net public benefits and the tradeoffs that occur, measured in terms of opportunities foregone (opportunity costs). For example, reducing PNV (due to constraints on the amount of area spatially available for timber production in grizzly habitat) to provide for a threatened and endangered species, may have a higher net public benefit than not giving up PNV and foregoing habitat for those species.

Alternatives were constructed to examine the tradeoffs and to enable decisionmakers to select a proposed action that maximizes net public benefit. Each nonpriced output was considered for all alternatives. The nonpriced net public benefit components used in the alternative formulation process are briefly presented below:

1. Dispersed recreation opportunities.
2. Oil and gas exploration opportunities.
3. Threatened and endangered species protection (grizzly bear).
4. Visual quality protection.

7. Development of Benchmarks (or Reference Points)

There was no specific benchmark analysis performed for Ten Lakes as part of the Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS). The benchmarks resulted from the development of a full wilderness and nonwilderness alternative for the Kootenai National Forest and a comparison to the known situation as described in the Affected Environment (Chapter III). Benchmarks are an indication of the resource supply potentials that are available from a specified area of National Forest land. Benchmarks were determined by the outputs of a full wilderness alternative and a nonwilderness alternative which produced either the maximum or minimum amount of various resources such as wilderness, timber, motorized dispersed recreation, etc.

The following chart displays the maximum and minimum wilderness and nonwilderness resource production for outputs associated with the public issues and the alternatives from which they were derived. The outputs displayed are average annual for the first decade unless otherwise indicated.

8. Identification of Significant Opportunities

Based on analysis of the benchmarks, some resource potentials have been identified. These potentials when compared against each other and the existing situation described in Chapter III, indicate an opportunity for change. These opportunities are described by the resources involved.

Wilderness

An opportunity to add a minimum of 6,500 acres and a maximum of 35,900 acres to the National Wilderness Preservation System is evident.

Timber

The benchmarks indicate that there is some potential for timber in the long term although it is limited in the short term because of the age class of the timber.

Recreation

There is an opportunity to provide for approximately 24,500 RVD/year of motorized dispersed recreation and approximately 9,800 RVD/year of nonmotorized dispersed recreation. These two forms of recreation are mutually exclusive and one form cannot be maximized without minimizing the other. (The exception is snowmobiling in unroaded areas.) There are opportunities for a combination of both forms of recreation at less than their maximum potential.

Supportable Grizzly Habitat

There is an opportunity to provide a minimum of 22,700 acres and a maximum of 35,900 acres of supportive grizzly habitat as part of the Whitefish Range Grizzly Ecosystem.

Elk Population

There is an opportunity to provide habitat to support an elk population of approximately 40 minimum to a maximum of 58 elk.

Other resources such as livestock grazing display little or no opportunity to increase or decrease outputs.

C. Alternatives Considered in Detail

The six alternatives considered in this section comply with NFMA regulations (36 CFR 219) and with the intent of the Montana Wilderness Study Act.

All alternatives were designed with public involvement to resolve the issues and concerns in various ways. A range of alternatives was investigated including the Current Direction (No Action). Some issues were resolved completely while others were only partially resolved. The output tables display the varying degrees of issue resolution. (Figure TLII-1 and TLIV-1)

The Management prescriptions established sets of management practices with associated standards and guidelines. The following constraints were used for making FORPLAN computer analyses for each alternative considered in detail:

1. Nondeclining even-flow (NDY) constraint was used in all the Forest-wide alternatives that apply to Ten Lakes. This was done to insure a constant supply of wood products, now and in the future. This does not mean that timber harvest flows will always be nondeclining within the Ten Lakes Study Area. It means that it will be nondeclining on the entire Forest only. The ending-inventory constraints were used to insure the growing stock is not all harvested in the last decade of the FORPLAN model program. Prescription constraints were used after mapping each alternative to insure multiple and compatible uses. All alternatives were run using the maximum present net value objective function.
2. A minimum hydrologic constraint was applied to provide for basic soil and water protection. This constraint also provides for stream channel stability.
3. In addition to the above, constraints on the visual quality objectives, grizzly bear population and wilderness were applied in various degrees.

Ten Lakes Current Direction (No Action)

This alternative proposes that the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area be nonwilderness and managed in accordance with the current Unit Plan allocations which recommends the maintenance and expansion of the original 6,500-acre Ten Lakes Scenic Area. The allocations and land uses include a 16,400-acre roadless recreation area (which includes the original scenic area plus the recommended expansion), visual resource management, grizzly habitat management, and timber production. The intent of this alternative is to continue the existing resource use based on previous planning efforts and decisions which included public involvement.

D. Comparison of Alternatives

This section compares each alternative in terms of resource outputs. These resource outputs correspond to the public issues stated in Chapter I. Table TLII-1 at the end of this chapter, displays all of the outputs used for comparison, and should be used for reference when reviewing this section.^{5/}

1. Timber and Related Facilities

a. Timber

Each alternative proposes varying amounts of timber harvesting on nonwilderness commercial timberlands. Figure TLII-1 shows the expected average annual timber volumes for five decades. Alternatives A, D, and Proposed Action provide for the highest timber volume levels.

b. Facilities

Roads necessary to harvest the timber vary by alternative and are related to the amount and location of timber harvesting. Figure TLII-1 displays the amount of average annual local road construction/reconstruction expected in each alternative for each decade. Figure TLII-1 also displays the total eventual miles of road that will occur on-the-ground at the end of 50 years. Alternative A will produce the highest number of road miles on-the-ground in approximately 50 years.

2. Recreation Including Visual Quality

a. Motorized Recreation

Motorized recreation opportunities vary by alternative, depending on the amount of development expected to occur. Figure TLII-1 displays the average annual motorized recreation visitor days (RVD) expected by alternative for five decades. Alternatives D and Proposed Action provide the highest levels of motorized recreation.

b. Nonmotorized Recreation

Nonmotorized RVDs are associated with either wilderness or other forms of roadless management such as roadless dispersed recreation. Figure TLII-1 compares the average annual nonmotorized RVDs expected under each alternative for five decades. The Current Direction (No Action) and Alternatives B and C provide the highest level of nonmotorized recreation opportunities.

^{5/} It should be noted that pending Congress' decision regarding Ten Lakes, the wilderness character of the area will be maintained and no developments, such as timber harvest or road building, will occur.

b. Budget Required to Implement

The budgets displayed in Figure TLII-1 include both operational and capital investment monies for all decades. Capital investment monies are those funds needed to construct roads on timber sale areas where the stumpage price of the timber is inadequate to cover the road costs. Alternative C has no capital investment expenditures because all of the area would be wilderness. Alternative A projects the highest budget requirement in the first decade and for five decades.

6. Local Economics

a. Return Receipts to the State of Montana

Return receipts to the State of Montana are derived primarily from the sale of timber and are 25 percent of the returns to the US Treasury. (See next section.) Each alternative proposes a certain amount of timber harvest except Alternative C, the full wilderness alternative. Figure TLII-1 shows the average annual expected returns to the State for five decades. Alternative A projects the highest returns to the State in the first decade.

b. Total Employment

The local total employment situation is effected in terms of person-years of employment generated by each of the alternatives. Figure TLII-1 shows the average annual employment changes projected for five decades compared to the 1980 base year. Alternative A projects the highest change in total employment from the 1980 base year.

c. Total Personal Income

Contributions to total personal income expected under each alternative is tied to the expected employment. Figure TLII-1 shows the changes in total personal income for five decades compared to the 1980 base year. Alternative A projects the highest change in total personal income from the 1980 base year.

e. Economic Efficiency Summary

The alternatives are displayed in the following figure in descending order from the highest PNV showing the discounted benefits, discounted costs, benefit-cost ratio, and opportunity costs. All of these values are calculated at a 4 percent discount rate.

FIGURE TLII-5

Indicators of Economic Efficiency by Alternative (4%)
(Thousand Dollars)

Alternatives	Present Net Value	Discounted Benefits	Discounted Costs	Benefits Costs	Opportunity Costs
A	2,385	2,784	399	7.0	0
D	2,088	2,483	396	6.3	297
Proposed Action	2,073	2,466	393	6.3	312
B	485	688	203	3.4	1,900
Current Direction	481	672	191	3.5	1,904
C	74	177	103	1.7	2,311

3. Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species Protection (Grizzly)

The value of maintaining or enhancing viable populations of a T&E species, such as the grizzly bear is not included in PNV. The entire Ten Lakes area is located within grizzly Situations 1-4 (see Appendix for description of grizzly management situations). Some land allocations provide either direct or indirect support for grizzlies by providing adequate security, forage, and/or cover. Other land allocations do not provide either direct or indirect support. The alternatives were analyzed for the amount of protection or support that was provided for the grizzly bear and the effect that support had on PNV. The acres of supportive land allocations were used to evaluate the effect on grizzlies.

4. Visual Quality Protection

The value of providing visual quality protection in sensitive areas, such as the western edge of the study area, is not included in PNV. Visual quality is provided by land allocations which prescribe that management activities will not be visually evident to the casual observer.

This translates into visual quality objectives (VQOs) of "Retention" and/or "Partial Retention." (A "Preservation" VQO would also provide a high degree of visual quality protection.)

The alternatives were analyzed for the amount of visual quality protection that was provided in sensitive areas that were scheduled for timber harvest and the effect that had on PNV. The amount and proportion of suitable timberland allocated to retention and partial retention VQO were used to evaluate the effect on visual quality.

The following table (Figure TLII-3) summarizes the nonquantifiable and unquantifiable benefits used to determine net public benefits.

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FIGURE TLII-1

TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (PL 95-150)
COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES
(Average Annual Results)

Resource Item or Results	Unit of Measure	Decade	Current Direction (No Action)	Proposed Action	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
<u>WILDERNESS</u>								
Recommended to Congress	Acres	1	0	0	16,400	29,600	35,900	6,500
<u>TIMBER</u>								
Base Sale Schedule	MMBF	1	1.1	0	1.1	1.1	0	0
		2	0.2	3.8	2.2	0.2	0	3.8
		3	0.5	3.5	8.2	0.5	0	3.5
		4	0	2.3	1.2	0	0	2.3
		5	0.2	1.8	0.5	0.2	0	1.8
<u>FACILITIES</u>								
Local Road Construction/ Reconstruction	Miles	1	1.0	0.3	0.5	1.0	0	0.3
		2	0.4	2.0	1.3	0.4	0	2.0
		3	1.1	2.0	7.7	1.1	0	2.0
		4	0	1.7	0.5	0.0	0	1.7
		5	0.3	0.3	0	0.3	0	0.3
Total Roads Eventually Constructed	Miles	5	32	69	106	32	0	69
<u>RECREATION</u>								
Non-Motorized Dispersed Recreation	RVD	1	3,700	3,400	2,100	3,700	3,800	4,500
		2	4,600	3,800	2,600	4,600	4,700	5,100
		3	6,300	4,600	3,500	6,400	6,500	6,100
		4	7,900	4,800	3,600	7,900	8,000	6,400
		5	9,700	4,900	2,700	9,700	9,800	6,500
Motorized Dispersed Recreation	RVD	1	2,000	7,000	3,000	2,000	0	5,200
		2	2,000	10,600	2,600	2,000	0	7,900
		3	2,500	13,600	3,300	2,600	0	10,200
		4	3,200	18,400	4,300	3,300	0	13,800
		5	2,700	24,500	4,200	2,800	0	18,400
Roadless Management Areas Including Wilderness	Acres	1	16,400	18,800	16,400	29,600	35,900	18,800

Page 3 of 3
FIGURE TLII- 1

TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (PL 95-150)
COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES
(Average Annual Results)

Resource Item or Results	Unit of Measure	Decade	Current Direction (No Action)	Proposed Action	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D
<u>LOCAL ECONOMY</u>								
Changes in Total Employment from the 1980 Base Year	Person Years	1	+18	+ 6	+ 19	+18	0	+ 5
		2	+ 5	+63	+ 32	+ 5	0	+62
		3	+11	+60	+109	+11	0	+58
		4	+ 4	+47	+ 20	+ 4	0	+44
		5	+ 7	+43	+ 10	+ 8	0	+39
Changes in Total Personal Income from the 1980 Base Year (1978 Dollars)	Thousand Dollars	1	+229	+ 43	+241	+229	0	+ 37
		2	+ 57	+798	+420	+ 56	0	+787
		3	+124	+739	+492	+175	0	+725
		4	+ 32	+539	+247	+ 33	0	+518
		5	+ 7	+465	+118	+ 76	0	+437
Returns to the States (1978 Dollars)	Thousand Dollars	1	30	0	35	30	0	0
		2	8	153	80	8	0	153
		3	24	167	413	24	0	167
		4	0	229	148	0	0	229
		5	35	179	37	35	0	179
<u>ECONOMIC COMPARISONS</u>								
Returns to the U.S. Treasury (1978 Dollars)	Thousand Dollars	1	120	0	138	120	0	0
		2	32	613	320	32	0	613
		3	95	669	1654	95	0	669
		4	0	914	593	0	0	914
		5	139	717	148	139	0	717
Present Net Value	Thousand Dollars	---	481	2073	2385	485	74	2080
Present Value Benefits	Thousand Dollars	---	672	2466	2784	688	177	2483
Present Value Costs	Thousand Dollars	---	191	393	399	203	103	396
Benefit/Cost Ratio	---	---	3.5	6.3	7.0	3.4	1.7	6.3
Opportunity Costs	Thousand Dollars	---	1904	312	0	1900	2311	297
<u>OTHER OUTPUTS</u>								
Potential Livestock Grazing	Animal Unit Months	1	1000	1000	900	1100	1100	1000

III. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

This chapter discusses the resource situation in the Ten Lakes Study Area and the changes in the environment that could be expected to occur if an alternative were implemented. The resources discussed relate to the issues identified for the area.

A. Resource Descriptions

1. Timber

Of the 35,900 acres in the Ten Lakes Study Area, 19,400 acres are considered capable for timber production. Under the Current Direction (No Action) allocations, approximately 5,700 acres (29 percent) could be scheduled for timber harvest. Acres allocated to timber production include those in timber management and wildlife habitat management, such as big game winter range. Timber harvesting has been extensive in some of the drainages adjacent to the Study Area with clearcutting as the primary harvest method. Within the Study Area itself, timber harvesting methods would have to be generally limited to skyline or aerial harvest because of the slope steepness.

Ten Lakes tends to have proportionately less commercial land than the Forest as a whole. Its commercial land tends to be less economical in the short term, at least, due to proportionately more breaklands with younger trees than the rest of the Forest. Even the flatter terrain tends to have trees which are a bit younger.

Mountain pine beetle and spruce bark beetle activity in the area has created some salvage opportunities, especially of western white pine and spruce. All high risk stands (older trees that have become susceptible to insects such as the mountain pine beetle) are expected to be infested within the next 2 to 3 years because of insect infestations in the north fork of the Flathead River, approximately 10-15 air miles east of the study area. There are approximately 5,600 acres of western white pine and spruce susceptible to future insect attack.

Expected Changes in the Environment

Limited timber harvest activity would take place the first decade under the Current Direction (No Action) alternative.

If the Proposed Action were implemented, the timber harvest emphasis would be on salvage, such as western white pine and spruce in the first decade. The Burma Face (western) portion of the study area would be scheduled for harvest over the next 50 years, with some timber harvesting and road construction activities possibly being visible from Tobacco Valley.

There are many small lakes and ponds scattered throughout the Study Area including Bluebird, Rainbow, and Wolverine Lakes, all of which support cutthroat trout. Unique features of the area include Therriault Pass which is a prominent glacial feature, together with rock outcroppings, snowslide areas, and a number of prominent peaks. There is a 31-mile trail system which makes the area accessible to both hikers and horseback riders. Much of this trail system is along the open ridgetops, which affords long panoramic views including vistas into Glacier National Park, approximately 35 air miles to the east. Camping opportunities are numerous and the small lakes and streams provide an adequate water supply for campers.

Expected Changes in the Environment

The primitive, roadless character of the original core and expanded scenic area would be maintained under all the alternatives. Additional roaded recreation opportunities would exist in the Proposed Action and Alternatives A and D in areas scheduled for timber harvesting.

The developed campgrounds adjacent to the study area would be maintained in all alternatives. Snowmobile use would be curtailed in the wilderness alternatives (A, B, C, and D). In the Current Direction (No Action) and Proposed Action, snowmobiling would be allowed throughout the area.

4. Visual Resource (Viewing)

The western portion of the Study Area ("Burma Face") dominates the eastern half of the Tobacco Valley and is viewed from the town of Eureka and travelers on U.S. Highway 93.

Expected Changes in the Environment

Under the Current Direction allocations, this area would be managed for maintaining the viewing quality and no timber harvesting would be permitted. Under the Proposed Action, timber harvesting would be permitted, if it can still maintain the visual quality of the "Burma Face." Alternative A would result in the most visible changes of all the alternatives.

5. Wilderness

The topography within both the Ten Lakes original and expanded Scenic Area is mountainous, with talus slopes, rock outcroppings, and bare ridges common in the upper elevations. Prominent mountain peaks are Ksanka and Independence in addition to Poorman and Green Mountain and St. Clair Peak, which surrounds an inner core area. Subalpine basins with clear lakes, beautiful mountain meadows with an abundance of flowers, and gnarled veteran alpine

Figure TLIII-1

Map Area Identifi- cation	Name of Wilderness or Proposed Wilder- ness Area	Agency	Acres	Status	Air Miles From Ten Lakes
A	Bob Marshall	Forest Service	1,009,400	Wilderness	120
	Additions to Bob Marshall	Forest Service	102,100	Admin. Endorsed	120
B	Cabinet Mountain	Forest Service	94,300	Wilderness	65
	Additions to Cabinet Mountain	Forest Service	15,600	Admin. Endorsed	65
C	Glacier Park Pro- posed Wilderness	National Park Service	927,600	Admin. Endorsed	35
D	Great Bear	Forest Service	290,600	Wilderness	80
E	Mission Mountains	Forest Service	73,000	Wilderness	120
F	Scapegoat	Forest Service	239,200	Wilderness	150
	Additions to Scapegoat	Forest Service	38,300	Admin. Endorsed	150
G	Scotchman Peak	Forest Service	74,500	Admin. Endorsed	75
	Proposed Wilderness				
H	Selkirk Crest	Forest Service	22,800	Admin. Endorsed	85
	Proposed Wilderness				
I	Salmo Priest	Forest Service	42,100	Admin. Endorsed	105
	Proposed Wilderness				
TOTAL ACRES			2,930,500		

Expected Changes in the Environment

The wilderness resource would not be maintained in the Current Direction (No Action) and the Proposed Action. The Current Direction (No Action) and Proposed Action would maintain the primitive characteristics of the area but by allowing snowmobile use, would not maintain a true wilderness setting.

No acreage additions would be recommended to the National Wilderness Preservation System under the Current Direction (No Action) or the Proposed Action alternatives. Alternatives A, B, C, and D recommend varying amounts of wilderness.

6. Wildlife and Fish

The Ten Lakes Study Area is characterized by a broad diversity of habitats ranging from gentle, forested foothills, to glaciated alpine basins. This diversity of habitats is reflected in a diverse wildlife community where virtually all species groups are represented.

Common big game species include elk, moose, black bear, whitetail deer, and mule deer. Most of the area serves as late spring, summer, and fall range. Small parcels of winter range totalling less than 500 acres border private lands on the southwest boundary of the area. Some evidence indicates elk winter in Canada in lower Wigwam and Weasel Creeks. It is estimated that the area supports between 40 to 60 elk.

Ten Lakes is part of the Whitefish Range Grizzly ecosystem and virtually the entire Study Area is delineated as habitat for grizzly bear and Rocky Mountain Wolves. Grizzly bear sightings have been made in the area. Management for those species entails maintenance of food sources, maintenance of relatively large undisturbed areas, and limitation of conflict with man.

High elevation species such as Clark's nutcrackers, hoary marmots, pika, and grey-crowned rosy finches are relatively common to the study area.

Wolverine, while not common, have been seen regularly.

Lower elevation timber stands support numerous species of song birds; raptors such as goshawks and cooper's hawks and cavity-dependent species such as pileated woodpeckers, northern flying squirrels and American kestrels.

Riparian zones support species such as water ouzels, belted kingfishers, and occasionally harlequin ducks. The small lakes and ponds scattered throughout the area support cutthroat trout. All the lakes have limited productivity due to the short growing season and cold winter temperature. Overall, the area supports a rich diverse wildlife community with a relative abundance of species characteristic of pristine, undeveloped habitats.

Expected Changes in the Environment

Little change is expected in the wildlife diversity in the area under the Current Direction (No Action) or the Proposed Action Alternatives. Acres of habitat managed for grizzly will increase under the Proposed Action. Wildlife and timber harvesting coordination will be made in areas where harvesting is scheduled. Alternative A will cause an eventual decrease in the elk population because of less emphasis on big game management. Alternatives B, C, and D will provide for adequate wildlife protection. The lakes may require heavier stocking, if use continues as projected.

7. Minerals and Oil Gas Exploration

Minerals

Minerals occur primarily in copper-bearing quartz veins. Several prospects in the Poorman Mountain-Independence Peak area of the Whitefish Range have intercepted copper-bearing quartz veins. These deposits occur as veins and veinlets of quartz in fractures within the Purcell Basalt or along the interface between the basalt flow and the underlying and overlying Belt metasedimentary rocks. Copper and other sulphide minerals occur within the quartz vein and carry both silver and gold. These deposits average from a few to several percent copper, several tenths of

study area ("Burma Face") have a higher fire hazard. This western edge is also adjacent to private property where ranching is the primary land use. This land use introduces a risk of fires because of associated activities such as debris burning, haying, etc. Currently, the western edge has no roads and the control of any fire starting in this area would be difficult and expensive.

Fire management encompasses both the protection of the natural resources from wildfire and the use of fire as a management tool.

Fire management areas are designated portions of the Forest that, for the purposes of fire suppression, indicate what kind of action should be taken in case of fire, either planned or unplanned ignitions. There are five fire management area (FMA) classifications, four of which are used in Forest Planning. FMA 2 includes commercial timberlands and wildlife habitat areas where planned ignitions may be used to achieve land management objectives and where unplanned ignitions will receive appropriate suppression action. FMA 3 includes lands withdrawn from the commercial timber base prescription fire including planned and unplanned ignitions, may be used to achieve land management objectives, such as reducing fuels or creating wildlife forage. FMA 4 includes the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness which has its own separate fire management plan. FMA 5 includes administrative sites, campgrounds, etc. The entire Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area is currently assigned to FMA 3.

b. Insect and Disease Protection

As explained previously in the "Timber" discussion mountain pine beetle activity is predicted to occur within the study area within the next 2 to 5 years. Insect and disease salvage opportunities are highly dependent on road access.

Expected Changes in the Environment

a. Fire Protection

The Current Direction (No Action) alternative would eventually road some portions of the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area, but the western face would remain unroaded. Total road miles projected are 32 at the end of 50 years.

The Proposed Action would double the eventual road miles to 69 including some access on the western edge. Alternative C would provide no road access on the western edge. Alternatives A and D would provide access to the western edge.

the Tobacco Valley is a main thoroughfare for travelers between the United States and Canada, and with the addition of Koocanusa Reservoir, tourism and recreation also plays an important part in the local economy.

Fluctuations in the timber market and the seasonal nature of logging both have contributed to the high unemployment that Lincoln County has experienced. However, the recreational diversification of the economy in the Tobacco Valley area has helped to offset the high unemployment.

Recent surveys have shown that people live in the area primarily because of the natural environment and the advantages that the outdoors afford. Concerns are often expressed for the protection and management of the Forest resources to provide commodities such as timber, grazing, firewood, etc. Questions regarding wilderness or nonwilderness for Ten Lakes focus on the availability of the land for management of various resources or the protection of the primitive character of the area by classifying it wilderness. (See the Kootenai's, "Social Impact Assessment," a planning record available for review at the Kootenai Supervisor's Office.)

Expected Changes in the Environment

All alternatives except C, would be expected to be conducive to higher employment and total personal income over time. Any projected increases are not considered abrupt and would depend heavily on National and Regional economic factors, such as interest rates, housing starts, demand for minerals produced locally, etc.

12. Other Biological and Social Environmental Factors

a. Cultural Resources

Prehistoric and historic sites have been identified and recorded in the study area. No sites are pending disturbance under the existing wilderness study allocation. If future projects are undertaken, an inventory and evaluation will be performed.

Expected Changes in the Environment

Existing laws and regulations insure the protection of cultural resources, regardless of the alternative. As inventory work continues, additional sites will be added to those already identified.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

A. Introduction

Environmental consequences are the result of activities scheduled to implement a land management plan. The level of activities and thus the level of environmental effects, differs among alternatives. The primary activities are: 1) wilderness management; 2) minerals and oil/gas exploration; 3) timber management and timber production; 4) wildlife and fish management including T&E species; 5) recreation management; and 6) road construction.

Some activities or programs do not change between alternatives. These include:

Range Management
Corridor Management
Cultural Resources Management

1. Range Management

The study area is shown to have the potential to produce 900-1100 AUM's, all of which is transitory range and considered uneconomical.^{1/} This transitory range would phase out in approximately 30 years in Alternative C.

2. Corridor Management

There are no existing or proposed transmission corridors in the Ten Lakes Study Area that would be affected by any of the alternatives.^{2/}

3. Cultural Resources Management

"Cultural Resources" refers interchangeably to archaeological and historic properties, and are considered to be a nonrenewable resource, making it imperative to maintain their scientific, historic, and social integrity. Governed by legislative mandates (NFMA), the Forest Service policy is "to provide for the identification, protection, interpretation, and management of cultural resources." To fulfill this obligation, the Forest conducts compliance surveys, locates, inventories, describes, and evaluates cultural resources on a project-by-project basis to prevent adverse effects by ground-disturbing activities. Cultural resources in each alternative will be managed to insure protection of the resource by meeting the legislative requirements through established procedures.

4. Other issues-related items that do not change significantly by alternative are: a) Providing opportunities for physically handicapped and b) Meeting RPA program goals.

2. Effects on Minerals and Oil/Gas Exploration^{6/}

Wilderness (as well as roadless) management would result in additional expense for minerals and oil/gas exploration. Oil and gas exploration would be allowed with special conditions in wilderness areas (as well as other roadless allocations such as semi-primitive nonmotorized recreation). The special conditions would restrict any facilities, such as roads, drill pads, to special locations. This may also require some directional drilling. Figure TLIV-1 shows the total acres of special conditions for each alternative as well as the acres that will require restrictive surface occupancy. Of all the wilderness alternatives, Alternative C would have the largest effect on oil/gas exploration activities. Alternative A would have the smallest effect.

Although the mineral resources of the area are considered minor, in comparison to the rest of the Forest, continued exploration for hard rock minerals is considered probable. Any part of the Ten Lakes Study Area that is designated as wilderness would fall under the provisions of the 1872 Mining Law and 1964 Wilderness Act which permits mineral exploration. Mitigation would be negotiated under the 1872 Mining Law use regulations (CFR 228). The intent would be to limit surface occupancy, if at all possible, or to minimize new roads. Of all the wilderness alternatives, Alternative C would have the largest effect on mineral exploration. Alternative A would have the smallest effect.

3. Effects on Protection

A wilderness designation would preclude the harvesting of any insect-infested timber and incur some increased mountain pine beetle and spruce bark beetle activity and increased fire risk because of limited road access.^{7/}

Of all the wilderness alternatives, Alternative C would incur the highest risk for fire protection and insect salvage opportunities because of the inclusion of the western edge of the study area in a wilderness status. Alternative A would have the lowest risk for fire spread because of the larger road system projected.

4. Effects on Recreation

Wilderness designation would encourage nonmotorized forms of recreation and would prohibit developed or motorized forms of recreation. The most immediate effect that a wilderness designation would have on recreation would be on the snowmobile activity presently allowed in the area.^{8/} Wilderness designation would prohibit this existing use. Alternatives A, B, C, and D would eliminate all or a portion of the area from snowmobile activity through a wilderness designation. Figure TLIV-1 shows the portion of the area that would be available for snowmobiling

C. Minerals and Oil/Gas Exploration

1. Effects on Wilderness

Mineral Exploration

Mineral exploration and development are permitted in existing and proposed wildernesses, as well as wilderness study areas. When exploration occurs in wilderness areas, mitigation measures are applied which can include regulating the timing of activities, limiting means of access, and applying other measures to lower the impact of the mineral exploration activity. Mitigation serves to lower the impact of exploration activities. Full mineral development, however, could result in loss of the wilderness resource.

Oil and Gas Exploration^{12/}

Oil and gas exploration is also permitted in wilderness areas. In those portions of the Ten Lakes MWSA allocated to wilderness, special conditions would be applied which would restrict the location of facilities, such as roads, drill pads, etc., and could require directional drilling. This would reduce the impact on the wilderness resources.

2. Effects on Protection

Mineral and oil/gas exploration is generally compatible with fire management and salvage of insect infested timber because of the road construction that is normally associated with exploration activities. The roads would allow rapid salvage of insect infested timber and also allow quick response to fires.

3. Effects on Recreation

Surface occupancy for oil and gas leasing would be restricted in roadless management areas so the primary effect on roadless recreation would result from any needed roads.^{13/}

Mineral exploration could also affect roadless management areas, especially if roads were required to facilitate the operating plan. The intent would be to require the use of methods of least impact (such as the use of helicopters) in roadless areas, wherever possible, to protect the roadless resource.^{14/} Effects on the visual resource would primarily be in the form of roads, should roads be necessary to reach the exploration site. VQO's for the area would be applied to mitigate the visual impacts of roads, if at all possible.

4. Effects on Timber

Timber management and mineral and oil/gas exploration are generally compatible. Should development occur within commercial timber lands, some timber lands could be removed for a period of

D. Timber Management and Timber Production

1. Effects on Wilderness

Timber management and production, including the associated road construction, generally precludes any future consideration for wilderness designation. In addition, timber harvest and road construction on lands adjacent to a wilderness can produce sights and sounds which can detract from a wilderness experience. Alternative C would probably incur the highest incidence of detractive sights and sounds because of the topography and irregular perimeter. Alternative D in contrast would probably experience the least amount of detractive sights and sounds because of its compact size and short perimeter.

2. Effects on Minerals and Oil/Gas Exploration

There are no anticipated adverse impacts of timber management activities on mineral and oil/gas exploration because the resources are generally compatible.^{18/} Coordination requirements concerning transportation systems and timing of harvest serve to assure no adverse impacts would occur.

3. Effects on Protection

Fire is used as a management tool to reduce "activity-created" fuel, such as right-of-way and timber harvest slash. Burning not only reduces fire hazard, but also helps prepare the seedbed for a new crop of trees. The alternatives with the largest area scheduled for timber harvest generally require the most activity fuel treatment. The treatment of slash created by timber harvest is necessary to reduce insect and disease problems and to reduce the possibility of wildfire. As more roads are developed and areas more accessible, the potential for man-caused fires increases, especially with concentrated use such as firewood gathering in areas where activity fuels have not been burned.^{19/} Treatment of activity fuels over time and increased access can reduce the potential for the size and spread of wildfires.

4. Effects on Recreation

Timber management activities with its associated road construction directly effects dispersed recreation opportunities.^{20/} Roadless recreation opportunities are reduced and other opportunities are changed. As unroaded areas become roaded, opportunities for snowmobiling and cross country skiing can be enhanced because of easier access to the higher elevations.

Timber management activities and road construction have the most significant effect on visual quality.^{21/} Although the impacts of timber management are generally short-termed, the immediate change to the existing landscape is undesirable to many Forest

(Road management during critical periods such as rutting and calving are also important.)^{25/} These timber harvest practices include cutting prescriptions that provide for certain levels of hiding cover to be left on an area (cover/forage ratios). (Some cover/forage ratios may not be achievable when there is a need to salvage insect-infested timber.)

Alternative A provides for the least amount of coordinated timber harvest practices. Alternative D and the Proposed Action provide for the highest amount of coordinated timber harvest practices.

Threatened and Endangered Species (Grizzly)

Timber management activities can directly affect the grizzly population because of the habitat changes incurred as a result of vegetation manipulation such as timber harvesting, site preparation, etc., and in increased human encounters because of increased road construction.^{26/}

Timber management activities, if well coordinated can produce positive benefits by producing more desirable forage for grizzlies through certain timber harvest and site preparation practices such as small clearcuts and broadcast burning instead of tractor piling.^{27/} If road closures are instituted in a timely manner, human/bear encounters can be kept to a minimum.^{28/} Alternative A provides for the lowest level of coordinated timber harvest practices to support the grizzly. Alternative D and the Proposed Action provide the highest level of coordinated timber harvest practices.

7. Effects on the Local Economy and Community Stability^{29/}

The wood products industry is the primary employer in Lincoln County. The Kootenai also provides the majority of the timber milled in the local area. The continued availability of the timber resource is a major concern of the local population, because timber is the major contributor to the economic categories of employment, personal income, and return receipts to the State.

Alternatives A, D, and the Proposed Action provide the largest positive effect on the local economy.

5. Effects on Timber

Timber and wildlife are generally compatible and wildlife allocations are usually accompanied by regulated timber harvesting.^{34/} The presence of wildlife values can lead to coordinating cover/forage ratios and the timing of harvest to coincide with periods when wildlife (including grizzly bears) are not using the area.^{35/} An important effect on timber could occur through the delayed-harvest requirements that could occur as a result of compensation necessary for the grizzly bear as required by the Endangered Species Act. This could be a result of possible mineral exploration and the timing and magnitude is not predictable.

6. Effects on Local Economy and Community Stability^{36/}

Effects of wildlife on the local economy are related primarily to the recreational aspects such as hunting and fishing. In determining the costs and benefits of the alternative outputs, hunting and fishing recreation were also included.

Alternative D and the Proposed Action will result in the largest effect on the local economy as a result of recreation use which is related to hunting and fishing.

4. Effects on Recreation

Effects on recreation as a result of recreation management involve varying effects on particular user groups. For example, some alternatives provide more motorized forms of recreation and this would effect the user groups that prefer the more primitive forms of motorized or nonmotorized recreation opportunities. Alternative D and the Proposed Action would provide the most opportunities and favorable setting for motorized dispersed recreation. Alternatives B, C, and the Current Direction would provide the most opportunities and favorable settings for non-motorized dispersed recreation.

5. Effects on Wildlife and Fish

Recreation allocations such as roadless dispersed recreation and wilderness are generally compatible with wildlife and fish.^{40/} The exception is the possible over fishing of popular lakes and streams. Bag limits would need to be adjusted or stocking levels increased to handle the additional pressure. Direct effects on wildlife come primarily from hunting. The amount of big game harvested is determined by the State which regulates hunting seasons as a means to control the big game populations.

Wildlife prescriptions contain road restrictions and restrictions on snowmobile use in big game (elk, deer) winter range, to protect wildlife during certain seasons.^{41/} Unauthorized motorized recreation adversely impacting wildlife would be dealt with as a violation of the prescription. These winter range allocations are located along the west and southern boundaries of the planning area adjacent to private land.

6. Effects on Local Economy and Community Stability^{42/}

Recreation use in Ten Lakes is expected to increase over the next 50 years, regardless of the alternative implemented. Effects of recreation on the local economy are tied to dollars spent on recreational activities and to the employment generated by recreation use. These local economic effects would take place in the service sector of the economy, i.e., restaurants, motels, service stations, etc.

Recreation in Ten Lakes does not contribute to the return receipts to the States. Recreation-related returns usually include campground fees and camping and outfitter guide permits, of which there are none in the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area.

Alternative D and the Proposed Action will generate the largest contribution to the local economy because of recreation related use.

5. Effects on Timber

Roads have an effect on timber through removing land from production but roads increase the opportunity for intensive timber management practices, salvage programs, and firewood gathering.

6. Effects on Wildlife

The presence or absence of roads affects elk security which, in turn, determines the quality of the habitat and the number of elk there will eventually be. One method of providing elk security is to close roads once the timber harvest activities are completed.^{45/}

Road closures can be seasonal as in summer range and winter range or they can be yearlong.^{46/} In many of the wildlife management areas almost all of the local roads will be closed to minimize the human contact. Figure TLIV-1 displays the miles of total roads remaining open. The Current Direction and Alternative B will have the least number of road miles open. Alternative A will have the most roads open.

7. Effects on Local Economy and Community Stability

Roads and timber are interrelated. The economic benefits derived from timber harvesting, in terms of employment and total personal income, are almost entirely dependent on roads and road construction.^{47/}

H. Effects on Lifestyles

The rugged, primitive environment of Ten Lakes is the reason the area holds the attraction for Forest users. Regardless of the alternative implemented, much of the primitive characteristics of the area will be maintained either through wilderness classification or through roadless management allocations including a Scenic Area designation.

A wilderness classification would, however, curtail winter snowmobiling, an activity that is considered an important aspect of local lifestyles. Though the snowmobiling use is not considered substantial, the activity is well established and prohibition could lead to local enforcement problems.^{48/}

I. Effects on Landownership

Three patented mining properties (99 acres) and eight nonpatented claims (160 acres) exist within the Study Area boundary, specifically within the original and expanded Scenic Area. There are no other private lands within the Study Area boundary, although there are private lands immediately adjacent. All alternatives propose the eventual acquisition of the three patented mining properties, if at all possible, to preserve the intent of the existing and proposed land allocations.

Alternative C proposes the largest irretrievable commitment of the timber resource. Alternative A proposes the least.

The proposed action proposes a moderate amount of an irretrievable commitment of the timber resource, but less than would be realized under the Current Direction (No Action).

An irretrievable commitment of the roadless resource will be made in all areas destined for timber management.

Alternative A will make the largest irretrievable commitment of the roadless resource and Alternative C will make the least.

The Proposed Action proposes a moderate amount of an irretrievable commitment of the roadless resource and more than would be realized under the Current Direction (No Action).

L. Adverse Effects That Are Not Avoidable (Proposed Action)

Implementation of the Proposed Action will result in some possible adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided.

These effects include:

1. A possible adverse effect on scenic quality in some areas because of timber harvesting, prescribed burning, and road construction.
2. Foregone timber volumes because of insect activity.
3. Potential mineral exploration, of which the timing and magnitude cannot be accurately predicted.
4. Foregone wilderness options on unroaded lands scheduled for development.

M. Mitigation Measures to Reduce the Unavoidable Adverse Effects (Proposed Action)

1. The possible effects of timber harvesting, prescribed burning, and road construction on visual quality will be mitigated by following visual management guidelines.
2. Foregone timber volumes because of beetle insect activity, will be mitigated by prompt salvage, if at all possible and accessible.
3. The effects of potential mineral exploration can be negotiated under the 1872 Mining Law Use Regulations (CFR 228).
4. Wilderness options are retained on those areas managed for roadless recreation (18,800 acres).

CHAPTER IV NOTES

- 1/ Memo from John Dillon, Subject: Review of Livestock Grazing Potential on the Kootenai National Forest, November 17, 1981.
- 2/ Bill O'Brien, Personal Communication, June 1982.
- 3/ USDA Forest Service, RPA: A Recommended Renewable Resource Program, March 1976, pp. 633-635.
- 4/ USDA Forest Service, RARE II Final Environmental Impact Statement, January 1979.
- 5/ Ten Lakes Issue Situation Statements, December 20, 1979.
- 6/ Discussion drawn from Copper Gulch-Rock Peak Environmental Assessment, June 1982.
- 7/ Paul Leimbach, Personal Communication, August 1982.
- 8/ Eureka-Grave Creek, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Kootenai National Forest, May 1974.
- 9/ Kootenai National Forest Proposed Plan (Draft), Kootenai National Forest, Chapter III, Management Area Prescriptions, September 1982.
- 10/ Wildlife (Elk) Coefficients, Criteria for Analysis of the Management Situation Volume 4, Kootenai National Forest, February 1981, Section A.
- 11/ Interpretation Based on CALDAT, Input/Output Model.
- 12/ Discussion Drawn from Oil and Gas Lease Applications Environmental Assessment, Kootenai National Forest, June 1980.
- 13/ Oil and Gas Environmental Assessment (Nonwilderness), (Draft), Kootenai National Forest, August 1982.
- 14/ Proposed Plan, Chapters II and III.
- 15/ Interpretation Based on Projected Timber Volumes for Ten Lakes MWSA and the Forest as a Whole.
- 16/ Cumulative Effects Analysis Process - Grizzly Habitat Component Mapping, Kootenai National Forest, 1982.
- 17/ Discussion Based on Bill O'Brien, Personal Communication, May 1982.
- 18/ Analysis of the Management Situation, Kootenai National Forest, September 1981, p. 47.
- 19/ Jim Shadle, Personal Communication, May 1982.
- 20/ Recreation Coefficients, Criteria for Analysis of the Management Situation, Section D.

46/ Proposed Plan.

47/ Miller, Economic Information.

48/ John Pritchard, Personal Communication, July 1982.

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APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY

- Acre-Equivalent:** A unit of habitat output related to fish or wildlife habitat improvement projects. Acre equivalents are based on the acres of habitat that are influenced by an acre of habitat actually modified by the project.
- Acre-foot:** A measure of water volume equal to the amount which would cover an area of 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot (325,851 gallons or 43,560 cubic feet).
- Affected Environment:** The natural and physical environment and the relationship of people to that environment that will or may be changed by actions proposed.
- Allocation:** The assignment of management prescriptions to particular land areas to achieve the goals and objectives of the alternative.
- Allowable Sale Quantity:** The quantity of timber that may be sold from the area of land covered by the Forest Plan for a time period specified by the Plan. This is usually expressed on an annual basis as the average annual allowable sale quantity.
- Alternative:** In Forest planning, a mix of management prescriptions applied in specific amounts and locations to achieve a desired management emphasis as expressed in goals and objectives; Different Approaches to Managing the Land.
- Analysis Area:** An analysis area is a grouping of similar land areas of various sizes based on common impacts, effects, and social or economic factors. Analysis areas are not contiguous.
- Analysis of the Management Situation:** A determination of the ability of the planning area to supply goods and services in response to society's demand for those goods and services.
- Animal Unit Month (AUM):** The amount of feed or forage required by one mature (1,000 lbs) cow or equivalent for one month.
- Arterial Roads:** Roads comprising the basic access network for National Forest System administrative and management activities. These roads serve all resource elements to a substantial extent, and maintenance is not normally determined by the activities of any one element. They provide service to large land areas and usually connect with public highways or other Forest arterial roads to form an integrated network of primary travel routes. The location and standard are determined often by a demand for maximum mobility and travel efficiency rather than by a specific resource management service. Usually they are developed and operated for long-term land and resource management purposes and constant service.
- Available Forest Lands:** Land which has not been legislatively withdrawn from timber production by Congress or administratively withdrawn from timber production by the Secretary of Agriculture or Forest Service Chief.
- Base Sale Schedule:** The timber harvest schedule for a planning period in which (1) the planned sale and harvest for any future decade is equal to or greater than that for the preceding decade and (2) this planned sale and harvest for any decade is not greater than long-term sustained yield capacity.

- Commercial Forest Land:** Forest land which is producing or capable of producing crops of industrial wood and which has not been reserved or deferred. This includes areas suitable for management to grow crops of industrial wood generally of a site quality capable of producing in excess of 20 cubic feet per acre of annual growth. This includes both accessible and inaccessible areas. Permanently inoperable or nonstockable areas are excluded because they are not suitable for silvicultural management. Conversely, nonstocked areas which could be stocked and otherwise meet this definition are included.
- Commodities:** Products produced from a parcel of land, e.g., outputs of wood, livestock forage, and minerals.
- Concern:** A problem requiring resolution, or a condition constraining management practices. These are identified by FS personnel.
- Constraint:** A restriction of the latitude the FORPLAN model was given in order to reach a desired objective.
- Consumptive Use:** Uses of a resource that reduce the supply. Examples of some consumptive uses of water are irrigation, domestic, and industrial use.
- Coordinating Requirements:** Forest policies.
- Corridor:** A linear strip of land which has ecological, technical, economic, social, or similar advantages over other areas for the present or future location of transportation or utility routes.
- Cost-Efficiency:** A comparative measure of economic efficiency determined by maximizing the present net value of an alternative, subject to meeting the objectives of the alternatives.
- Costs Saved:** Those costs foregone due to reductions in priced and nonpriced outputs from Maximum PNV benchmark. These saved costs are net of funds reallocated among competing priced and nonpriced outputs.
- Cover/Forage Ratio:** The ratio of cover (usually conifer types) to foraging areas (natural openings, clearcuts, etc.).
- Critical Habitat:** Key land areas used by wildlife for forage and reproduction.
- Cultural Resources:** The physical remains (artifacts, ruins, burial mounds, petroglyphs, etc.) and conceptual content or context (as a setting for legendary, historic, or prehistoric events as a sacred area of native peoples, etc.) of an area.
- Deficit Timber Sale:** A timber sale where costs associated with producing the primary product(s) plus profit margin are greater than the selling value of the same product(s).
- Demand:** A schedule of the quantity of a product or Forest output that will be consumed at various prices.
- Departure:** In order to meet overall multiple use objectives, the Secretary of Agriculture may establish an allowable sale quantity for any decade which departs from the projected long-term average sale quantity that would otherwise be established.

Fuels: Includes both living and dead, woody vegetative materials which are capable of burning.

Fuels Management: Manipulation or reduction of fuels to meet Forest protection and management objectives while preserving and enhancing environmental quality.

Goal: A concise statement of the state or condition that a land and resource management plan is designed to achieve. A goal is usually not quantifiable and may not achieve a specific date for completion.

Goods & Services: The various outputs produced by Forest and rangeland renewable resources, the tangible and intangible values of which are expressed in market and nonmarket terms.

Grazing Allotment: See "Range Allotment."

Guidelines: An indication or outline of a policy or conduct.

Indicator Species: A plant or animal species adapted to a particular kind of environment. Its presence is sufficient indication that a specific habitat conditions are also present.

Issue: See "Public Issue."

Local Roads: Roads constructed and maintained for, and frequently by, the activities of a given resource element. Some use may be made by other element activities, but normally maintenance is not affected by such use. These roads connect terminal facilities with Forest collector or Forest arterial roads or public highways. The location and standard usually are determined by the requirement of a specific resource activity rather than by travel efficiency. Forest local roads may be developed and operated for constant or intermittent service depending on land use and resource management objectives for the area served by the facility.

M: Thousand.

MM: Million.

Management Area: An area having common management direction and may be noncontinuous in the Forest.

Management Direction: A statement of goals, objectives, standards, policies, and guidelines that direct management for a resource or area of land.

Management Intensity: The management practice or combination of management practices and their associated costs designed to obtain different levels of goods and services.

Management Prescription: Management practices selected and scheduled for application on a specific management area to attain multiple use and other goals and objectives.

Maximum Modification: See "Visual Quality Objective (VQO)."

Mineral Development: The preparation of a proven mineral deposit for mining.

Nonmarket Valued Outputs: Goods and services valued in terms of what reasonable people would be willing to pay rather than go without the output. Those obtaining the outputs do not pay all or part of what they would be willing to.

Objective: A specified statement of measureable results to be achieved within a stated time period. Objectives reflect alternative mixes of all outputs or achievements which can be attained at a given budget level. Objectives may be expressed as a range of outputs.

Objective Function: A term used in linear programming describing the criteria to be optimized. Examples of objective functions are: maximize present net value, minimize cost or maximize timber.

Off-Road Vehicle (ORV): Any vehicle capable of being operated off an established road or trail, e.g., motorbikes, four-wheel drives, and snowmobiles.

Old Growth Timber: A stand of trees that is past full maturity and showing decadence, the last stage in forest succession.

Opportunity Cost: An opportunity cost is value foregone. In this analysis it is a cost calculated as the difference between present net value of the alternative and the present net value of the maximum PNV increment. Opportunity costs may be only a partial measure of foregone PNV or present net benefits. See "Costs Saved."

Overthrust Belt: A narrow zone, extending from Alaska to Mexico, which resulted from compressional stresses within the earth, and which is characterized by abundant large thrust faults. This zone passes through and includes all of western Montana.

Partial Retention: See "Visual Quality Objective (VQO)."

Person-Years: A person-year equals 52 weeks or 260 work days.

Planning Area: The area covered by a Regional or Forest Plan.

Planning Period: The 50-year time frame, (1980-2030), for which goods, services, and effects were projected in the development of the Forest Plan.

Policy: A guiding principle which is based on a specific decision or set of decisions.

Prescription: See "Management Prescription."

Prehistoric Site: Archaeological sites associated with American Indians and usually occurring before contact with Europeans.

Road Maintenance Levels: Levels are described as follows:

- Level 1: This level is basic custodial care as required to protect the road investment and to see that damage to adjacent land and resources is held to a minimum.
- Level 2: This level is used on roads where management requires that the road be open for limited passage of traffic. Traffic is normally minor, usually consisting of one or a combination of administrative use, permitted use, or specialized traffic.
- Level 3: This level is used on roads which are opened for public traffic and generally applies when use does not exceed 15 average daily traffic (ADT). A road may receive only one or two vehicles a day for most of the year; however, during a brief period, such as hunting season, the road may receive 20 or 30 vehicles a day. The road is maintained for safe and moderately convenient travel suitable for passenger cars.
- Level 4: This level generally applies when use of a road is between 15 average daily traffic (ADT) and 100 ADT. At this level, more consideration is given to the comfort of the user. These roads are frequently surfaced with aggregate material, but some routes may be paved to meet economical consideration of the limited aggregate resource and the surface replacement cost factors.
- Level 5: This level is generally maintained for use of 100 ADT and greater. Roads in this category include both paved and aggregate surfaces. Safety and comfort are important considerations. Abrupt changes in maintenance will be posted to warn a traveler until these deficiencies are corrected.

Roadless Areas: Undeveloped Federal land within which there are no improved roads or roads maintained for travel by means of motorized vehicles intended for highway use.

Roadless Areas Review and Evaluation II (RARE II): A National program with the purpose of identifying areas for wilderness and making recommendations to Congress regarding their designation.

Rotation: The planned number of years between the formation or regeneration of a crop or stand and its final cutting at a specified stage of maturity.

RPA: The Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resource Planning Act of 1974. Also refers to the National Assessment and recommended Program developed to fulfill the requirements of the Act. The most recent recommended program was done in 1980.

RPA Program: The recommended direction for long-range management of renewable resources of National Forest System lands. This direction serves as the basis for the Regional targets assigned to the Forest. The development of this direction is required by the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act.

Salvage Cutting: Done to remove trees in imminent danger of being killed or damaged by injurious agents. Dead and dying trees are included in salvage cuttings.

System Roads: Roads that are part of the Forest development transportation system, which includes all existing and planned roads, as well as other special and terminal facilities designated as Forest development transportation facilities.

Target: Quantifiable output assigned to the Forest.

Temporary Road: A road that will be physically obliterated and seeded after its primary use is completed (i.e., spur road for logging).

Threatened and Endangered Species: A species or subspecies of animals or plants whose prospects of survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy, or likely to become so within the foreseeable future. Threatened species are identified by the Secretary of Interior in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act.

Tiering: Tiering refers to the coverage of general matters in broad environmental impact statements with subsequent statements covering more narrow topics. Incorporating by reference, the general discussions and concentrating solely on the issues specific to the statement or analysis being prepared, project environmental assessments are "tiered" to the Forest Plan.

Timber Harvest Schedule: The quality of timber planned for sale and harvest, by time period, from the area of land covered by the Forest Plan. The first period, usually a decade, of the selected harvest schedule provides the allowable sale quantity.

Timber Production: The growing, tending, harvesting, and regeneration of regulated crops of industrial wood. Industrial wood includes logs, bolts, or other round sections cut from trees for industrial or consumer use, except fuelwood.

Timber Stand Improvement (TSI): All noncommercial intermediate cuttings and other treatments to improve composition, condition, and increment of a timber stand.

Transitory Range: Suitable forage created for livestock use as a result of timber harvesting activities, or fire.

Uneven-Aged Silvicultural Systems: The combination of action that result in the creation of forests or stands of trees, in which trees of several or many ages grow together. Cutting methods that develop and maintain uneven-age stands are individual tree and group selection cutting methods:

Individual Tree Selection Cutting: The removal of selected trees of all size classes on an individual basis.

Group Selection Cutting: The removal of selected trees of all size classes in groups of a fraction of an acre up to two or three acres in size.

Unsuitable Lands: Lands not allocated to related timber management or not suitable as determined through the suitability analysis.

Viable Populations: A wildlife or fish population of sufficient size to maintain its existence over time in spite of normal fluctuations in population levels.

APPENDIX B

TEN LAKES WILDERNESS STUDY AREA TIMBER VOLUME

Inventoried Volume:

	<u>CF/Acre</u>	<u>SE%</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>MMCF</u>
Non-Commercial	1216	27.9	23537	28.6
High Volume PI	4219	15.7	5721	24.1
Low Volume PI	2737	17.8	7653	20.9
All Land	1986	13.1	36911	73.3

Modeled Volume:

	<u>CF/Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>MMCF</u>
Non-Commercial	1140	16490	18.8
MIXCON I	4010	6450	25.9
MIXCON II	2090	12620	26.4
LPP	2180	330	0.7
All Land	2000	35890	71.8

APPENDIX C

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS

The following is a summary of the prescriptions used to formulate the alternatives for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. A detailed description of the management prescriptions is a planning record and is available for review at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Libby, Montana.

Semi-Primitive Nonmotorized Recreation

Management emphasis is on providing for the protection and enhancement of areas for roadless dispersed recreation and to provide for wildlife management where wildlife values are great. Timber harvesting may be allowed, using aerial systems only, to protect from epidemic insect or disease infestation and for salvage in event of a major wildfire. The VQO is Retention. Snowmobile use is permitted.

Semi-Primitive Motorized Recreation

Management emphasis is on providing opportunities for motorized dispersed recreation in a natural-appearing environment. These areas are accessible by trails and roads. At higher management intensities, regulated timber harvested is allowed as long as it does not detract from the viewing and recreation values. The VQO can range from Retention to Modification.

Viewing

Management emphasis is to maintain the landscape in a natural-appearing environment. At higher management intensities, regulated timber harvesting can occur but is generally limited to improve viewing and recreation opportunities and for salvage operations. The VQO is Retention.

Wilderness Study

Intent is to prevent loss of wilderness characteristics pending a Congressional review. All management activities are in a deferred status. Snowmobiling use is permitted pending the Congressional review. Snowmobiling would be prohibited after a Congressional decision for wilderness.

Big Game Winter Range

Emphasis is to manage areas of high potential for winter range, to maintain or enhance habitat for the benefit of the appropriate species while recognizing the viewing resource in critical areas. Appropriate species may include elk, moose, sheep, goats, whitetail deer, and mule deer. These lands are generally noncommercial timber lands. Direct habitat improvement may include spring and fall prescribed fire, mechanical manipulations, fertilization, and seeding. Unregulated timber harvesting is permissible to benefit wildlife. The VQO ranges from Maximum Modification to Partial Retention. The use of motorized vehicles is prohibited during important wintering periods.

areas capable of producing a continued flow of wood products in a regulated manner. Minimum viable wildlife populations will be maintained. Critical habitats will be maintained by restricting seasons of use. The VQO is Maximum Modification.

Timber/Viewing

Intent is to manage for enhanced timber production while giving consideration to the visual resource. The VQO is Modification. Minimum viable wildlife populations will be maintained while recognizing certain critical habitats, such as elk wallows, calving areas, etc.

Viewing/Timber

The intent is to maintain a natural appearing landscape for acceptable viewing opportunities while managing the timber resource. The VQO is Partial Retention. Viable wildlife populations will be maintained.

Minimum Use/Steep Slopes

Management emphasis is to insure soil and water stability by maintaining vegetation in a healthy condition and by minimizing disturbances to the surface. This emphasis may occur where timber is limited or not manageable because of unstable soils and/or steep slopes. Summer and winter ranges and special habitats will be managed in natural condition with minimal manipulation. Roads will be kept to a minimum. The VQO ranges from Maximum Modification to Partial Retention.

Limited Use Areas

Intent is to insure soil and water stability by maintaining vegetation in a healthy condition and by minimizing disturbances to the surface. There are no range or timber activities. Roads are generally not needed, but are allowed to cross to reach other areas. Roads will be located and designed to minimize conflicts with soil, water, and viewing. The VQO ranges from Maximum Modification to Partial Retention.

APPENDIX D

Oil and Gas Leasing Conditions
Assessment by Allocation (Management Area)

Category Allocation ^{1/}	Standard or General Conditions	Additional Special Stipulations	Description of Additional Conditions	(Definitions)
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized Recreation	X	X	SOR-LOC	(Surface Occupancy Restricted by Location)
Semi-Primitive Motorized Recreation	X			
Viewing	X	X	SOR-LOC	(Surface Occupancy Restricted by Location)
Wilderness Study	X	X	SOR-LOC	(Surface Occupancy Restricted by Location)
Big Game Winter Range	X	X	Activity Coordination	(Restricted by Timing of Activity)
Big Game Winter Range/ Timber	X	X	Activity Coordination	(Restricted by Timing of Activity)
Wildlife/Timber	X	X	Activity Coordination	(Restricted by Timing of Activity)
Grizzly/Timber	X	X	Activity Coordination	(Restricted by Timing of Activity)
Viewing/Timber	X			
Timber/Viewing	X			
Timber Optimization	X			
Minimum Use-Steep Slopes	X	X	SOR-LOC	(Surface Occupancy Restricted by Location)
Limited Use	X			

^{1/} For more detailed description of the intent of the allocation, see Appendix C.

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Ten Lakes

Montana Wilderness Study Act Area

Final Report & Proposal

Appendix B - Analysis of Public Comments

Appendix C - Copies of Public Comments

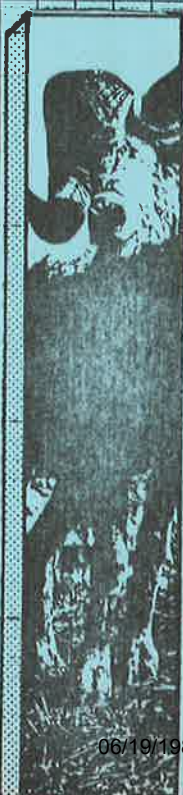
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United States
Department
of Agriculture



Forest Service

Kootenai
National Forest



This appendix presents the evaluation and analysis of the public comments received in response to the original Ten Lakes MWSA Draft Report and Proposal.

Ten Lakes Public Response Summary

May 16, 1983

Number of Responses (Letters) - 303

Number of Signatures (People) - 391

Who responded?

Individuals with no stated affiliation ("John Q. Publics").	- 76%	78%
Environmental, Wildlife, & Recreation Groups.	- 11%	13%
Industry & Industry-Related Individuals & Organizations.	- 8%	6%
Civic Organizations, Forest Service Employees, & Government Agencies	- 5%	3%

How did they respond? With -

Personal Letters	- 70%	60%
Public Hearing Comments (Eureka, Libby, Kalispell)	- 15%	11%
Form Letters (mostly from Lincoln-Helena snowmobilers)	- 13%	12%
Petitions	- 1%	15%
Oral Comments	- 1%	2%

Where were the publics from?

From locations immediately adjacent to the Forest boundary as defined by a line running from Kalispell, Missoula, Spokane.	- 37%	33%
From locations within the Forest boundary (primarily Eureka area).	- 31%	37%
From other Montana locations.	- 26%	22%
From other parts of the U.S.	- 5%	5%

What did people say about the Proposed Action in terms of approval or disapproval?

Those who disapproved of the Proposed Action.	- 56%	48%
Those who approved (or approved with "conditions").	- 41%	42%
Those who expressed no opinion.	- 3%	10%

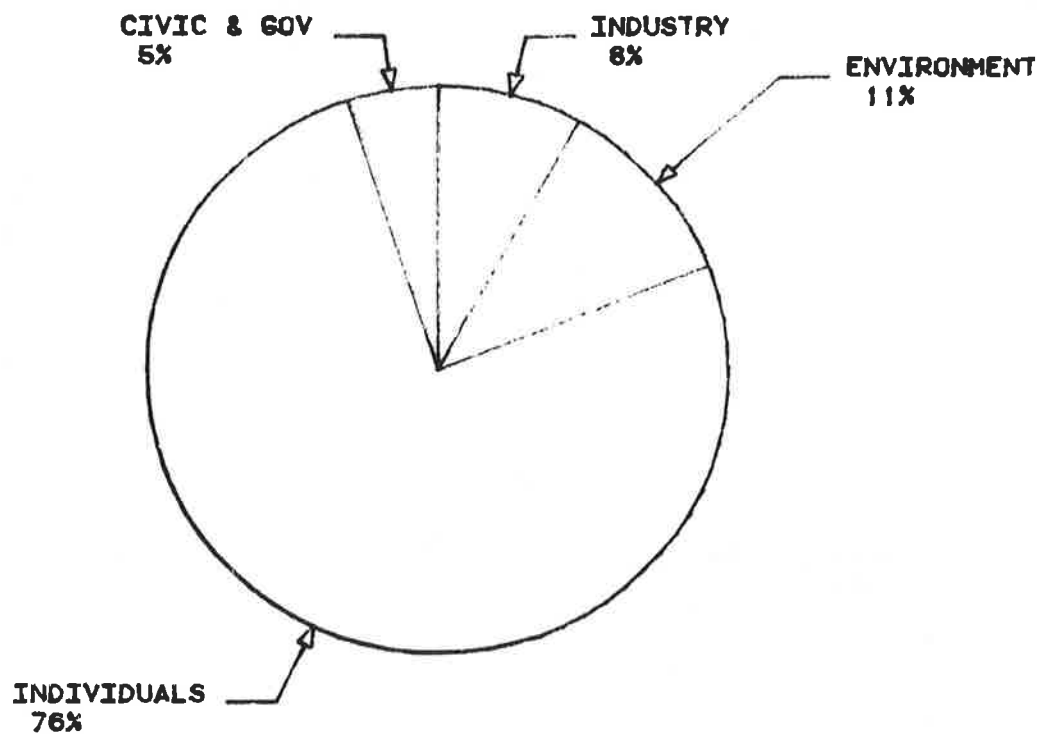
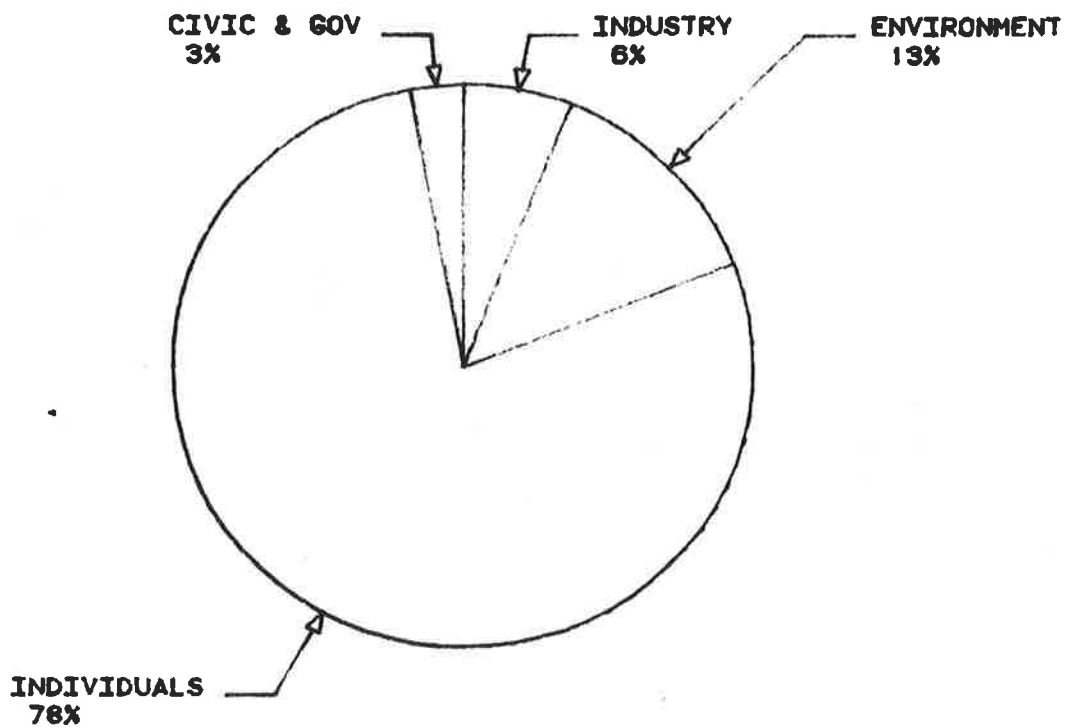
Of those who disapproved of the Proposed Action, which alternative was preferred?

Alternative C	- 86%	87%
No Preference	- 6%	4%
Any wilderness alternative	- 3%	1%
Alternative B	- 2%	1%
Alternatives A, D, Current Direction, & "Lloyd West" Alternative - each about 1%		

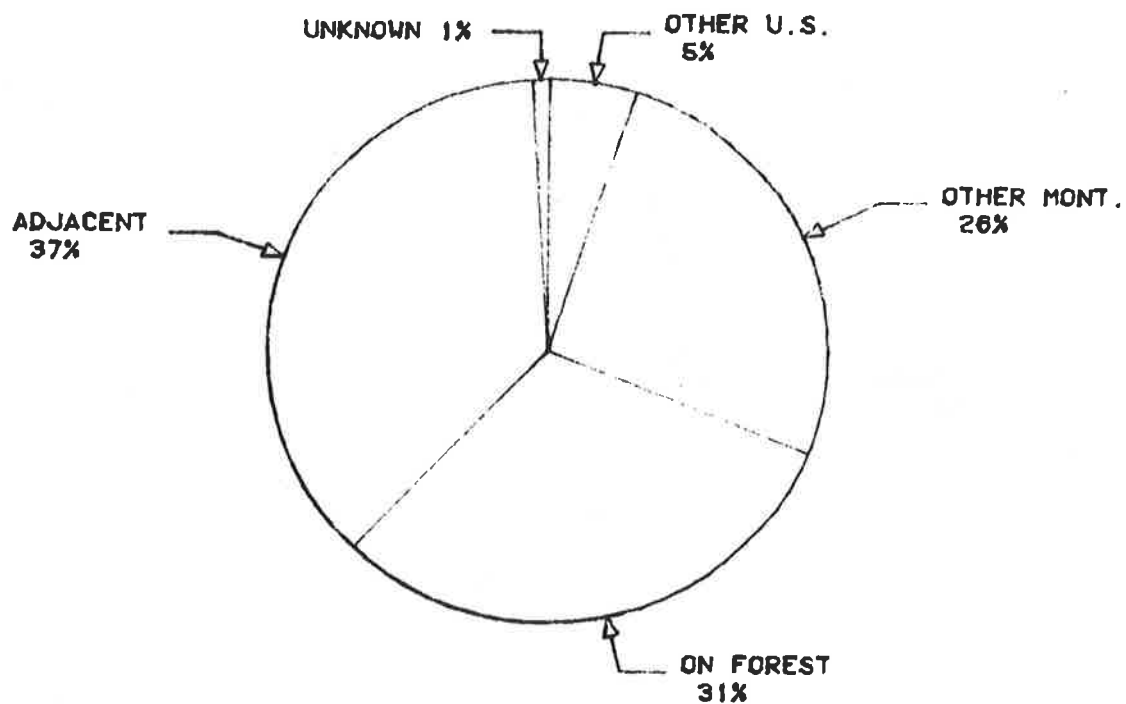
About 590 comments were recorded from the public's responses. The comments concerned many of the identified public issues plus other issues of concern to the public. What were the public review issues, as determined by the number of times the issue came up?

	% of comments	% of people
Protect the wildlife values by making Ten Lakes wilderness.	- 15%	25%
Leave area open for snowmobiling.	- 10%	21%
Timber values are low and scanty to make area nonwilderness.	- 7%	12%
Area has scenic & wild qualities;	- 7%	10%
preservation outweighs management.	- 7%	5%
Snowmobilers have enough areas to recreate; make area wilderness.	- 5%	8%
Wilderness would protect area from oil & gas activities.	- 4%	7%
Forest does not need area to meet RPA timber goals.	- 3%	5%
There is a shortage of wilderness in Montana	- 3%	4%
Scenic Area designation would not necessarily protect the area.	- 2%	3%
Timber values outweigh wilderness; area should be managed.	- 2%	3%
Other issues (cumulative)	- 35%	1/

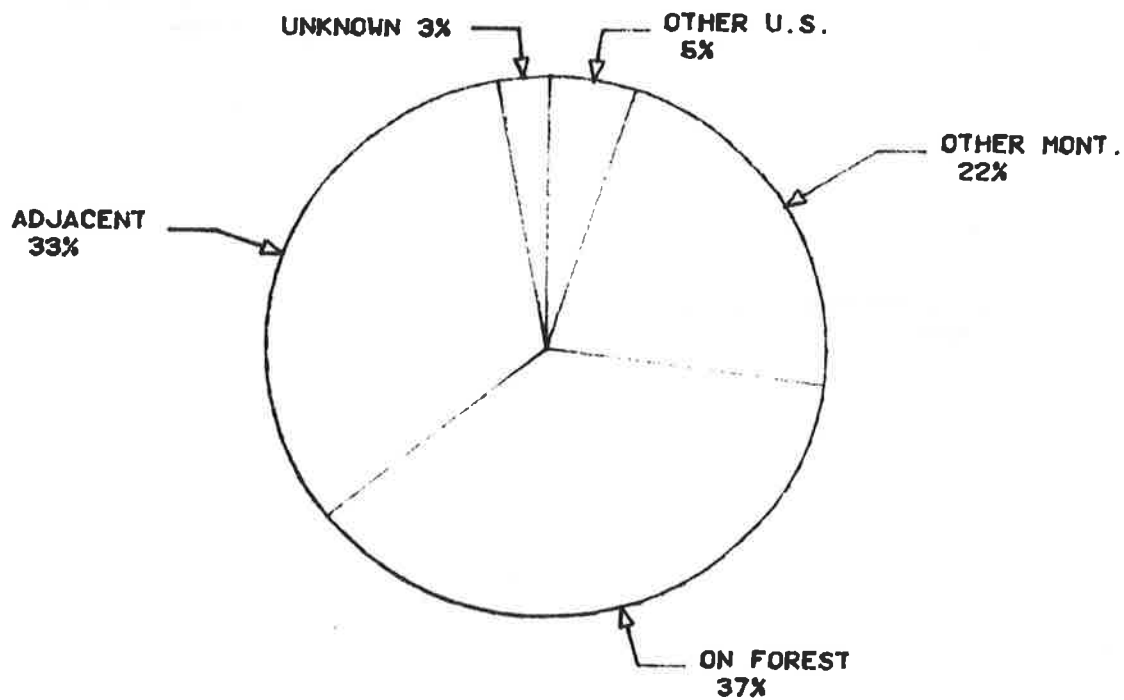
1/ This column is not additive because people generally spoke to more than one issue.

TEN LAKES - WHO RESPONDED (LETTERS)**TEN LAKES - WHO RESPONDED (PEOPLE)**

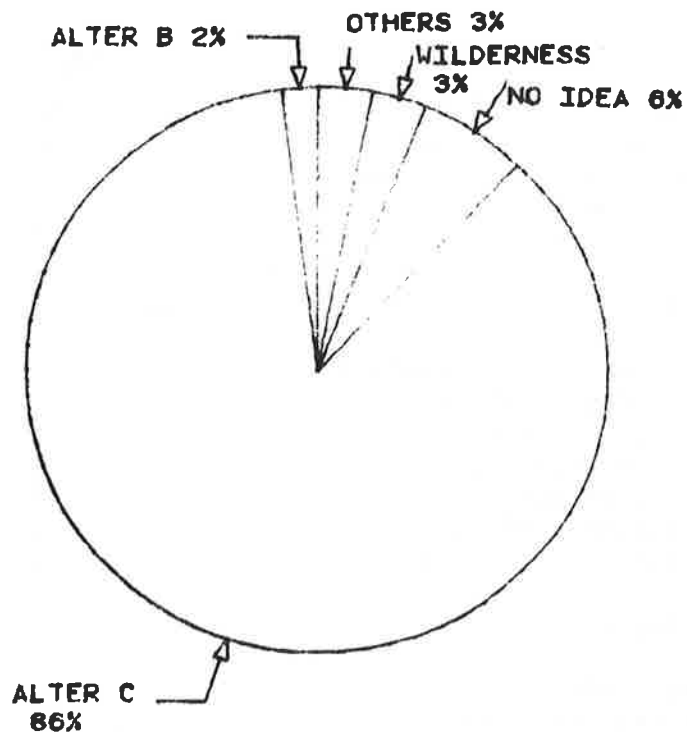
TEN LAKES - WHERE FROM (LETTERS)



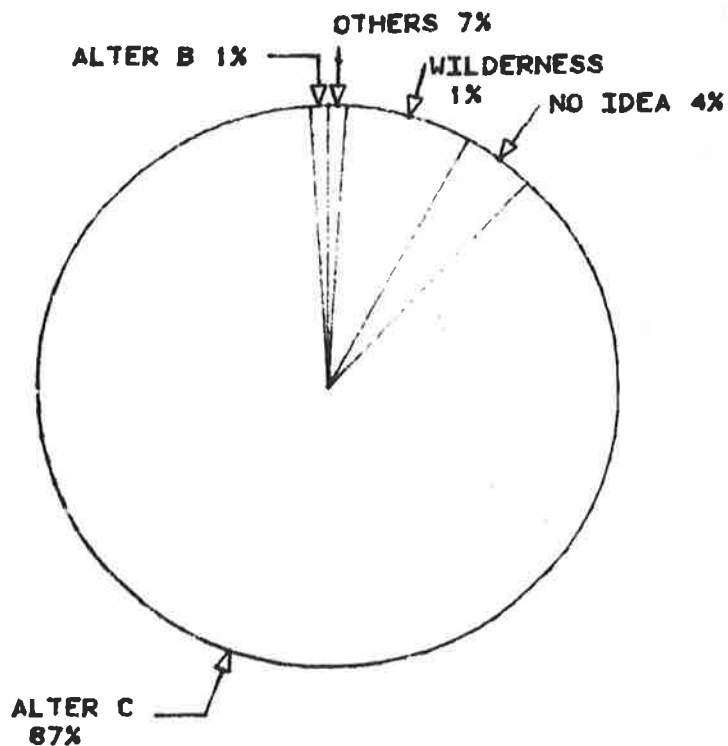
TEN LAKES - WHERE FROM (PEOPLE)



TEN LAKES - BETTER IDEAS OF DISAPPROVERS (LETTERS)



TEN LAKES - BETTER IDEAS OF DISAPPROVERS (PEOPLE)



Responses to "S.393" Public Issues

	Total*		In Response to the Proposed Action			
	Letters	People	Those Approving**		Those Disapproving	
	Letters	People	Letters	People	Letters	People
Recreation	117	178	64	97	48	81
Wildlife (Incl. T&E)	102	115	8	8	94	106
Timber	76	116	20	23	54	92
Minerals	37	40	11	11	23	29
Wilderness Suitability	25	26	3	3	22	23
Other Wilderness	22	37	7	20	14	17
Wilderness Quality	22	24	2	2	20	22
RPA (ability to meet)	15	21	1	1	13	20
Community Stability	14	20	8	9	6	11
Protection	6	6	3	3	3	3
Physically Handicapped	1	1	0	0	1	1
Social Situation	0		0		0	
Wilderness Diversity	0		0		0	

Other Issues Identified Through Public Comments

Issues pertaining to:

Scenic Area Designation	32	42	16	17	16	23
Socio/Economic	17	20	9	9	8	11
Roads & Trails	15	18	4	6	11	12
Process	12	28	0	0	12	28
Watersheds	3	3	0	0	3	3
Access	2	6	3	3	2	3

* Does not include "No Opinions"

** Includes "Approved Conditionally"

Of those disapproving of the Proposed Action, the following are the most often stated rationale/opinion about the public issues ("Top Ten"):

	<u>Letters</u>	<u>People</u>
1. Nonwilderness would be detrimental to wildlife; including T&E.	- 91	103
2. Area does not contribute that much to Forest timber volumes; is not significant to Forest volumes; timber of low value.	- 43	49
3. Area provides beauty & solitude; last wild remnant of Whitefish Range; meets criteria for wilderness.	- 39	43
4. Snowmobiles already have enough area to recreate; 10 Lakes not needed; snomos & wilderness don't mix.	- 29	34
5. Protect area from oil & gas exploration/development.	- 24	27
6. RFA timber goals will be met regardless of timber in 10 Lakes.	- 19	21
7. There is a shortage of wilderness in Montana. Preservation outweighs need for management flexibility.	- 16 - 16	16 19
8. Scenic Area designation is no guarantee area will be protected.	- 14	14
9. Area should not be roaded.	- 10	11
10. Wilderness needed to help meet demand for roadless recreation. Preserve for future generations.	- 9 - 9	16 9

Numbers within the parentheses () are the number of people responding to each comment. "Approve" and "Disapprove" refer to those people approving of the proposed action and disapproving. The total includes those with no opinion.

A - WILDLIFE

	Total	Approving	Disapproving
Nonwilderness would be detrimental to wildlife/ <u>grizzly</u> ; <u>caribou</u> - wilderness would <u>protect wildlife</u> and <u>habitat</u> .	93 (106)	2 (4)	91 (103)
Regardless of designation, maintain for wildlife.	1 (1)		
Burma Face high in fall/winter/spring range; favored hunting area.	1 (1)	0	
Wildlife better favored by direct management.	3 (3)	2 (2)	1 (1)
Wilderness would provide old growth.	1 (1)	0	1 (1)
Fisheries treated superficially.	1 (1)	0	1 (1)
No sign of caribou.	1 (1)	1 (1)	

E - SOCIO/ECONOMIC

Decision should not be made on basis of dollars.	2 (2)	0	2 (2)
Wilderness would adversely effect local jobs; need to support local economy; wilderness bad for economy.	8 (8)	8 (8)	0
Wilderness would benefit local economy by bringing tourism.	8 (9)	1 (1)	7 (8)
Wilderness will not effect economy one way or another.	1 (1)	0	1 (1)

F - ROADS/TRAILS

Area should not be roaded; no roads; harmful to wildlife; too much sedimentation; too costly.	14 (17)	4 (6)	10 (11)
Trail system should be provided.	1 (1)	0	1 (1)

P - PROCESS

	Total	Approve	Disapprove
Intent of S. 393 is not being met, area is not being properly evaluated for wilderness; criteria used to evaluate no longer valid.	5(5)		5(5)
Study should not be rehash of RARE I AND II.	1(2)		1(2)
Decisions should not be made until area has been explored for minerals.	1(1)	1(1)	
Study has been adequate.	1(1)		
Documents are inadequate.	3(9)		3(9)
Biased toward timber.	2(8)		2(8)
Decision is a political expedient.	1(1)		1(1)
Support Lloyd West's alternative.	1(1)		1(1)

R - RECREATION

Keep area open for snowmobiles.	64(88)	61(86)	
Snowmobiles already have enough area to recreate; Ten Lakes not needed; snowmobiles should be excluded altogether; making area wilderness and allowing snowmobiles is not consistent.	29(34)	0	29(34)
Need to address motorcycled ORV use.	1(1)		
Protect the Burma Face as viewed from valley.	9(15)	2(2)	7(13)
Need to include discussion of Pacific NW Trail.	1(1)		
Ten Lakes should be wilderness to help meet demand for roadless rec.	9(9)		9(9)
Area contains a variety of recreation opportunities, <u>not just wilderness</u> , and should be managed for them.	7(10)	5(8)	2(2)

	Tot.	02529 App.	Dis- app.
No harvest should be allowed in area.	5(6)		5(6)
Area being exploited for timber.	2(3)		2(3)
<u>W - COMMENTS SPECIFIC TO WILDERNESS</u>			
There is a shortage of wilderness in Montana.	16(16)		16(16)
Cabinets and Scotchman Peaks now being threatened by mineral development, therefore, make Ten Lakes wilderness.	4(4)		4(4)
Development would ruin character of wilderness; preservation outweighs need for flexibility.	17(20)	1(1)	16(19)
Preserve area for future generations.	9(9)		9(9)
Too much wilderness in Montana already.	11(23)	11(23)	
Area provides beauty, solitude; last wild remnant of Whitefish range; is wild oasis in sea of development; provides spiritual solitude; configuration does not preclude wilderness.	39(43)		39(43)
Area should be preserved as a natural ecosystem.	2(2)		2(2)
Area too small to be wilderness; wilderness designation would attract too much use; does not lend itself to solitude; past activities are visible.	10(10)	8(8)	
Wilderness is only for those who can afford it.	1(1)		
If wilderness desired, Alternative D is a good compromise.	1(1)		
Ten Lakes is sacred and spiritual--place for solitude.	1(1)		1(1)
Other 393 areas not being recommended for wilderness.	2(2)		2(2)
Final wilderness boundary should exclude development.	1(2)		1(2)
Wilderness produces overall highest PNB.	1(2)		1(2)

This appendix contains all the written comments received by the public during the public review of the November 1982 Ten Lakes Draft Report and Proposal and were used in the analysis of public comments. They appear in the order in which they were received and evaluated.

Some letters dealt with both the November 1982 Draft Forest Plan as well as Ten Lakes. If letters included comments about Ten Lakes, they were counted as input to the proposal for Ten Lakes. The following is a list of the respondents to the November 1982 Ten Lakes Draft Report and Proposal. (Letter numbers were given to comments as they were received for both the Forest Plan and Ten Lakes; thus some numbers in the following list are missing. Those missing letters dealt solely with the Forest Plan).

<u>Letter No.</u>	<u>Name</u>		
2	Joseph Schott	87	Lonnie & Laurie Keller
4	Bruce Keene	88	Mr. & Mrs. Rick Teets
5	Mitch Taliaferro	89	Don & Kathleen Zundel
6	Glenn Mueller	90	Rodney Larson
7	Robert Strickland	92	Form Letter Response
8	George Curtis	93	Kerby Allers
9	Ned Decker	94	Rosalyn Allers
10	Daniel Casazza	95	Ron Selden
11	Rock Mountain Oil and Gas Assn.	96	Harry Workman
12-12b	John Jeresok	101	Avis McCollum
14	Jim Kilroy	102	M.C. McCollum
15-15b	Alta Smith	105	Richard Wilson
16	Bob Seidel	108	Mickey Sorensen
17-17a	Steven Kelly	109	Wade Sorensen
18	Marilyn Whitman	112	Lois McGlothlin
19-19b	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schaffer	113	John Gjerd
20	Stan Holder	116&116b	Charles Newton
22	James Bean & Kath Cunningham	117	Dorothy Newton
24	CONOCO	118	Kathy Lewis
26	True Oil Company	119	Ray Masters
27-27b	Tobacco Valley Rod and Gun Club	121	Nancy Peterson
28	Dennis Divoky	122	Brenda Nesbitt
29	Montana Magazine	124	Joe Hibbetts
30	John Bush	125	Thomas Esch
31	Mac Donofrio	126	Paul Johnson
32	Jill Devine	127	Mr. & Mrs. David Snyder
33	Mark Brunson	128	Doug Rhodes
34	Sean O'Brien	129	Christie Ferruzzi
35	Anne Poloson	130	Michael Yelinek
37	Flathead Snowmobile Assn.	133	Stewart Tepper
38-39	Jerry Schaub	134	Steve Lamar
40	Lloyd West	135	Terry Mullins
66b	Plum Creek Lumber Company	136	Morey Haggin
72b	Carol Free	137	Mindy Henderson
78b	Mike Free	140	Bitterroot-Mission
81b	James R. Conner		Sierra Club
83	Chester & Margaret Murphy	141	Lilli Ann Martin
84-84b	Keith & Korin Decker	143	Nancy Newcomer
85	Robert & Darla Teets	149	Rosalind Yanishevsky
86	Larry Barge	150	Tim Melander

562 Richard Kerr
565 Olga Erickson
566 Northwest Citizens for Wilderness
567 Libby Sno-Kats
568 Inland Forest Resource Council
571 Stan Billheimer
572 Gary Mason
573 Fowlers
574 Thomas Knutson
575 Constance Kay
577 Rob Deyerberg
578 Bob Traina
580 Todd Featherly
583 Karen Anderson
584 Montana Wildlife Federation
586 National Audubon Society
600 Richard Bagley
601 Petition Against Tobacco
Valley Citizen's Alternative
602 Lincoln County Board
604 Libby Chamber of Commerce
605 Gary Montgomery
606 Gary Sakahara
607 Elaine Lyndon
608 Ten Lakes Snowmobilers
609 Diane Walsh
610 Jen Follett McCaw
611 William McCaw
614 Thomas Holland
615 Richard Frazier
617 Helen Wylie
618 Richard & Susan Bagley
619 Illegible
620 James Hurst
621 James Biggar
622 Daniel Hodges
623 Sharon Lucks
625 Carmel Cipriano
629 Montana Snowmobile Assn.
630 Last Chance Audubon Society
631 Ray Smith
634 Claudia Schaeffer
635 American Wilderness Alliance
638 Western Forest Industries Assn.
640 Montana Wilderness Association
643 John Reeves
644 Tim & Laura Tayne

SOME POSSIBLE AREAS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR RESPONSE

1. Issue resolution.

Good

2. Effects and impacts from the Environmental Consequences section.

EFFECTS ARE OUTLINED

3. Additional ideas or approaches to solutions. I HAVE NO NEW IDEAS. I GENERALLY SUPPORT YOUR PROPOSED ACTION. HOWEVER, I THINK THE PROPOSED PLAN SHOULD BE ALTERED SOMEWHAT BEFORE THE FINAL ONE IS MADE. FIRST, I THINK ALL POSSIBLE CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO HELP THE GRIZZLY. I FEEL YOU NEED MORE HABITAT FOR GRIZZLIES IN YOUR PLAN. SECOND, ALTHOUGH YOU PLAN TO CLOSE MANY ROADS AFTER USE THIS POLICY SHOULD BE EXPANDED.

4. Factual (technical) errors.

NONE NOTED.

5. Readability and understandability.

VERY READABLE. THE MAPS ARE VERY GOOD.

6. Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area.

I DISAGREE WITH YOUR PROPOSAL. I THINK TEN LAKES SHOULD RECEIVE THE PROTECTION OUTLINED IN ALT. B - WHERE MOST OF THE STUDY AREA IS DEDICATED TO ROADLESS RECREATION MGT. YOUR PLAN ALLOWS TIMBER HARVEST / ROAD CONSTRUCTION TOO CLOSE TO THE "HEART" OF THIS AREA. (I THINK ALT. B SHOULD BE CHANGED FROM RECOMMENDING THIS AREA BE WILDERNESS TO A ROADLESS / STAGRAY IF THAT MAKES SENSE). MY MAIN POINT IS, THAT YOUR PLAN DOES NOT SAFEGUARD THE AREA TO THE EXTENT I WOULD LIKE IT.

7. Other.

↓
YOUR PLANNED LAND EXCHANGES DEFINITELY MEET WITH MY APPROVAL.

Please remember to provide your name and address on the other side, if you wish to receive the final documents. THANK YOU for your time!

5-1

Return address

P.O. Box 1092Idabel, OK74745☐ is this an address change?

place

Ralph Bunche



Kootenai National Forest
Supervisor's Office
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

NAME: Mitch TakaharaADDRESS: P.O. Box 1092 Idabel, OK 74745ORGANIZATION OR
AFFILIATION, IF ANY: _____

DAL
12/13/82

FOREST PLAN & DEIS RESPONSE

GLENN MUELER STOPPED IN THIS MORNING TO STATE THAT HE IS IN BASIC AGREEMENT WITH THE PROPOSED FOREST PLAN AND THE ALLOCATIONS MADE.

HE STATED THAT HE THOUGHT THAT THE EMPLOYMENT FIGURES SHOWN IN THE DEIS WERE OPTIMISTIC IN THE FIRST DECADE BECAUSE OF THE INCREASING AUTOMATION THAT IS OCCURRING IN THE WOOD PRODUCTS MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

[HE ALSO STATED THAT A WILDERNESS DECISION IN THE TEN LAKES CORE AREA IS A WORKABLE COMPROMISE, IF NEEDED.



Return address

place
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here

☐ is this an address change?

Kootenai National Forest
Supervisor's Office
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

NAME:

GEORGE CURTIS

ADDRESS:

Box 666

ORGANIZATION OR
AFFILIATION, IF ANY:

REXFORD DISTRICT U.S.F.S.

KOOTENAI NAT. FOREST DRAFT E.I.S.

COMMENTS & ADDITIONS

Page 19 - 6. Protection

States that in F.M.A.-2 all fires are actively suppressed.

Page II - 37 - 3. Protection, Fire Mgt. Area.

State that in F.M.A.-2 that unplanned ignitions will receive the appropriate suppression action. (This appears to be a conflict)

Following is what Fire Mgt. and Wildlife wanted in F.M.A.-2.

Both planned and unplanned prescription fires are permitted and all fires will receive the appropriate suppression action.

See Decision flow charts # 1 & 2 in the Kootenai Forest Fire Mgt. Action Plan.

Page II - 37 F.M.A.-5 Special

instead of etc. add oversteeped slope and big wildlife areas adjacent to Lake Kootenay.

Kootenai Forest Plan Proposed Alternative 4a

This alternative is certainly workable but I have a few comments to help it better protect all the resources.

1. This alternative should protect more of the existing roadless areas as recreational needs on the Kootenai will increase. It states that this alternative falls short of the projected dispersed recreation needs and this problem should be resolved.
2. It also appears that the Forest Service has over emphasized the needs for roads on the Kootenai. I am sure the projected 12000 miles could be reduced by 25% and better protect all the resources. This savings in dollars is real and that dollars are needed for other high priority projects.
3. Planning and Fire Mgt. will have to get together to help resolve the conflict between the Mgt. area map and the F.M.A. boundaries in the Forest Fire Action Plan. I think one overstatement could resolve this to make the F.M.A. fire boundaries defensible. This potential conflict should be resolved.

to high which is not the case. Wildfire can be easily suppressed in this area due to light fuels on the ground. Salvage type logging and prescription fires will enhance the area in the future and provide for quality forage for big game and bird habitat.

Due to steep slopes and viewing restrictions there is no way of building roads on the Europa Face without serious resource problems. Some type of helicopter logging may be feasible in the future when timber is larger and the economy is better.

2. Recreation

The present Forest Plan falls short of meeting the roadless recreation needs therefore the Europa Face could be designated as Non-Motorized Dispersed Recreation to help resolve this problem. This added buffer strip would only improve the recreation potential of this area.

On page 21 shouldn't the total 16,400 acres fall in Non-Motorized Dispersed recreation.

From the chart it appears that the proposed action will have less RUD; why is this if the roadless area would increase to 18,800 acres.

I think its great if we can allow snow.

9

JAN 17, 1983
Ned L. Decker
Box 9
Rexford MT 59930

TEN LAKES Wilderness Study

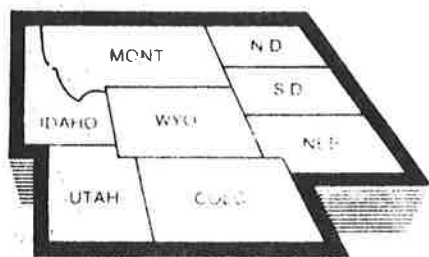
The wilderness Areas of Montana are overdone by the few to the detriment of the general public.

The U.S. can't afford to let good saw timber go to waste - it don't support the working people who are the large contributors to gov't & small business.

At the present population we can no longer afford to let any raw material lay idle to be consumed by bugs & worms.

Multiple use is still the best plan for such small areas.

Ten Lakes maximum area should be limited to the 18,000 acres as shown on the proposed plan.



Rocky Mountain Oil & Gas Association, Inc.

345 PETROLEUM BUILDING • DENVER, COLORADO 80202
303/534-8261

JAN 17 1983

January 14, 1983

Mr. William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr. Morden:

I am writing on behalf of the Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Association (RMOGA), a trade association of 800 individuals and companies involved in all aspects of oil and gas exploration, production, transportation, and marketing activities throughout the Rocky Mountain West. We appreciate this opportunity to comment on the Draft Wilderness Study Report for the Ten Lakes Area of the Kootenai National Forest. We support a nonwilderness designation recommendation for this study area, however, we are concerned with the emphasis the Forest Service has placed on visual resources and roadless recreation. As a result of such emphasis, the Forest Service anticipates utilizing additional special leasing stipulations should any leases ever be issued within the Ten Lakes Area.

The Study Report indicates that Ten Lakes falls within the Overthrust Belt, which is an area with great potential for oil and gas reserves. It is further stated that "detailed surface geologic mapping, seismic profiling, and wildcat drilling will be necessary in order to test the existence, or nonexistence, of oil and gas-bearing formations at depth". Yet, the Forest Service intends on limiting access to special locations and applying special conditions to any activities which may take place in the roadless area. These additional constraints would create a sizeable economic burden on those operators who choose to explore the Ten Lakes Area.

We urge the Forest Service to revise its proposal by recognizing that energy and mineral activities can occur with reasonable (and in most cases standard) protection measures and that new road construction will be allowed

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12-1

Bill Warden Forest Supervisor
 Kootenai National Forest

Libby, Montana 59922

18 June, 1983

Dear Bill

I support a wilderness designation for the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. The area offers a unique opportunity within the Wilderness Preservation System. This area is not dominated by the "ice and rock" conditions which characterize many wilderness areas. Rather the opportunity exists to include low, moderate and high productivity timberlands within a wilderness! The rationale that an area will produce boards should not be our justification for excluding areas from wilderness designation. Wilderness preservationists seek a variety of experiences and levels of solitude. We recognize that some people desire backpacking or some primitive experience while others seek out primitive areas for solitude. Likewise we do not recognize that wilderness enthusiasts seek out ice and rock conditions but rather can find joy in a stand of trees.

I am concerned with wilderness integrity as it relates to the study area's shape. The study area's shape is somewhat irregular due to existing roads and previous timber harvest. Its "blocky" shape is proper administratively, but any shape is perceptible for such a rare resource as wilderness. Roads and timber harvest are present in many designated wildernesses. Ten Lakes is not unique in this regard.

William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest

12B-1

April 13, 1983

Dear Bill

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area (MWSA). I have reviewed the Forest Service documents for this MWSA. I wish to go on record as preferring Alternative C, that is wilderness designation for the study area of 35,900 Acres. However, I could support Alternative B as a compromise from my conservative view point. I also believe it important to relay to you my thoughts about the rationale contained in these documents.

The Montana Wilderness Study Act included nine of the 182 non-selected RARE I areas. The Act mandates an in depth study of the wilderness resources for the Ten Lakes area. The study prepared treats individual environmental components from a non-wilderness viewpoint. I am aware of the emphasis put on quantification and economics in FS decision making, but feel that repeating RARE I and II ratings is not adequate study to satisfy the intent of MWSA. As an alternative to the above methods, could not a narrative been prepared which spoke to the qualities and recreation experience levels in each of the drainages? Based on the contents of this document, I don't know how a decision-maker could be aware of the trades-offs being made as related to the wilderness resource.

Various aspects of the study area are forwarded as a rationale for non-wilderness designation. First, the timber resources of this MWSA are an insignificant part of the KNF timber base to meet RPA

12B-3

clearly proposes changes to the area. These are: 1) moving from reactive, salvage timber sales to scheduled timber outputs from sites not well suited to regulated yields; 2) construction of 69 miles of road and a reduction in trail miles; 3) oil and gas leasing with intense exploration probable; and 4) reduced numbers of elk and grizzly bear as access is created or improved. Ironically, Alternative B comes closer to no change in management direction for the area than any of the alternatives.

Wilderness designation would retain a high quality primitive recreation area to meet a rapidly growing demand for a rapidly diminishing resource. Wilderness is a legitimate component of multiple use management and we should be seeking opportunities for designation especially as it relates to a diverse Wilderness Preservation System. Wilderness excludes no one, only requires acceptance on its own terms rather than man's. Simply, it is land for which we have the highest level of respect.

Again, I greatly appreciate the opportunity to comment and exchange ideas in an unconstrained atmosphere. Thank you.

Sincerely

Jon Jerush

R.R. 2 - Box 538.

Libby, Mt. 59923

15

Supervisor
U.S. Forest Service
W. Hwy 2
Libby, Mt.

1/11/83

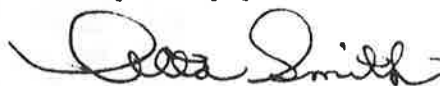
Dear Supervisor;

Regarding the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study. Let us look into the future, say ten, twenty or thirty years from now, will we be able to say, "Aren't we glad we saved this beautiful country for all to enjoy?"

I am for whatever can be done to save as much of the beauty of nature as possible and if that means to make Ten Lakes area a Wilderness then I am for it.

Thank you for your time and work on this issue.

Very truly yours,



Alta Smith
Rt #1 Box 40 B
Eureka, Mt.

JAN 14 1983

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02

Tim O'G.

1/18/83

16-1

To: Forest Supervisor

After reviewing the proposed Forest Plan and the Ten Lakes Proposal I have some concerns on the direction the Forest is taking in the preferred alternative for the "Burma Face". The area I'm referring to is the west aspect of the Whitefish Range from Grave's Creek north to the Canadian line.

I see the priority resources on this face as being:

1. Viewing - obvious sensitive visual qualities due to steep slopes facing into the Tobacco Valley and Highway 93, a major tourist route to Canada
2. Wildlife - high use fall-winter-spring range for mule deer and elk and favored hunting area for these species
3. Watershed - generates a number of 1st and 2nd order streams that enter the Tobacco Valley and are used for domestic and irrigation purposes.

with...

I propose a road system at the ease of the slope - much of it is already in place - that will accomodate aerial logging systems. A long term management plan - including detailed prescriptions - can then be written for manipulating the vegetation on these slopes to provide for the 5 resources mentioned.

This is not the most economical alternative for management of the "Burma Face", but it will meet the ^{major} resource needs better than those that are now being considered in the Ten Lakes E.I.S.

Bob Seidel

Roxford R.D.

Mr. Tom Costin,

I am writing in support of
alternative C in the Kootenai Forest
Plan for the "ten lakes" area.

This is the only way we can
presently maintain the area's integrity
with so many new demands for that
area. Wilderness is the only remaining
protective device when gas & oil interests
threaten wild areas such as this.

I do not want to see this area
roaded for oil, timber or any
other commercial use and therefore
can support alternative C only.

Future generations will have many
opportunities to experience clearcuts and
oil wells. How about wilderness?

Kootenai Forest presently offers very
little wilderness for such a large forest
(million acres). This is a pinhead in
this large roaded forest. Spare it.
Be thankful now & later. Sincerely,

Steve Kelby
530. Edgewood Pl. # 3
Whitefish, MT 59937



17A

02529

19-1

Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Schaffer
 P.O. Box 4
 Magic Springs, ID 83845
 January 21, 1983

Supervisor's Office
 Kootenai Nat'l Forest
 Box A5
 Libby, MT. 59923

Dear Sirs,

We feel that the Ice Lakes Area in northwest Montana should be designated a wilderness area and left as it is. We have back packed in this area for several years and found it to be a beautiful, relatively undisturbed place to go with our children to enjoy the solitude of the forests.

Wilderness designation at this time needs "lock up" the forest forever, as the decision may be reversed in the future; it only protects our dwindling wilderness areas for now.

We also strongly object to snowmobiles using this area because of disturbing the animals which live there. We want more

Mr. and Mrs. R.W. Schaffer
P.O. Box 4
Moyie Springs, ID. 83845

19B

April 13, 1983

W. E. Morden
Supervisor's Office
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT. 59923

Dear Sir,

Thank you for letting us know in your letter of February 15, 1983, of the extended deadline for comments on the proposed action for the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area.

I would like to take this opportunity to say that we are even more in favor of the wilderness designation for this area since it has been discovered that a herd of caribou has been using the area. In fact, it is questionable whether there will be any alternative now. These animals are so rare in the lower 48 states that every effort should be made to protect them while studies of their behavior are made. We certainly appreciate the cooperation the Forest Service shows to the Dept. of Fish and Game in Montana in protecting critical habitat for many animals. It is our hope that this cooperation will continue with the caribou.

Personally, I would like to see more consideration shown the Grizzly Bear habitat, too, both in the Cabinet Wilderness Area and the Ten Lakes Area.

Thank you again for the additional time for comments. We feel it is important to participate.

Yours truly,

Mr and Mrs Robert W. Schaffer

20-2

many friends who do and they enjoy it very much. By eliminating snowmobiling many people, who otherwise could never make the trek into Ten Lakes via snowshoes or cross country skis, could not witness the beauty of this area in the winter.

My proposal is;

- ① Expand the ~~Ten~~ Lakes Scenic area to the boundaries proposed in the ~~study~~ Wilderness Proposal (Alternative). This would make it over 30,000 acres.
- ② Allow logging only from areas accessible by existing roads, with two exceptions; by helicopter or horse logging and this should only be allowed on the West face of Burma-Kasanka-Gibrakter range. Under no circumstances should clear-cutting be permitted.
- ③ Do not create any new roads in this area
- ④ Snowmobiling should be permitted during the dates already established.

If these logging guarantees could not be made then I would otherwise be in favor of making the area wilderness.

Sincerely

Stan Holder

Box 30

Eureka, Mt. 59917

Dear Kootenai National Forest People,

I support alternative "C" in the Ten lakes study area.

With gas and oil interests threatening to develop this area, I feel we have only one reasonable alternative and that is to establish wilderness designation for this area.

I have fished & hunted this area for years, and would be very disappointed if the area were to be roaded and roped with out of state oil companies.

Certainly in your large forest there is room for this small 35000 acre wilderness without reducing your quota for logs. Except for some lower elevation trees, this area as I know it would offer very little commercial timber v.s. cost of extraction. To road this extremely high quality wilderness area for a marginal or deficit timber sale would be an insult to wildlife and the taxpayer. I, for one, am tired of subsidizing Plum Creek and other huge timber interests with my tax dollar.

Wilderness is more my idea of a dollar well spent for the Ten lakes area. I support Alternative "C".

Sincerely,

James Dean & Kathy Cunningham
Whitefish, Mont.

26

TRUE OIL COMPANY

RIVER CROSS ROAD

January 24, 1983

CASPER, WYOMING
P. O. DRAWER 2360
PHONE 237-9301
82602

Mr. William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
P. O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr. Morden:

RE: TEN LAKES WSA


We support a non-wilderness designation recommendation for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area in the Kootenai National Forest. However, we are concerned with the emphasis the Forest Service has placed on visual resources and roadless recreation. As a result of such emphasis, the Forest Service anticipates utilizing additional special leasing stipulations should any leases ever be issued within the Ten Lakes Area.

The Study Report indicates that Ten Lakes falls within the Overthrust Belt, which is an area with great potential for oil and gas reserves. It is further stated that "detailed surface geologic mapping, seismic profiling, and wildcat drilling will be necessary in order to test the existence, or nonexistence, of oil and gas-bearing formations at depth." Yet, the Forest Service intends to limit access to special locations and to apply special conditions to any activities which may take place in the roadless area. These additional constraints would create a sizeable economic burden on those operators who choose to explore the Ten Lakes area.

We urge the Forest Service to review its proposal by recognizing that energy and mineral activities can occur with reasonable (and, in most cases, standard) protection measures and that new road construction will be allowed to facilitate energy and mineral exploration. The Forest Service's proposed action should provide the maximum opportunities for access to the area for energy and mineral exploration and possible development through a necessary tradeoff analysis of resource values. It is possible that the potential for energy or mineral resources may outweigh other values.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide the Forest Service with our comments regarding the Draft Study Report and Proposal for the Ten Lakes Montana WSA.

Sincerely yours,


Robert O. Byron
Administrative Assistant
to H. A. True, Jr.

April 9, 1983

27B

Eureka Rod and Gun Club
c/o Arlie Burk
Eureka, Mont.
59917

Dear Mr. Morden:

Our main concern in regards to the Ten Lakes Study Area is, of course, to provide good big game hunting. We believe that the numbers of elk found in the study area during the fall has steadily increased over the last decade, and that this increase is directly related to the road closure policy implimented by the Forest Service in the middle and late 60's. One reason for this, of course, is that the road closures lessened hunting pressure in these drainages (Camp Creek, Divide Creek, South Stahl, etc.) that before were accessable to motor vehicles.

However, we contend that the major reason for the increase is that more and more elk are moving into the region to escape hunting pressure from other areas. Since British Columbia's general hunting begins at least a month before ours does, a substantial number of elk are pushed into the Ten Lakes from Canada, and since only bow season is going on at that time in the Ten Lakes they tend to remain there until the hunting pressure of our general season forces them back to Canada. We believe that the areas that were closed off by the road closure policy have provided a greater habitat area and thus those elk that are being pushed in from Canada are coming in larger numbers and are staying for longer periods of time before they are being driven to Canada. Add to this, the fact that Canada's hunting season lasts on through most of November as does ours, the elk may come across the boundary 2 or 3 more times. We think this is an advantageous situation for U.S. hunters.

The Rod and Gun Club believes that the alternate plan submitted by the local committee will best perpetuate these hunting conditions.

We also contend that many of the higher basins and ridges in the Ten Lakes Study Area are very vital Grizzly Bear habitat. We believe that logging, especially at the old growth in these areas should be prohibited.

Finally we believe that the west boundary of the Study Area (Burma-Independence Peak-Ksanka-Gibraltar Ridge) is a vital habitat for mule deer. According to the Forest Service's "proposed action" this face could be logged clean to the top of the mountains if deemed necessary to provide wildlife benefits."

28-1

Return address

Dennis Divoky#9 Bitterroot RdMissoula, MT 59803☐ is this an address change?

Kootenai National Forest
 Supervisor's Office
 P.O. Box AS
 Libby, MT 59923

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

 ORGANIZATION OR
 AFFILIATION, IF ANY: _____

SOME POSSIBLE AREAS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR RESPONSE

1. Issue resolution.

Off road motorcycle issue not addressed. These users should be given an area to enjoy their recreations.

2. Effects and impacts from the Environmental Consequences section.

3. Additional ideas or approaches to solutions.

4. Factual (technical) errors.

Page 20, first line. Wilderness is a resource as defined by Congress and Forest Service Policy; The proposed action most certainly irreversibly commits resources. Timber retrieval and roads will forever foreclose wilderness.

5. Readability and understandability. MWSA-Ten Lakes

Page 21; RVD ?; also under facilities, is that miles of road, if so how come columns don't add up to bottom figure?

6. Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area.

I support alternative A as a way to resolve issues. The only difference between proposed and A is the snowmobile issue, which will be a problem that the Forest Service

7. ~~caused~~ caused themselves by allowing it in the first place. It can be resolved in time, especially if other areas can be opened up to snowmobiles.

Please remember to provide your name and address on the other side, if you wish to receive the final documents. THANK YOU for your time!

30

Jan 22, 1983

Jon Bush

RT. 2 Whitefish, MT

Dear Sir:

As a woodsworking individual representing no particular group or interest, I urgently

Recommend wilderness designation (Alternative

C) for the Ten Lakes Area for the

following reasons:

1) in an area larger than Glacier National Park, the Kootenai N.F., it would be beneficial to have at least one area totally Roadless forever and basically locked up to man's industrial intervention. The Cabinet's and Scottmans area are already sufficiently encroached upon by oil and gas and what have you interests to nullify their pristine status.

2) if the proper objectives and goals of the Kootenai Nat. Forest management plans can be accomplished ~~by~~ without including the Ten Lakes (35,000 acres) area in oil and gas and roads and snowmobiling and salvage logging, then why not make this one concession to the outdoor fanatics and those who appreciate untouched ~~not~~ ecosystems!

3) being an avid snowmobiler, I still can't see why the folks in Eureka can't tour the many other areas of the Kootenai during the winter. i.e. the Yaak, Pinkam MT, Whitefish divide, Canadian Rockies etc.

Thanks for your time, sincerely

Jon Bush

Dear Mr. Morden,

Concerning the Kootenai National Forest, I am in favor of establishing the Ten Lakes area as the Ten Lakes Wilderness Area, a 35,400 acre wilderness made possible by alternative C.

There is hardly any wilderness in this part of the state, and what wilderness we have there (part of the Cabinet Mountains) is degraded by mineral exploration.

There are plenty of places for snowmobiling, motorcycling etc. in N.W. Montana without having to invade the Ten Lakes area. Ten Lakes is needed by all for its wilderness values, needed by people, grizzly bears, wolves, elk, etc.

With the planned road building increases in the Kootenai National Forest, it is extra important to have Ten Lakes established as wilderness.

The Ten Lakes area timber would only make a small percentage of the total timber planned for harvest in the Kootenai Forest. I'm sure our economy can get along without this Ten Lakes timber.

Sincerely, Jill Levine

520 S. 2nd W.

As long as a scenic designation can be wiped out with a flick of a regional forester's pen, a stronger classification is needed. That classification must be wilderness.

Wilderness classification prevents the other pitfalls of the scenic designation. Oil and gas exploration, whether it's seismic study using explosive charges or an 18,000-foot stratigraphic test, is not compatible with roadless backcountry recreation. Only wilderness can prevent that.

A Federal Energy Regulatory Commission installation is not compatible with roadless backcountry recreation. Only wilderness can prevent that.

Even salvage operations are not compatible with the true preservation of a primitive recreation area. Painful as it may be to those whose business it is to harvest timber, a beetle kill is part of nature's delicate balance. To establish natural biological succession, the natural recycling of resources, a climax community must suffer from disease or infestation. To preserve that natural recycling of resources, wilderness is needed.

Nor is the argument valid that the Ten Lakes study area does not offer the opportunity for solitude. Few places on the Kootenai National Forest (or in northwest Montana, for that matter) offer the opportunity for solitude which is available at places such as the head of Sinclair Creek at the top of Trail 89, or the tiny lakes near Mount Wam.

However, the Forest Service is quite correct in its contention that the entire Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area is not and should not be classified as wilderness. The area along the Rich Creek road, the portion west of Blacktail Creek, the segment south of Mount Gibraltar--none of these merit wilderness protection as much as they offer a valuable timber resource. These should not be included in a Ten Lakes Wilderness.

Therefore I offer a compromise, one which is not truly included in any of the five alternatives examined in the study.

which may never have been considered before in a study such as this.

Snowmobilers say they like to be able to ride into the Ten Lakes Scenic Area and spend the night at Wolverine Cabin. I can see the attraction in this and think there may be a way they can continue to do so.

Assuming the attraction in such an outing is the opportunity to take an overnight trip which offers the scenery of the Ten Lakes region, it seems possible that this can be enjoyed without snowmobiles actually intruding on the proposed wilderness. The way they could do this is if the cabin itself were moved to a spot on the boundary of the wilderness which offered a scenic view of the Ten Lakes basins.

The cost of this move should be borne by the wilderness proponents. For one thing, moving the cabin would remove an aspect of civilization from the wilderness. Second, if they cannot finance the operation, it would seem there isn't enough commitment to preserving the wilderness as it is, and perhaps snowmobiles should be allowed to enter.

What I propose is that a deadline be set by which time arrangements for moving the cabin should be made. If the deadline is not met, a slice should be cut into the wilderness which allows snowmobile access to the cabin.

I'm not sure of all the legal ramifications of this proposal. If it proves to be impossible from a legal standpoint, I would have to recommend with regret that the boundaries of a wilderness should stand as I first proposed. And if I must choose from one of the five alternatives in the study, I would like to go on record as supporting Alternative B.

Yours,


Mark Brunson

Mr William Madden

P.O. Box A 3

Sibby Mt 59923

Dear Sir:

I want to go on record for being against
ten Sales for wilderness. It should be left as
it is for the people to log, mine, fish and
anything else they can do. There is already
too much land tied up that only a very
few can enjoy. People should come first
the rest will take care of itself as it as
always done

Thank you

Sincerely

Ann E Polson

234 Circle Drive

Columbia Falls, MT 59912

Feb 2, 1983 38

Box 277

TREGO, MONT 59934

Dear Sir:

I believe the Ten Lake Lake Area shall be made into a Wilderness Area. Originally I thought the area was to be 24,000 acres. I think we should try to preserve as much of that area as possible. There seems to be plenty of timber for logging, but not enough preserved for future generations of Americans.

I hope you will make suggestions to preserve the Ten Lake area. I would like to see this better incorporated in the comments due March 1, 1983. Thank you.

Very sincerely,

Jimmy E. Schaub

Eureka, Montana
Feb. 14, 1983

Tom Coston
Regional Forester, USDA Forest Service
Federal Building, Missoula, Mt. 59925

William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor, Kootenai National Forest
P.O. Box AS, Libby, Montana 59923

Re: The Kootenai National Forest Ten Lakes Study Act Area (PL-150 & 5393)
Individual comments and input at special meetings at Eureka, Libby and
Kalispell

Dear Sirs:

At the meeting in Eureka I was the first on the list to testify. I stated that I had not read your summary report and proposal. I did say that I didn't really care if it were put into wilderness or remained as a scenic area. However, since that meeting I have taken the time and effort to read your summary very carefully. I have tried to decipher, decode and analyze the material you have put before the public for their review and comment. The following are my findings:

1. You have failed to address the real purpose of the Congress of the United States when they passed the legislation called The Montana Wilderness Study Act. The question is: Does the Ten Lakes Scenic Area have the proper criteria, as to remoteness, beauty, solitude and historic significance, to be declared wilderness and to be protected as wilderness from the trespasses and encroachment of civilization in any permanent form? You have failed in your summary to show that this area does indeed fulfill the criteria for true wilderness.
2. I find discrepancies and untruths in your context and also in your graph illustrations.
3. I find that your summary was fabricated from hypothetical figures, by unqualified people as to knowledge of the area's history, present or future.
4. I find that you have failed even to explain the difference between a scenic area designation and a wilderness designation.
5. I find that the context of your study is pointed at the potential harvest of timber at the expense of losing forever the wilderness character.

66 B



PLUM CREEK LUMBER COMPANY

COLUMBIA FALLS, MONTANA 59912

(406) 892-2141

February 17, 1983

William Morden, Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Libby, Montana 59923

SUBJECT: KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST PLAN RESPONSE

This response is directed at the Rexford and Yaak Districts. St. Regis Lumber Company and Stoltze Lumber Company will respond to the remaining districts. Please consider St. Regis and Stoltze response as part of ours.

Our response is keyed to the Kootenai National Forest Proposed Management Area map. The area in question will be designated by letter and number.

The management areas in question are as follows:

1. Management Area 2, A-3: Move boundry to coincide with the scenic area boundry. Change the deleted areas to Management area 31.
2. Management Area 2, C-D-5: Change to Management area 16.
3. Management Area 2, B-C-6: Change to Management Area 16.
4. Management Area 2, encompassing sections 14, 15 - D-9: Change to Management area 16.
5. We recommend that you continue to manage the Big Game animals at the current level of 4,700.

Sincerely,

John Marceau

John Marceau
Contract Logging Manager

C.C.: Larry Blasing - IFRC
John McGuire - St. Regis
Ron Buentemeier - Stoltze

Box 28

French, MT 59918

FEB 22

KO. I. AI
FS
DFS
PIO
AS
B-R
P-A
C-P
M-L
W-S
TS
S-S
P-L
RS
W-F
H-S
ES
O-G
F-C
T
AFS
F-D
LMRS
L-R
M-C
R-G
PS 2-22
T P
E-C
W-T
R-X
DRS
ZES
cc

knee problem which limits how far we hike. It is surprising how few areas in the Wilderness lands lend themselves to use on a limited basis, whether that limit be age, young or old, or physical disability. The beauty of the Ten Lakes Area is there for us because of its accessibility.

If the Ten Lakes area received formal Wilderness designation, the road access would be incompatible with wilderness protection. For this main reason, I favor the continuation of current management policies which keep the Scenic Area roadless, but accessible. I believe the Forest Service is capable of managing this area carefully to preserve its wild nature and disallow oil or gas exploration or timber harvest pressure.

I have one other reason to support the non-wilderness designation. This area lies on the Canadian border. I don't believe the management constraints placed on formal Wilderness Areas are compatible with lands on an international border, especially if no special notice has been taken of that border status. Were that international border with any other country in our hemisphere, the border status would take precedence over any other management proposals.

I hope to enjoy Theriault Lakes and the Ten Lakes Scenic Area for many more years.

Yours truly,
Carol Free

~~244~~ 78B-2

Another thing which disturbs me is how wilderness advocates can say the Ten Lakes Senic Area, if turned into a wilderness area, will be totally natural; then they start to dictate what will happen inside the wilderness area borders. What I'm trying to say is, you have two 'groups' wanting control of this area; presently, the Kootenai National Forest 'group', and possibly later the wilderness 'group'. The wilderness 'group' claims the Kootenai National Forest 'group' is placing too much control over the area. But then the wilderness 'group' turns right around and says they will have to destroy almost all wooden structures, such as outhouses, block all roads, and possibly transplant some animals into the area. The wilderness 'group' would be placing more control over the area with these and such actions. All this work is more than the Kootenai National Forest 'group' does. This work places many limits on the area. An example is: they say anyone can go into the area but then they would destroy the accesses, thus limiting who will want to and will go into the area.

What the wilderness area 'group' does, in my opinion, is place more limits on the area than the Kootenai National Forest 'group' does. That is, of course, if the area is changed into a wilderness area. So, I think the Kootenai National Forest 'group' keeps this area more open to the people and places fewer limitations on the area as compared to what the wilderness 'group' proposes to do; even though the wilderness area 'group' claims it is the other way around.

In conclusion, I am for the Kootenai National Forest to run and control the Ten Lakes Senic Area as they have in the past few years. I am against having the area made into a wilderness area.

A concerned citizen

Mike Free

Mike Free

81B-2

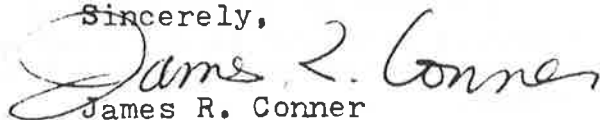
James R. Conner
Ten Lakes comments
Page 2

Fourth, Ten Lakes is not needed for timber production. Approximately 16,500 acres of Ten Lakes are allocated to timber management in the proposed alternative. That is approximately one percent of the acreage in the commercial timber base. This is not high quality timber, however. Ten Lakes will not make a significant contribution to timber production on the KNF.

Fifth, the addition of roads will contribute to the decline of quality elk hunting.

Ten Lakes ranks high in wilderness values, low in commodity values, and should be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Sincerely,



James R. Conner

78 Konley Drive
Kalispell, MT 59901
755-8925

84



Dear Mr. Morden,

I am against the ~~Mud Lake~~
designation for the Ten Lakes Area.

I often use this area
for snow ~~mobility~~ ^{mobility} and I feel this is
a beautiful area to use in the
winter

It should be kept open
for this use.

Sincerely,

Luth Ecker
Kara Ecker
110 East Evergreen #50
Kalispell, Mont.
59901

85

Dear
William E. Morden

I would like keep
the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study
Area open to snowcatting.

The area is a beauty land
the only way for me to enjoy
it is by snowcatting.

I know that the snowcatting
does not harm the land.

thanks - you

Robert A. Peets
Barla Peets
Kalisgell, N.Y.

87

William E. Marden
 Kootenai National Forest
 P.O. Box AS
 Libby, MT. 59703

Dear Mr. Marden,

We do not want Jem Lake Area closed.
 Snowmobile use in the area is increasing;
 parking area and trail heads have been
 established with opening of trails

Sincerely,

Lonnie Keller

Luanice Keller

Headquarter Snowmobile Association members
 Kalispell, MT

2-11-83

Dear MR. MORDEY

I would like to be listed as
against the Wilderness designation for
the Ten Lakes Area.

I use this area for snowmobiling
several times a year and feel it is
a beautiful area to use in the winter
time.

It should be kept open for this
use.

Sincerely,

Don Zundel

2464 MISSION TRAIL

Kalispell, MT 59901

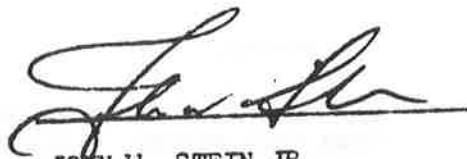
* Kathleen Zundel

Mr William E. Morden, Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

11 February 1983

Dear Sir,

The Ten Lakes area is one of the best snowmobiling areas in that area of the State of Montana. I feel that we should be able to continue to use this area for riding. I support the Forest service proposal to not make this a wilderness area.


JOHN W. STEIN JR
850 Sierra Road West
Helena, MT 59601

Form Letter Received from the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Letter Number</u>	<u>Town</u>
Earl and Sandra LaRogue	97-98	Lincoln, MT
Merle Louis	99	Lincoln, MT
Ray Maberry	100	Lincoln, MT
Robert and Viola Tullock	103-104	Lincoln, MT
Richard and Shirley Wilson	106	Denton, MT
Kenneth Bushnell	107	Helena, MT
Marvin and Judith Hagen	110-111	Lincoln, MT
Gene and Patricia Starcher	114-115	Lincoln, MT
Chris Castagne	120	Lincoln, MT
Victor Peterson	123	Lincoln, MT
John and Faye Roberts	131	Helena, MT
Robert and Evelyn Didrickson	132	Lincoln, MT
August and Pat Habets	138-139	Lincoln, MT
Marvin and Kathryn Reeve	146-147	Great Falls, MT

February 11, 1983

Rosalyn Allers
565 Maple Rd.
Kalispell, Mt. 59901

Mr. Morden,

please do not close the Ten Lakes area to snowmobiling. This is one of the finest snowmobiling areas in this part of the country.

Snowmobile use in this area is increasing; parking area and trail heads have been established with grooming of trails.

Please save some of the the Big Sky for people who know how to have fun.

Thank you,

Rosalyn Allers

96 02529
BUCKHORN RANCH
BOX 184
EUREKA, MONTANA 59917

Kootenai National Forest
Supervisor's Office
P. O. Box AS
Libby, MT. 59923

Gentleman;

Here are a few of my comments and statement on the Ten Lakes Wilderness area and the K. N.F. plan. First of all I am for Alternative "C". For 35,900 acres for the Ten Lakes area. In the long run (future years, on down the road) Wilderness will produce the highest net public benefit. Wilderness cannot be replaced, a person cannot find it just any place.

A non-wilderness would continually endanger the grizzly bear, which man has almost killed off and run out of the lower 48 states. This is one little corner where we could keep the grizzly for awhile yet, if it is kept as a Wilderness.

Jobs, timber, these are a big issue at present, but they are not of long term value, the app. 16,500 acres in the study area proposed for logging is quite small compared to more than one and a half million acres proposed for logging and roading on the K.N.F. A big issue seems to be made about keeping it non-wilderness for snowmobiling (long with the timber and the roads). Why is this? When there is literally millions of acres of forest lands already open to snowmobiling, and a lot closer to cities and towns.

Leases for oil and gas could be let in the wilderness when and if we needed them, but until the time comes that we need it let's keep it out. Just the exploration of gas and oil would have a great adverse effect on wildlife and fish, and also may pollute the waters going in to our neighboring country.

Mr William E Horden, Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
PO Box 145
Libby MT 59901

Dear Sir,

I support the continued and expanded use for snowmobiling opportunities in the Ten Lakes Study Area. I support the Forest service proposal on this matter.

Mrs. J. Quin McCallum
Box 458 Lincoln, MT
Address 59639

As an alternate suggestion let every environmentalist make his or her private property a wilderness area. Then let them figure out how to ~~make a~~ live there. Maybe they would begin to understand some of the problems they create for others with so many wilderness areas. We have enough wilderness areas. Leave the rest of our state for us to try to make a living and enjoy life a little.

Mr William E. Morden, Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Sir,

The Ten Lakes area is one of the best snowmobiling areas in that area of the State of Montana. I feel that we should be able to continue to use this area for riding. I support the Forest service proposal to not make this a wilderness area.

Richard E. Wilson
Box 426 Denton, Mt.
59430

We have entirely too much wilderness already. As I have outfitted and guided in the Bob Marshall and Snakegoat wilderness for the past 20 years I can attest to the total nothing that comes from having wilderness.

109

Wade's Drive Inn

Phone 632-4533
Area Code 406

"Where it's a Treat to Eat"

Harlowton, Montana 59036

2/21/83

Kootenai National Forest

William E. Norden

Sir:

just a short note about S. 393
Wilderness Study Act on the 35,900-acre
Ten Lakes area.

We agree with the Forest Service that the
area be managed for non-wilderness

Also we would like to keep the area open to
snowmobiling as it has been in the past.
Snowmobiling has been increasing and parking
areas, trailheads and groomed trails will bring
more and more snowmobilers. It is one of the
better snowmobiling areas in that part of the
country.

I would like for this to be made a part of
hearing record on Ten Lakes. Thank you -

Wade P Sorenson

S.R. Box 343

Judith Gap Montana 59453

February 1, 1983
526 S. 4th St. W.
Missoula, Mt. 59801

William Morden
Kootenai Nat'l Forest
Box AS
Libby, Mt. 59923

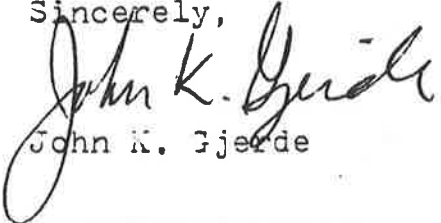
Dear Sir:

I urge your support of Wilderness designation for the Ten Lakes area east of Libby, i.e., alternative "C".

This area should not be developed because of its pristine nature and because of its value as grizzly bear habitat as well as an area that offers recreational use to the backpacker and trail rider.

The loss of this area to development would be a dis-service to its natural inhabitants as well as to those who would use it recreationally.(non-motorized)

Sincerely,


John K. Gjerde

Charles R. Newton
Box 155
Eureka, Montana 59917

#1168

Forest Service USDA
Kootenai National Forest

Dear Sirs,

I am a member of the board of directors of the Montana Loggers Association with approximately 400 members.

We support the Forest Service proposed management plan for Ten Lakes Scenic Area in its entirety with no additions of amendments.

Sincerely Yours,

Charles R. Newton
Charles R. Newton

118

FEBRUARY 23, 1983

Box 112

TETON, MT 59934

FOREST SUPERVISOR
KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

DEAR SIR:

AFTER REVIEWING THE TEN LAKES MT. WILDERNESS STUDY AREA REPORT AND PROPOSAL, I HAVE SELECTED THE TEN LAKES ALTERNATIVE C AS THE PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS. THIS ALTERNATIVE HAS A HIGHER VALUE IN PROTECTING THE TEN LAKES AREA FROM DEVELOPMENT BY THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY. IT WOULD BEST MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE EXISTING SITUATION FOR THE THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES THAT NOW UTILIZE THE AREA. GRIZZLY BEAR, NORTHERN GREY WOLF AND THE WOODLAND CARIBOU ARE ALL FOUND IN THE AREA OF CONSIDERATION. IN THE ENTIRE UNITED STATES, WOODLAND CARIBOU ARE ONLY FOUND IN ONE AREA OF IDAHO AND IN THE TEN LAKES SCENIC AREA. THIS IS ALSO ONE OF THE FEW REMAINING AREAS TO FIND THE GRIZZLY BEAR IN ITS NATURAL STATE. THE SAME IS TRUE FOR THE NORTHERN GREY WOLF.

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ATTRIBUTES OF THE TEN LAKES AREA IS THE HIGH VISUAL QUALITY. ALTERNATIVE C WOULD BEST PROTECT AND MAINTAIN THIS NATIVE BEAUTY FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS TO ENJOY. THERE ARE PLACES IN THE WORLD WHERE ALL SUCH NATURAL BEAUTY HAS BEEN ELIMINATED AND I THINK IT WOULD BE A TRAGEDY WITH SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES IF WE ALLOWED IT TO HAPPEN IN THE U.S.

ALTHOUGH THE MAIN INDUSTRY IN THE EUREKA AREA IS LOGGING, I WOULD NOT CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE C TO BE A DETRIMENT TO THE ECONOMIC STABILITY OF LINCOLN COUNTY, SINCE WE ALL KNOW THE VALUE OF KNARLED, SCRUB, SUB-ALPINE FIR.

I STRONGLY URGE THE SUPPORT OF ALTERNATIVE C AS THE BEST PROPOSAL FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE TEN LAKES SCENIC AREA AS A WILDERNESS REGION.

SINCERELY,
KATHY LEWIS

121

611 S. Lima
Cotton, MT 59425

Mr. William E. Myden, Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box 65
Libby, Montana 59923
Dear Sir:

The Ten Lakes area has
some of the best snowmobiling
in that area of the state of
Montana. I feel we should
be able to continue to use
this area for snowmobiling.
I support the Forest Service
proposal to not make this
a wilderness area.

Sincerely,
Nancy Ann Peterson

122-2

children a terrible disservice.

I realize that recreation would
~~be affected~~ be affected by wilderness
designation. The snowmobilers
would lose the right to
Snowmobile into Wolverine &

Bluebird Basin, a total of
approximately 8 miles one way.
They would still be able to
utilize all of Grave Creek Rd,
Lewis Creek Rd, the Frozen Lake
area, & little & Big Thermault

Lakes. By losing access to
the Ten Lakes, it definitely would
not cause a major loss to
individuals. Snowmobiling in
this area.

By having a Wilderness
present in the Fortine Ranger
district & the Eureka area, I feel
that there would be a definite
increase in other forms of
recreational use of the Ten Lakes.
Back packing, cross country skiing,

② the timber in Ten Lakes proposed Wilderness area is of marginal quantity & quality. Certainly not enough to make or break Eureka's economy by its loss.

③ ~~Gas & oil could be accessed outside the wilderness area if it were~~

if Gas & or oil was of such quantity and was needed so badly, it could be accessed from outside the wilderness area.

④ Caribou, grizzly, & wolves are endangered species. We have a federal mandate to protect them.

⑤ I fully support Alternative C, wilderness classification for 35,900 acres of the Ten Lakes Wilderness area, & hope that these comments will help to change the Forest Service recommendations on what to do with this area.



Thanks,
Peace,
Brenda Nedbut
P.O. Box 116
Fort, Montana

(2)

where he can have a place to live,
and survive. The Grizzly has a
right to live. He won't make
it if we just keep pushing, move
and move.

There is plenty of other land for
people to make a living from.

I thank you
Mr. Joe Hillebr

P.O. Box 776
EUREKA, MT 59917

126

February 25, 1983

Paul D. Johnson
721 S. 2nd St. W., Apt. A
Missoula, MT 59801

Bill Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Supervisor Morden:

I am writing to strongly urge that you reject the Kootenai National Forest's proposal to give non-wilderness status to the Ten Lakes Scenic Area. This proposal, presented in the Forest's 50-year forest plan, would eliminate the finest remaining area of de facto wilderness on the Kootenai National Forest, and would significantly deprive the public of a prime site for quality roadless recreational opportunity. This rare, pristine area offers outstanding natural beauty, first-rate hunting and fishing, and vital wildlife habitat. It should be left in its wilderness state under Alternative C of the Forest Plan.

A central Forest Service argument in favor of non-wilderness status for Ten Lakes is the use of the area of snowmobilers. It should be first pointed out that this use was established when the Forest Service developed a snowmobile "staging area" immediately adjacent to the Ten Lakes area, contrary to the clear intent of S.393. Snowmobile use is especially inappropriate considering that there are quite literally millions of acres of non-wilderness federal land currently available to snowmobilers. By encouraging such use in the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area, the Forest Service is controverting the intent of S.393, which contemplates protection of the wilderness potential of the study area until Congress makes a determination of its ultimate status.

In conclusion, I believe the Ten Lakes Scenic Area is ideally suited to classification as wilderness, and I strongly urge you to adopt Alternative C (protecting the Ten Lakes area as wilderness) instead of the Forest Service's proposed plan for development.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Johnson
Paul D. Johnson

cc: Gov. Ted Schwinden
Sen. Max Baucus
Sen. John Melcher
Rep. Pat Williams



126 1st Street
Whitefish, MT 59937
(406) 862-7536

WILLIAM E. MORDEN
FOREST SUPERVISOR
KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST
BOX 43
LIBBY, MT. 59923

DEAR MR. MORDEN,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE WILDERNESS
DESIGNATION FOR THE 'TEN LAKES AREA'
EAST OF EUREKA. 'SCENIC' DESIGNATION DOES
NOT OFFER ENOUGH PROTECTION FOR GRIZZLY,
WOLF, ELK, CARIBU AND OTHER ENDANGERED
SPECIES. I URGE YOU TO SUPPORT 'WILDERNESS'
DESIGNATION FOR THIS AREA.

SINCERELY,

Doug Rhodes

tion would both be detrimental to the natural integrity essential to the wildlife in this area. Under wilderness classification, oil/gas exploration and development would at least be restricted.

There would also be some economic value to the service sector of the local community as wilderness draws non-motorized recreators and hunters. The economic purposes in the report can be applied to the rest of the Kootenai National Forest while retaining the Tiri Lakes Wilderness Study Area for the wilderness experience.

Sincerely,
Christie Ferruzzi

2/25/83

Dear Mr. Morden and National Forest personnel concerning 133
disposition for Ten Lakes Area of NW Montana,

I am writing in support of alternative "C", the wilderness option for Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. I am from the East and these acres are for me some of the most fabulous irreplaceable wilderness I have seen in Montana in my many trips there. Only the Cabinet Mts are currently protected as wilderness in NW Montana. The Ten Lakes provide important Grizzly and wildlife habitat, poor timber values, and superb primitive, virtually untamed forest and subalpine value.

Most Montanans I met in my many trips, and virtually all conservationists and lovers of the outdoors with whom I have discussed this in the East want Ten Lakes left as is. Roads + timber sales as well as proximity provide easy access for the area from NW Montana cities + towns, and this is one of the most desirable aspects of declaring this area wilderness. After all, even I have been there.

If the Ten Lakes Report states on page IV-2 that the Forest + Conserve meet the RPA resource goals for all goals (including timber) if it left Ten Lakes as wilderness, then why lose its wilderness? And the Forest wouldn't reach its RPA goals for wilderness if it chooses the proposed option! So why not make NW Montanans and all Americans happy and fulfill all the goals by choosing alternative C, that of wilderness.

Wilderness is why I come to Montana to spend my vacation money and time, not clearcuts or snowmobiling. Please choose alternative C for Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area, and leave the wilderness in its name.

Sincerely yours,

Stewart Tepper MD
28 Flagg St
Cambridge Mass 02138

He'll

My name is Terry Mullins, I am a student at The University of Montana in Missoula, I wish to express my support for Alternative 'C' in the Ten Lakes management wilderness plan all of North West Montana, only the West Cabinet mts. are designated as wilderness & even this area is being seriously impacted by wilderness mineral exploration.

The use of snowmobiles will not be hindered by the creation of the Ten Lakes wilderness. There are literally millions of acres of federal lands open to snowmobiling in N.W. Montana.

This area is habitat to the severely threatened grizzly Bear, & possibly for the caribou.

The Timber values of this area are insignificant next to the 1.5 million acres proposed in the Kootenai Forest alone.

The Ten Lakes area is high in the wilderness attributes of naturalness, natural integrity & outstanding opportunity for primitive & unconfined recreation.

It is time that we make a stand for our wilderness & for the animals whose very existence is threatened by our sightless vision & land use.

Thanks

Terry Mullins

Terry Mullins
309 S 4th W, Apt 3
MSLA, MT 59801

Cont.
Bill Morden

10) All the roads are not shown on the map and we have difficulty understanding how the allocation of roadless areas can be in the Leigh, Snowshoe, Big Creek area, also further discussion and a more diffinative discussion needs to be in the area.

11) Change to #17 this area is an extremely important viewing area from the Cedar Creek and Scenery Mt. trail and needs additional thought.

12) Horse Keeping - The upper part of Trail Creek should remain roadless allocation 2.

13) We believe this allocation should be changed from 11 to 10, logging doesn't appear to be feasible in this area.

In conclusion we believe that the Kootenai has done a remarkable job of planning and we hope that our input will be considered positive and be of some help. We are always ready to help and hope we can sit down with you again and discuss the plan prior to final print.

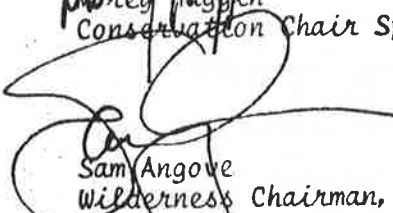
Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

In Care of the Earth.

Sincerely,



Conservation Chair Spokane Audubon Society



Sam Angove
Wilderness Chairman, Northern Rocky Mt.
Chapter Sierra Club
W. 1115 Broadway
Spokane, Washington 99260

NOTE: MAP is on file in S.O. - PLANNING BRANCH



BITTERROOT-MISSION GROUP SIERRA CLUB

BOX 7315 MISSOULA, MONTANA 59807

February 27, 1983

William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr. Morden,

The Bitterroot-Mission Group recommends that the entire Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area remain roadless, preferably to be recommended by the Forest Service for Wilderness designation in its entirety (Alt. C). At the very least we insist on a core area of Wilderness with the remainder to be administratively managed roadless (Alt. not presented). This core Wilderness should be no smaller than the roadless recommendation of the proposed action.

We prefer Wilderness because of the degree of permanence such designation affords roadless areas. Administrative Roadless management albeit more flexible is also more easily and quietly modified in the future. We feel quite certain that in the future, as all resources become more scarce, roadless management would be subject to incremental inroads which would not receive nearly the public input being considered in the present proposal. This problem is accentuated by the inevitable turnover in administrative personnel.

We recommend the entire area remain roadless because:

1. its outstanding wildlife value particularly as essential habitat for the endangered grizzly bear, Rocky Mountain wolf, and also possibly, the woodland caribou;
2. its very high watershed values;
3. it is the last roadless area in the Whitefish range;
4. roadless areas are an ever diminishing resource while demand for the recreational opportunities they afford is steadily increasing; and
5. the vast majority of surrounding lands are roaded and managed for timber.

We believe there is more than adequate opportunity for motorized recreation on the Kootenai without also roading this area. As for timber, we ask you to compare timber values for this area to the Kootenai Forest as a whole and consider the small fraction of the forest's total allowable cut this area could provide. We think you will find that the area's timber values are below average, whereas its wildlife values are well above average, and that the study area's potential contribution to the timber base is so small as to be almost insignificant. Consider also the poor regeneration being experienced on the large Wigwam Creek clearcuts.

The proposed action is totally unacceptable. It calls for too many roads and puts far too much emphasis on motorized recreation, too much emphasis on timber management, and too little consideration of fish and wildlife. It would be a marked step backwards from the current direction. We ask you to reconsider.

In addition, we would like to make the following comments and suggestions regarding the draft EIS itself. In the interest of fairness, if you consider other Wilderness

"Not blind opposition to progress, but opposition to blind progress."

March 2, 1983

Box 647

Columbia Falls,
Mt. 59912

141 -1

Wm Morden, Forest Supervisor
Kootenai, Nat. For.

P.O. Box 45

Lelley, Mt. 59923

Dear Mr Morden:

I heard Jim Shadle from your planning staff speak to women in Timber in Kellogg Feb. 17th. He put across the info on the DEIS for your area very well. The presentation was very interesting and showed you all have done a good job putting it together.

I agree with your proposed alternative for the 10 Lakes Area, I used to do a lot of snowmobiling so am glad you consider that important.

I believe most study areas should be considered for non-wilderness — well managed, under multiple-use.

I am against you considering adding 360,000 acres for designated summer

(3)

be used as a reason for assuming elk will migrate too much and thus not reproduce well if an area is not closed.

Also, I feel the Forest Service places too much energy towards ^{the} goal of reproducing animals so that the hunter can go in and kill them.

Also, so much importance on preservation of the grizzly bear is unnecessary. The dinosaur is extinct and I don't miss it a bit.

All in all, the DEIS is fine with me. Thanks for listening to my gripe.

Sincerely,
Lilli Ann Martin

P.S. I would like to see some of the small, not so fancy, forest campgrounds left open - even if not used much. Some people like to camp away from so many people.

149

Moose City Cabin
Polebridge, Mt. 59928
2 March, 1983

William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, Mt. 59923

Dear Mr Morden;

I am writing to express my strong support for Alternative C-- wilderness protection for the 36,000 acre Ten Lakes area. As it is, Ten Lakes offers quality hunting and recreation opportunities. If roaded, leased for oil and gas, and harvested for timber it will lose what it is now. In addition, wildlife would, of course, benefit the most with wilderness protection.

Tourism is one of Montana's most lucrative industries. People are simply attracted to Montana's "wildness". Please help us preserve what is unique about Montana.

Sincerely,



Rosalind Yanishevsky, Ph.D.

cc: Rep. Pat Williams
Senator Max Baucus

151

MAY. 2, 1983

MR. WILLIAM E. MORDEN
FOREST SUPERVISOR
KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

DEAR SIR

I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY BELIEF THAT WILDERNESS
DESIGNATION IS THE BEST WAY TO PRESERVE THE TRUE MULTIPLE
USE CONCEPT IN THE KOOTENAI FOREST IN REGARD TO THE TEN LAKE
SCENIC AREA, ALL 36 000 ACRES IN THE STUDY AREA. CERTAINLY
THE KOOTENAI FOREST HAS IT SHARE OF MULTIPLE USE CLEARCUTS
AND THE WISDOM AND LONG TERM ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF
ALL THAT PROPOSED ROAD BUILDING IS DOUBIOUS AT BEST.
I HAVE HIKEED, HUNTED, AND CLIMBED IN MUCH OF THIS
BEAUTIFUL AREA AND FEEL IS WORTHY OF FAR BETTER
TREATMENT THAN A SKINNY COVE WITH CONSTANT THREATS
FROM LOGGING AND MINERAL LEASES ALL AROUND. PLEASE
CONSIDER OTHER VALUES SUCH AS WILDLIFE, WILDERNESS,
OLD GROWTH PLANT COMMUNITIES AND WATER QUALITY AS
WELL AS TIMBER AND MINERALS

I AM ALSO IN FAVOR OF THE
ROAD CLOSURES BEHIND THE
MURPHY LAKE R.S. FOR FALL
AND WINTER WILDLIFE RANGE

Sincerely,

CHARLES J. POTTER JR.
BOX 394
COLUMBIA FALLS, MT

153



Livingston, Mt. 59047
February 25, 1983

Mr. William E. Morden, Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, Mt. 59923

Mr. Morden,

We are a 50 member snowmobile club who would like to voice our support of your recommendation that the 10 Lakes area be managed on a non-wilderness basis. We are most interested in multi-use where ever possible, and since trail-heads and parking lots are already established, continued use is important.

Thank you.

The Big Sky Snowriders
Nina Celander, Secretary

Nina Celander
201 East Clark
Livingston, Mt. 59047

155

Mr William E. Morden, Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Sir,

The Ten Lakes area is one of the best snowmobiling areas in that area of the State of Montana. I feel that we should be able to continue to use this area for riding. I support the Forest service proposal to not make this a wilderness area.

David Shaw
PO BOX 655 Libby, MT
(Club) 59639
Ponderosa Snow
Warriors

602 Concord Ln
Kalispell, MT 59901
March 5, 1983

Mr. William Morden, Forest Supervisor
Kootenai Ntl. Forest
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr. Morden:

I wish to go on record as supporting the need for the Ten Lakes Wilderness Area. Although I have never yet ventured into any of the wilderness areas in Montana myself, I have enjoyed their beauty vicariously and feel that such areas are now scarce and threatened nationwide. What few truly wild remote areas that remain and support habitat for endangered species such as bald eagles, grizzlies or caribou, should be classified as wilderness and left roadless.

After centuries of exploitation of our national treasures, Americans are beginning to realize that not everything has to be judged only by the amount of money it can earn in timber sales, snowmobile trails, pasture or oil & gas leases. The day of realization that areas such as Ten Lakes are truly unique and in the long run will be a drawing card for many who want a wilderness experience. I hope it will be preserved for them.

I mentioned that I have not yet ventured into a wilderness area. It is not for lack of interest but because I have not had a vacation in several years since returning from working overseas. When I eventually do get the time to explore my State (and hopefully my country), I want these areas to still be intact. They will not be if every camper and snowmobiler has road access to them. They will be just like the other Forest Service and Ntl Park campgrounds where the crews have to haul out the rubbish tossed by the hordes of people who pass through. The wildlife will be spooked or reduced in population because of easy access to hunters and the presence of man.

It would be shortsighted indeed let the wilderness qualities that remain in the Ten Lakes area be eroded by logging interests, gas & oil prospecting, grazing leases or snowmobile access. All of the foregoing activities can take place elsewhere. Your multiple use policy can accommodate an area as small as Ten Lakes in wilderness category without threatening the economic interests of NW Montana. In fact, most States would love to have such a unique area where a lucky hiker has the opportunity to see a wolf or a grizzly.

So hopefully you will take these considerations into account when the fate of Ten Lakes hangs in the balance.

Yours truly,

Maryan Heppell
Maryan Heppell

cc: Gov. Schwinden
Rep. Pat Williams
Sen. John Melcher
Sen. Max Baucus

William E. Morden, Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
PO Box AS
Libby, Mt. 59923

160

Mar 13, 1983
74650 Gallatin Rd.
Gallatin Gateway Mt.
(59730)

Dear Supervisor Morden,

We feel that the Ten Lakes area is one of the best snowmobiling areas in that part of the country and snowmobilers should be able to continue their enjoyment of the area.

We therefore support the continued and expanded snowmobile opportunities in the Ten Lakes Study Area as set forth in the Forest Service proposal.

Sincerely,
Elaine & Martin Reardon

162

I would also like to comment on the Kootenai's plan for the Ten Lakes Scenic Area.

I feel this scenic area should be designated as a wilderness area.

My reasons are as follows:

Elk herds will diminish as with the quality of hunting as more roads are constructed in the area. More important to having this area wilderness status is for the protection of the grizzly and grey wolf! Also the possible herd of caribou in that area, are existing on old growth - their habitat ^{are} ~~is~~ lichens that are found on trees over 200 years old.

I feel the K.N.F. can meet or exceed the targets for timber and motorized recreation and still be able to classify Ten Lakes as wilderness - Only the Kootenai will not be able to ^{met} ~~get~~ its RPA goal for wilderness.

As the valley people of the Tobacco say they want it to stay "just like it is".

Only wilderness designation will protect Ten Lakes "just like it is"!

↓ support alternative C: wilderness protection for the Ten Lakes wild area of 36,000 acres.

Thank-you for listening and ↓ hope my thoughts will have some affect on the K.N.F.'s 50 year plan and the Ten Lakes Area

Yours Truly,

Mr. Mark A. Engler - Forest Technician - K.N.F.

164

POCONO LAKE PRESERVE

PENNSYLVANIA 18348

March 14th

Hello William Morden,

I would like to express my concern that the Ten Lakes area of Kootenai National forest ~~be placed~~ under Wilderness protection ~ alternative C1 for the ~~proposed~~ now protected wild area.

My concern is to ~~not~~ cause the wildlife, those endangered & threatened to extinction. I also worry that accessibility will greatly increase the danger of losing an important extensive ecosystem. Its balance is natural, but needs wilderness protection to survive.

Thank you,

Helin Pilling
P.O. Box 52A
KILA, MT 59920

166-1
02529

March 15, 1993

WILLIAM E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
P. O. Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Dear Sir,

Enclosed are my comments and concerns regarding your Draft Forest plan. I have organized my comments under five broad headings:

1. General
2. Fish and Wildlife
3. Timber
4. Roads
5. Recreation.

Abbreviations in parentheses refer to page and paragraph numbers in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (p. = page, para = paragraph).

General

As a member of the public, I do not feel your Forest Plan provides the highest net benefit. I question the FORPLAN Modeling effort. What were used as constraints and what were used as goals in modeling? How were noncommodity values entered in the program? It seems you ignored value returned to the community through tourist dollars (p. 18, para 1) in your modeling. I also question the lack of preservation values for unique resources such as grizzly bears, mountain caribou, and roadless areas which are going to become increasing more valuable as present roadless areas are roaded. I want that made very clear in your final document.

I want to address the Ten Lakes Scenic area in this portion of my comments because I feel strongly that this area is an area worthy of protection under wilderness designation. I do not consider managing half of the original acres (18,400) as roadless recreation and taking the other 11,600 acres and roading and logging this land to be wise (p. III-5, para 2). Letting snowmobilers dictate this type of policy seems like paying off a blackmailer (p. 18, para 2). I would demand a separate EIS on this proposal. I believe the Ten Lakes area is being sacrificed for no worthwhile reason. Please send me a copy of your "cop out" EIS, the Ten Lakes Report and Proposal.

para 6) and what are the confidence intervals associated with the estimates? Lastly, you keep talking about a state goal of a certain number of elk needed. Where did this value come from? Has the Fish and Game stated a fixed number of elk are needed from the Kootenai National Forest?

I would like to know where the estimate of 30 grizzly bears came from and what type of precision is associated with that estimate? I would also like to find out what level a population must decline to until it is no longer considered viable, four, two or none. At least when there are none left that population no longer constitutes a constraint to your model and logging can proceed full speed ahead. It seems unwise, at best, to manage a population at the lowest numbers required to maintain itself. To me that is why the grizzly bear and land management agencies are in the predicament they presently find themselves. Who determined that 30 bears constitutes a viable population? Lets manage for healthy populations of each species that occur on the forest and not attempt to drive each species to extinction.

I spent three years in Libby, from 1976 to 1979. During that time I fished the Kootenai River and many other areas extensively. I have yet to find fishing that rivals the fishing opportunity available in Lincoln County. That is why I find your plan wholly inadequate at protecting the needs of fish. Not only that, it appears you are attempting to mislead the public by making statements like (p. 15, para 5), "No significant change in fisheries is expected from timber management activities except those associated with road construction", and "Coordination between timber harvest and wildlife habitat needs can maintain and enhance ... fisheries." You had best admit that timber harvest practices are often detrimental to fish populations. There are a wealth of studies which found that timber harvest reduced fish numbers. At this point you should also mention that migratory fish populations are expected to decline by at least 20 percent. That is totally unacceptable. I demand that this portion be reworded to present the true picture. You fail to mention mountain whitefish (p.III-8, para 4) in your presentation of fish species. Where can I find a copy of what the state Fish and Game goals for fish production are (p. IV-13, para 5)?

I would like to inspect the data used to estimate fish populations of catchable trout (p.II-49). Are these catchable trout migratory, resident or both? Are lake and reservoir populations included in these estimates? What are the confidence intervals associated with these estimates? If lake and reservoir fish are included in this estimate, are these fish which are not influenced by forest management considered as part of the forest's fish base? Lastly, do you and your "professionals" realize that migratory fish produced in streams adjacent to your managed land eventually become adults in the river and provide much more recreation opportunity (not to mention biomass) than the resident populations you are so proud of enhancing. Who on your staff is willing to defend these preposterous figures?

Where does "crisis management" to handle insect and disease problems (the scourge of the bugs) fit into your planning process? You need to be clear on how timber harvest volumes would be affected by special case salvage harvest. I take exception to the phrase "users of the timber resource" (p. 15, para 3). Let's be frank and say the timber industry. I would also like to know the identity of the "others" mentioned (p. 15, para 3) "increased utilization among others." I don't believe scheduling difficulties associated with timber harvesting in grizzly bear habitat should be identified as an irretrievable commitment (p. 19, para 3). Scheduling conflicts are an administrative problem.

Roads

The amount of roading called for in your proposed alternative is way too high. This many miles of road will have a harmful effect upon big game security, allow road hunters easier access and support their lazy life-style (preliminary surveys in the Flathead have shown hunters would prefer less roads), decrease migratory fish populations, and remove 54,000 acres from productivity (approximately 3 percent of your total timber base). Show me a study that shows "motorized forms of recreation are favored" as overwhelmingly as you present it by local residents (p. 21, para 7).

Increased sedimentation from roads is not "unavoidable" (p. 23, Section K, 1.) and should be avoided by better road location and design and fewer roads. To make a statement like the above makes me question the ethics and commitment the Kootenai National Forest has to the multiple-use resource management concept. The routing of roads through "tougher" country (p. III-2, para 4) sends fear into my heart because I realize that means steeper, less stable areas which have much greater erosion potential. You will soon reach the point where it may be wiser to stay out of some areas that are hard to reach because not to will mean disastrous results, but perhaps you are willing to sacrifice entire drainages. If so, you are a terrible land management agency and are certainly not protecting the public's best interest. I question how your sedimentation rates were computed for these roads into "tough" country. Did you use rates from roads in "easy" country. If so, your predicted sediment increases are probably an order of magnitude off and your impacts will be much worse than you predicted.

One way to reduce the conflict between wildlife which uses snag habitat and firewood gatherers would be to reduce the number (density) of roads so that some snags will remain inaccessible to firewood gatherers. Figure IV-15b misrepresents the true road density condition between alternatives. By using only the "acres managed for timber" you show that alternative 5 has the highest density of roads when in fact this alternative has the fewest miles of roads. Cheap trick! You should show all road densities

167-1

Janet I. Tatz
P. O. Box 779, Boulder, Montana 59632

3-17-83

Dear Mr. Morden,

I am writing you today to express my concern over the recent no wilderness recommendation that the Kootenai Nat'l Forest Service made for the Ten Lakes area. Ten Lakes is more than just a scenic and recreational area, and needs to be designated as such, by law. I would not want to see this area opened up to oil and/or gas leasing. The

167-2

②

Janet I. Tatz
P. O. Box 779, Boulder, Montana 59632

I believe that the Kootenai National Forest can meet all of its timber harvest goals without cutting into the Ten Lakes area. In contrast, riparian areas and wildlands are in short supply in that forest.

I urge you to reconsider the future of the Ten Lakes area. Do not compromise its biological & ecological import. No less than full recognition of the entire 30,000 acre area of Ten Lakes as a Wilderness Area will help achieve that goal. I will keep my

3-17-83 168

Dear Sir:

We urge your
support for a complete
36,000 acre Ten Lakes
Wilderness Area. This
badly needed.

Sincerely,

Wm. H. Bertsche
Elizabeth Bertsche
1917 4th Ave. N.
Great Falls, MT 59401

forty caribou in the whole
forty-eight states, this in itself
should be enough to stop any
logging or oil development in
this region. There are also two
other endangered species
inhabiting this area - the grey
wolf and the grizzly bear.
All three of these animals
need large areas of untracked
wilderness to live without en-
dangering their existence.

Please consider these opinions
and leave Ten Lakes Area
a wilderness area.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Searles

171

Diane Boyd
Moose City Cabin
Polebridge, Montana 59928

15 March 1983

William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Dear Mr. Morden,

I am greatly concerned about proposed changes in the management of the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. I don't want to see this relatively untouched wilderness, utilized by the last remaining population of the endangered mountain caribou in the entire U.S., become just another area of consumption. Logging, mineral exploration, motorized recreation, and the creation of roads, are all consumptive uses with little concern for habitat destruction and stream sediment loads.

I realize that in this day and age of expanding human populations and industrialization, there are high demands on National Forests everywhere for timber, recreation, oil and gas exploration, etc. However, these acts of development have created another need--the need for non-development, wilderness; areas where animals can exist unharassed, and where humans can go to escape the commotion of civilization, free of the rumble and whine of engines and the scars of machines. A place where one can go and walk for miles without crossing bulldozed paths. I support Alternative "C" for a 35,900 acre Ten Lakes Wilderness. At a later time, a wilderness can be re-designated to include resource extraction; but once the wilderness is gone, it is gone forever.

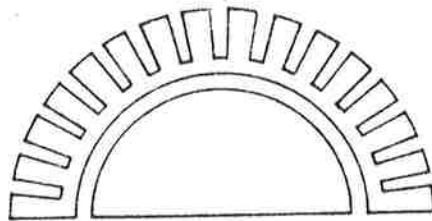
I cannot accurately talk about the laws and legislation that govern wilderness designation and management. I'll leave that up to the lawyers and their litigation that will surely follow a declassification of the Ten Lakes area. However, as a wildlife biologist, I can speak out against ecologically unsound management; and to remove the Ten Lakes area from wilderness protection is ecologically unsound. Your Ten Lakes study document admits that 1) elk herds will diminish with more roads as proposed, 2) the grizzly and grey wolf would fare best with wilderness protection, and 3) the Kootenai Forest plan predicts the Forest will face an acute shortage of wilderness and primitive lands in the future. Discovery of mountain caribou use of this area creates another important reason to grant wilderness protection to the entire Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. Jasper Carlton, mountain caribou researcher, stated that Ten Lakes is the first area in the U.S. outside the Selkirks to support a group of caribou. He estimated that there are only 13-19 mountain caribou left, but with proper protection and management, their numbers could be increased. For their sustenance, mountain caribou depend upon arboreal lichens growing in 100-200 year old spruce-fir stands. If you harvest these mature trees, you are sealing the fate of these few caribou; they will die. Unlike their migratory tundra relatives, mountain caribou will move only short distances in search of suitable habitat. Highways, clearcuts, and human activity have reduced their movement corridors, and logging has reduced their suitable habitat to the Selkirks and the Wigwam/Ten Lakes area. Please do what you can to preserve it.

*Sincerely,
Diane Boyd*

William E Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Mr Morden,

I am writing this letter to voice my concern for the ten lakes area on your ^(our) forest. I have traveled through this area and used it for bowhunting. The scenery and splendor is every bit as spellbinding as the Park. As a graduate Forester I realize that a person in your position has to make some difficult land use decisions. However, I think that in all honesty the ten lakes can only remain in its present state of extreme beauty with wilderness designation. I am all for multiple use however this area is most valuable in its present state and will greatly increase in value as future development of the area increases. The marginal return the public would receive for harvesting the timber on this site would never be compensation



Bruce Walther von Alten
513 Power Block P. O. Box 1201

Helena, Montana 59624
Solar Design

Architect (406) 442-4766
Remodeling Specialist

MARCH 21, 1983

MR. WILLIAM MORDEN, FOREST SUPERVISOR
KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST
BOX 45
LIBBY, MONTANA 59923

DEAR MR. MORDEN:

I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY SUPPORT FOR A COMPLETE 36,000
ACRE TEN LAKES WILDERNESS AREA. OLD GROWTH FORESTS WHICH
SUSTAIN SUCH RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES AS THE WOODLAND
CARIBOU AND GRIZZLY BEAR ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY IN THE KOO-
TENAI FOREST.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

SINCERELY,

Bruce von Alten

178

917 Waukesha
Helena MT 59601
March 23, 1983

William Morden, Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby MT 59923

Dear Mr. Morden:

I am writing this letter to encourage the Forest Service to please change their recommendation for the Ten Lakes Area to WILDERNESS for the full 36, 000 acre area.

Especially important is the need to protect and maintain the habitat of the rare woodland caribou, whose presence has been detected in the Ten Lakes Area. Other species, also endangered and rare, which are dependent upon the area include the grizzly bear and the grey wolf.

Also, it is not necessary to cut timber in Ten Lakes to meet timber harvest goals.

Again, I urge you to reconsider and keep the full 36,000 acre Ten Lakes area designated Wilderness.

Respectfully,



Linda Andersen

180

Dear Mr. Morden,

March 21, 1983

Please reconsider the proposal that the Ten Lakes area be designated a "scenic" area. We support a 36,000 acre Ten Lakes Wilderness area for maximum protection of such endangered species as the grey wolf, grizzly, and caribou and protection against future oil and gas leasing.

We enjoy taking our vacations in Northwestern Montana and hope our children will be able to enjoy the same beauty of wilderness as we have seen - as unmarked by human hands as possible. Please, we need more wilderness Areas to preserve Montana as we knew it!

Sincerely,

Juliet and William Mockel

Lexen Ave. #35

Boulder, CO 80504

Red Meadow Rd.
Polebridge, MT 59928

183

March 26, 1983

Forest Supervisor William Morden
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Sir,

I would like to voice my concern over the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. I do not support the Forest Service decision to eliminate the Ten Lakes from possible inclusion into the wilderness system. The Ten Lakes deserves wilderness status for the following reasons:

1. Wilderness classification provides the best habitat protection for the threatened and endangered grizzly bear and gray wolf. Evidence also indicates that the endangered mountain caribou use this high mountain habitat.

2. There are very few areas left in the contiguous U.S. where these wildlife species exist. As Resource Managers you have an obligation to protect and preserve these species and their habitat.

3. The Kootenai N.F. can meet their timber harvest needs while maintaining the 36,000 acres within the Ten Lakes as wilderness.

4. The timber within the Ten Lakes Study Area is of low value and expensive to exploit.

5. According to the Kootenai Forest Plan, only 158,000 acres out of a total of 2,245,800 acres will be in wilderness classification. Adding the Ten Lakes Area will only increase the wilderness land base by 1.6%.

It is in the best interest of wildlife, recreationists and the Forest Service to preserve the integrity of the Ten Lakes in wilderness.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Vitale

Frank J. Vitale

185

24 March 83

Sir,

A "scenic area" designation does not provide adequate protection to the Ten Lakes wilderness area and its wildlife. We urgently need to maintain undisturbed wilderness for some of this nation's rare species; such as woodland caribou, grizzly bears and grey wolf. A non-wilderness designation would open the area up for timber harvest and could lead to destruction of a beautiful area. This is not necessary.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Woldford
Box 305
Oilmont MT 59466

188

March 23, 1983

Dear Mr. Morden:

I am writing you concerning the Ten Lakes Scenic Area which has recently been designated a "no wilderness" area, open to leasing & salvage timber sales. This area is so scenic, and being the habitat of the grizzly, woodland caribou and grey wolf, also important to these threatened species. Since you can meet your goals for timber harvest without Ten Lakes, and with roadless areas & wild lands becoming rare in the forest, I would hope you would change your status for Ten Lakes to wilderness.

Undoubtedly you are under heavy pressure from the Reagan administration on the issue of wilderness, but the American people support its concept, and will need more of these wild lands in the future as our population grows and people seek solace in the wilderness and national parks. Please, listen to the people. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Gail Miller-Richardson
Box 1003
W. Yellowstone, MT
59758

191

P.O. Box 422
Boulder, Montana 59632
March 28, 1983

William Morden, Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Dear Mr. Morden,

I have a friend who spent many years putting roads into the roadless areas of the Kootenai National Forest. He finally quit a couple years ago because he didn't believe the few remaining roadless areas should be violated. The timber to be harvested simply did not justify endangering such scenic beauty and critical wildlife habitat.

I visited this friend while he was up there working. I agree with his contention and respect him very much for his decision to quit. There isn't much left up there - past forest service administrators have made sure of that. And what is left should be protected. That's beautiful country and you have a responsibility to the public to retain some of the original growth timber which makes it so special.

Your responsibilities extend far beyond profits for timber companies. There are wildlife species in your forests that simply can not be matched by the other 48 lower states. And your management decisions can spell the end of these species, in particular the wolf, caribou, and grizzly bear. I hope you agree these species deserve protection.

So please, in your management decisions, work to protect old growth forests, wildernesses, and endangered species. In particular, please support a 35,000 to 40,000 acre wilderness in the Ten Lakes Area. This is a pittance compared to the areas which have been developed. It's a good area and deserves protection.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,


Forest Service
Paul Richards

Coalition for Canyon Preservation

193-1

Box 422
Hungry Horse, Montana
59919

March 31, 1983

William E. Morden, Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Re: Comment on draft Forest Plan for Kootenai National Forest/
Need for wilderness designation for the Ten Lakes study area

Dear Mr. Morden,

The CCP respectfully submits the following comments on the
above said draft Forest Plan:

1. Elk Management -- The contradiction between the draft's projection of elk population and the "dense-pack" roading scheme must be resolved. The said plan proposes to increase the Kootenai road system from 4800 miles to an incredible 12,000 miles. This means a road density of 6 miles of road per square mile. The consequential impact on elk use has not been adequately analyzed in the draft plan. Studies on elk habitat demonstrate the denser the road systems, the less elk use.
The draft proposal reduces the Kootenai to a tree farm. The final plan must provide for balanced use. Primitive recreation and wildlife management has been de-emphasized. The proposed total road mileage is unrealistic and should be stopped at or near current levels.
2. Riparian habitat protection -- The draft plan inadequately addresses protection measures for essential riparian habitat along streams. The importance of riparian habitat and the need to mitigate impacts thereon requires full disclosure and consideration in the final forest plan. Wildlife protection measures are inadequate unless comprehensive provisions for riparian protection are provided.
3. Need for old-growth forest habitat conservation -- The Kootenai draft plan inadequately addresses provisions to protect old-growth forest habitat and its dependant diversity of plant and animal species. Substantial remnants of old-growth forest must be conserved.

193 B-1

Coalition for Canyon Preservation

*Box 422
Hungry Horse, Montana
59919*

April 11, 1983

Mr. William E. Morden, Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Re: Comment on draft Forest Plan for Kootenai National Forest

Dear Mr. Morden,

Please enter the attached Great Falls Tribune article entitled "Grizzlies may feel federal impact" into the public and administrative files for the above said plan. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has issued a Jeopardy Opinion on the proposed Kootenai Forest Plan because none of the alternatives analyzed by the Forest Service would meet the minimum grizzly bear recovery goal of 40 to 70 animals.

The following significant issues require full disclosure and consideration in the final Forest Plan for Kootenai National Forest:

1. A plan for de-listing the threatened Grizzly. The Forest Supervisor's contention that the grizzly habitat on the Forest is inferior is not substantiated. Grizzly Bear Recovery goals apparently have not been met. Remaining roadless habitat in the Kootenai Forest is clearly part of the Cabinet-Yaak Grizzly Bear Ecosystem. CCP supports full recovery in the CYGBE.
2. A plan for reduced roading to mitigate impacts on the threatened Grizzly.
CCP opposes paving and widening the last unpaved 17-mile section of the Yaak road.
3. A plan for habitat protection to mitigate impacts on the threatened Grizzly.
CCP supports more roadless recreation and wilderness for protection of grizzly habitat, in particular, Alternative C for a 36,000 acre Ten Lakes Wilderness.
A viable habitat protection plan should fully consider a management alternative to freeze total road mileage at or near current levels. An area with closed roads is not the same as an unroaded setting as assumed in the draft plan.
4. A substantial plan for preservation of more general forest/riparian areas in the natural state, in particular, plans

April 8, 1985

Grizzlies may feel federal impact

PETER JOHNSON
Tribune Staff Writer

Two federal actions started this week could have a major impact on the grizzly bear population and development in northwestern Montana.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office in Billings issued an opinion that the preferred management alternative outlined in the draft version of the Kootenai National Forest's long-range plan would jeopardize the grizzly population in the Cabinet Mountain-Yaak River area.

Fish and Wildlife officials will meet in two weeks with Kootenai officials to evaluate the information and decide if the plan has to be modified to protect the grizzly, according to Wayne Brewster of Billings, field supervisor for the agency's Endangered Species Program.

Kootenai Forest Supervisor Morden said. Friday's plan calls for only a slight increase in timber harvesting during the next 20 years, from 247 million board feet annually to 248 million board feet annually. But he thinks that proposed yield would have to be reduced to support the grizzly population. The plan also calls for the timber yield to be 248 million board feet annually during the planning period, he said.

Brewster said that the U.S. Forest Service projections of timber harvest with increased timber harvesting, road construction and development use — would have a significant impact on the estimated grizzly population in the Cabinet-Yaak area.

But modeling has shown that a 600,000-acre portion of the national forest would need some 60 grizzly holes in an area about a mile to the north and half-mile to the south, Morden said.

In the meantime, Kootenai Forest officials this week concluded that U.S. Borax's request to expand its exploratory drilling in the Cabinet Mountain-Yaak River area "may affect the grizzly population in a 100 square mile area so they requested a further study by U.S. Fish and Wildlife before issuing a drilling permit.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service could take up to 90 days in performing the study, a period which could eat substantially into the short four-month drilling season for U.S. Borax, Morden said. But the agency probably will try to expedite the study, he added.

This is a critical time for U.S. Borax to complete the deadline for its study.

U.S. Borax's claims expire each 20 years. A company must prove to the Bureau of Land Management that it has a valuable mineral resource that can be obtained in a profitable operation. Claims that don't prove out will be dropped.

U.S. Borax began drilling for silver and copper at other claims in the central portion of the wilderness area last year, Morden said. The company's existing claims are being re-evaluated. In addition, U.S. Borax has been drilling for three years. Both companies have permits to continue drilling at those claims this summer and both have asked that some of the claims be re-evaluated, Morden said.

In addition, U.S. Borax this year has filed claims to drill 12-20 new holes in an area about a mile to the north and half-mile to the south, Morden said.

Kootenai Forest wildlife biologist Al Christensen said his analysis showed that additional drilling by U.S. Borax would reduce the grizzly home range in the area beyond an acceptable limit. In addition, he said, the Forest Service could not identify any more compensating steps it could take in the area to help the grizzlies out, such as shutting off roads.

196

02529

3615 14th 2 W.

Kalspell, Mont.
21 Mar 1983 5990

Mr. William Morden.
Xootenac Natl Forest
Libby, Mont.

Dear Mr. Morden:

Please be advised that I too endorse the inclusion of the Ten Lakes area in the Wilderness concept.

I have visited the Ten Lakes area and I feel it has all the attributes necessary for Wilderness designation.

My chief concern is that every wild, roadless area is in danger of commercial development. As it is now, the best way to protect these areas is to designate them as "Wilderness".

I sincerely hope the "Ten Lakes" area will be included in our wilderness area for the enjoyment of my children's children and their children, and on.

Yours,

Neil Souther

To assure the viability of grizzly populations and habitat, Forest activities must be at a level and conducted in a manner to assure that (1) bears are not adversely impacted, either directly or indirectly; (2) important habitat components are not destroyed or adversely modified; (3) that sufficient space is left undisturbed from detrimental human activities to meet the biological requirements of grizzly bears. The biological opinion sets forth a number of alternatives for your consideration, including allocating areas to grizzly prescription, allocating additional areas to grizzly-supportive activities, or additional road closures. Once resource allocations which provide for minimum viable populations have been developed, they should be included as a component of all Plan alternatives, as has been done for existing and proposed wilderness areas and cultural resource management.

Section 7 consultation should remain open until the Forest Service identifies an alternative that will preclude jeopardy to the grizzly bear and has submitted it to the Fish and Wildlife Service for review. Formal consultation will be completed after FWS review of the alternative and the Forest Service has responded to FWS with written notice stating its final decision on the proposed Forest Plan.

Fish and Wildlife Resources

We are concerned that the proposed Plan does not provide sufficient guidance for the protection of riparian and aquatic habitats. Although the high value of riparian habitat to a wide variety of fish and wildlife and its importance to maintenance of instream water quality is recognized, the general guidance for "resources associated with riparian areas" (page III-57, proposed Kootenai National Forest Plan) defines the riparian areas for special management as those "at least 100 feet from edges of all perennial streams, lakes, and other water bodies." While this statement indicates the protection zone could be larger than 100 feet, it provides no means or criteria for determining how far away from the water edge such a zone should extend.

On many headwater and smaller streams the 100 foot riparian management zone on each side of the stream would probably be adequate. However, on larger streams, and those which meander through meadow situations, a strict 100 foot area would often be inadequate to protect riparian vegetation and prevent stream degradation. Consequently, we suggest that the size of the riparian zone be defined in a manner so that each stream situation could be appraised on its particular riparian characteristics. It would probably be appropriate to leave the 100 foot restriction in place, as a minimum, for all perennial streams, lakes, and other water bodies for the sake of protecting water quality. But we recommend riparian zones be defined on a case-by-case basis according to the extension of "riparian vegetation" inland, away from the water's edge. Thus, a list of riparian vegetation "indicator species" might be used as the best guide to define a particular riparian zone. With such a guide, stream or other riparian areas wider than the 100 foot minimum criteria could be systematically defined for any proposed management actions.

Generally, the Forest Service's proposed action also calls for potentially significant changes in existing wildlife habitats through timber harvest and road building activities. Because of this, we feel that "unique" or especially

Red Meadow Rd.
Polebridge, MT 59928

April 1, 1983

Forest Supervisor William Morden
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear sir,

I am writing in regard to the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. I urge you to place the Ten Lakes under wilderness classification - Alternative "C".

We need to plan for the future now. This includes increasing demands for wilderness areas. Adding 35,900 acres would only increase wilderness classification by 1.6%. ORV's and snowmobiles have literally millions of acres of other federal lands (within NW Montana) to recreate. Timber resources within the Ten Lakes Area are of low value. Why ruin this pristine area for a small amount of low value timber?

We need to protect habitat for threatened and endangered wildlife. How many places in the contiguous 48 states can claim to have grizzly bear, gray wolf and mountain caribou? Protection of habitat for these animals can best be met by wilderness classification.

Management for the future must begin now. The Ten Lakes area must be protected for future generations. Wilderness classification for this area is a start.

Sincerely,


Ellen Horowitz

cc: Governor Ted Schwinden
Rep. Pat Williams
Senator John Melcher
Senator Max Baucus

199-2

on land and resources.

In conversations with planning team members and engineers on the Kootenai Forest I learned that 90% of the transportation system is in place in the forest and that timber harvest is 90% of the reason for the system. In order to access the remainder of the timber base the Kootenai National Forest is proposing a permanent transportation system that will adversely impact watersheds and wildlife habitat. In order to minimize these impacts the enabling legislation mandates that these specialized components of the system be designed and constructed to be temporary. The minimization of the transportation system would conserve capital expenditures that could better be spent in reforestation, in slash removal (this resource is only wasted if it is indeed wasted, adding unwanted particulate matter to the air), in thinning and precommercial thinning, and for the amenities that cannot be afforded on a forest that is spending more than it is bringing in for an unneeded permanent transportation system.

I would like to see a graph to measure the differences that could be expected if 90% of future timber harvest roads were temporary in engineering and construction costs, in the impact on fisheries and wildlife habitat, in sedimentation load, and in watershed runoff. I would also like to see a discussion of these issues by scientific staff and engineers.

I feel that gateclosures on over engineered roads are not an effective method of conserving access to lands considered to be of importance for wildlife or newly opened lands. Rather the building of a more reasonable, contoured system would benefit multiple use values, and be more cost effective.

In light of these points of law I support a conservation alternative that incorporates the minimization of the transportation system with the most conservative approach to development with comfortable margins for visual retention, and old growth management.

For the Ten Lakes Wilderness study area I support a maximum 36,000 acre wilderness designation to preserve prime habitat for several endangered species, and because there is not enough wild land left to jeopardize this pristine set of ridges and lakes.

Thank you again for providing this opportunity to participate in the management of the Kootenai National Forest.

Sincerely,

Barbara Rhodes

copies:
Norden
file

Rt. 1, Box 1945
LIBBY, MT 59923

Comments-Vegetation Management-continued

period of many human carcinogens this threat may not be manifested for thirty or forty years. Given the state of carcinogenicity testing and knowledge, there can be only one safe tolerance for a carcinogen- an absolute zero tolerance and the only way a substance shown to be carcinogenic in test animals will not be a threat to human health (or wildlife) is simply to prevent that substance from entering the environment."

2,4-D induces excessive and aberrant production of nucleic acid which acts in the plant as a tissue proliferant, overtaxing the growth mechanism in the plant whose systems fail under the stress. Emergency action has been taken in Canada to outlaw 2,4-D because various dioxins have been identified in 2,4-D samples. Dioxins appear to be unavoidable contaminants in the manufacture of 2,4-D, and are some of the deadliest poisons known to man. There is evidence to indicate that combustion or photodecomposition, as with sunlight, spontaneously forms dioxin from 2,4-D. Male and female rats ingesting 2,4-D developed increased incidences of malignant neoplasms or cancers (Reuber, 1980).

M. J. Plewa and J.M. Gentile suggest that the present monitoring system used to detect genetic damage by pesticides is inadequate, and L. A. Norris who is generally supportive of the use of herbicides says that he is concerned the danger in the use of these chemicals comes from the changes in habitat for wildlife.

In light of these concerns reported in the literature Bonneville should chose to use manual and mechanical methods of controlling unwanted vegetation, because it is the most environmentally benign and because this investment of management funds would yield the most employment. Bonneville must now act in accordance with the wildlife enhancing provisions of the Northwest Power Planning Act and should therefore not contemplate action to deminish existing habitat by the use of toxics.

2.
(continued)

the slow regrowth of these clear-cuts being a dismay to everyone ^{ever} since ^{I say} the insensitive treatment of Terreault Lake, a perfect gem of a lake of prime wilderness quality, that suffered the indignity of not only a bulldozed road to the lake edge but even a blade-down sub-surface extention for a boat ramp. In only a couple years the quality of the fishing ^{of this lake} was reduced to a low level of interest. Trails peripheral to the Ten Lakes Area were blotted out as the cutting units were increased through the years. During this conversion period there was a constant plea from individual citizens as well as the organizations such as the Montana Wilderness Assn, Flathead Wild life and representatives of the Sierra Club to set aside ^{some} of the higher alpine zones for the continued productive return they offered by way of ^{an} undisturbed wilderness designation.

Tom Coston
Regional Forester, USDA Forest Service
Federal Building, Missoula, Montana

59925

William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor, Kootenai National Forest
P.O. Box AS, Libby, Montana

59923

Re: The Kootenai National Forest Ten Lakes Study Act Area
(PL-150 & 5393)

A Review By

Tobacco Valley Citizen's Committee

3. We do not favor the designation "Roadless Area". We suggest that all existing roads which extend above the 5500 ft. level be terminated at that elevation and that the parts and parcels of roads above the 5500 ft. level be "put to sleep".

4. We suggest that no logging be done in Stahl Creek above the 5500 ft. level and that the old clearcuts be allowed to grow back naturally. It was the opinion of this committee that logging the high alpine basins of Stahl Creek in years past constituted poor management and to do so again would be doubly damning.

5. Because of concern expressed by the local people of the Eureka Area, a great deal of attention was given to the west face of the study area. The people in general have an inherent distrust of two of the FS management policies: management for wildlife benefits and management for visual significance. This committee would like to suggest that no management at all be done above the 5500 ft. level. We would also recommend that the area between the private land and the 5500 ft. level be designated as a roadless area, and specifically managed for high visual and wildlife habitat.

This committee further recommends only selective logging, no clearcuts and the slash method for rejuvenating browse instead of the burning method. We feel that burning is too dangerous on the steep slopes of the west face. We feel that the proposed rebuilding of the Burma Road is ill-advised and we recommend that the road should remain in its present form and be closed off at the unloading ramp at the entrance to Blacktail Basin. The majority of this committee is not in favor of any logging in Blacktail Basin, as historically this has been the summer range area of a small herd of woodland caribou. Caribou have been seen many times in the study area commencing in 1935, after the big Wigwam fire. Blacktail Basin is also part of the summer range for at least one family of grizzly bear.

This committee also recommends that the FS make an effort to obtain an easement to the FS trail up Indian Creek.

This committee feels that a good portion of the dialogue and most of the graphs in the Summary and Proposal are self-serving and slanted toward the Forest Service's desire to sell timber. We feel that the graphs are lacking in factual information and cannot be correlated. In many cases the graphs are very misleading, and they left our group with a lot of unanswered questions.

This committee is very critical of prescriptions used in determining present net value. We also feel that local economic income from the study area was not

201-5

02529
"Scenic Areas are places of outstanding or matchless beauty which require special management to preserve these qualities" (They may be established under 36 CFR 294.1 whenever lands possessing outstanding or unique natural beauty warrant this classification.

Under authority of Regulation U-3 of the Secretary of Agriculture (11 Federal Register 3416, April 2 1946), a scenic area of approximately 6,541 acres lying within boundaries of the Kootenai National Forest in northwestern Montana more particularly described on a 2" = 1 mile map titled "Ten Lakes Scenic Area, 1963" approved by Regional Forester Neal M. Lahn, on May 4, 1964, is hereby designated the "Ten Lakes Scenic Area". It is directed that this area be administered by the Forest Service in conformance with the requirements of Regulation U-3 and in accordance with management guidelines in the attached establishment report and "Classification Report and Management Plan for Ten Lakes Scenic Area".

Campgrounds with standard facilities will not be constructed in the scenic area, but toilets, fireplaces, and garbage pits will be provided where necessary to prevent damage to timber. No logging, grazing or motorized vehicles will be permitted.

Montana Ten Lakes Study Area

Approximately 90 elk in Study Area, 60 females and 30 males

Resident elk license: \$8.00

Harvest success ratio: 15%

Average days hunting for elk: 8

Average cost per day: \$40.00

Average cost per hunter per year: \$340

Average cost per harvested animal:

$6\frac{1}{2} \times \$8.00 = \52.00 , license cost $6\frac{1}{2}$ years

$6\frac{1}{2} \times \$340.00 + \$52.00 = \$2262.00$

Average pounds of red meat: 235

Value of red meat @ \$2.00 per pound: \$470.00

Non-resident license (with outfitter) \$225.00

Average days hunting: 9

Success ratio: 19%

Average cost per day: \$150.00

Average cost per hunter per year: $9 \times \$150.00 + \$225.00 = \$1575.00$

Average cost per harvested animal: $5 \times \$1575.00 = \7875.00

Red meat average 235# @ \$2.00: \$470.00

Cost average on a 6-point trophy bull (5%) : \$31,500.00

No compiled figures on number of elk harvested in Study Area by FW&P. Area 101 shows a harvest of 119 animals. NOTE: Average cost to hunter can be translated to economic income for the local area and license money for the FW&P.

For 1983 the 60 female elk should produce 40 young, 20 male and 20 female

30 male elk + 20 male calves = 50 bulls

60 female elk + 20 female calves = 80 females

Allowable harvest 50% of males = 25

Allowable harvest 25% of females = 20

45 elk to be harvested @ \$2262.00 each = \$101,179.00

First decade elk harvested from base herd by residents, $450 \times \$2262.00 =$
\$1,017,900.00

201-9

Estimated by people using the Study Area, 45 bears in Area

Black Bear resident license: \$8.00

Average number of days hunting: 5

Average cost per day: \$40.00

7% of bear hunters harvested bear

Average cost per hunter: $5 \times \$40.00 + \$8.00 = \$208.00$

Average cost of bear harvested: \$2,790.00

State-wide, 1979, 10,666 hunters harvested 795 bear

@ \$208.00 this would total: \$165,360.00

9971 hunters harvested no bear

@ \$208.00 this would total: \$2,053,168.00

10,666 hunters paid \$8.00 for state licenses: \$85,328.00

Non-resident (with outfitters) Black Bear license \$100.00

Average days hunting: 7

Average cost per day: \$100.00

Average cost per hunter: $7 \times \$100.00 + \$100.00 = \$800.00$

25% hunters harvested bear

1067 hunters purchased spring bear licenses: \$106,700.00

257 hunters harvested bear @ \$800.00 = \$213,600.00

800 hunters did not get a bear @ \$800.00 = \$640,000.00

Total cost to hunters: \$853,600.00

Average cost of bear harvested: \$3,197.00

✓
TEN LAKES COMMITTEE MEETING
LUREN - REXFORD R.S. 4/4/83

ATTENDANCE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
PAUL LEIMBACH	KOOTENAI N.E.
Sandy Matheny	" "
Bill Morden	" "
Theresa West	Emeka Mont.
Winton Wydemeyer	Forten, MT
John Rutzhard	.
Young C. Hulolander	Fortin R.D.
Tim Mank	Stryker MT.
Nike Norvel	
Stan Kolder	Emeka, Mt.
Dave Poncin	Kootenai D-1
Bill Morden	Kootnia

Concern About Projected Future
Singapore Prices I.E. \$590/MBT

Don't Agree w/ the the increased
monopolized use BECAUSE of the
Need to close GATES BECAUSE
of Wildlife.

NEED TO PROTECT ALL THE WHITE BARK
PINE POSSIBLE.

They feel that the Wildlife
Recreation is more valuable
to society than the Timber

They'll make THE MAP after—
They present it to the Civil
Co. PLANNING BOARD

Bill ASKED EACH COMMITTEE MEMBER
TO GO BACK TO THEIR RESPECTIVE
GROUPS & GET A POSITION STATEMENT RELATING
TO THEIR COMMITTEE PROPOSAL.

06/19/1985

Dear Mr. Morden -

203

I am a Syr. resident of Flathead
County & am opposed to the proposed
"Scenic area designation for the TEN
LAKES AREA. I Support Alternative C
i.e., WILDERNESS PROTECTION FOR THE
ENTIRE TEN LAKES AREA.

Yours truly,
Wayne H. Ryan

204-2

in existing fisheries production. Future roads should also employ these measures. Examples of design criteria that should be mandatory, depending on road location and soil type, should include use of slash filter windrows, specific drainage spacing, surfacing, maintenance standards, seeding and fertilizing. Criteria related to road location, particularly in proximity to active channels and streams should be identified as management direction. Stage construction methods can be used, as can closure of roads following management activities for erosion control. Reallocation of particularly erosive lands and delayed construction of roads over a longer time period could be evaluated as to the potential benefit to fisheries. These appear to be particularly viable because they require no additional capital outlay. These actions should be integrated into either overall Forest management policies or as management area guidelines and standards. These appear to be especially appropriate to your proposed alternative, because of the intent to road the majority of the Forest.

The management standards and guidance are very general and it is difficult to foresee how a land manager is guided to provide necessary coordination in the protection of fisheries habitat. We do not believe the omission of specific direction meets the intent of the NFMA. Although these omissions are obvious in all management areas allocated to development, it is particularly obvious in the riparian area guidance (Plan III-58). Because of its importance to the fisheries community, the riparian zone is one habitat that should be given special concern. We do not feel the arbitrary delineation of 100 feet of riparian zone for all orders of streams would sufficiently protect the riparian community of larger streams and rivers.

If a goal of 80 percent of potential fish production is to be obtained (p. 58), the land manager should be provided with coordination actions that will help assure this objective is met. Providing for woody debris recruitment through extended rotations, vegetative filtration strips, control of mechanized equipment, appropriate logging systems and required use of a fisheries biologist in developing timber management prescriptions are examples of appropriate coordination requirements. The proposed plan does not give visible preferential treatment to riparian dependent resources as required by NFMA. Development of fisheries plans will be severely constrained if allocations such as timber or road development are already allocated by the Forest Plan. Foreseeable coordination needs should be included in the plan so that more accurate costs and constraints to other resources can be reflected in allocation, outputs and budgets.

We do not feel it is sound management to manage for one species at the lose of another. This is referring to your Maximum Wildlife Section (pg. V-10) which states fish and their habitat would be lost in maximizing elk by additional

KEARNEY LOGGING & SAW MILL, INC.

02529

207B

PAT KEARNEY
PHONE (406) 296-2428

BOX 485
EUREKA, MONTANA 59917

Gentlemen,

In Regards Ten Lakes Scenic Area.

I strongly oppose any wilderness designation for this area.

I feel that the Forest Service proposal for the area, is a pretty good Plan.

If. the area should get put into a wilderness. I feel that all professional outfitters and guides should be barred from making overnight trips into the area.

Thank you

Pat Kearney

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William E. Morden

Forest Supervisor, Kootenai National Forest

P.O. Box A3, Libby, Montana

59923

Snowmobile use in Ten Lakes Study Area:

Snowmobilers speak adamantly in opposition to giving up use of those areas that fall within the boundaries of the Montana Wilderness Study Act Area (Ten Lakes). We believe snowmobile use is on the increase in this area and will continue to rise and offer unlimited recreation for years to come. We strongly support a designation that will allow us the continued use of the area.

Specific popular snowmobiling areas include Stahl Peak, upper Clarence Creek drainage, Therriault Pass area, Mount Barnaby, upper Sinclair Creek, upper Foundation Creek and Wam Peak, Bluebird and Wolverine Basins. The above areas are important because they retain their snow cover longer and allow us continued use for a longer period of time. We realize these areas, although important to us, make up the very "heart" of the study area. These lands are primitive and therefore the most vulnerable to damage. We agree snowmobiles cause minimal damage and believe we would be making a great sacrifice if we were forced to give them up for any reason.

We support salvage logging from existing roads and skid trails in areas adjacent to the study area to remove bug killed timber. We object to logging in the Stahl Creek drainage above the 5,500 ft. level and are not in favor of reconstructing the Burma Road and removing timber from Blacktail Basin.

We support the boundaries suggested by the Tobacco Valley Citizens Committee for the Ten Lakes Scenic Area and favor management of the "west face" for wildlife enhancement and visual significance.

In summary we strongly support snowmobile use in the study area and recommend a designation that will allow us this continued use.

Mike Marvel

Mike Marvel
Snowmobile Club Representative

Tobacco Valley Citizens Committee

Eureka, Montana



PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

PRODUCING DEPARTMENT
WEST UNITED STATES
DENVER DIVISIONTEXACO
U.S.A.
A DIVISION OF TEXACO INC.
P. O. BOX 2100
DENVER, COLORADO 80201

April 6, 1983

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST
USFS - MONTANAMr. William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
P. O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

RE: Ten Lakes WSA

Dear Mr. Morden:

We support a nonwilderness designation recommendation for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area in the Kootenai National Forest. However, we are concerned with the emphasis the Forest Service has placed on visual resources and roadless recreation. As a result of such emphasis, the Forest Service anticipates utilizing numerous special leasing stipulations should any leases ever be issued within the Ten Lakes Area, thus undermining the benefits of multiple use.

The Study Report indicates that Ten Lakes falls within the Overthrust Belt, an area with great potential for oil and gas reserves. It is further stated that "detailed surface geologic mapping, seismic profiling, and wildcat drilling will be necessary in order to test the existence, or nonexistence, of oil and gas-bearing formations at depth." Yet, the Forest Service intends on limiting access to special locations and applying special conditions to any activities which may take place in the roadless area. These additional constraints would create a sizeable economic burden on those operators who choose to explore the Ten Lakes area.

We urge the Forest Service to revise its proposal by recognizing that energy and mineral activities can occur with reasonable (and in most cases standard) protection measures and that new road construction will be allowed to facilitate energy and mineral exploration. The Forest Service's proposed action should provide the maximum opportunities for access to the area for energy and mineral exploration and possible development through a necessary tradeoff analysis of resource values. We believe it is wrong to consistently address energy and mineral exploration activity solely

Box 281
Blayton,
Mont. 59914
4/7/83

Forest Supervisor, William Morden
Kootenai Natl Forest
Box 95
Libby, Mt. 59923

Dear Sir,

This letter is in support of alternative
"C" for a 35,900 acres Ten Lake
Wilderness.

Sincerely,
Barbara Slager

Kootenai simultaneously is supposed to figure what it can do and meet, or if possible, exceed those RPA goals for any or all products. A pity these goals aren't displayed in a table in the E.I.S. (see, it's not laid out MY way). Anyway, these are goals and they are met or exceeded in all cases for a number of decades. When one finally falls below, as it does, it is far enough away in time that it's accuracy is suspect. With the constant re-planning we are promised, this future downfall isn't that important. If desirable, priorities will be realigned in the future. Of course, there is equal suspicion of the other figures too. Experience with the Forest Service shows their figures tend to be quite conservative. The district workers provide capability figures for the Ranger and leave themselves a little safety margin for possible error. The Ranger passes it to the Supervisor for his District - with another little margin of safety, the S.O. passes it --- need I go on? Everybody is being sure they won't get caught short so the capability, particularly of a commodity that can be measured and sold, is vastly under rated. Understandable enough, but it does not present a true picture. We can do better in tree growth than the Forest Service figures, and St. Regis is doing so. I feel sure the Forest Service is actually doing better than they claim, in more than one field.

One of their figures I suspect is the production of timber. Should more be available? Should more be shown? Since this is a timber growing area where intensive management is possible, should more land be allocated to timber? Should timber receive a higher priority in cases of conflict with other resources? The answer to all of these should be "Yes".

Timber is a resource the nation needs. It is renewable and replaceable; more than can be said for most other resources. The nation is continually losing land that is being dedicated to single or limited uses. Housing, power lines, parking lots, wilderness, national monuments, historic trails, presumably endangered species, watersheds, scenery, wild rivers, administrative sites, natural research areas, ski slopes, mine dumps; all these and many more are continually nibbling away at our ability to produce a product needed for human life; a product that provides employment of adequate income and a stable community. These are all reasons

National Park, as it's close and bulging with scenery. As for solitude, I'd recommend breaking an axle at 5 o'clock on a Friday night at the end of the Little Wolf logging road--January is an ideal month.

To add insult to injury we have the acres allotted to Timber Optimization (Intensive). 151 is 1.5% of the Timber Optimization area and a mere .0026 (yes, that is .26 percent) of the Kootenai. This is STILL the most productive forest in Montana and all that can be done is 6,500 acres of intensive timber management? I hope you'll claim a misprint. With like logic, St. Regis would have 300 acres of intensive timber management. Damn it, we've got single reproduced stands bigger than that, and so do you. This is completely unacceptable. You should do better; lots better!

As in all Forest Plans, I am most unsatisfied with some of the basics. The hydrology base is frankly a fright and this affects erosion, siltation, fish production, logging. In fact, much of the land management. The basic information can only be called "weak". Reference to the Guide for Predicting Sediment Yields from Forested Watersheds is not encouraging. The Kootenai admits the basics come from the granitic soils in Idaho (Megahan mostly) adapted by various occult means to the Lolo, then re-adjusted for the Kootenai. The credibility is very thin by now. Particularly as the Kootenai modifications are quoted as being based on such solid fact as "interpretations as well as conversations between Hydrologists, soil scientists and foresters". Crystal balls are not mentioned. O.K., it's the best you've got but it's only an educated guess. If you'd say this loud and clear, I couldn't complain much. If you gave confidence levels and admitted that the common variations in weather matter more than man's activities, I'd feel better. See our recent winter floods and the 1964 flood on the Flathead that came from Glacier Park and the Wilderness Area. To buttress my feelings are the opinions of Dale McGreer who is a Hydrologist and Donald Pott's article on Watershed Management in Western Montana in Management of Second Growth Forests, The State of Knowledge and Research Needs, published in 1983 by the Montana School of Forestry.

So you feel you must address the issue, and I suppose you

So now on to general recommendations to give a direction to the Plan, if not specific figures.

1. Abolish viewing areas as such. In all former viewing areas with appropriate possible forest yields, cutting practices should be sensitive to view, but not dictated by view. Do what is necessary for forestry in the best esthetic way possible. Affects Prescription 5 & 17.
2. Limit the primitive and semi primitive recreation areas to those parts of the forest that have a low potential for timber or where regeneration is a real problem. Affects Prescription 2,3 and 29.
3. Minimize grizzly management in timber areas to that required by law. Grizzly should be raised in places like Yellowstone, Glacier, the Bob Marshall, Selway-Bitterroot, the Cabinets, and take their chances elsewhere. Affects Prescription 14.
4. Be sure that Special Interest areas are indeed unique (please refer to Webster for a definition) or really unusual. Affects Prescription 21.
5. Intensively manage timber optimization areas. It is MOST discouraging to discover that a mere crummy 6,560 acres of the most productive forest in Montana is fit for MA 15i. Really! You should bloody well blush over that! Affects Prescription 15.
6. Rewrite all sections that deal with hydrology (please, don't choke!) to provide for more flexibility, use confidence levels on all discrete figures and carefully explain the unavoidable weaknesses. Include a monitoring plan that will allow correction or verification of prescriptions.
7. Implement the proposed 10 Lakes plan using the proposed boundaries.

John K. D. D. D.
Governmental Affairs Manager

11 & 11i	Big Game Winter Range/ Timber (mod & intensive)	270,810	12.1
12	Big Game Summer Range/ Timber	<u>375,350</u>	<u>16.7</u>
		646,160	
	Land we get timber from with some to much reduction of timber		28.8
15 & 15i	Timber (Mod & Intense)	439,330	19.6

SUMMARY

No timber available	24.3
Some timber possibly available	5.3
Timber available now or future at much reduced yields	21.8
Timber available at some to much reduced yields	28.8
Timber optimization	<u>19.8</u>
	99.8

April 8th 1983

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Dear Mr. William E. Morden

This letter is in regard to the "TEN
Lakes Area."

I favor, Wilderness, not multiple use.

My understanding is that the Kootenai
National Forest, is, and will be short on
on the RPA wilderness acreage.

I believe the area contains the necessary
values to support grizzly bears and some wolves.

The area appears to be low in needed
timber value. Even with this area as
wilderness I believe you can meet and
exceed your RPA demands for timber and
motorized rec. Let it be wilderness

Respectfully

Shirley M. Johnson

224

April 9, 1983

Bill Morden, Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Libby, Montana
Dear Sir:

I am writing to express dismay over the draft Kootenai Forest Plan. I feel that several changes are needed:

It appears unreasonable to add 6000 miles of road to an area already crisscrossed by 6000 miles of vehicle ways. Roads & their inevitable traffic hamper wildlife, cause erosion and greatly diminish primitive recreation experiences.

Old growth areas should not be logged, nor should riparian areas and grizzly habitat (+ potential habitat). Water quality, species protection & enhancement, ecosystem diversity and primitive recreation are values protected when we protect these areas. Montana has already lost too much of these special areas.

I support Alternative C - 36,000 acres of wilderness at Ten Lakes.

I oppose paving and widening the last unpaved 17 miles of the Hook Road.

I look forward to seeing these attitudes reflected in the final plan.

Malinee Crapsey
606 North Ave. West
Missoula MT 59801

April 10, 1983

Re Future Designation of the Ten Lakes
Scenic Area

Dear Mr. Morden:

We are strongly in favor of expanding the present Ten Lakes area in Lincoln County and giving it full wilderness status because of its unspoiled beauty and because it is a grizzly habitat, something we desperately need more of.

We have appreciated the Sobocco Valley's remoteness and purchased land there for that reason, and we plan to retire there. The only thing that has ever bothered us about the area are the clearcuts visible throughout the region.

We feel this is detrimental to the tourist industry, which is important to the Sobocco Valley and could become very prosperous there due to the proximity to Canada. We are surprised every summer at the number of Canadians we see using camping facilities there and patronizing businesses in Eureka.

We believe that a wilderness area

229B-1

02529
APR 12 1983

April 10, 1983

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Re: Future Designation of the Ten
Lakes Scenic Area

Dear Mr. Costen:

We are strongly in favor of expanding the present Ten Lakes area in Lincoln County and giving it full wilderness status because of its unspoiled beauty and because it is grizzly habitat, something we desperately need more of.

We have appreciated the Tobacco Valley's remoteness and purchased land there for that reason, and we hope to retire there. The only thing that has ever bothered us about the area are the clearcuts visible throughout the region.

We feel this is detrimental to the tourist industry, which is important to the Tobacco Valley and could become very prosperous there due to the proximity to Canada. We are surprised every summer at the number of Canadians we see using camping facilities there and patronizing

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*Law Offices of**Mc Garvey, Lence V Heberling**a partnership of professional corporations**745 South Main**Kalispell, Montana 59901-5399**Telephone (406) 755-5032**Dale L. Mc Garvey, P.C.**John A. Lence, P.C.**Jan L. Heberling, P.C.**of Counsel
Diane B. Walsh*

April 11, 1983

Mr. Bill Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, Mt. 59923

Re: Comment on Forest Plan

Dear Mr. Morden:

I note that at the same time the Montana Legislature has designated the grizzly as the state animal, the Kootenai Forest is issuing a plan which has drawn a jeopardy opinion. I feel that if grizzly habitat is adequately protected, then other wildlife values will also likewise receive adequate protection. The key is roads. Additional miles of roads lead to reductions of habitat. Accordingly, it would appear that road mileage should be frozen at current levels. The plan assumption that closing roads has the same environmental impact as leaving areas unroaded is simply not creditable. Industry foresters find such an assumption silly.

Also, I suggest stricter protection in riparian areas to ensure that streams remain undisturbed. The riparian areas are essential for water quality and wildlife. Strict protection is necessary to mitigate past practices.

I urge support for alternative C for a \$36,000 acre 10 lakes wilderness. This is necessary, particularly in light of the suggestion of the astounding 12,000 miles of roads for the forest.

In light of the intensity of opposition to the Kootenai Forest Plan, it would appear that a reworking is in order.

April 8, 1983

231

Mr. Bill Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Dear Mr. Morden:

Our group has had an opportunity to review the Kootenai Forest Plan and we are disturbed by what we have seen. In particular, we are concerned about the magnitude of proposed logging and associated roading, the non-wilderness decision for the Ten Lakes area, increased sedimentation and associated reductions in migratory fish populations, and the failure of the plan to provide for recovery level grizzly bear populations. The latter is probably illegal in view of the recently issued jeopardy opinion issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Mineral development being contemplated in the Cabinets by Borax and ASARCO could diminish the values of that great wilderness. The potential for loss in wilderness quality of the Cabinets coupled with the fact that this is the most highly used wilderness in Montana should make it obvious that wilderness is at a premium on your forest. We feel that not recommending the Ten Lakes area for wilderness is a serious mistake.

Problems with grizzly habitat, stream sedimentation, and reduced fish populations are all related to the levels of roading and logging proposed. The forest cannot possibly maintain the proposed level of disturbance without giving up other resources that Montanans value and in many cases account for their reason for living here.

In summary, the plan poorly balances timber values against other valuable resources including grizzly bear, stream fisheries, wilderness, and other wildlife. We feel it is imperative that you give these resources greater consideration in future revisions of your plan and that roading and logging be reduced.

Sincerely yours,

Gary L. Ingman
Gary L. Ingman
Spokesperson



HELENA FOREST CONSERVATION COALITION

P.O. BOX 1257 • HELENA, MT 59624

235

Mr. Marden,

4-14-83

I have ~~received~~ ^{received} your proposal to increase roads in timber harvesting areas in your forest. I urge you to provide more roadless recreation and areas to protect grizzly & other animal habitat. Too many more roads will be incompatible with this animal habitat! Oppose paving & widening of the last unpaved 17 miles of the Yaak road. Support full recovery of grizzly - more habitat protection & less road building.

Sincerely, Karen Pettigrew

April 11, 1983
Box 273
Kalispell, MT. 59901

237-1

William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT. 59923

Dear Mr. Morden,

I am writing to comment on your proposal for the Ten Lakes study area in Northern Lincoln County. I encourage you to reconsider your recommendation and instead recommend that the Ten Lakes area become Wilderness. So much of the Kootenai Forest is open for timber development ~~the~~ already and I feel that

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April 12, 1983

Jennifer A. Corrion

214 W. Main

Cut Bank, MT 59427

Dear Mr. Morden,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the "no wilderness" recommendation for the Ten Lakes area of the Kootenai National Forest. I understand the 36,000 acres surrounding Ten Lakes is the home of the endangered woodland caribou, grizzly bear, and grey wolf. I'm sure you know these animals are dependent on the undisturbed habitat of the area. The proposed 18,600 acre core "scenic" area cannot ensure their survival since the opening of oil and gas leasing and salvage timber sales would still be allowed. Couldn't the Forest meet its timber harvest goals outside the Ten Lakes area, and in so doing preserve one of its few pristine wildlands? I urge you to designate Ten Lakes as a wilderness area.

Sincerely, Jennifer Corrion

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RESPONSE TO THE KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST PLAN

1. One point missed in the ISSUES is information to the public. I am not suggesting an I&E program as part of the plan but the door could be left open for media and public suggestions as to how they would like to receive information.

This could permit input in some of the day to day decisions such as road standards and locations. If reasons like residual values, total timber to be transported, time frame(s), esthetics etc. are explainable I am sure there will be better acceptance.

Example: You are making fisherie studies in the riparian zone. You find you can raise fertility X by raising water temperature Y . You may have reason then for small clearcuts to get more solar reception. Be able to point to past experience or research that will establish credibility.

3. I believe it would be better to leave road standards and general locations to the resource manager. This would be different from more stringent Engineering policy. There is nothing more frustrating than for a forest user to hear "The reason, it's policy."

6. Ten Lakes MWSA: I fully support the PS "Proposed Plan". Beside the proposed Scenic Area there is considerable land that will remain DeFacto wilderness and scenic area. Economics and other management opportunities will cause these areas to remain untouched.

Bark Beetle Problem: (Terriault Lakes). I am not knowledgeable about the timber types over most of the area but in the basin surrounding Big Terriault I am positive that the almost pure stand of spruce is in big trouble. My visual estimate is that 60+% of this stand of spruce is infested with Spruce Bark Beetle.

I would support a well conceived trap tree program with removal of the traps guaranteed in July or August.

General: I am a graduate Forester, retired from the USFS in 1972 with over 30 years service. I was born and raised in the Whitefish area, worked 3 seasons in the So.Fk. Primitive area (Now Bob Marshall). From '54 to '57 I worked in the Bark Beetle Program on the Glacier View Dist. Some of the knowledges acquired are still retained.

Thanks for the chance to say my piece.

Sincerely,



BERT W. MORRIS

SR-1

TECH. MT 59935

Mr. Bill Morden
April 13, 1983
Page Two

to develop tourism.

Employment in timber-dependent communities has been declining and will be declining in the future and our only hope for a good economy lies with tourism and recreation.

Timber Sales Program: More Small Sales

1. Sales would be more competitive and less chance for bid collusion.
2. Small loggers are more efficient as St. Regis Paper Company has found.
3. Small sales are less damaging to the environment.
4. The small loggers contribute more to local and state economies. They buy their goods and services in their communities or state.
5. It does not seem economical to haul logs 125 miles to be milled. If there are more small sales, another mill would locate in the Libby area, but they cannot compete against Louisiana Pacific or Burlington Northern on sales.

The Kootenai National Forest should not be the sacrificial lamb to meet timber demands. Roding and cutting of the magnitude proposed in the Plan is not in step with sound economics or sound land management.

Solutions:

1. Involve people in the community at the start of the planning process.
2. Allocate more land base for developed recreation, roadless recreation and more wilderness.
3. Provisions for nordic skiing and hut system for touring. Elevation and aesthetics are important criteria.
4. More quality elk and deer hunting. This means more road closures and more careful logging practices.
5. Work for improved fisheries. Rehabilitate habitat ruined by poor logging practices.

243-1

Flathead Chapter
National Audubon Society
Post Office Box 715
Big Fork, Montana 59911

April 11, 1983

Bill Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Libby, Montana 59923

Dear Mr. Morden;

The Flathead Chapter of the National Audubon Society is deeply concerned with the proposed Forest Plan for the Kootenai National Forest. As conservationists our special interest is associated with endangered and threatened species; old-growth forest habitats and their biological constituents; riparian habitats that receive significantly greater use by most species of wildlife as well as the aquatic communities dependent on clean water; and wilderness environments where the natural processes are left to function without the benefit of human interactions. The proposed plan of action falls far short in sustaining these forest components.

More specifically, old-growth forests provide the necessary complex habitats for many species of animals such as the pine martin, wolverine, northern flying squirrel, goshawk, Cooper's hawk, pileated woodpecker, 50 species of cavity dependent animals, and perhaps the woodland caribou. There will be a critical shortage of this habitat component in the areas where timber production will be maximized. A diverse forest provides stability as well as productivity. Eliminating the old-growth component may have a detrimental impact as a result of insect or disease outbreaks. Old-growth stands could be reasonably managed for in a well distributed pattern throughout the forest even in areas of maximum timber production.

Timber harvest is probably necessary in some riparian zones. However 100 foot buffer zones are not felt to be adequate along streams other than first and second order. We feel the plan fails to realize the importance of the riparian areas and was inadequate in addressing goals. Furthermore the plan fails to recognize the probable results of logging on stream impacts and fisheries such as sedimentation, temperature and flow changes,

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G. Douglas Follett
Box 196
Whitefish, MT 59937
April 12, 1983

Mr. William Morden, Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Sir

I would like to express my concern and opinion regarding the forest management plan for the Greater 10 Lakes Wilderness Study Area. I won't belabor the point of our experiences of the last half a century in the region. I will say only that from the 1930's when my father came up from the Elk River to the head waters of the Wigwam River on fishing trips, to the later years of staying in the Wolverine Cabin when Grizzley bears left their tracks in the snow around the door and foraged on the talus slope above Rainbow Lake, or left their sliding paths in the steep snow slopes on the side of Green Mountain in the spring, the area has held a special place in our hearts and memories. I was present when the mutilation of the upper Whitefish, Red Meadow, Stryker Ridge and most of the North Fork began. Today the people who cut and ran are dead and gone, but what they left behind is not. The generations of today and the future can only wonder what they lost. I don't have to wonder, I know. I would like to think that they will not have to wonder in the same way about the Greater 10 Lakes Area. Much that should have been protected is already gone. Certainly what is left of the original wilderness character should be preserved as much as possible. The few white-wood boards that will come from the area will make little difference to the long range economy of the region. The preservation of this resource as a wilderness, or near wilderness, will have untold value forever.

In making this crucial decision I ask you simply to search your soul and to make that choice which will allow you to say to your children and grandchildren and to everyone else, "I was responsible for making the decision that resulted in what you see and what you have on the public lands of the upper Kootenai and the Greater 10 Lakes Area and I am proud of what I did."

Please decide in favor of alternative C and the 36,000 acre 10 Lakes Study Area as a wilderness.

Yours truly



G. Douglas Follett

jdkl

posed for logging and roading on the Kootenai Forest.

Because Ten Lakes rates high in all wilderness attributes, it should be part of the Wilderness Preservation System.

The Ten Lakes study document admits that elk and quality hunting, the grey wolf and grizzly, most RPA goals, and a forecast acute shortage of wilderness will all be accommodated by wilderness designation.

As a native Montanan I'm concerned about the dwindling wildland resource. Therefore, to maintain the "status quo" in the Ten Lakes WSA, I support Alternative C.

Sincerely,

Allen E. Hells

FOREST'S COMMERCIAL FOREST LAND BASE.
NORTHWESTERN MONTANA HAS ENOUGH
WILDERNESS NOW & WHAT WE HAVE ISN'T
USED ENOUGH.

IF THIS PROPOSED PLAN FOR EXPANDED
WILDERNESS WOULD GO THROUGH, HOW MUCH
ACREAGE BUFFER SURROUNDING THE
WILDERNESS AREA WOULD BE REQUIRED?
THE PROPOSED AREA HAS MANY ZIGS &
ZAGS WOULD STRAIGHT LINES BE DRAWN
BETWEEN POINTS? THIS COULD MEAN
THE LOSS OF MORE COMMERCIAL FOREST
LANDS. WHERE WOULD IT STOP? EVENTUALLY
ONLY THE GRAVES CREEK - TACKLAULT
LAKES CORRIDOR WOULD NOT HAVE MAJOR
MANAGEMENT RESTRICTIONS ON IT.

THE WIGWAM HAS & CAN PRODUCE LARGE
VOLUMES OF VALUABLE WOOD. TO TAKE
THAT POTENTIAL OUT OF INTENSIVE WOULD
BE A MISTAKE. AREAS LIKE TEN LAKES
CAN PRODUCE NEW DOLLARS (TIMBER STUMPAGE)
& CIRCULATING DOLLARS (TOURIST DOLLARS); LET'S
MAXIMIZE THESE DOLLARS, BY MANAGING THE
AREA AS IS. LET'S KEEP TEN LAKES AS IS.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

SINCERELY YOURS,
-JOEL A. NELSON
G. 3 - BOX 1004-A
LIBBY, MT.
59923

proper wilderness study should give the reviewer a feel for the land. Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, geological features, trails, lakes, streams, habitat types, wildlife and areas of natural beauty should be described in detail. The Report should be the next best thing to a visit to the area.

② Other unquantifiable benefits should be added to the lists on ^{pages} 11-7, 11-18, ^{and} 11-19. These additions should include the value of a scientific and natural benchmark, the satisfaction many people experience just from knowing an undisturbed area exists even if they never use it (do not underestimate this satisfaction), and the quality of the recreational experience. If you can rate visual quality why can not the recreational quality be rated?

③ No mention is made of the possibility that mountain caribou may exist in the Study Area. The habitat components of the caribou also need to be listed. A complete list of fish and wildlife in the Study Area should be included with a special notation for those dependent on wildlands and old growth. (III-5, III-6)

④ A map showing the exact location of the mining claims should be included. (III-9)

⑤ Finally, the Report is inadequate because nowhere does it state why the Proposed Alternative was chosen over the other Alternatives. Was it because of the timber and minerals lost to development? The need for snowmobiling area? A feeling that enough wilderness exists nearby? The Report should clearly state the reasons for picking the Proposed Alternative so that reviewers can judge the

② The Report states (IV-15) that prohibition of snowmobiling could lead to law enforcement problems. The implication is that this is a reason for not classifying the area as wilderness. These kind of legal problems occur on almost all newly created wildernesses. Since when do illegal acts determine F.S. policy?

③ I fail to understand how the Proposed Action could be picked over Alt. C in light of the statement concerning RPA goals. (IV-2) This paragraph really says that if the entire Study Area is placed in wilderness classification the Kootenai N.F. can still meet all its RPA resource goals with the exception of the wilderness goal. Even with the addition of the Study Area the wilderness goal will not be met. If this is true why wasn't Alt. C selected? Why isn't there an attempt to meet the wilderness goal especially when classification would not detract from the Kootenai's ability to meet its other goals? Does not the national need for wilderness, which is a rapidly shrinking resource, outweigh the slightly increased local benefits resulting from more commodity production? - even accepting the Report's economic analysis.

The misleading statements in the Report and Proposal are numerous.

① It is indicated (IV-2, last ¶) that all alternatives will protect the primitive core area of the Study Area. Since timber salvage sales and oil and gas development can occur under roadless management designation but not under wilderness classification it is misleading to say all alternatives will protect the core area equally. Roads and pipelines will follow oil and gas discovery (IV-12, ¶2) under a

Despite this reasoning the Report does not state how much snowmobiling use occurs or where it occurs. It also does not state how many other acres of Kootenai N.F. land are open to snowmobile use. These facts should be considered if snowmobiling is to be used as a criteria for judging the Area's future. The RARE II^① report listed .5 MRLV of dispersed motorized use in the Study Area. How much of this use was due to snowmobiles? How much of an increase has ~~occurred~~ ^{occurred} since 1977? Where? How much of the increase is due to the fact that the F.S. helped develop a snowmobile staging area and trail at the Study Area boundary. Is this encouragement of a non-wilderness activity in violation of the Montana Wilderness Study Act?

- ④ The airline mileage listings (III-5, IV-2-A4) seem to indicate that classified wilderness is abundant in the general area. Ignored is the fact that the Kootenai N.F. has a low percentage of wilderness and that the Study Area is only 1.6% of the Kootenai's total area. It should also be noted that 7 out of 12 listed areas are not yet classified as wilderness. They should be deleted from the list. The listings also hide the fact that use is increasing at all neighboring designated wilderness areas and that these areas are reaching their capacity for more use. This situation indicates a need for more wilderness not less. Finally, the air miles are completely misleading in terms of car travel time.

① footnote page 8, Table 11, Corrections To The Montana Supplement To Draft Environmental Statement
Roadless Area Review and Evaluation

August 30, 1978

in theory but have yet to see many actual benefits. One fact is clear. The grizzly presently survives best in roadless, wild country. If timber harvesting methods are to be used for the grizzly bear's benefit let it first be done on the commercial timberland of the Kootenai N. F. since these lands also contain grizzly bear habitat. I suspect the grizzly presently needs sanctuary areas like the Ten Lakes Study Area more than areas of increased forage created by timber harvesting.

⑨ The compatibility of timber harvesting and wildlife is certainly not true for all species. (IV-11, ¶1) Those species needing old growth and wilderness should be listed.

⑩ The statement (IV-14, ¶1) concerning access points and overuse of wilderness values should be extended to include all recreation classifications. If a lakeshore is pounded bare of vegetation, damage has occurred regardless of the area's classification. Would this type of damage be ignored under the semi-primitive, roadless classification? The statement, as written, implies that over use and/or misuse occurs only under wilderness classification. It is also misleading to imply that corrective measures to prevent damage are needed only in designated wilderness areas.

In conclusion, I hope my comments are of some value to you when revising the Report and Proposal. A more detailed description of the wilderness resource is needed as well as a feeling that the Report reflects first hand knowledge of the Ten Lakes Study Area by the writers. It should not read like a rehash

ED LIVINGSTON
1007 5 ST
DEER LODGE MT 59722 13AM

Western
Union Mailgram



4-014418S103 04/13/83 ICS IPMMTZZ CSP HELB
4068462707 MGM IDMT DEER LODGE MT 72 04-13 1140A EST

256

WILLIAM MORDEN
USDA FOREST SERVICE
KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST
PO BOX AS
LIBBY MT 59923

18 DEER LODGE AREA RESIDENTS SUPPORT FOREST SERVICE PREFERRED PLAN NO
MORE WILDERNESS

DONNA MCGUIRE
NORA AND RAY STOLP
BETTY AND ED LIVINGSTON
DIXIE AND DAVE WOZNY
TERESA AND BOB LEE
NANCY AND PAUL PLOYHAR
SHEILA AND TONY ROGERS
CHERYL AND LEE STOLP
STEVE PLOYHAR
BILL LIVINGSTON
CONNIE LIVINGSTON

CONCERNED CITIZENS AND WOMEN IN TIMBER BETTY LIVINGSTON PRESIDENT

1144 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

5241 (R 7/82)

260

April 13, 1983

Dear Mrs. Morden,

I support the Forest Service's Plan 4A. Right now I believe we need more jobs than wilderness. Good management leads to a healthy forest.

Sincerely Yours
Sam Nickel
Montana Women in Timber

Also I agree with the recommended action on the Ten Lakes mini forest.

PO Box 582

DAREY MT 59829

The opening statement on Timber in the Forest Policies and Management Intent section, ^{SAYS THAT} timber will be managed with sensitivity for economic efficiency. This statement bothers me because as public land managers we have a mandate from the national public that says basically that a majority of Americans are willing to pay more (ie- not necessarily economic efficiency) to insure clean air, water and a quality environment (several recent polls support this statement including a Harris poll taken about a year ago and the enclosed documentation of an industry sponsored poll). Many of our external publics recognize this administration's economic efficiency jargon as a thinly disguised attempt to justify reduced environmental constraints to provide for greater short term economic gains for a few privileged concerns. I believe I have the gist of the philosophy and I doubt if it reflects the true philosophy of our national public.

Again, I want to make it clear that I don't want to belittle this monumental planning effort. I am questioning however, the philosophies which were assumed to be appropriate. I hope we can reassess the validity of these philosophies and make sure they are in the best interests of our National Public.

Concerning the Ten Lakes Proposal:

I feel that the roadless area is worthy of Wilderness designation based on the fact that it is one of the last unprotected roadless ^{AREAS} of very high scenic value. I am pretty sure that if given maps, photos and guided tours of the area, a majority of the national public would vote to preserve this area in wilderness status in its entirety. It would be nice to see a Forest Service proposal with the courage to embrace the philosophy of the national public in spite of the unpleasantness of explaining this philosophy to the predominantly user oriented local public.

We can afford to set aside the 35,900 acres as a wilderness area. The reasons are obvious; Very high scenic values, Valuable viewshed for the Tobacco Valley, Proximity to the international boundary and to Glacier national Park, Shortage of wilderness in the vicinity and the need to protect the area for endangered species habitat.

Why have congress tell us later that we are proposing something contrary to what their constituents are telling them they want?

More Light On Lead Shot

For the past six years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has urged sportsmen to use steel shot instead of the traditional lead. The reason: each year, an estimated two to three million ducks and geese die from swallowing spent lead shotgun pellets. Lead shot, unlike steel, is toxic to waterfowl. But many hunters claim that steel shot cripples more birds than lead and damages firearms—arguments that have

not withstood legal or scientific scrutiny, according to the National Wildlife Federation.

Now, in cooperation with 24 state wildlife agencies and several private businesses, the NWF has started a lead poisoning control and information program. As part of the project, former FWS ballistics specialist Tom Roster is conducting seminars and shooting clinics around the country. To date, Roster has held programs for state biologists and agency officials in South Dakota, Oklahoma and Oregon.

Visiting In D.C.? Drop In On NWF

When you're in the Washington, D.C. area and want to know what's going on at the National Wildlife Federation, just call 703-790-4506 for a taped summary of NWF events. The organization's Virginia facility, just outside metropolitan Washington, regularly offers college level field ecology courses and art exhibits, and its gift shop, conservation library and nature trails are open to the public.

Industry Tries New Approaches To Resource Shortages

Several American businesses are discovering some common sense ways to resolve environmental conflicts—and in several cases, they're recycling materials and conserving resources at the same time.

- Tenneco Oil is now making retired offshore oil and gas platforms work for wildlife. The company recently donated an old platform to the state of Florida and sunk it in the Gulf of Mexico where it will function as an artificial reef for marine life. It is believed to be the first such use of an oil platform in the world.

- When ITT Rayonier was told to clean up discharges from its pulp mill plant in Port Angeles, Washington, the company not only complied, but discovered a way to recycle the wastes and sell them. The mill now turns residual sludge into a high-protein animal feed supple-



This retired oil production platform is now an artificial reef.

ment—600 tons of it a month.

- New York City has entered into an unusual agreement with a privately owned housing complex that could save the equivalent of one million gallons of heating oil and 77 million gallons of water a year. The City has agreed to give treated water and methane produced at one of its sewage treatment

plants to a nearby housing complex called Starrett City, which will use the methane for fuel and the cold water in its industrial cooling system. In exchange, Starrett will give the city all the hot water it needs to run the treatment plant. The plan will save the city \$50,000 a year and could save Starrett up to \$1 million annually.

- To help solve noise pollution caused by low flying planes at the Grand Canyon, Republic Airlines responded by changing the takeoff and landing course of its flights.

- Baltimore Gas and Electric Company in Maryland is building a \$500,000 hatchery for striped bass. The project, the first intensive large-scale program for the cultivation of striped bass, will attempt to use the heated effluent of a power plant to speed up the growth of the fish.

Public Supports Environmental Laws

The "environmental ethic" got a solid show of support in a recent survey billed as the most comprehensive study to date on national environmental attitudes. Of 263 top business executives, interviewed in the nationwide survey, two-thirds indicated they want to protect the environment—even if it means a slow down in economic growth. Nearly half of the businessmen said that certain areas in the United States should remain "untouched by people," instead of being developed for energy and minerals. The same survey, conducted for a Connecticut forest products company, Continental Group, Inc., found that a majority of the American public is in favor of maintaining current air pollution standards "even if some factories close as a result." In addition, 60 percent of the 1,300 people polled said they would be willing to pay more for products and services in order to clean up the environment. According to a company spokesman, Continental did the survey because many of its activities are regulated by environmental laws. The findings reinforce the results of other polls, which have shown strong public opposition to relaxing environmental regulations, in spite of general support for reducing regulatory burdens on business.

Tax 'Checkoff' Now In 20 States

One out of seven Utah taxpayers did "something wild" with state income taxes last year—by contributing a portion of their tax refunds to nongame wildlife programs. Utah had the highest taxpayer participation among the 20 states that now include a "checkoff for wildlife" on income tax forms. Colorado, which pioneered the concept in 1978, had the second highest level of participation. Twelve states that had checkoff programs in effect for the 1981 tax year had by last fall collected \$3.3 million for nongame wildlife programs. More than 570,000 taxpayers contributed an average of \$.73 apiece.

U.S. Researchers Want Piece Of Caviar Market

An ugly gray-black fish at the bottom of the Sacramento River in California may someday challenge the Soviet Union's hold on the world's caviar market. The fish is white sturgeon. Its roe can be made into caviar that will reportedly match the quality of the top Russian variety. But because overfishing and pollution almost destroyed California's sturgeon fishery decades ago, it is no longer legal to sell either caviar or sturgeon flesh from fish that come from the Sacramento River.

Still, the fish—which can grow to more than 1,000

pounds and live longer than 100 years—isn't out of the running in the ongoing competition to produce the best caviar. Researchers at the University of California—under the knowledgeable eye of Sergei I. Doroshov, once considered one of the USSR's top authorities on sturgeon culture—are trying to help five sturgeon farmers develop commercial fisheries. Doroshov defected from the Soviet Union in the 1970s, and now he heads one of the most advanced research programs in the United States on anadromous fish (fish that swim upstream from salt to

fresh water—to spawn). Though the research has had encouraging results, commercial production is probably six years away, experts say.

But state fish and game officials already call the program a success. Permits for breeders require that they release half of their hatchlings to the Sacramento River to replenish the fishery. With additional females regularly reaching the roe-bearing age of 20 or 30 years, officials say that the wild population may make a comeback and that commercial fishing for sturgeon in the river may one day be resumed.

RENÉE STAPLEY
RT. 3 TROY MT.

#271 4/14/83

CALLED IN TO SAY SHE AGREES WITH
A NON-WILDERNESS PROPOSAL FOR
TEN LAKES BECAUSE SHE THINKS THAT
ADEQUATE AREAS ARE ALREADY
AVAILABLE FOR WILDERNESS IN THIS
AREA.

HER HUSBAND IS A LOGGER & HE SAID
THAT THERE IS GAME AROUND
THEIR LOGGING OPERATION ALL THE TIME.
& DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY CONFLICT.

BY PHONE

BY *Paul A. Lemkau*
FOREST PLANNER



The Montana Environmental Information Center

- P.O. Box 1184, Helena, Montana 59624
 - Flathead Office 433 S. Main, Kalispell 59901
- April 13, 1983

(406) 443-2520
(406) 755-7763

296

William Morden, Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Sir:

In the interest of preserving the unique qualities of the 35,900 acre Ten Lakes Scenic Area, we, the members of the Board of Directors of the Flathead Environmental Information Center want to go on record as supporting alternative "C", which would add it to the National Wilderness system.

Respectfully,

Dave Percival

Bill Rossiter

Mike Dailey

Gene Graf

Lex Blood

April 12, 1983

319

Dear Mr. Morden,

I favor the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area for wilderness. The Ten Lakes area is great habitat for wildlife, including the grizzly bear. The only wilderness area in Northwest Montana is the Cabinet Mountains. The Ten Lakes Area would add a great deal to the potential recreation revenue to the area in the decades to come. If the Ten Lakes Area would become wilderness future generations of Americans will thank you,

Thank you,

Joe Marine

Joe Marine
3000 Villard #127
Helena, Mt 59601

Wm

Mr. William E. Morden
Regional Forester
Kootenai National Forest
P.O. Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Re: Kootenai National Forest Plan Comment

Dear Mr. Morden:

1. The issues I feel should be addressed in a plan should be the amount of logs harvested should be related to the market available so as to eliminate deficit sales.
2. The Plan should provide for smaller sized timber sales to provide work for local loggers.
3. The plan should provide for less roads. we have too many already I like to hunt in solitude. not having a road every 350 yards.
4. More emphasis should be given to fish & game. it seems that there is more attention given to logging than anything else.

Yours truly,

Thomas Matiles
Star Rt 1 Box 32
Libby, Mt.
59923

cc: Governor Ted Schwinden
Congressman Pat Williams
Senator Max Baucus



MONTANA LOGGING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 1716, Kalispell, Montana 59901

(406) 755-3185

02529

328 -

mm

April 14, 1983

Mr. William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr. Morden:

The following comments are respectfully submitted by the Montana Logging Association (MLA) relative to the proposed management plan for the Kootenai National Forest. The MLA is an association of independent logging contractors from throughout the timbered regions of Montana. One of our principal objectives is to provide our members with a united voice on issues of concern to the logging industry.

Although the MLA has 439 members statewide, 40% of our membership resides in the Libby/Eureka/Kalispell vicinity. It is important to note that the 2.2 million acre Kootenai National Forest is much more than a place where we work or recreate. . . . it is our home!

And now a few brief comments on relevant issues the proposed forest plan addresses:

TIMBER For the residents of Lincoln County, the Kootenai National Forest represents 73% of the land base and the wood products industry represents 76% of the employment opportunities. The proposed plan objectively favors timber harvesting without compromising other forest values.

PROTECTION Timber represents one of the most valuable renewable resources on the face of the earth. Protection of that resource from insects, disease and fire must necessarily be a priority of any forest plan. The single greatest threat to our manageable timber stands in Montana is the reservoirs of infestation we are creating in areas set aside as wilderness, roadless, scenic, etc. The path of devastation being wrought by the mountain pine beetle and the resultant fire hazard of catastrophic magnitude make the difficult job of protection nearly impossible. The MLA has serious reservations regarding how well the forest plan addresses protection of the timber resource.

328-3

The proposed plan states that intensive management will result in higher logging costs, thus, reducing timber receipts to the counties. Since these receipts are awarded in lieu of property taxes, this will result in higher taxes for local citizens. We further question whether income gained from the recreation/tourism industry even approaches income lost from the woods products industry? . . . and this question totally ignores in lieu of taxes.

Mr. Morden, we take a great deal of pride in the fact that logging operations are frequently family businesses which transcend generations of loggers. We are sincerely concerned about changes which compromise our heritage. We pray you are correct when you state, "changes occurring as a result of the proposed action would not be an abrupt departure from the way of life we have now."

Thank-you for this opportunity to submit comments on behalf of the Montana Logging Association. As you analyze the input you receive we extend our sincerest best wishes, wisdom, and sympathy.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Keith L. Olson", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Keith L. Olson
Executive Director

APRIL 14 1983

MR. B. H. Morden
 Forest Supervisor
 Kootenai National Forest
 Libby Mt 59923

509

Mr. Morden:

I am in favor of Alternative 7A because it promotes the use of timber.

In Ten Lakes, I support the Forest Service Alternative for a roadless area.

I dislike the waste as in the Kootenai Forest - Prefer seeing the wood used to the benefit of man.

Wildlife & recreation need not suffer from proper management of timber lands.

Yours for better Forest Management

Mr. & Mrs. Ernest H. Eggert
 Rt 1 Box 1285
 Libby Mt 59923

522B

April 13, 1983

P.O. Box 1310
Hamilton, Montana 59840

William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
P.O. Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Dear Mr. Morden:

This letter is to express my feelings on your proposed action on the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. I am completely opposed to your proposed action of non-wilderness designation with only a small core Roadless Area. Alternative C is the only option that will protect this area from destruction by future development.

There is a shortage of protected wilderness in northwestern Montana. The Ten Lakes Area will provide desperately needed wildlife habitat for the Grizzly bear and other animals dependent on undisturbed wildlands.

The study document even admits that if the area is classified as wilderness the Kootenai Forest could still meet or exceed RPA timber goals. The report also states that the Kootenai will have an acute shortage of wilderness and primitive land in the future. With these facts it seems ridiculous not to place the entire Ten Lakes study area into wilderness protection.

I hope you will change your proposal to Alternative C. The Ten Lakes Area is too beautiful and needed in its wild untouched state to change its destruction. Please designate the entire area as wilderness.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Kevin Suzuki

525

Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS, Libby, Mt. 59923

Robert Dello-Russo
P.O. Box 736
Troy, Mt. 59935

Greetings Mr. Morden

April 13, 1983

This letter is written in response to the present draft of the Kootenai Forest Plan and should be included in the record of testimony.

It is my opinion, in view of the fact that the Kootenai Forest already has 6,000 miles of roads, that a doubling of road mileage in the forest is totally unwarranted, and a waste of taxpayers money.

There is a great need to maintain old growth forest, to protect and improve habitat for Elk, Mountain Caribou, and the Grizzly Bear, and to spare our precious water resources from over-sedimentation.

These forests belong to everyone and do not exist solely for the benefit of mining and timber concerns. Copper prices are depressed and there is no need to exceed a federally-dictated timber target.

I oppose the paving and widening of the last 17-mile stretch of the Yaak Road.

I oppose more roads in the Kootenai--Our forest already has more roads than any other forest in the state.

I support full recovery of the Grizzly Bear and Mt. Caribou.

I support an increase in roadless recreation and wilderness;

I support Alternative C for the Ten Lakes Area!

I await your immediate acknowledgement of this letter, and thank-you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Robert Dello-Russo
Robert Dello-Russo

531

Star Rt. A
Twin Bridges, Montana 59754

April 14, 1983

Bill Morden, Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Dear Mr. Morden:

I have reviewed the issues involved in the Kootenai National Forest plan and wish to offer the following comments:

I strongly oppose the high levels of timber harvest and road development called for by the preferred alternative. The plan represents single-use timber management at the expense of water quality, fisheries, and roadless recreation. This is unacceptable management of our public lands.

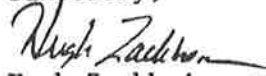
Old growth timber and riparian zones merit better protection than provided for in the plan. The Kootenai contains stands of large, old growth timber unique in Montana. Big Creek, lower Trout Creek, the East Fisher River, McGinnis Creek, Elk Creek, Pleasant Valley-Fisher River, Little Wolf Creek and Fortine Creek are some of the areas where old growth retention should be emphasized.

I strongly support Alternative C for a 36,000-acre Ten Lakes Wilderness. The Kootenai is extremely short of designated wilderness recreation and, as evidenced by the bias shown in the Forest Plan, wilderness may be the only way to protect roadless recreation in the forest.

I support efforts to insure recovery of grizzly bear populations in the Kootenai. I believe protection of bald eagle nesting habitat should be an important component of the wildlife aspect of the plan, as the Kootenai contains some of the most important eagle nesting sites in Montana.

I oppose paving the Yaak Road.

Sincerely,


Hugh Zackheim

533-1



Mr. William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
P.O. Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

May 12, 1983

Dear Mr. Morden:

Personnel of Champion International Corporation's Rocky Mountain Operation, have completed their reviews of the proposed Kootenai National Forest (KNF) Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) dated November, 19, 1982. We wish to thank the many Kootenai Forest personnel that have been very helpful and quite open during the entire public participation period.

During the Kootenai plan review period, Champion participated in a comprehensive industry review, spearheaded by the Inland Forest Resource Council. Champion agrees with the results of this review which will be mailed to the KNF under separate cover.

Employees of Champion who participated in the review of the proposed Kootenai plan and DEIS included Ernest Corrick (Vice President and General Manager), Jim Bentley (Forest Lands Manager), Andy Lukes (Planning Manager), Keith Engebretson (Pleasant Valley District Land Manager), Mitch Michael (Forester), and Dick Graf (Forester).

Champion International Corporation manages 682,000 acres of timberlands in western Montana and operates a total of 10 mills and plants in Montana. Over 100,000 acres of Champion land occurs within the KNF boundary.

Decisions that have been proposed by the KNF plan and DEIS are of critical importance to Champion as well as the communities in and adjacent to the Forest. Since Champion owns and manages over 100,000 acres within the KNF boundary, forest management decisions in the final plan will have a direct effect on forest management to adjacent Champion ownership. In addition, Champion relies heavily on mills in the KNF area for chips, sawdust, and hogfuel for Champion's pulp mill at Frenchtown.

As a major employer in western Montana, Champion is concerned about community stability as well as being able to provide adequate raw material to our converting facilities at a cost that allows the production of competitive wood products.

Mr. William E. Morden
May 12, 1983
Page Three

narrowing the economic base with the inclusion of the study area into wilderness would place insecurity on the local economic stability.

Generally, the management area (MA) allocations assigned to lands in the Pleasant Valley-Fisher River drainage that are intermingled with Champion land are appropriate. Allocations on those lands in the Davis Creek, McGregor-Bar Z, Meadow Peak, and North and South Pleasant Valley areas fit the existing resources. Following is a list of suggestions that should be incorporated to the KNF final plan.

1. Twin Creek Area - The only objective is the allocation of Section 32, T27N, R26W. More appropriately, the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ should retain its MA 19 designation, but reallocate the remainder of the section to MA 16.
2. Barnum Creek Area - We recommend that those sections allocated as MA 16 be changed to MA 15, timber optimization. These sections are intermingled with timber industry lands and are far enough away from major highways where visual quality would not be an issue. Another recommended change is that portions of Section 18 be assigned to MA 5. By changing it to MA 5i, the viewing quality would be retained while providing for programmed harvests.
3. Calx Mountain Area - Allocations made to this area are generally acceptable with two exceptions. First, the MA 17 designation in Section 8, T29N, R27, is not suitable because of its location. The site is situated in an area that is managed for timber optimization by adjacent landowners where viewing is not a primary concern. Champion recommends a MA 15 designation. The second exception is the area west of Calx Mountain allocated to MA 2. This designation places restrictions on access for adjacent landowners. Also, it does not meet the minimum acreage set for managing this type of allocation. This area should be assigned to MA 15. This loss of MA 2 acreage could be added to a larger MA 2 designation at another location on the Forest.
4. The following parcels of land have incorrect MA designations. Currently, these lands are in the final stages of a land exchange with Champion International Corporation which should be completed by mid 1983. The designations should change from MA 15, 16, and 24 to MA 27.

T28N	R25W	Section 8, S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$
T29N	R26W	Section 18, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$
T29N	R26W	Section 26, S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$
T29N	R26W	Section 34, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$
T29N	R27W	Section 28, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$
T27N	R26W	Section 2, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Lots 2, 3 and 4

534

April 13, 1983

William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr. Morden;

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. I spent a weekend hiking in the Ten Lakes area during the summer of 1980. The District Ranger from the Fortine station and one or two other Forest Service personnel were on this hike and we attempted to see as much of the area as possible in two days. I was quite impressed with the beauty of the area. I was surprised at the number of other people backpacking in the area besides our party. It appeared to be a very popular hiking area.

I hope that you will see fit to leave this area as it is and put no roads in it and take no logs from it. There is a lot of land on your forest that has or will be logged, but little that has been left alone as wilderness. I feel that you have a responsibility to leave a few areas in your forest in a wild undeveloped state. The grizzly needs this wildland to exist and if there is any chance that woodland caribou exist in the area, then we have another reason to leave the area wild.

I don't believe that developing about 16,500 acres of timberland in the Ten Lakes area is worth the loss of the wilderness values that would disappear with this development. I support Alternative C for the Ten Lakes area. Please leave the area as it is now and don't develop any of the wilderness study area.

Thank you for accepting my comments.

Sincerely,



Scott Kronberg
718 S. 12th Ave.
Bozeman, MT 59715

cc: Senator Max Baucus
Senator John Melcher
Representative Pat Williams

540

W. ALEXANDER BLOOD
880 BLACKMER LANE
COLUMBIA FALLS, MT. 59912

April 14, 1983

Mr. William E. Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenia National Forest
Box A S
Libby, MT 59923

Gentlemen:

We write in support of Alternative "C" - Wilderness designation for the 36,000 acre Ten Lakes Area.

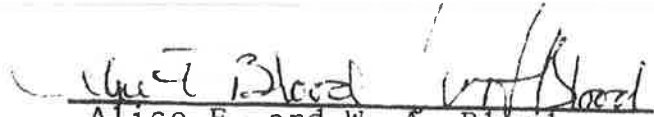
Having visited this area several times, it is our strong feeling that only wilderness designation of the proposed 36,000 acres will adequately protect the values of this area.

Potential threats such as additional timber sales, oil and gas leasing and motorized recreation make this action imperative.

The Forest Service recommendation for a 18,600 acre scenic area does not meet essential requirements. These are:

- a) provide minimal protected wilderness in northwest Montana;
- b) protect critical habitat for wildlife; and
- c) guarantee that future generations may enjoy this area in its present or possibly enhanced state.

Respectfully,


Alice F. and W. A. Blood

Wm M. Starkey
April 11, 1983

02529

543

Dear Mr. Morden,

I am writing to express concern for the future of the Ten Lakes Wild Area. Northwest Montana is my favorite place to enjoy wilderness solitude and I believe wilderness protection for the area (Ten Lakes) would preserve this wonderful area for the future of the ever-increasing numbers of hikers & skiers as well as providing pristine habitat for wildlife -- in particular, members of the deer family & grizzlies.

In view of the overall timber-cutting projections for the Kootenai, I'm sure you'll agree the Ten Lakes region represents a rather small and insignificant portion of the logging pie.

Please know that my sentiments speak for many present and future friends of the Ten Lakes Wilderness Area. You, sir, have the opportunity to make a truly farsighted decision. Please do it.

Sincerely yours,
Bill Starkey

P.O. Box 8771
MSLA, MT 59807

(EXCERPT)

545

We strongly support Section 8 (b) which calls for minimum standard roads wherever possible. This approach to building the transportation system will conserve wildlife habitat, fisheries and capital.

We are interested in the roadless resource on the forest and support the placement of significant intact essentially roadless blocks in the administrative designation of primitive recreation. This will protect the most valued of the resources (old growth or wilderness character) while recognizing that other multiple use demands may be made upon those lands in the future.

Old growth management has not received adequate attention in the Forest Plan. We believe it would be helpful to identify specific areas in which old growth management and visual retention are concurrent. The visual quality objectives of "retention" is not merely a scenic value, but also contributes to the diversity and stability of the forest ecology.

We would like to make an editorial comment regarding the riparian management practice listed in the proposed plan. We found the standards and guidelines difficult to locate in Section III and it was impossible to correlate them with the terms (MA5), (MA5i) that were part of the management prescription.

According to our information, Resources Planning Act goals are tied to historic cutting levels on the forest rather than to ground-based data. We believe that updated timber inventories would better reflect current productive capacity of the Kootenai National Forest. We are looking for realistic timber harvest goals, which in turn determine the miles of road to be built.

In the area of human needs we urge consideration of the social and economic requirements of the citizens of Lincoln County. The Kootenai National Forest covers much of the area of Lincoln County and the county's main economic base is in the forest products industry, with lesser emphasis on mining. The Forest Plan focuses on the economic needs of the forest products industry, while we believe another economic need of the communities is for diversification. It is believed that our opportunities for recreation could lead to a strong development of tourism, which would add to the stability of Lincoln County. Such diversification could help maintain and improve the quality of existing communities, a League goal. The appropriate level of government, in this case the Forest Service, should identify and regulate those large scale private developments that may have substantial impact upon the physical, social and economic environment.

The League supports wilderness designation for the Ten Lakes area, because this area ranked high in wilderness attributes ratings and because the Kootenai does not have the percentage of wilderness found on most timbered forests.

In summary, the League supports a Forest Plan and management prescriptions that (1) gives high priority to conservation and wildlife habitat while minimizing access to that habitat, (2) uses management methods compatible with the ecosystem rather than toxic chemicals, (3) gives more emphasis to old growth timber, (4) Maximizes water quality for fisheries and recreation, (5) retains sufficient roadless areas to meet future recreation needs, (6) increases consideration of the need for diversification in the economy, and (7) designates the Ten Lakes area as wilderness.

Yours very truly,

Mary Hanning

276 President, South Lincoln County 06/19/1985
League of Women Voters
1108 DAKOTA

copies
Morden
Forest Service

From: Richard C. Kerr II
c/o Canoe Gulch R.S.; Star Rt. #2
Libby, Mt. 59923

April 12, 1983
Libby, Mt.
562 -1

To: USDA Forest Service
Kootenai National Forest

Subject: Forest Plan and the Ten Lakes
Wilderness Study Area

Upon reviewing the forest plan alternatives, I strongly favor Alternative #5 over all other alternative choices. Though I am trained as a wildlife biologist and Alt. #5 is the best wildlife alternative presented, my selection criteria was more with regards to managing the forest resources in a well balanced manner. I believe the other alternatives weigh too heavily towards resources requiring extensive access development (i.e. timber, minerals, and oil/gas), versus those resources that benefit from little or no access development (i.e. wildlife, fisheries, watershed, and roadless recreation).

I feel future increases in timber production are significantly dependent on accessing marginal timber areas which may prove to be

565

ROY 015
 MAY 1, 1985
 APR 13, 1985

Mr. J. L. ... Forest Service
 ...

Dear Mr. ...:

Thank you for your letter in response to my first letter voicing concern about the effect of roads and larger timber cuts. I admit that there is some weighing to be done between the "wants" of millions of "alls" and the studied concerns of the fewer who wish to keep a large enough part of "wilderness" to ensure that the original intent of the establlishers of the protective acts is not controverted.

Two considerations vie, here-- the quantitative ^{other} versus the qualitative-- because they are not the same. One conserves, and the other considers ways and means of using the forest. The "all"s think of cars, snowmobiles, guns, picnics, "doing what they feel like doing, disregarding signs, advise, etc. So they want as many roads as possible: Roads "bring trash, noise, gas and abuse."

On the other hand, to see ourselves critically, our origins, our manner of thinking, needs some peace and "re-creation"; an the world as God created it; then, we know that when these species in his world disappear by the hundreds, our time to disappear is around the corner.

Where else can man go to see himself whole, in the scheme of things?

The majority of people are now getting a distorted view of themselves, bent to the pressures of salesmanship, on T.V. Are these, the majority, the best judges of what a government can do? Or should do? Read the statistics of how little the "all" care about serious "care" or "stewardship" of our natural resources. "Mobocracy" is the worst tyranny" of all, and the most destructive.

I just can't see our government officials trailing the skirts of the mob. You know what they do to campgrounds, etc. A Park official told me that no Park official (rangers) had ever had a confrontation with a grizzly, even when the grizzlies were more plentiful.

"The majority" of the people has been used as an excuse before, and any historian can prove that "the majority" is always wrong at the time and comes to realization 100 years too late."

I know that it's easier for a mechanical age person to think of ways and means and techniques and blueprints and machines, instead of purposes; it's easier to chart, and to meet the people with. But let there be some of us who think in terms of "Will we have something of our beatiful Earth with all its components left, someplace?" And I guess that the Kootenai Forest is one of the very few, best, last places.

Thank you,

Olga Erickson

Libby Sno-Kats
(EXCERPT)

567

another way of saying that "grizzly/timber areas can be either roaded or unroad." How many acres of these grizzly/timber areas do you plan to have closed to vehicles in the summer? How many acres do you plan to have closed to snowmobilers in the winter? We believe an ORV plan is also needed to answer these questions.

4. The present high use snowmobile areas including existing groomed trails are not included in the Forest Plan. We have outlined these on the attached map.

Are you planning to close any of these areas to snowmobile use?

Ten Lakes

The Libby Sno-Kat Club support a Scenic Area designation rather than the Wilderness designation for the Ten Lakes Area. We would readily support an alternative which provides for a larger scenic area size (approximately 36,000 acres) rather than the present 18,600 acres dispersed recreation proposal.

568-4

1 PRC
(EX 1000)

Forest Supervisor
Page 4
April 15, 1983

a somewhat more developed form of recreation supersedes the need for Wilderness. With the close proximity to Glacier Park, the Cabinet Mountains, the proposed Scotchman's Peak Wilderness and areas where the Forest Service proposes no development, there is little need for a Wilderness designation for the Ten Lakes area.

SCOTCHMAN'S PEAK

The Forest Service recommended Scotchman's Peak for Wilderness under the RARE II study. The administration later modified that recommendation to include additional areas. One of the responsibilities of the Forest Service under the National Environmental Policy Act is to recommend needed changes in legislation, regulation and other policy matters. We agree with the original Forest Service recommendation and believe that the Forest Service should have recommended a return to their original proposed Wilderness boundaries and acreage.

ROAD MANAGEMENT

The proposed Plan recommends that approximately one-third of the roads that will be built on the Kootenai Forest will be closed to enhance other resource values. We fully support this road management policy. Our concern is that the road closures do not go far enough. We would prefer to see road closures in the vicinity of 50% at a given time. This would enhance the Forest Service ability to manage for grizzly bear and other wildlife species. It would also reduce maintenance costs and extend the life of individual roads.

FISHERIES

We note that all of the alternatives project a decrease in fish populations. We recognize that the Forest Service is only projecting numbers based on suitable habitat. The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks controls fish numbers through the length of their fishing seasons. In order to supplement fish numbers, the Forest Service could recommend to the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks that they periodically supplement fish populations through the use of hatchery-reared fish.

INTERMINGLED LANDS

The Plan does not consider land exchanges that are, at present, close to being consummated. One such proposal is a land exchange between the Forest Service and Champion Timberlands. The Forest Service lands contained within this proposal should be included under Management Area #27.

572

Dear Mr. Morden:

I feel the Ten Lakes should remain a Scenic Area. I have been backpacking and snowmobiling in that area for several years. I think if this is made a Wilderness area, it will be overpopulated, because of the wilderness title. I enjoyed using this area and feel very strongly about leaving this area Scenic.

Thank you
Gay W. Mason

Box 291

EUREKA, MT 59917

574

DEAR WILLIAM MORDEEN

THIS IS IN REGARDS TO
THE PROPOSED WILDERNESS
PROTECTION, FOR ALTERNATIVE C
WILDERNESS PROTECTION FOR
THE ENTIRE TEN LAKES WILD
AREA OF 36,000 ACRES
PLEASE NOTE.

I WISH FOR YOU TO THINK
WITH A CLEAR MIND AND
TRY TO PRESERVE THIS PRECIOUS
RECREATION FOR ALL OF US
AND THE FUTURE OF MAN-
KIND. NOW DOESN'T THAT
FEEL BETTER? HAVE OUR 10 LAKES

WATCHING YOU, AND
YOUR ACTIONS.

THOMAS KNUTSON

Rob Ceyerberg
Box 607
Hungry Horse, MT
59919

14 Apr 83

577

Dear Kootenai National Forest

After reviewing the Report and Proposal for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area, I am under the opinion that the best designation of the area would be a combination of Wilderness designation, a specially managed roadless dispersed recreation area, and timber harvest similiar to Alternative B.

Whereas I feel strongly that a significant part of the area should be managed as Wilderness, I also feel it would be in the best interest of all users to manage the readily accessible and heavily used areas as roadless dispersed recreation areas.

I would appreciate it if you would keep me informed of the final recommendations for this area.

Sincerely,
Rob Ceyerberg

(4)

ALTERNATIVE A

ALL OF THE AREAS I DISCUSSED IN THE PROPOSED ACTION ARE INCLUDED IN THIS ALTERNATIVE, AS WELL AS THE FOLLOWING:

THE AREA BEHIND "BIG THERRIAULT LAKE" DOES CONTAIN AREAS OF LARGE OLD-GROWTH ^S ON TRACTOR GROUND. DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF THE SPRUCE BEETLE I FEEL THAT THIS AREA SHOULD BE LOGGED. HOWEVER, ALSO INCLUDED IN THIS AREA, IS SOME WET SWAMPY GROUND, UNDERNEATH THE PASS (THERRIAULT WHICH HAS HIGH VALUE FOR RECREATION (NUMEROUS TRAILS) AND WILDLIFE. I FEEL THAT THIS AREA SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN INCLUDED.

THE OTHER ADDITION IS AT THE HEAD OF DIVIDE + CAMP CREEK, ALSO WICKIUP CREEK. AS I STATED EARLIER, DUE TO THE PREVIOUS EXTENSIVE CLEARCUTTING I FEEL THESE AREAS SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE.

ON CLARENCE CREEK
THAT AREA[^], THAT WAS ^{ALSO} INCLUDED, IS CHARACTERIZED BY AVALANCHE CHUTES AND NON-PRODUCTIVE GROUND SO I DON'T SEE WHY IT WAS ADDED.

SO, EXCEPT FOR THE ADDITION OF PART OF THE AREA BEHIND "BIG THERRIAULT LAKE", ALTERNATIVE A WOULD BE A WORSE CHOICE.

ALTERNATIVE B

IN SOME WAYS, I FEEL THAT THIS IS A BETTER ALTERNATIVE. BUT STILL, THIS ONE HAS DELETED SOME AREAS WHERE TIMBER PRODUCTION COULD BE CONSIDERED, AND RETAINED THOSE AREAS

(6)
OF THESE 6 CHOICES, THIS MOST CLOSELY FOLLOWS MY
MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS. IN MOST OF THE AREAS
UNDER STUDY, I DO NOT ~~KNOW~~ PRESENTLY OR IN THE
FUTURE SEE ANY NEED FOR TIMBER PRODUCTION. IN
SOME OF THOSE AREAS I DISCUSSED, I DO SEE A
STRONG NEED (IN SOME CASES URGENT) FOR SELECTIVE
SALVAGE CUTTING DUE TO THIS ^{NEAR} EPIDEMIC POPULATION
OF SPRUCE BEETLES. I FEEL THAT THIS IS A
TREMENDOUS WASTE OF WOOD-FIBER IN THOSE AREAS
THAT CAN BE TRACTOR-LOGGED IN ONE SEASON,
WITH NO ROAD CONSTRUCTION, AND NO DAMAGE
TO STREAMS, CAMPGROUNDS, AND OTHER RECREATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES. BUT SINCE THESE AREAS HAVE NOT
BEEN DELINEATED, AND I CAN SEE THE DIFFICULTY
IN DOING SO ALTHOUGH WITH ADEQUATE RESEARCH
I FEEL COULD HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, I FEEL THAT
THE OVERALL BENEFIT OF RETAINING THIS UNSPOILED
CORNER OF MONTANA ENORMOUSLY OUTWEIGHS THE
LOSS OF BOARD FEET.

MYSELF, A SNOWMOBILE ENTHUSIAST, I WOULD
GREATLY MISS BEING ABLE TO RIDE SNOWMOBILE
IN THE TEN LAKES STUDY AREA, BUT I WOULD
READILY ~~WALK~~ PUT ON MY SKIS AND WORK UP
A SWEAT RATHER THAN RIDE, IF IT MEANS THAT
THIS AREA COULD BE RETAINED AS IT IS. BY
CURTAILING ROAD BUILDING, WILDLIFE, VIEWING,
AND RECREATION WOULD BENEFIT TREMENDOUSLY.

I UNDERSTAND OTHERS' CONCERN THAT BY
CLASSIFYING TEN LAKES WILDERNESS, WE'LL
BE CALLING ATTENTION TO "OUR" TEN LAKES

4-14-83

Dear Mr. Morden,

580

Lets ~~keep~~ ten lakes as a scenic
area, because I like to snowmobile
and so do alot of my friends.



Todd Franklin
Box 917
Eurasica, MT 59917

grizzly habitat, and land allocation considered supportive of grizzly recovery should reflect such a policy.

5. The Proposed Plan inadequately addresses the bald eagle and the gray wolf.

The bald eagle is listed as an endangered species under the ESA for the conterminous States, except Washington, Oregon, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. 50 C.F.R. § 17.1. The gray wolf is listed as an endangered species for the 48 conterminous States. 50 C.F.R. § 17.1. Even though both of these species are endangered, i.e., in danger of extinction, they are only passingly mentioned in both the proposed Plan and the DEIS.

The DEIS mentions that the number of bald eagles appears to have increased in recent years, and that the Forest supplies more habitat than is currently occupied. (DEIS, p. III-7). It then goes on to state that the management for trout fisheries (which will decrease in the proposed Plan), will benefit the bald eagle (DEIS, p. IV-18). Is the Plan proposing to decrease the habitat without documentation of how many bald eagles may utilize that habitat?

The DEIS states that management for elk will benefit the wolf (DEIS, p. IV-18).

Neither the proposed Plan nor the alternatives even purport to comply with the ESA with respect to the bald eagle or the gray wolf.

The ESA mandates that the Forest Service, as a federal agency, take action to conserve endangered species. Yet the DEIS admits that "[l]ittle change would occur to the bald eagle and rocky mountain wolf population" (DEIS, p. III-7).

V. RECREATION

- A. The Forest Service's proposal for the Montana Wilderness Study Act areas is in violation of Federal law and regulation.

When Congress passed the Montana Wilderness Study Act it directed the Forest Service to maintain the presently existing wilderness potential of the

choices were interrelated. This action clearly violates the Montana Wilderness Study Act.

Further evidence that the Ten Lakes evaluation was not done independently is found on page II-11 of the TLMWSAA Report and Proposal. The report states:

1. Nondeclining even-flow (NDY) constraint was used in all the Forest-wide alternatives that apply to Ten Lakes. This was done to insure a constant supply of wood products, now and in the future. This does not mean that timber harvest flows will always be non-declining within the Ten Lakes Study Area. It means that it will be non-declining on the entire Forest only.

TLMWSAA Report and Proposal, p. II-11. It also means that the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Act Area was not evaluated on the basis of its suitability for wilderness classification. The proposal for the Ten Lakes Area was chosen to support the goals of the proposed Forest Plan, i.e., to meet Regional resource targets without disrupting community stability, and increase the timber harvest. Departing from non-declining even flow in the Ten Lakes area illustrates how the Forest is using that timber base to increase the cut on the rest of the Forest. The Forest is apparently planning to cut the Ten Lakes area at a more rapid rate once they pressure Congress into releasing it to make up for overcutting in other areas. By doing this the cut forest-wide is non-declining.

The proposal for the Wilderness Study Areas also violates federal regulations. These regulations provide that:

219.14(a). During the analysis of the management situation, data on all National Forest System lands within the planning area shall be reviewed, and those lands within any one of the categories described in paragraph a(1) through (4) of this section shall be identified as not suited for timber production -

... (4) The land has been withdrawn from timber production by an Act of Congress, the Secretary of Agriculture or the Chief of the Forest Service.

47 Fed. Reg. 43046 (1982) (to be codified at 36 C.F.R. § 219.14(9)). Montana Wilderness Study Act Areas are to be managed as wilderness areas until Congress

Page 8

margin much valuable wildlife habitat will be ignored, mismanaged, or destroyed. The definition (III-57) should be based on plant species composition rather than physical distance. Other recommendations:

- 1) The goal statement should emphasize management to protect soil, water, vegetation and fish and wildlife resources under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield, not vice versa.
- 2) Only selection or group selection methods of timber harvest should be permitted in riparian areas. Even aged management should be discouraged.

Grizzly Bear Populations

The Proposed Action will not provide for recovery of grizzly bear populations. The number of bears it will support - 32 - is below both the number recommended by the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan (60 bears) and the Region 1 RPA goal of 58 bears (Regional Plan B-4). The Proposed Action will not aid in the recovery of the grizzly population and is thus inconsistent with the Endangered Species Act.

The reasons for this lack of recovery are not hard to find: the Plan's increased timber harvest levels, increase in acres suitable for timber production, increase in road-miles and road densities. No acres are allocated to the grizzly prescription (DEIS, II-91) and substantial portions of grizzly habitat Situations 2,3 and 4 are allocated to nonsupportive allocations (FWS, 1983). Some 97-98% of Situation 1 habitat is indeed allocated to supportive prescriptions, but this is not evidently adequate to allow grizzly populations in the Cabinet-Yoak ecosystem and the Whitefish mountains to increase.

This is one more - albeit a major - reason why the proposed Plan is inadequate and unacceptable. We believe that a revised Plan that gives appropriate emphasis to old growth, fisheries, riparian areas and primitive recreation will also meet the goals set by the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan.

Wilderness

A. Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area

The proposed Plan would designate none of the Ten Lakes MWSA as wilderness, due to the goals of meeting Regional resource targets without disrupting local community stability. In this context, we point out that:

- 1) The timber that could be cut on the Ten Lakes MWSA (a maximum of 3.8 MM BF/year) is not needed to meet regional timber targets, since the Kootenai plans to exceed this target. Non productive and low-to-moderately productive lands constitute about 29,000 acres of the 36,000 acres (Report, II-14).

BAGLEY & KOSKY
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

POST OFFICE BOX R
EUREKA, MONTANA 59917

RICHARD BAGLEY, C.P.A.
KELLY KOSKY, C.P.A.

296-3122
AREA CODE 406

April 15, 1983

Mr. Jim Schadle
Kootenai National Forest
Libby, Montana

Dear Jim,

We are writing to express our views on the Ten Lakes Scenic area which is currently under review for wilderness status. We are both of the opinion that this beautiful area should be designated as wilderness area. With good forest management practices which the Forest Service is striving to attain, the remaining lands under jurisdiction of the Kootenai National Forest should be able to produce an over abundance of forest products, along with oil and gas, if discovered.

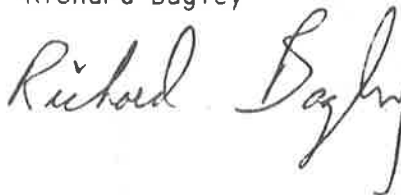
Designating Ten Lakes as wilderness will assure that these types of development activities won't take place, allowing an individual to enjoy God's creation in its natural beauty. Thank you for your consideration and allowing us to share our opinion.

Sincerely,

Kelly Kosky



Richard Bagley



James F. Studd

R. Keith Slamm

Bill R. Dreece

Hub Cox

Ray DeShazer

Steven Hoover

Wayne Workman

Steve Jay

Charles Curvey

Kenneth Goff

Joseph J. Johnson

Arnold Luehl

Pat Kearney

Devin A. Tracy, Ensign, USN

Don Phares Logging Curuba

604 -1

Libby, Montana
April 15, 1983

Mr. William E. Morden
Regional Forester
Kootenai National Forest
P. O. Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Re: Kootenai National Forest Plan Comment

Dear Mr. Morden:

The concept of the Kootenai National Forest plan appears to be good in that it provides for both modification and diversification in the management of the forest toward the end of reasonable resource allocation. It is hoped this concept can be fully implemented. Of concern is the assumed importance of public input in helping to define goals and management alternatives. Realizing the ever present difficulties of interpreting public input, some guidelines must be established to give effect to the public participation possibly through a better response to the utilization or nonutilization of public input.

Of great concern to the Libby area Chamber of Commerce is the direct or indirect economic impacts of various management proposals contained in the Kootenai National Forest. The seven long-range management goals set forth in the plan are commendable, but point out the problems encountered with the lack of specificity or a failure to provide means of conflict resolution other than resorting to courts. Specific comments we would request you consider are:

- 1) Setting management policies to encourage timber sales to locally established small firms with harvest figures related to local capacity to process timber, together with road construction costs and timber sale costs which are competitive with the timber logging costs of timber removed from private property.
- 2) More realistic incorporation of the Threatened and Endangered Species Act as it relates to the grizzly bear in the forest to lessen the impact of areas managed specifically for grizzly bear habitat to logging, mining and recreational industries.

605

April 15, 1983

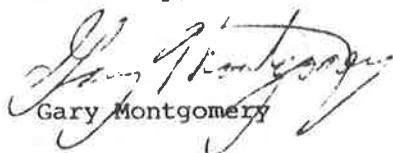
Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Sirs:

I wish to express myself regarding the Ten Lakes Scenic Area. It is my considered opinion that the area should be managed to maximize the recreational aspects. There are ample number of acres being managed for timber in the Kootenai. There should be no roads pushed any further into the area and some roads that are there should be closed off.

I believe that the Tobacco Valley has a future other than in logging and I desire to see this last unspoiled pocket managed to that end.

Sincerely,



Gary Montgomery

GM:sb

Bill Morden, Supervisor
Box AS
Libby, Mt 59923

April 13, 1983

02529

607

Dear Bill:

I want to see the Ten Lake Wilderness Study area remain roadless and be recommended for WILDERNESS. It's a unique, pristine wild area, dotted with high mountain lakes. It's prime value is the lakes, it's remoteness, and the visual qualities needed to preserve the lakes. It's a high quality recreation area — a very backcountry rec area. Let's keep it that way.

The rest of the Kootenai Forest Plan will have the Kootenai looking like a bowl of spaghetti was dropped on it. Preserving the best scenic, recreational, and roadless area you have, shows you care about the rest of the world and wildlife habitat.

The timber value of Ten Lakes is low and won't help you meet RPA goals anyway.

LET TEN LAKES BE WILDERNESS!

Elaine Snyder
Box 112
Kula, Mt 59920

609

213 Edgewood Drive
Kalispell, Montana 59901
April 15, 1983

William Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Re: Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area

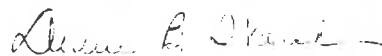
Dear Mr. Morden:

I am writing you to express my support for Alternative C of the draft report of the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study area for a 35,900 acre wilderness.

As you are aware, the Ten Lake report itself states on page IV-2 that no alternative including the one of total wilderness would appreciably affect the Kootenai Forest's ability to meet the RPA Resource goals for any other resource with the exception of wilderness. Only if the entire Ten Lakes area is classified as wilderness will the Forest be able to meet all of its goals including temporary and wilderness.

The Ten Lakes area contains all of those primitive attributes necessary for wilderness designation. In addition, it provides habitat for the grizzly bear and other wildland dependant species. Any degradation of the area would endanger the survival of these animals. There is a critical shortage of protected wilderness areas in the Kootenai Forest. You must act now to prevent impacts of mining, logging and roading from permanently destroying the wilderness and natural attributes of this area which many Americans have had the opportunity to enjoy. I urge you to adopt Alternative C of the draft report of the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area to ensure that future Americans will be able to enjoy the wilderness experience which the Ten Lakes area offers.

Sincerely,



Diane B. Walsh


DBW:sp

People live in northwestern Montana and travel, not only from around the country, but from all over the world just to spend a little time in Montana's Wildernesses. People need the wilderness to experience its wildlife and wildland, its adventure, its solitude and even its sanity. Remember also, that money is spent in man's endeavor to be "one with the land". Wipe out the wilderness and that economic factor is also lost.

The Ten Lakes area as a "Wilderness" is important in so many ways and I have listed only a few.

Please save it. The Tens Lakes Wilderness area classification is sorely needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jen E. Follett McCaw". The signature is fluid and stylized, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Jen E. Follett McCaw

THERE IS A SERIOUS REASON WHY THE TEN LAKES AREA AS IT IS NOW OFFERS A WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE AND A HABITAT SUITABLE FOR MANY THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES.

THERE ARE MANY AREAS THAT HAVE ALREADY UPSET THE NATURAL BALANCES THROUGH ROADS AND LOGGING OPERATIONS, - USE THOSE AREAS TO LOG FROM AND LEAVE THE UNTOUCHED AREAS AS WILD AS THEY ARE NOW - THEY WILL NEVER BE WILDER.

ONE DAY I WOULD LIKE TO SHOW MY CHILDREN THE TEN LAKES AREA AS IT IS NOW, NOT TELL THEM HOW IT WAS AS WE DRIVE THE LOGGING ROADS AND WALK THE SKID TRAILS. PLEASE THINK OF THE LAND, ITS HABITANTS, AND FUTURE GENERATIONS BEFORE YOU DECIDE ON THIS ISSUE.

SINCERELY,
William P. McCaw

615-1

14 April '83

Mr. Wm. Marden
Kootenai Natl. Forest Supervisor
Box A.S.
Nibbs, Mt

Sir:

I would like to make the following comments regarding your Forest plan. They are as follows:

- 1) The proposed plan sacrifices Forest Service's Multiple Use goals in favor of maximized Timber harvest.
- 2) The proposed plan includes unacceptable levels of new road construction. This will denigrate not only big game habitat but also severely disrupt stream siltation levels in virtually every major drainage in the Kootenai Valley.
- 3) The proposal for the Ten Lakes area should be changed in favor of a wilderness designation in order to protect the special recreational qualities of the area. Not to

3.

of the Nation as a whole and the people of the Pacific N.W. in particular. More weight should be given to the reviews & comments submitted by the Mont. Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks. The Dept. of F. W. & P. has a wealth of information and data that is currently being mostly ignored by the F. S. To the detriment of a truly unique area, the Kootenai.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Frazier

Richard A. Frazier

Box 1514

Kalispell, Mt. 59901

G18

April 15, 1983

Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Libby, Montana 59923

Dear Sir,

We are writing to you regarding the Ten Lakes Scenic Area which is under review for possible inclusion into the wilderness system. Having made several trips into the area on foot, we both have developed a special love for the area, and feel strongly that it should remain in its present state. We both favor inclusion of the area into the wilderness system, rather than any other proposed development plan. With an increasing chance of oil and gas development in the Kootenai Forest, along with the continued demand for forest products, there will be much pressure under any other proposed plan to exploit the area for whatever reason.

Please consider our opinion in this matter when you make the decision regarding the Ten Lakes, which we hope will favor wilderness designation.

Sincerely,

Richard and Susan Bagley

Route 1 Box 41

Eureka, Montana 59917

620

April 14, 1983

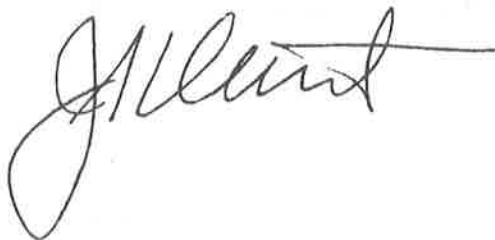
James L Hurst
Box 644
Eureka, MT 59917

Wm Morden
Forest Service
Kootenai National Forest
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr. Morden,

I would like to have the Ten Lakes Scenic Area the same size as it is presently. I like the present Forest Service proposal, it is well researched plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Hurst", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

625 -

April 15 '83

Dear Bill Morden

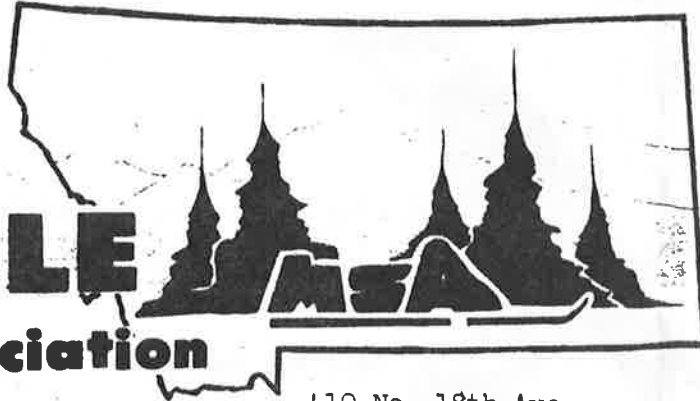
As a resident of the cabinet/Yaak area I want to inform you that many who are here to enjoy the seclusion, isolation & beauty of the Kootenai are very upset at the Kootenai Forest Plan! You & I know the consequences of the plan - why would such action be done - when there is the special "rare beauty" that needs to be preserved!!! The residents, my friends,

want a more protected plan initiated. We do not want more road building which would directly endanger our vast & special wildlife. We want the Grizzly habitat protected!

We do not want the Yaak Road widened & repaved allowing for greater traffic, which would directly delete our grizzly ranges plus that of elk, moose, black bear, wolverine, cougars, lynx, bobcat, etc!

We urge support of alt. C - for a 34,000 acre Ten Lakes Wilderness. We need many more protected areas. We do not need more roads or oil mining exploration - we need a much better

629B

Montana**SNOWMOBILE
Association**

410 No. 18th Ave.
Bozeman, MT 59715
April 15, 1983

Mr. Bill Morden, Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

Re: Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness
Study Area

Dear Bill:

As an organization concerned with snowmobiling and the right of snowmobilers to the use of public lands for their sport, we do not support wilderness for the Ten Lakes MWSA. Our long-time position is that we can only support wilderness on areas that are not suitable for motorized recreation.

Snowmobiling has been a historic use in the Ten Lakes MWSA and has been the only permitted motorized use in the Ten Lakes Scenic Area per se. We do support the Forest Service proposed recommendation for the Ten Lakes MWSA and support the continued and expanded snowmobile use for the wilderness study area.

Very truly yours,

Nina Smith, Chairman
MSA Public Land Committee

cc: MSA Board of Directors
cc: Congressional Delegation
cc: Gov. Ted Schwinden

Ten Lakes

Montana Wilderness Study Act Area

Final Report & Proposal

Appendix D - Record of Public Hearings

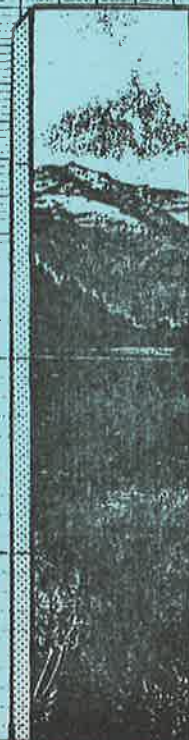
DRAFT

United States
Department
of Agriculture



Forest Service

Kootenai
National Forest



This appendix contains copies of the public hearings conducted for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act area. The appendix is divided into three parts corresponding with the hearings conducted in three locations:

Eureka, January 17, 1983

Libby, January 18, 1983

Kallispell, January 19, 1983

Each hearing contains a table of contents listing the speakers.

1 UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE
2
3
45 COPY
6
78 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
910 FOR THE KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST PROPOSAL FOR
11 TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA (PL 95-150)
1213 PUBLIC HEARING
1415 Taken at the Eureka Grade School
16 Eureka, Montana
17 Monday, January 17, 1983 - 2:00 p.m.
18
19
20
21
22
2324 Reported by Melody Jeffries, Official-Freelance Court
25 Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula,
Montana.

I N D E X

HEARINGS OFFICER: LAWRENCE M. JAKUB

U.S. FOREST SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES:

PAUL LEIMBACH, Forest Supervisor's Office
GARY MORGAN, Forest Supervisor's Office
JOHN PRITCHARD, Murphy Lake District Ranger

Introduction and Meeting Objectives. . . Lawrence M. Jakub. . . 4
Forest Service Study Results Gary Morgan. 8

SPEAKERS:

LLOYD WEST, no address. 11

BILL CUNNINGHAM, Montana Wilderness Association, P.O.
Box 635, Helena 14

JAY VEST, Missoula. 23

TOM SKELLY, Eureka. 28

BILL GOULD, Lincoln County Commissioner, Burma Road,
Eureka. 30

WINTON WEYDEMEYER, Fortine. 32

ROBERT KEARNEY, no address. 39

STAN HOLDER, Eureka 40

DOUG EVANS, Eureka. 41

CARL PERSHALL, no address 42

GARY HENDERSON, Eureka. 44

MIKE MILLER, Eureka 44

PAT KEARNEY, Eureka 45

ANNE GLOVER, Eureka 46

BRAD OSLER, Eureka 47

BERT MARCHBANKS, Eureka 48

1 MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 1983

2 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were had and entered
3 of record.)

4 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's two o'clock and I think
5 we'll get started so we'll stay on schedule.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, the hearing will please come to
7 order. This hearing has been called for the purpose of
8 considering results of the Forest Service studies concerning
9 the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. To be sure that
10 the nature and purpose of the hearing are fully understood and
11 that a complete hearing record is established, I will briefly
12 review the background for the hearings and I will probably, at
13 each session of the hearings as we go, I'll probably go through
14 the same statement for the benefit of people who come at later
15 sessions.

16 On November 1st, 1977, Congress passed the Montana
17 Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150. The Act requires the
18 Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations to
19 Congress on the wilderness suitability of nine separate
20 national forest areas in Montana containing nine hundred
21 seventy-three thousand acres.

22 Two of the nine areas, Mount Henry and Ten Lakes, are
23 on the Kootenai National Forest. Mount Henry, twenty-three
24 thousand four hundred acres in size, was addressed in a
25 regional report and proposal along with two other study areas

1 Montana.

2 Now, a few words about the procedure which will be
3 followed in this hearing. This hearing is not a debate, a
4 trial, or a question and answer assembly, but an advisory
5 hearing wherein all interested persons may present written or
6 oral statements or other information relative to the matters
7 named in the notice for consideration by the Regional Forester.
8 The statement of interested parties will not be taken under
9 oath, but each person desiring to express their views should
10 come to the front of the room and state their name, and address,
11 and whom they represent, if anyone, and the nature of their
12 interest in the matter. And you will be speaking in the
13 microphone, to my right, at the podium on the same table that
14 I'm sitting.

15 When giving your statement, you should speak slowly
16 and distinctly so that the reporter can record the complete
17 statement. I'm not going to set a time limitation for each
18 individual speaker, however, I think that statements not
19 exceeding five to ten minutes should be appropriate.

20 In lieu of making an oral statement, interested
21 persons may file written statements discussing the results of
22 the study. Written statements or exhibits submitted during the
23 hearing will become a part of the hearing record and will be
24 available for public inspection while this hearing is in
25 progress, during the recesses or at any other time. Anyone

1 like to have you leave a copy of that statement with the
2 reporter at the time that you finish.

3 First, I'm going to ask the Forest Service to outline
4 the results of their study. Then, I'm going to ask for any
5 elected officials or representatives, if any, followed by any
6 public officials that might be representing federal, state or
7 local departments, and then the general public.

8 First of all, to present the views of the Forest
9 Service we'll hear from Mr. Gary Morgan who will be acting on
10 behalf of Mr. William Morden, who is the Forest Supervisor for
11 the Kootenai National Forest.

12 MR. MORGAN: Thank you, Larry. My name is Gary D.
13 Morgan. I'll be speaking for William Morden who is the Forest
14 Supervisor in the Kootenai National Forest. He is unable to be
15 here.

16 Mr. Presiding Officer, ladies and gentlemen, as
17 directed by the Montana Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150,
18 of November 2nd, 1977, the Forest Service has studied the area
19 known as Ten Lakes for its suitability for preservation as
20 wilderness.

21 The Forest Service proposal is stated in the document
22 entitled: Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area Report
23 and Proposal. I would like to present this publication and a
24 copy of my statement for the official record.

25 The proposal is also shown on the maps right behind me,

1 wilderness.

2 It should be noted that until Congress decides
3 otherwise, the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area will be managed,
4 subject to existing private rights and uses, to maintain the
5 existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in
6 the National Wilderness Preservation System. No timber harvest,
7 road construction, or other developmental activities will be
8 programmed under any alternative, including the Proposed Action,
9 until Congress makes a final decision on the management of the
10 area.

11 In closing, I will briefly review the scheduled events
12 regarding the study after this hearing. Written statements
13 will be accepted until March 1st, 1983. The report and
14 proposal will be reviewed in light of the statements received
15 and revised, as appropriate. After this review, the Forest
16 Service will submit a final recommendation to the Forest
17 Service Chief and the Secretary of Agriculture, who will in
18 turn transmit them to the President and Congress. Any
19 recommendations by the President for wilderness shall become
20 effective only by an act of Congress. Thank you.

21 HEARINGS OFFICER: Are there any other elected public
22 officials or representatives who would like to make a statement?
23 Are there any public officials that are representing a federal,
24 state or local agency that would like to make a statement? All
25 right. I'll go to the order in which people signed up to speak

1 had another -- I still had a very strong feeling about the Ten
2 Lakes country and I didn't feel that we wanted to get up into
3 that country and log it off and road it. So I was quite
4 central. I done a lot of the work, put in a lot of effort to
5 get it into a scenic area.

6 I guess the one statement that I would like to make as
7 far as for my personal -- the way I feel, as an outfitter I was
8 the first one affected when it was put into a scenic area
9 because I was an outfitter that used horses and so, although I
10 had special uses in there and they were denied -- and the fact
11 is, in later years I operated a couple of years with them on
12 the outside of the area -- but I found out that this is not
13 what people want to do when they come to this country to go
14 into the back country. They want to go by horse and they want
15 their horse to be where they are in the evening. They don't
16 want him down the road or three miles away or back out at the
17 ranch. They want that horse there.

18 And as far as the heritage of the West is concerned in
19 comparison to wilderness and the scenic area, one of the main
20 things that people, especially for your eastern countries or
21 your big cities, want to come out for is to ride and to see the
22 country by horse. They don't want to drive, so they are not
23 interested in roads and, but they are interested in going into
24 an area by horse.

25 And I do have some pictures that I think will document

1 never caused by horses and that was one point that I really
2 wanted to bring out here that I have never seen anything, any
3 place even up there where anyone can show me that -- or I've
4 never been shown at least, where there actually is any reason
5 not to allow stock to be used in the Ten Lake Scenic Area. And
6 the only reason I would opt for a wilderness classification
7 over scenic classification is the fact that the Wilderness Act
8 provides the fact that you can use stock and that would be my
9 only reason.

10 Other than that, I would have no reason to judge it
11 either way. But I think that it was misjudged earlier and the
12 users of stock in there were -- Well, I think they were just --
13 I don't know how to put it in words. I think they were
14 discriminated against. I don't think they do anywhere near the
15 damage in the country that the snowmobiles do, and I've no
16 objection to the snowmobiles because I think they do very
17 little, but I certainly don't think the horses do either.
18 Thank you.

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: Doug Evans.

20 MR. EVANS: I have no statement to make at this time.

21 HEARINGS OFFICER: Fine. Bill Cunningham.

22 MR. CUNNINGHAM: My name is Bill Cunningham. I'm
23 Conservation Director for the Montana Wilderness Association in
24 Helena, P.O. Box 635, Helena, Montana. I have, at this time, a
25 preliminary statement on the draft report of the Ten Lakes

1 made in a vacuum. Only nine of the original one hundred
2 eighty-two nonselected Rare I areas in Montana were included in
3 the Montana study bill. The selection was made carefully in
4 consultation with Senator Metcalf and local conservationists
5 and it was based on high wilderness suitability of each of the
6 areas, including Ten Lakes. Montana study bill, otherwise
7 known as S.393, is a unique citizen's bill that was conceived
8 in the crucible of democracy and which provides a fresh new
9 mandate and an opportunity for the Forest Service to apply a
10 new approach to the evaluation of nearly one million acres of
11 high-quality wild country environs entrusted to its care. As
12 to study processes proceeded in the past five years, we've seen
13 only one third of one of the six S.393 areas thus far studied
14 receive a tentative agency wilderness recommendation. I am
15 disillusioned by the process and the way in which the process
16 is being implemented by the Forest Service and as I mentioned,
17 my disillusionment does run deep with regard to the
18 nonwilderness recommendation for Ten Lakes.

19 I studied the report carefully and I'll continue to go
20 through the report in more detail, but it's my impression that
21 the report violates both the spirit and the letter of the
22 Montana Wilderness Study Act, which mandates an objective
23 wilderness study of the nine wilderness areas that are contained
24 in the bill.

25 In the first place, I do not believe that this report in

1 primitive recreation should be described in detail with
2 emphasis on topographic and geologic features, on natural
3 beauty and on the vegetative and habitat types. Because the
4 Ten Lakes Area consists of virgin, undeveloped country which
5 has essentially avoided human-caused change, a discussion of
6 the influence of naturally occurring evolutionary change within
7 the Study Area would be appropriate over time. In particular,
8 the Study Area should more carefully discuss wildland dependent
9 wildlife species, such as the threatened grizzly bear, which
10 live inside the area or in portions of the area at various
11 times of the year. The study should then relate the special
12 habitat requirements of these species to the particular
13 habitats and micro-habitats within the actual Ten Lake
14 Wilderness Study Area.

15 Lacking also in the report is a discussion of the
16 special wild character of Ten Lakes and of each portion of Ten
17 Lakes so that the reviewer can discern what is really unique
18 about the land in question. In short, we should learn
19 something about the mood or the feeling of the place. Again,
20 nothing comes through in the report that gives the reviewer any
21 insight in this respect.

22 The Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area cannot be viewed
23 in a vacuum and cannot be viewed as an isolated island apart
24 from the land surrounding it. It obviously is affected by the
25 influences of what occurs outside. It's a very small, a very

1 timber-producing land on the Kootenai Forest that should
2 contribute to this country.

3 We also need to take care of our recreation industry
4 because in this part of the country we know that the timber
5 industry has been depressed. Many people have temporarily lost
6 their jobs and it's had a serious impact. But one note of
7 stability in our economy has been the recreation industry and
8 we need to preserve and protect small pieces of wild country
9 for a sustained long-term recreation industry.

10 The Ten Lakes Area cannot be all things to all people.
11 If we try to maximize it for timber, if we try to maximize the
12 area for snowmobiling and for other uses that are not legally
13 possible within wilderness, then the Ten Lakes will be nothing
14 to anyone. It's important to recognize what we really have
15 here. No one is proposing an expansion of wilderness. We're
16 merely proposing a formal recognition of what we already have.
17 We'll never have one acre more of wilderness than we have right
18 now today, January 17th, 1983. The best we can do is preserve
19 a small part of what we already have.

20 At least eight-five to ninety percent of the Kootenai
21 Forest will be managed intensively for the full range of
22 nonwilderness multiple uses. The Ten Lakes Area is an
23 important part of the wilderness resource that we should
24 maintain. The Montana Wilderness Study Act gives us an
25 opportunity to do that without detracting significantly from

1 new miles of road in the Ten Lakes Area with intensive
2 development over time of the sixteen thousand four hundred
3 acres that are proposed as part of the regulated timber base.
4 It's very important for people to understand, who might be leery
5 about wilderness, to recognize that the Ten Lakes Area will not
6 remain as it is. It will not remain as a high-quality
7 primitive recreation area unless we have the permanent, long-term,
8 statutory protection of wild country that only the Wilderness
9 Act can provide.

10 In conclusion, while this, Mr. Presiding Officer,
11 completes the testimony that I would like to offer today, I
12 would like to read a letter into the record, a short letter
13 from my son, who accompanied me on the trip into Ten Lakes two
14 years ago.

15 "My name is Justin Cunningham of Helena, Montana. I
16 am twelve years old now, but when I was about nine, I went on a
17 Montana Wilderness Association backpacking trip which my dad
18 led in July 1980. We camped at a lake called Bluebird Lake,
19 with trout that we caught and had for dinner. Also, at the same
20 lake I caught toads and frogs almost as big as my hand. From
21 Bluebird Lake we hiked onto the main Ten Lakes Ridge where we
22 could look down and see a lot of lakes. We could see a lot of
23 rock chucks also.

24 We hiked to Stahl Mountain which had a lookout on the
25 top. We could see British Columbia and Glacier Park. I would

1 continent. They exploited away ninety-eight percent of the
2 continent. So today we have maybe two percent of it left in
3 any kind of wild condition.

4 Now, I won't say that all of North America was wild at
5 the time that these first Europeans, say, came. That's far
6 from the truth. The truth is that these Native Americans
7 practiced some very complex land use schemes. They burned
8 areas for edge effect and to produce more forage for wildlife
9 and this sort of thing. That goes along with our attempts
10 today to graze on land. And I think that that's good and I
11 think that it's good that we continue in those kinds of
12 agricultural traditions, but secondly, the thing that I
13 think -- Another aspect of the Native American land use scheme
14 was that they had sacred places, sacred wild places, and these
15 places were for the solitary wild, such as the vision quest. And
16 the theme that we're talking about here today is built on that
17 whole theme. This occurred in Europe.

18 The first civilization of Europe, the Celtic
19 civilization, had what's known as nematons. These were known
20 as wilderness sanctuaries where people went out to see, as a
21 measure of health for the land that they lived on, the land
22 that they worked. So out of that I would like to say that we
23 do have a basis for preserving wilderness.

24 Today, much of our country is overran. It is
25 domesticated. I want balance. When I say that, we've got,

1 left. Basically there's this two percent. So what we have to
2 do is we have to move into some sort of stable kind of economic
3 situation where we can maintain it. We have to move toward
4 renewables and things that we can sustain.

5 Now, I would like to continue a little more on some
6 other aspects of our situation. First of all, what right do we
7 have to modify all of the earth as a species? Let's just speak
8 of the human species. The total, complete modification of any
9 kind of place is a very chauvinistic kind of thing to do.

10 Other species rival us for their intelligence, such as,
11 for example, the grizzly bear. The grizzly bear is cognizant
12 of its tracks and it's the only animal that we know, other than
13 the human being, that will actually cover its tracks; that is,
14 when someone is tracking them, disguise them. It seems to me a
15 creature of that kind of magnitude and intelligence, it seems --
16 When you've got a million and a half acres available for timber
17 harvest, for other forms of dispersed recreation, such as
18 snowmobiling and this sort of thing, that it's a small price to
19 pay to try to preserve some habitat for this wilderness-dependent
20 species that rivals us in intelligence and that sort of thing.
21 I firmly feel that when we go about destroying the diversity of
22 the earth and its species, that we are, in effect, we're
23 committing a kind of a murder.

24 Our charge is really coexistence and we have to say,
25 at one point, we've gone too far. We have to try and coexist

1 time. Thank you.

2 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 2:55 p.m. and
3 subsequently reconvened at 3:05 p.m., and the following
4 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

5 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's a little bit after three
6 and I said I would reconvene at three. Let's reconvene and see
7 if there's anybody else here that wants to make a statement at
8 this time. When we recessed at 2:45, the purpose was to give
9 some people a chance to come that might want to make a
10 statement by three o'clock and it's a little after three now.
11 It's 3:05. Is there anyone who has now come to the room here
12 that would like to make a statement at this time?

13 Tom Skelly. Come forward and state your name and whom
14 you represent, if anybody, and where you're from.

15 MR. SKELLY: I'm from Eureka. Well, I've been here
16 all my life and I know the Ten Lakes country. I was up -- I
17 guess the first time I ever went up there was 1946 or '47 and
18 at that time it was all wilderness and I guess I thought it
19 would be wilderness, but then nineteen -- the same year, a
20 couple years afterwards, the bugs, spruce beetle, hit that
21 country and it was all gone, other than the Ten Lakes Area,
22 where they couldn't -- There was no logging. And I can't
23 really see today, the area that you have on your maps there, I
24 think it should still stay scenic area. And I'm not opposed to --
25 I don't think logging would be opposed to just leaving it the

1 represent, if anyone, and where you're from.

2 MR. GOULD: My name is Bill Gould. I am Lincoln
3 County Commissioner from this area and I live off the Burma
4 Road, which actually would border the proposed wilderness site.
5 Well, I've lived here about ten years, and about six years ago,
6 working for the Soil Conservation Service taking snow surveys,
7 I got up into the Ten Lakes Area during the wintertime. My son
8 and I have camped at Wolverine Cabin several times, including
9 summer and wintertime.

10 As I read the sense of people in this community, I
11 think they would like to preserve the area pretty much as it is;
12 that is, managed as a scenic area with limited use of motor
13 vehicles. If anything, I think they would probably like to see
14 the scenic area expanded, but I think, and this is a personal
15 feeling, I think the options available by keeping it scenic are
16 actually greater than if it's designated wilderness. I think
17 it provides more recreation for more people as a scenic area
18 than it would if it were designated wilderness.

19 When we went up on snow cats for snow surveys, there
20 were considerable signs that a lot of people use that area for
21 snowmobiling. We would see trails going up all different
22 directions from the roads we were going up. I think
23 designating it as a wilderness area will put quite a hardship
24 on the snowmobilers who are accustomed to using that right now.

25 I think also, from the standpoint of timber use, locking

1 subsequently reconvened at 4:30 p.m., and the following
2 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

3 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, if I could have everybody's
4 attention. It's 4:30 and we were going to reconvene at 4:30 to
5 see if anybody else has come that would like to make a
6 statement relative to Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area Proposal.
7 At this time, is there anybody who would like to come forward
8 and make a statement relative to the area? Okay, I have the
9 name here. I'll let you pronounce your own name. Just state
10 your name and whom you represent, if anyone other than yourself
11 and where you're from.

12 MR. WEYDEMEYER: I'm Winton Weydemeyer from the
13 Fortine area, speaking as an individual, one who has
14 acquaintance with this area covering a period of more than
15 seventy years during which time I have hiked, climbed, ridden,
16 skied, hunted or fished in most sections of the Study Area
17 itself. Over the years I have seen that section of the
18 Whitefish Range dissolve from a total roadless wilderness to a
19 mountain range ribboned by roads, patterned by clearcuts, and
20 heavily used by backpackers, sportsmen, snowmobilers and the
21 general motoring public. I have seen alpine terrain trampled
22 and littered. My reaction is to declare, "Enough is enough.
23 Let's protect what little wild country that remains."

24 While recognizing that wilderness designation for all
25 or a part of the Study Area might result in increased human

1 section, but providing for timber management on more than half
2 of the Study Area, would still leave the proposed wilderness
3 section too restricted and narrow.

4 Alternative C, giving wilderness designation to the
5 entire Study Area, would provide the greatest protection to the
6 natural aspects of that portion of the range, as well as
7 preserving the largest area of undeveloped grizzly bear habitat.
8 I recognize that objection to this plan will be raised because
9 it will exclude timber harvesting on some outreach boundary
10 areas which do not possess outstanding wilderness character.

11 Alternative B plan overcomes these objections by
12 excluding these areas in the northwest lobe, west and north of
13 Independence Peak, and in the southern portion of the southern
14 lobe, the little Gibraltar area.

15 The Kootenai National Forest plan, which calls for
16 nearly tripling the mileage of roads by the year 2030, admits
17 that the demand for roadless recreation will not be met. In
18 view of those projections and other considerations, it is my
19 recommendation that Alternative C, providing wilderness
20 designation for the entire Study Area, be adopted. As a
21 necessary compromise minimum, I would strongly support
22 Alternative B.

23 May I compliment the Forest Service for an excellent
24 study of this area, and for the opportunity to present these
25 views. Thank you.

1 is fully apprised of what the hearing is for and how the record
2 has been established so far, and I'll briefly review the
3 background for the hearings also.

4 On November 1st of 1977, Congress passed the Montana
5 Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150. The Act requires the
6 Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations to
7 Congress on the wilderness suitability of nine separate
8 national forest areas in Montana comprising nine hundred
9 seventy-three thousand acres. Two of the areas, Mount Henry
10 and Ten Lakes, are on the Kootenai National Forest.

11 The Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area, an
12 area of thirty-five thousand nine hundred acres, was analyzed
13 as part of the Kootenai National Forest Planning Process. A
14 map of the Ten Lakes Area and its environs, as well as maps of
15 the alternatives analyzed by the Forest Service, are displayed
16 on walls in this room.

17 This hearing session and succeeding sessions at Libby
18 and Kalispell on January 18th and 19th are being held to
19 consider the results of the Kootenai National Forest study for
20 the Ten Lakes Area.

21 Public notice to conduct this hearing was published in
22 the Federal Register and also several Montana newspapers. In
23 accordance with the public notice this hearing was convened
24 this afternoon at two o'clock on January 17th at the Eureka
25 Grade School at Eureka, Montana. I've been designated as the

1 hearing will become a part of the hearing record and will be
2 available for public inspection while this hearing is in
3 progress, during recesses or at any other time. Anyone
4 interested in knowing what has been submitted and not read in
5 this hearing may contact the reporter or me and examine the
6 statement. To accommodate those who have not prepared written
7 statements and who desire to submit a written statement, the
8 record will be kept open until March 1st, 1983. Written
9 statements or other materials submitted prior to March 1st will
10 become a part of the official hearing record. These statements
11 should be sent to the Forest Supervisor of the Kootenai
12 National Forest, Libby, Montana.

13 All information received at this hearing will be
14 recorded and a transcript is being prepared by the reporter
15 after the hearing. The completed transcript will be open to
16 the public for inspection at the offices of the Regional
17 Forester in Missoula and at the Kootenai National Forest
18 Headquarters located at Libby.

19 Anyone desiring a copy of the transcript should make
20 arrangements with the reporter to obtain one. And as I
21 indicated, the reporter is sitting to my right.

22 What we've done to determine the order in which people
23 will speak who have indicated an interest in doing so, they've
24 been asked to register as they came in. So I have the names
25 here of a couple of people, which I'll call in the order in

1 names I have of people who preregistered. Is there anyone who
2 would like to come forward and make a statement at this time
3 relevant to this Ten Lakes Proposed Study Area? All right.

4 MR. MONTGOMERY: I do. I want to make a statement.
5 Maybe it's inappropriate. Would it be possible to explain the
6 difference between a scenic and a wilderness area?

7 HEARINGS OFFICER: Maybe you ought to take that up
8 with one of your local foresters. You can, but like I
9 indicated earlier, the purpose of the hearing is to hear
10 statements by people relative to the area. It's probably a
11 legitimate question, but you probably ought to take it up with
12 one of your officers. Is there anyone who would like to come
13 forward and make a statement at this time? Why don't you come
14 forward and state your name and where you're from and whom you
15 represent, if anyone, other than yourself.

16 MR. HOLDER: My name is Stan Holder and I'm from
17 Eureka. I represent myself and I think that to change the Ten
18 Lakes Scenic Area into a wilderness area would really be a
19 detriment to our local community because there's a lot of
20 people that use that country in the wintertime to snow cat and,
21 however, I would like to see the existing road systems left
22 like they are and no more roads built into the places that are
23 roadless right now. That's all.

24 HEARINGS OFFICER: Is there anyone else who would like
25 to come up and make a statement? All right.

1 to make a statement now? Carl Pershall.

2 MR. PERSHALL: I just have a prepared statement that I
3 have wrote here promoting the use of snowmobiles in the Ten
4 Lake Scenic Area. Snowmobiling in the Ten Lakes Scenic Area
5 provides a unique experience to the public. Because of the
6 open basins and the talus slopes, a snowmobiler can enjoy the
7 beauty of the area and at the same time have a wilderness
8 experience. It's close enough to vehicle access that a one-day
9 trip can cover several thousand acres and with Wolverine Cabin,
10 an overnight stay is also possible. In the springtime while
11 the valleys are thawing out, the snow conditions are ideal in
12 the high country for the beautiful scenery and snow recreation.

13 HEARINGS OFFICER: Would anyone else like to come forward
14 to make a statement? Has anyone else been registered? Well,
15 if nobody else wants to come forward at this time, what we'll
16 do is I'll give you a chance to kind of think about what's been
17 said and maybe you want to make a statement a little bit later
18 or somebody else will come in that wants to make a statement.
19 What we'll do is take a ten minute recess and we'll reconvene
20 and then you'll decide whether you want to make one or wait
21 until someone else comes. So we'll be in recess until 7:25.

22 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 7:15 p.m. and
23 subsequently reconvened at 7:25 p.m., and the following
24 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's 7:25, I think we'll

1 MR. MILLER: My name is Mike Miller and I've lived in
2 Eureka all my life and I think what some of these people that's
3 involved in here don't realize is that the original people that
4 were here have taken care of this land, and that's what they're
5 coming into. They've got the side that they can come in here
6 and change things and tell people what to do and what they
7 would like to see done with the country. Well, there's a lot
8 of them that have moved in here in the last two or three years
9 that probably don't realize that there's some of these old
10 people that's taken care of this country all their lives and
11 what are you going to do with them when they can't walk in
12 there? It's not just for our grandkids. It's for the people
13 that took care of the country years ago, also. There's no
14 reason that this land can't be used as just a scenic area the
15 way it is now. If it was managed by the Forest Service the way
16 it's supposed to be, we would still have a scenic area.

17 HEARINGS OFFICER: Anyone else who would like to come
18 forward and make a statement? All right, if no one else wants
19 to come forward and make a statement, what I'm going to do is --
20 If there's no one else here that wants to make a statement, I
21 think what I'm going to do is just recess for about ten more
22 minutes and then I'm going to reconvene and if there isn't
23 anyone else who wants to make a statement then, I'm just going
24 to adjourn the hearing until tomorrow afternoon. We'll be in
25 recess then until twenty minutes to eight.

1 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 7:45 p.m. and
2 subsequently reconvened at 7:55 p.m., and the following
3 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

4 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. We have a person who
5 has come in that would like to make a statement so we'll let
6 her come forward and make it. Anne Glover. Please come
7 forward and state your name for the record and where you're
8 from, please. Right up here to the podium, please.

9 MS. GLOVER: My name is Anne Glover. I'm from Eureka,
10 Montana. I am a housewife, a high school teacher and an active
11 community member. As past president and current member of
12 Tobacco Valley Women and Timber, I fully believe in the fact
13 that timber is a renewable resource and should be treated as
14 such. Logging does not destroy the usefulness or lasting
15 beauty of an area. It markets a resource vitally necessary to
16 Eureka and the nation while making a new crop production
17 possible. The wildlife is not hindered, but helped by the
18 creation of better forage.

19 With Eureka over ninety percent timber industry
20 dependent and it's current unemployment rate at seventeen
21 percent, many of these jobs being timber related, it seems
22 absurd to increase the current sixteen thousand acres already
23 designated wilderness to eighteen thousand eight hundred. I
24 would much prefer a multiple use designation, which would
25 benefit all groups concerned.

1 don't have to build a bunch of system roads to get up in there
2 and I'm sure the Forest Service is in favor of that, too. I
3 guess that's about it.

4 HEARINGS OFFICER: Anyone else? We'll go off the
5 record then for a few minutes.

6 (Discussion held off the record.)

7 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's eight o'clock. Does
8 anyone want to come forward to make a statement at this time?
9 All right. Come on down here and state your name.

10 MR. MARCHBANKS: My name is Bert Marchbanks. I live
11 around town here. I, myself, I would just as soon see the
12 Forest Service with their proposed one. As far as adding any
13 more wilderness, I don't think that people in the United States
14 can afford any more to start with. It costs too much for a
15 guide. Who can afford to raise horses anymore? There's a lot
16 of us that are physically impaired and can't ride a horse or
17 the only way they can get in there is with a motorized vehicle,
18 so myself, I would just as soon see the Forest Service proposal.

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: Anyone else? All right. State
20 your name and where you're from.

21 MR. PARRISH: Jack Parrish, Rexford. I didn't see
22 anything about signs or trail maintenance up there. I had a
23 grandson hiking at Ten Lakes Basin and he slept on the hillside.
24 And he never has found it yet. He has been up there twice from
25 two directions.

1 HEARINGS OFFICER: I think if you want to ask some
2 questions about the area yourself, you have to talk to your
3 Forest Service official.

4 MR. PARRISH: I talked to them about signs and they
5 said something about being tied up.

6 (Discussion held off the record.)

7 HEARINGS OFFICER: If I could have everybody's
8 attention for a minute. We recessed a short time ago with the
9 idea of seeing if anybody else might show up because there was
10 an indication that somebody might want to come in to make a
11 statement. So, it's 8:20 now and has anybody else come now
12 that would like to come forward and make a statement relative
13 to this Ten Lakes Area?

14 MR. FOWLER: Yeah.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Why don't you come up
16 here, state your name, where you're from and make a statement.

17 MR. FOWLER: Yeah, I guess everybody knows me, Harry
18 Fowler, Eureka. I think the plan you had there, that one the
19 Forest Service is going for, is the one that it should be, to
20 my notion anyway. That's the way I look at it. Keep it as a
21 scenic area. We sure as hell don't want it a primitive area.
22 That would just put it in a study area and then it will put it
23 off for another two or three years and then the bugs will get
24 it and whatnot. That's about what I got to say.

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Anyone else? All right.

1 Why don't you come on up here and state your name and where
2 you're from.

3 MR. BURK: I'm Arlie Burk, I'm from Eureka, and I'm
4 totally against the wilderness concept for this north end. I
5 would like to see it remain a scenic area and I would like to
6 see it enlarged. The main thing is no more roads built in that
7 entire north end, permanent roads. I'm for strictly salvage
8 logging off existing road systems. That's the last stronghold
9 for the bears in this north end right there. Thank you.

10 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Is there anyone else?

11 MR. FROST: Yeah, I'm Stan Frost from Eureka and I
12 would like to keep it a scenic area, open for salvage logging
13 with existing roads, snowmobiling, whatever. I'm against it
14 being a wilderness area.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Anyone else? Do you
16 have any other names there of people, Paul, that wanted to testify

17 MR. LEIMBACH: No.

18 HEARINGS OFFICER: Does anybody know of anybody out in
19 the hall or anybody around that wants to say something?

20 MR. FOWLER: There's one or two other guys that was
21 coming here, but they'll probably be ten minutes getting here.

22 HEARINGS OFFICER: Are you sure they're going to come?

23 MR. FOWLER: Yeah, I just talked to them on the phone.

24 HEARINGS OFFICER: We'll give them until 8:30 and if
25 they're not here, we're going to recess.

1 there's a gentleman here that might make a statement and there
2 might be another one coming in. So, I'm going to reopen the
3 hearing here and allow him to make a statement. Why don't you
4 go ahead. State your name and where you're from.

5 MR. MOEN: My name is Chris Moen, as most of you know,
6 and I am from the Eureka area. As per the Ten Lakes Basin
7 Wilderness Area, I think myself and a lot of the people that I
8 know would like to see that area remain free from development
9 activity. A lot of us use that area in the summertime and in
10 the wintertime for recreational purposes. There's a lot of
11 backpacking and hiking and winter skiing, snowmobiling and so
12 forth that goes on in the area. And looking at a lot of the
13 terrain in the area, there are species of trees, for instance,
14 the alpine larch, which is found in very few places in the
15 world, which could be damaged by excessive development. And
16 just looking at the general topography, it's extremely
17 difficult to log a lot of areas when you're running sixty-five,
18 seventy degree slopes without doing a lot of environmental
19 damage.

20 Generally speaking, I feel that the area should be
21 kept to the original -- the largest proposal for wilderness
22 designation and that multiple use for recreational purposes,
23 for instance, the use of motorized vehicles in some of the
24 areas, should be generally restricted to the areas that are now,
25 in fact, capable of being used on roaded areas or, in other

1 the alpine firs, the alpine larch, the alpine white pine and
2 lodgepole. A lot of that stuff is twenty-five, thirty feet
3 high. It's been there for two hundred years. It's never going
4 to get an inch higher. The wind blows it off right across the
5 top, and there's no point trying to log that stuff. We have
6 thousands of acres of timber, real honest to God timber, that
7 we can cut down without going into that area and trying to log
8 it.

9 And we have thousands of acres of roaded areas that we
10 can use for snowmobiles in the wintertime, we can use for
11 four-wheel drive vehicles in the summertime. Why not just try
12 to maintain one small part of the Northwestern Montana as a
13 true wilderness area to allow people to go back into the
14 wilderness and not have to hear a four-wheel drive vehicle or a
15 skidder or a chain saw or snowmobile right next to them in the
16 middle of the winter? Maintain it for us, maintain it for
17 future generations and maintain it for the wildlife in the area.
18 It might not be a worthwhile project to some, but if you really
19 think about it, it's worthwhile to everybody. Thank you.

20 HEARINGS OFFICER: We'll wait, then, for a few minutes
21 since he seems to think there is somebody else that wants to come.

22 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 8:33 p.m. and
23 subsequently reconvened at 8:34 p.m., and the following
24 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, I have been informed by

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF MONTANA)
 : SS.
County of Missoula)

I, Melody Jeffries, RPR, Official-Freelance Court
Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula,
Montana, do hereby certify:

That I was duly authorized to and did report the
testimony and evidence in the above-entitled cause;

I further certify that the foregoing pages of this
transcript represent a true and accurate transcription of my
stenotype notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on
this the 29th day of January, 1983.

Melody Jeffries
Melody Jeffries, RPR
Official-Freelance Court Reporter
State of Montana, Residing in
Missoula, Montana.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 31st
day of January, 1983.

James H. P. Hite
NOTARY PUBLIC FOR THE STATE OF MONTANA
Residing in Missoula, Montana,
My Commission expires 1/10/86

EXHIBIT 1

81173

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 47, No. 219

Friday, November 12, 1982

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules and proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

Committee on Governmental Processes; Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Committee on Governmental Processes of the Administrative Conference of the United States, to be held at 9:10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 17, 1982, at the Office of the General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Room 500, Washington, D.C.

The Committee will meet to discuss the Conference's projects on the use of the Freedom of Information Act as a survey tool and on discipline of agencies practicing before federal agencies.

Attendance is open to the interest of the public, but limited to the space available. Persons wishing to attend should, if possible, notify the Office of the Chairman of the Administrative Conference prior to the meeting. The Office Chairman, if she deems it appropriate, may permit members of the public to present oral statements at the meeting. A member of the public may submit a written statement with the Office before, during, or after the meeting.

For further information concerning the meeting contact David M. Pritzker, Director of the (Chairman, Administrative Conference of the United States, 2120 L Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20037, (Telephone 202-254-7085.) Minutes of the meeting will be available upon request.

Dated: November 10, 1982.
David K. Berry,
Regional Counsel.

32-31208 Filed 11-10-82 9:45 am

Forest Service

337
32-31208 Filed 11-10-82 9:45 am
BELLING CODE 3410-19-01

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Gila National Forest Grazing Advisory Board; Meeting

The Gila National Forest Grazing Advisory Board will meet at 10:00 a.m., December 17, 1982 in the large conference room, Federal Building, 2810 North Silver Street, Silver City, New Mexico.

The agenda for the meeting is:

1. Election of Officers.
2. Review Program for Range Betterment Funds.
3. Review Allotment Management Plans.

The meeting will be open to the public.

Dated: November 4, 1982.

Kenneth C. Bragdon,

Forest Supervisor.

(FR Doc. 82-31022 Filed 11-10-82 9:45 am)

BELLING CODE 3410-19-01

Montana; Kootenai National Forest, Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area Report Hearing Announcement

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Public hearing notice: Public hearings will be held as follows:

January 17, 1983—Eureka, Montana.

Eureka Grade School Auditorium, from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

January 18, 1983—Libby, Montana.

Venture Motor Inn, West Highway 2, from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

January 19, 1983—Kalispell, Montana.

Outlaw Inn, Highway 93, from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

SUMMARY: Public hearings will be held concerning the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. Hearings will be held in three northwestern Montana cities in mid-January 1983.

ADDRESSES: Request for further information should be addressed to: Forest Supervisor, Kootenai National Forest, P.O. Box AS, Libby, MT 59923.

Tom Coston,

Regional Forester.

(FR Doc. 82-31025 Filed 11-10-82 9:45 am)

BELLING CODE 3410-19-01

Soil Conservation Service

Carrutuck County Schools, RC&D Measure, North Carolina; Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Soil Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of a finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Soil Conservation Service Guidelines (7 CFR Part 650); the Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Carrutuck County Schools RC&D Measure, Carrutuck County, North Carolina.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Coy A. Garrett, State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Room 544, Federal Building, 310 New Bern Avenue, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611. Telephone (919) 755-4210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Mr. Coy A. Garrett, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement are not needed for this project.

The measure concerns a plan for reducing flooding and for improving drainage on three school grounds. The planned works of improvement include installing catch basins, pipes and sub-surface drainage tubing. Grading and shaping will be done to improve surface drainage and to eliminate ponding. All disturbed areas will be seeded with adapted permanent vegetation.

The Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various Federal, State, and local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the 96496 address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on

There will be several informal opportunities scheduled for interested groups and individuals to visit about the Plan with the Kootenai Forest Staff, according to Morden. The dates for the meetings are to be scheduled at a later time. "In addition to the informal meetings there will be three formal hearings addressing the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area alternatives," he said. They are scheduled from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. on the following dates: January 17, Eureka, Montana, Eureka Grade School Auditorium; January 18, Libby, Montana, Venture Motor Inn, West Highway 2; and January 19, Kalispell, Montana, Outlaw Inn, Highway 93. "People can choose to give their responses to the Ten Lakes alternatives at any of the hearings, or they can provide them concurrently with their responses to the other documents," Morden said.

The Forest Plan was mandated by Congress when the National Forest Management Act was passed in 1976. This Plan will chart the course for the Kootenai National Forest for the next 10 years. "However, the Plan will be in a somewhat continuous state of update," said Morden, "and the monitoring and evaluation steps that go along with implementing the alternative after it is finalized provide a system of checks and balances . . . a way to respond to the changing needs of the Forest."

"Issues and concerns have always changed over time," he noted. The issues dealt with in this effort are timber, roads, minerals concerns, fire, wilderness, recreation, visual concerns, wildlife, local economics, our pine beetle problems, and landownership patterns. The next updates will conceivably surface some different issues," Morden said.

The public comment period for the Kootenai Forest Plan and the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area Draft Statement closes March 1, 1983. At that time the comments will be analyzed and incorporated into a Final Statement. For further information or copies of the document, contact Paul Leimbach, Kootenai National Forest, P.O. Box AS, Libby, Montana 59923 or call 406-293-6211.

EXHIBIT 1

Draft forest plan due for release

-The Western News, Libby, Mont., Thurs., Nov. 11, 1988

By BOB PHILLIPS

Staff Writer
The Kootenai National Forest will be releasing its draft forest plan early next week, according to Forest Supervisor Bill Morden.

The National Forest Management Act of 1976 requires the national forests to draw up plans on their future course of management. The Kootenai Forest has been working on the draft plan since 1978, Morden said. The public must have at least 90 days in which to comment on the draft, and Congress must be in session for the length of that period.

Included in the plan are three

Forest plan

(Continued from Page 1)

drilling ever occur?
—How should land ownership be adjusted in areas of checkerboard ownership?

—Wildlife. How should threatened and endangered species be protected, and how many big game animals should the forest seek to sustain? Which areas deserve special protection because of their vital importance to certain species, such as elk and grizzly bears?

—Roadless recreation. Aside from designated wilderness areas, how much of the forest should remain in an unroaded condition, in order to provide primitive recreational opportunities for backpackers, hunters and fishermen?

Lodgepole pine and the Mountain Pine Beetle. How may a balance be obtained between the need to salvage as much of the diseased lodgepole as possible and the need to keep roads out of certain areas? Planning staff officer Jim Shadle said recently concerning the lodgepole, "If we went into an absolute developmental mode, the most we could salvage would be 10 percent." The rest would die, creating an "open" not necessarily needed for wildlife. Rebuilding, however, is also a significant impact," he said. Shadle said, "Fire management. When and where should fire management be used? Should we have a fire and when and where should they allow it to burn? Fire is a natural part of the forest ecology and the total suppression of it in the past has led to an unnatural buildup of fuel, posing the danger of future catastrophic fires. More fires, man-caused fires, are always suppressed, plus

main documents: a draft environmental impact statement concerning future management of the forest and its resources, a draft forest plan document and a draft EIS on the Ten Lakes area northeast of Eureka, which has been studied for wilderness designation under Senate bill 983, the Montana Wilderness Study Act.

Morden said that the forest has recommended non-wilderness designation for the 35,900 acre roadless area, with 18,900 acres to remain in a roadless condition for recreation.

Other issues that will be addressed in the draft plan include:

actually serve to enhance big game habitat under the right conditions.

According to Shadle, there will not be a "great change" in management priorities under the plan. He added, "For people who want us to change in one way or another, that's probably not real good news."

The draft EIS for the forest will include eight alternatives for future forest use, running the gamut from near-total preservation of existing roadless areas on the forest to near-total "timber optimization" through opening up most of the forest with roads.

The eight alternatives are color-coded on several maps for easier identification of

particular areas. One alternative has been selected by forest planners as preferred.

After the draft plan is reviewed and public comment gathered, a final plan will be completed. Then progress on adhering to the plan will be assessed every five years, according to Supervisor Morden.

Small public workshops will be held at the Supervisor's Office, Morden said, as well as other informal sessions to help the public understand the plan. If all goes well, the final plan should be complete about one year from this time, Morden said.

timber on the forest, many individuals believe that too many roads leave wildlife without adequate seclusion, as well as mar the aesthetic beauty of the forest.

—Road closures. How many are the public willing to accept? With an increasing number of roads, a large percentage will have to be closed after timber sales, or else quality logging on the forest may come to an end.

—Oil and natural gas leasing. How much of the forest should be open to leasing and what kinds of restrictions should be placed on future drilling activities, should

(Continued on Page 2)

The Western News

11-11-82

No wilderness for Ten Lakes scenic area

EUREKA — The Ten Lakes Scenic Area east of Eureka will not become a wilderness, northern region forester Tom Coston announced Friday.

The decision to leave the 16,000-acre region in its current status as a "scenic area" was announced in conjunction with the release of the Kootenai National Forest's 50-year forest management plan.

Creation of a 35,900-acre wilderness at the northern end of the Whitefish Range surrounding the Ten Lakes Scenic Area was one of nine proposals included in a wilderness study bill sponsored by the late Sen. Lee Metcalf, D-Mont., in 1976. Instead, the forest proposes to add 2,000 acres to the present scenic area.

The area is accessible by the Graves Creek Road out of Fortine, but many of the lakes can be reached only by trail.

Hearings on the decision are required by law. They are tentatively scheduled for Jan. 17 in Eureka, Jan. 18 in Libby and Jan. 19 in Kalispell.

The draft forest plan provides managers of the 1.8 million-acre forest with a blueprint for development of resources over the next 50 years. It deals with timber and wildlife production, road construction, fire management and recreational and mineral resources, as well as other considerations.

Projections call for an increase in timber harvest from 248 million board feet in 1992 to 388 million board feet in 2032. Under the management plan currently in effect, the harvest would be 247 million board feet in a decade but only 340 million in 50 years.

The forest also expects to add a few more roads in the next 50 years — 7,200 miles of them, to be exact. There are now 4,800 miles of primary road in the forest. Seasonal closures for protection of wildlife is also expected to increase.

Among other measures to enhance wildlife is a proposal for special management of elk and grizzly habitat. The plan estimates there will be enough summer range to support 6,700 elk, and enough grizzly habitat to support at least 30 bears.

Public comments on the forest plan will be accepted until March 1, 1983. Copies of the forest plan and the Ten Lakes recommendation can be obtained by contacting Paul Leimbach at Kootenai National Forest headquarters, Box AS, Libby 59923, or by calling 293-6211.

More timber, wildlife seen in forest plan

11-18-82

Southern County Tribune

TROUT CREEK—Increased timber production, more road building accompanied by more road closures, improved elk range and an expanded elk population are among the goals outlined in the Kootenai National Forest Draft Environmental Impact Statement released by Regional Forester Tom Oosten Friday, according to Bill Morden, Kootenai National Forest Supervisor.

Cabinet District Ranger Ron Humphrey said the plan envisions increasing the timber harvest on his district from the current 18 million

board feet annually to 25 million by 1988-89, providing funds are provided for the necessary roads needed to harvest the increased timber sales.

A 40 per cent increase in the forest's elk herd population is seen over the next 50 years, as habitat is improved as a result of timber harvests and the reproduction of browse.

One of the major concerns of the increased logging is the visual effect to the landscape. Under the new rules, the maximum clear-cut will be

(Please turn to page 12)

EXHIBIT 1

timber, wildlife

02529

(Continued from page 1)

40 acres and most will be 10 to 15 acres, Humphrey said.

"We've got some 800-acre clear cuts now that resulted when we were harvesting spruce beetle attacked timber."

Morden said there will be several informal opportunities scheduled for interested groups and individuals to visit about the plan with Kootenai Forest officials. The dates for the meetings are to be scheduled later. "In addition to the informal meetings, there will be three formal hearings addressing the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area alternatives," Morden said. They are scheduled from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Jan. 17 at Eureka, Jan. 18 Libby and Jan. 19 Kalispell.

The Forest Plan was mandated by Congress when the National Forest Management Act was passed in 1976. This plan will chart the course for the Kootenai National Forest for the next 10 years. "However, the plan will be in a somewhat continuous state of update," said Morden, "and the monitoring and evaluation steps that go along with implementing the alternative after it is finalized provide a system of checks and balances...a way to respond to the changing needs of the forest."

"The issues dealt with in this effort are timber, roads, mineral concerns, fire, wilderness, recreation, visual concerns, wildlife, local economies, our pine beetle problems and land ownership patterns. The next update will conceivably surface some different issues," he said.

The public comment period for the Kootenai Forest Plan and the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area Draft Statement closes March 1, 1985. At that time the comments will be analyzed and incorporated into a final statement.

For the Kootenai Forest as a whole, timber sales are expected to increase 84 per cent from \$14 million at present to \$25 million in 10 years and \$68 million in 50 years.

Road mileage over the forest is expected to almost triple—from 4,500 miles now to 12,000 in 50 years.

Big game winter range is to increase to 14,000 and summer range to 860,000. Estimated elk population in 50 years will be 6,700.

The management of grizzly habitat areas is expected to increase to provide for the existing minimum viable population of grizzly bears—approximately 100.

The Daily Inland Lake, Kalispell, Montana, Monday, January 16, 1984-A-1

Ten Lakes wilderness hearings this month

Public hearings on the U.S. Forest Service's decision not to recommend wilderness status for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area will be in Eureka, Libby and Kalispell this month.

Hearings will be Jan. 17 in the Roosevelt Building of Eureka elementary school, Jan. 18 at the Venture Motor Inn in Libby and Jan. 19 at The Outlaw Inn in Kalispell. They are scheduled for 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. each day.

The Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area encompasses an area centered around the present 16,000-acre Ten Lakes Scenic Area, located northwest of Eureka at the

north end of the Whitefish Range. Creation of a 35,900-acre wilderness was one of nine proposals included in a 1976 wilderness study bill sponsored by the late Sen. Lee Metcalf, D-Mont.

The area is accessible by the Graves Creek Road out of Fortine, but the lakes which give the region its name can be reached only by trail.

Regional forester Tom Coston recommended in November against the proposed wilderness. The Forest Service recommendation does call for expansion of the scenic area to about 18,000 acres, Kootenai Na-

tional Forest supervisor Bill Morden said.

This month's hearings are part of the public comment period for the Ten Lakes proposal. Those unable to attend the hearings may provide written statements.

The public comment period ends March 1. At that time, comments will be analyzed and incorporated into a final report to Congress, which has the final authority to designate areas for inclusion in the national wilderness system.

Comments on the Ten Lakes proposal can also be included with general comments about the Kootenai Forest Plan, a study of the

forest's needs and suggested direction for the next 50 years. Major facets of the plan include an increase in timber harvest over current management projections, major expansion of the road system and additional measures to enhance wildlife habitat.

The forest plan was released at the same time as the Ten Lakes recommendation.

Several informal open houses are planned by forest staff to explain the plan to the public and to accept comments. Details, as well as the plan itself, may be obtained from forest headquarters in Libby.

E X 1111

1-13-83

Kootenai Valley News

Hearings set on Ten Lakes

Public hearings on the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area have been scheduled for 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. on Monday, January 17 in Eureka at the Eureka Grade School's second floor auditorium of the Roosevelt Building.

Public hearings provide the public an opportunity to give testimony concerning the Forest Service's recommendation for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. The Forest Service recommendation

for the study area is nonwilderness with an expansion of the 16,000-acre Ten Lakes Scenic Area to about 18,800 acres.

The public may give oral statements at the hearing, give a written statement to be entered in the hearing record, or give their views on the recommendation as part of their comments on the Kootenai Forest Plan, released to the public in November.

The public comment period for the

Ten Lakes proposal ends March 1, 1983. At that time, comments will be analyzed and incorporated into a final report to Congress.

Several informal open houses will also be held where Forest Service Staff will be on hand to provide information about the Kootenai Forest Plan, as well as accept comments from the public. For more information, contact Paul Leimbach or Sandy Matheny at the Supervisor's Office, 406-293-6211.

The Western News
1-13-83

The Western News, Libby, Mont., Thurs., Jan. 13, 1983

Meetings slated for forest plan

The Kootenai National Forest has scheduled several information-sharing meetings and open houses to provide an opportunity for people to discuss the Kootenai's draft environmental impact statement, draft forest plan and the Ten Lakes Montana wilderness study area proposal, which recommends non-wilderness status for the area.

The plan has been out for only about a month

now, and according to Bill Morden, Kootenai Forest supervisor, responses are already starting to come in. "But we also have had several requests to go over the plan with people," he said, "and we have scheduled several sessions around the forest."

Following is the schedule of meetings planned thus far:

In the Eureka area: A forest plan informational meeting is scheduled for Jan. 25 at

the Senior Citizen's Center in Eureka. The meeting will start promptly at 7 p.m.

In the Libby area: An open house for the forest plan is scheduled for Jan. 18 from 1 to 7 p.m. in the forest supervisor's office on Highway 2 in Libby.

People can come to the open house at any time during those hours. It is scheduled to run concurrently with the hearing scheduled for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area to be held in the Ven-

ture Motor Inn in Libby from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. that same day. In the Troy area: An open house is scheduled for Feb. 1 from 1 to 7 p.m. It will be held at the Troy Ranger Station, located just west of Troy on Highway 2.

In the Trout Creek-Noxon area: An open house is scheduled for Jan. 24 from 1 to 7 p.m. at the Trout Creek Ranger Station on Highway 20. People can attend the open house at any time

during those hours. According to Ron Humphrey, Cabinet District Ranger, there will also be an opportunity to review the Cabinet District's five-year timber sale plan at that time.

Individuals or organizations who wish to set up additional forest plan informational sessions can contact any district ranger, or Sandy Matheny in the forest supervisor's office in Libby, 406-293-6211.

2

SOME POSSIBLE AREAS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR RESPONSE

1. Issue resolution.

GOOD

2. Effects and impacts from the Environmental Consequences section.

EFFECTS ARE OUTLINED

3. Additional ideas or approaches to solutions. I HAVE NO NEW IDEAS. I GENERALLY SUPPORT YOUR PROPOSED ACTION. HOWEVER, I THINK THE PROPOSED PLAN SHOULD BE ALTERED SOMEWHAT BEFORE THE FINAL ONE IS MADE. FIRST, I THINK ALL POSSIBLE CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO HELP THE GRIZZLY. I FEEL YOU NEED MORE HABITAT FOR GRIZZLIES IN YOUR PLAN. SECOND, ALTHOUGH YOU PLAN TO CLOSE MANY ROADS AFTER USE THIS POLICY SHOULD BE EXPANDED.

4. Factual (technical) errors.

NONE NOTED.

5. Readability and understandability.

VERY READABLE. THE MAPS ARE VERY GOOD.

6. Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area.

I DISAGREE WITH YOUR PROPOSAL. I THINK TEN LAKES SHOULD RECEIVE THE PROTECTION OUTLINED IN ALT. B - WHERE MOST OF THE STUDY AREA IS DEDICATED TO ROADLESS RECREATION MGT. YOUR PLAN ALLOWS TIMBER HARVEST / ROAD CONSTRUCTION TOO CLOSE TO THE "HEART" OF THIS AREA. (I THINK ALT. B SHOULD BE CHANGED FROM RECOMMENDING THE AREA BE WILDERNESS TO A ROADLESS / ITADAY IF THAT MAKES SENSE). MY MAIN POINT IS, YOUR PLAN DOES NOT SAFEGUARD THE AREA TO THE EXTENT I WOULD LIKE IT.

7. Other.

↓
YOUR PLANNED LAND EXCHANGES
DEFINITELY MEET WITH MY
APPROVAL.

Please remember to provide your name and address on the other side, if you wish to receive the final documents. THANK YOU for your time!

SOME POSSIBLE AREAS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR RESPONSE

- Under item 4 (Fire mgt.) of Issues Identified in Planning Process
1. Issue resolution. In the "Reviewer's Aid" the next to last sentence says that "... unplanned fires could be allowed to burn..." This is a poorly worded statement because it is incomplete in stating why and how. What is the reason for letting these fires burn uncontrolled over 336,000 acres? What are the management objectives of the land?

2. Effects and impacts from the Environmental Consequences section.

There is a conflict between identified prescriptions/allocations for resource mgt. along the Kootenai Reservoir. Almost all of this area is designated as wildlife or view, which Fire Mgt. Area classification #2, however, this area has been delineated as FMA 5. Similar resource/FMA conflicts exist throughout the forest.

3. Additional ideas or approaches to solutions.

In regards to the comment in #1 → explain that fires will be managed within a rigid set of prescriptions to enhance the management of the resource affected. Make reference to the Kootenai Fire Mgt. Action Plan for more detail.

4. Factual (technical) errors. Page 19, item C6, of the DEIS states that "under FMA 2 ... all fires are actively suppressed." This seems to be in direct conflict with statements throughout the DEIS which state that in "FMA 2, ... planned ignitions may be used to achieve land management objectives and unplanned ignitions will receive appropriate suppression action." which is correct and what is "appropriate suppression action"?

5. Readability and understandability. Although fire protection and fire management areas are discussed extensively throughout the DEIS, Forest Plan, and Reviewer's Guide; the reader told what "Fire Management Areas are or how they relate to Resource Mgt. until page II-37 of the DEIS and there is no explanation of FMA 1. There should at least be a reference to the Fire Mgt. Action Plan. Protection descriptions under resource allocation prescriptions are redundant throughout both the DEIS and Forest Plan.

6. Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area.

I feel that Alternative D is a much better approach to the management of the resources in this area and that snowmobiles, along with other motorized vehicles, not be allowed in the area at any time of the year.

7. Other.

The "Reviewer's Aid" is an excellent idea and gives a good overview of the DEIS, and proposed actions on the forest.

Please remember to provide your name and address on the other side, if you wish to receive the final documents. THANK YOU for your time!

5

SOME POSSIBLE AREAS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR RESPONSE

1. Issue resolution.
2. Effects and impacts from the Environmental Consequences section.
3. Additional ideas or approaches to solutions.
4. Factual (technical) errors.
5. Readability and understandability.
6. Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area.
I agree with the decision as stated
7. Other.

Please remember to provide your name and address on the other side, if you wish to receive the final documents. THANK YOU for your time!

Forest Plan
Response File 6DAL
12/13/8FOREST PLAN & DEIS RESPONSE

GLENN MUELER STOPPED IN THIS MORNING TO STATE THAT HE IS IN BASIC AGREEMENT WITH THE PROPOSED FOREST PLAN AND THE ALLOCATIONS MADE.

HE STATED THAT HE THOUGHT THAT THE EMPLOYMENT FIGURES SHOWN IN THE DEIS WERE OPTIMISTIC IN THE FIRST DECADE BECAUSE OF THE INCREASING AUTOMATION THAT IS OCCURRING IN THE WOOD PRODUCTS MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

[HE ALSO STATED THAT A WILDERNESS DECISION IN THE TEN LAKES CORE AREA IS A WORKABLE COMPROMISE, IF NEEDED.

SOME POSSIBLE AREAS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR RESPONSE

1. Issue resolution.

PUBLIC ISSUES AND MGT. CONCERNS WERE ADDRESSED O.K. BUT I SEE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS IN RECREATION AND FIRE MGT. SEE ATTACHED COMMENTS.

2. Effects and impacts from the Environmental Consequences section.

I CAN'T AGREE THAT WE PLACE SO MUCH EMPHASIS ON TIMBER THAT WE ARE WILLING TO SACRIFICE ROADLESS RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES. RECREATION WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE ON THE KOOTENAI SO LETS NOT REDUCE IT. ~~Additional ideas or approaches to solutions.~~ AT THIS TIME,

IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO CUT THE PREDICTED TIMBER MBOF IN THE 6th decade BUT ONLY WITH VERY INTENSIVE MGT. WILL FUNDS BE AVAILABLE TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN

4. Factual (technical) errors.

SOME CHARTS SEEM QUESTIONABLE

THERE ARE QUESTIONABLE STATEMENTS I HAVE ATTEMPTED TO ADDRESS SOME OF THESE IN MY ATTACHED COMMENTS.

5. Readability and understandability.

NOT BAD FOR A F.I.S. DOCUMENT

STATEMENTS LIKE "ALLOWED TO BURN" MAY NOT BE RIGHT SHOULD SAY "CONTINUED TO BURN UNDER PRESCRIPTION"

6. Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area.

AT THIS TIME I PREFER THE CURRENT DIRECTION OVER THE PROPOSED DIRECTION (SEE ATTACHED NOTES) I REALLY DON'T BELIEVE THE GENERAL PUBLIC WANTS TO SEE THE EUREKA FACE IN A REGULATED TIMBER ALLOCATION.

7. Other.

Roads IT APPEARS THAT MOST OF THE ALTERNATIVES COME UP WITH A SURPLUS OF ROADS, I SINCERELY FEEL WE COULD GET BY WITH ABOUT 25% LESS MILES OF ROAD AND BETTER PROTECT OUR RESOURCES. THIS WOULD RESULT IN A CONSIDERABLE SAVINGS IN NEEDED \$ FOR OTHER PROJECTS.

Please remember to provide your name and address on the other side, if you wish to projects receive the final documents. THANK YOU for your time!

GENERALLY A GOOD DOCUMENTS WITH LOTS OF HARD WORK, GENERAL GUIDANCE IS BROAD WHICH GIVES THE LAND MANAGER A CHANCE TO STILL BE CREATIVE. DISTRICTS HAD INPUTS AT VARIOUS TIMES BUT PROBABLY INADEQUATE TO GET THE BEST PRODUCT POSSIBLE,

"(SEE THE ATTACHED COMMENTS)"

Page II - 37 Concern for increased fire suppression
Costs in F.M.A.-3

add. the fire season of 1981 showed that
Prescription fires in F.M.A.-3 were
monitored and suppression
dollars were saved in R-1 Forests. This
was due to Fire Management Classification
and Planning.

Page II - 37 Acres of F.M.A.-3

Acres may change due to boundaries of
mgt. area allocations as shown on the map for
alternative 4a. It appears that there
will be less acres in F.M.A.-3.

This same conflict is apparent in
most of the F.M.A. between the Fire
Mgt. Action Plan and the Forest
Plan.

The question is will the Forest Fire Plan
F.M.A. fire boundaries have to
agree with the final allocation map for
proposed alternative 4a.?

Comments on the Ten Lakes Area

Most people agree this shouldn't be designated as a Wilderness area but I feel the proposed direction is also not what the general public needs or wants.

Following are a few comments concerning this area I have observed on the ground and by talking to local residents and recreationists passing through the area.

1. Viewing - Most of the general public want this near natural looking area to stay as it is. They want it preserved for viewing and wildlife needs. The proposed direction is to put the timber in a regulated category and I don't think this is in the best interests of the general public. The current direction does protect the area better and allows for needed salvage logging. I realize that it may not be economical to salvage log this area in the near future but it doesn't need logging at this time anyway. Most of the timber harvested over in 1889 and downed fuels are light to moderate in the area.

Page 10 of the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act says the fuel hazard is moderate

mobile use in the area. Let's insure that snowmobile use is not allowed on the existing big-game winter range.

COPIES OF THE WRITTEN
STATEMENTS SUBMITTED AT
THE TEE LAKES HEARING
EUREKA, MONTANA

MR. WILLIAM MORDEN. Mr. Presiding Officer, ladies and gentlemen. AS directed by the Montana Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150, of November 2, 1977, the Forest Service has studied the area known as Ten Lakes for its suitability for preservation as wilderness.

The Forest Service proposal is stated in the Document entitled: Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area Report and Proposal. I would like to present this publication and a copy of my statement for the official record.

The proposal is also shown on the maps (right here behind me).

The Forest Service's Proposed Action Alternative for Ten Lakes is non-wilderness. The Proposed Action recommends that approximately 52 percent of the area (18,800 acres) be managed as a roadless recreation area. This roadless recreation area would permit snowmobiling.

The remainder of the 35,900 acre Study Area would be allocated to other appropriate forms of management, which includes about 10,000 acres where the visual resource is a major consideration, and about 6,600 acres where wildlife, including grizzly bears, receive emphasis. Timber harvest is scheduled to occur on about 16,400 acres of the Study Area and would be used primarily to enhance the wildlife and visual resources.

Five other alternatives were considered in detail during the study of Ten Lakes. These alternatives included a "No Action" alternative, which represented the existing unit plan allocations for the area which is also non-wilderness. Alternative "A" recommends a 16,400 acre wilderness, Alternative "B" proposes a 29,600 acre wilderness, Alternative "C" recommends the entire 35,900 acre area for wilderness, and Alternative "D" which proposes a 6,500 acre wilderness.



MONTANA WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF BILL CUNNINGHAM, CONSERVATION DIRECTOR FOR
THE MONTANA WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION ON THE FOREST SERVICE REPORT FOR THE
TEN LAKES WILDERNESS STUDY AREA PRESENTED AT THE FOREST SERVICE PUBLIC
HEARING AT EUREKA AND LIBBY MONTANA--JANUARY 17 & 18, 1983

In late July, 1980 I led a Montana Wilderness Association Wilderness Walk for a 3-day backpack into the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. I was tremendously impressed with the beauty and high wilderness suitability of the country and with the positive ^{land} stewardship expressed by local Forest Service officials. I was convinced that at least some of the wilderness resource would be recommended for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System in the upcoming wilderness study for the area.

I must now confess amazement and severe disappointment that no portion of the Ten Lakes WSA is proposed for Congressional Wilderness designation in the draft Forest Service report.

It is important to understand that the decision to include Ten Lakes in Sen. Metcalf's Montana Wilderness Study Act (S.393) was not made lightly or in a vacuum. Only 9 of the original 182 nonselected RARE I areas in Montana were included in the bill. This selection, made in consultation with Senator Metcalf, was based on high wilderness suitability of each of the areas.

S.393 is a unique citizen's bill conceived in the crucible of democracy, providing a fresh new mandate and an opportunity for the Forest Service to apply a new approach to the evaluation of nearly one million acres of high quality wildlands entrusted to its care. After seeing only 1/3 of one of the six S.393 areas thusfar studied receive tentative agency wilderness recommendation, I am sadly disillusioned by the process and by the way in which the process is being implemented by the Forest Service. As I mentioned, my disillusionment runs deep with regard to the nonwilderness recommendation for Ten Lakes.

I am concerned that this report violates both the spirit and the letter of the Montana Wilderness Study Act which mandates an objective wilderness study of the 9 WSA's. In the first place, the report is not a wilderness study. It contains almost nothing about the wilderness resource in Ten Lakes. The study would be more appropriately described as a "nonwilderness study" in that more information is presented on timber, mineral potential and ORV uses than about wilderness.

The report is sterile and repetitive--seemingly absent of any feeling or sensitivity for the fragile remnant wild landscape we call Ten Lakes. Although I know this is not the case, there is no real evidence that the writers of the report have ever even visited the WSA, or at least that they have visited the area on its own terms for an extensive period of time using primitive means of travel, such as foot or horseback. Only so doing can genuine sensitivity toward the wilderness resource be developed. Without this deep sensitivity there can be no wilderness study.

At minimum, a wilderness study should give the reviewer an in-depth discussion and description of the wilderness resource on a drainage by drainage (basin by basin) level. Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation should be described in detail with emphasis on topographic and geologic features, natural beauty and vegetation/habitat types. Because the WSA consists of virgin, undeveloped country which has essentially avoided human-caused change, a discussion of the influence of naturally-occurring evolutionary change over time within the study area would be appropriate. In particular, the study should more carefully discuss wildland-dependent

January 17, 1983

My name is Justin Cunningham of Helena Montana. I am 12 years old now but when I was about 9 I went on a Montana Wilderness Association backpacking trip which my dad led in July 1980. We camped at a lake called Bluebird Lake with trout that we caught and had for dinner. Also at that same lake I caught toads and frogs almost as big as my hand. From Bluebird Lake we hiked onto the main Ten Lakes Ridge where we could look down and see alot of lakes. We could see alot of rock chucks also. We hiked to Stahl Mountain which had a lookout on the top. We could see British Columbia and Glacier Park. I would prefer it if you keep the Ten Lakes Area the way it was when I was 9. So please choose alternative C so that there will be a 35,900 acre Ten Lakes Wilderness area.

Justin Cunningham
736 9th Avenue
Helena, Montana 59601

Weydemeyer

-2-

Under this sort of administration, what could happen to the Ten Lakes area in the future? It seems to me that official wilderness designation is urgent.

Ruling out the Proposed Action plan, which would leave the entire study area as non-wilderness, which Alternate Plan offers the best solution?

Alternative D, designating the original scenic area of 6500 acres as wilderness, while opening surrounding lands to development, is not acceptable. The area would be too small, recreational use would be too concentrated, and inadequate buffer zone protection would be provided.

Alternative A, providing a somewhat larger wilderness section but providing for timber management on more than half of the study area, would still leave the proposed wilderness section too restricted and narrow.

Alternative C, giving wilderness designation to the entire study area, would provide the greatest protection to the natural aspects of that portion of the range, as well as preserving the largest area of undeveloped grizzly bear habitat. I recognize that objection to this plan will be raised because it would exclude timber harvesting on some outreach boundary areas which do not possess outstanding wilderness character.

Alternative B plan overcomes these objections by excluding these areas in the northwest lobe (west and north of Independence Peak) and in the southern portion of the southern lobe (the Little Gibraltar area.)

The Kootenai National Forest Plan^{which} calls for nearly tripling the mileage of roads by the year 2030, admits that the demand for roadless recreation will not be met. In view of these projections

Snowmobiling in the Ten Lakes area provides a unique experience to the public. Because of the open basins and trails, a snowmobile can enjoy the beauty of the area and at the same time have a wilderness experience. It is close enough to vehicle access that a one day trip can cover several times over. With the volume cabin, an overnight stay is also possible. In the spring time while the valleys are thawing out, the snow conditions are ideal in the high country for beautiful scenery and snow recreation.

SUBMITTED BY MR. PERSHALL

1 UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

2
3
4
5 COPY
67
8 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS9 FOR THE KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST PROPOSAL FOR
10 TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA (PL 95-150)
1112
13 PUBLIC HEARING
1415 Taken at the Venture Inn
16 Libby, Montana
17 Tuesday, January 18, 1983 - 2:00 p.m.
18
19
20
21
22
2324 Reported by Melody Jeffries, Official-Freelance Court
25 Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula,
Montana.

I N D E X

HEARINGS OFFICER: LAWRENCE M. JAKUB

U.S. FOREST SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES:

PAUL LEIMBACH, Forest Supervisor's Office
TIM O'GORMAN, Forest Supervisor's Office
GARY MORGAN, Forest Supervisor's Office
JOHN PRITCHARD, Murphy Lake District Ranger

Introduction and Meeting Objectives. . . Lawrence M. Jakub. . . 3
Forest Service Study Results Gary Morgan. 6

SPEAKERS:

LARRY BLASING, Director of Forestry Service Programs,
Inland Forest Resource Council, Missoula, Montana 9

JOHN McBRIDE, St. Regis Paper Company, Route 1, Box 1218,
St. Regis, Montana. 10

BILL CUNNINGHAM, Conservation Director of the Montana
Wilderness Association, P.O. Box 635, Helena, Montana . . 11

JAY VEST, Graduate Researcher, University of Montana,
Missoula, Montana 18

KEITH ENGEBRETSON, District Land Manager, Champion
Timberlands, Pleasant Valley District, Marion, Montana. . 24

RONALD BUENTEMEIR, FHA Stoltze Land & Lumber Co., Columbia
Falls, Montana. 26

JOHN MARCEAU, Plum Creek Lumber Company, Columbia Falls,
Montana 27

BUD JOURNEY, Route 2, Box 250, Libby, Montana 27

BOB HOLIDAY, 519 Lewis Avenue, Libby, Montana 29

NED E. DECKER, Route 2, Box 577, Libby, Montana 33

PATRICK CONNELL, Route 2, Box 62, Libby, Montana. 37

JACK MANSKI, Libby Snowmobile Club, Box 751F, Libby,
Montana 41

Certificate of Court Reporter 42

1 Act Area, an area of thirty-five thousand nine hundred acres,
2 was analyzed as part of the Kootenai National Forest planning
3 process. A map of the Ten Lakes Area and its environs, as well
4 as maps of the alternatives analyzed, are displayed on the wall
5 in this room.

6 This hearing, the one yesterday at Eureka, as well as
7 the session at Kalispell tomorrow, January 19th, are being held
8 to consider the results of the Forest Service's study.

9 In accordance with the public notice this hearing is
10 reconvened and opened today, January 18th, 1983, at two p.m. at
11 the Venture Inn at Libby, Montana. I have been designated as
12 the presiding officer at this hearing. My name is Lawrence M.
13 Jakub and I am the attorney in charge for the U.S. Department
14 of Agriculture, Office of General Counsel, located at Missoula,
15 Montana.

16 Now, a few words about the procedure which will be
17 followed at this hearing. This hearing is not a debate, a
18 trial, or a question and answer assembly, but an advisory
19 hearing wherein all interested persons may present written or
20 oral statements or other information relative to the matters
21 named in the notice by the Regional Forester. The statement of
22 interested parties will not be taken under oath. But each
23 person desiring to express their views should come to the front
24 of the room and state your name, your address, and whom you
25 represent, if anyone, and then the nature of your interest in

1 Federal Building in Missoula or here at the Forest Supervisor's
2 Office at Libby.

3 Anyone desiring a copy of the transcript should make
4 arrangements with the reporter to obtain one and, again, the
5 reporter is sitting at the table to my right.

6 For the purpose of determining how many persons desire
7 to make an oral statement, a register has been located at the
8 entrance to this room for those who wish to present statements
9 today, and we'll start out by calling those who have registered.
10 If you have a written statement that you are reading or
11 summarizing today, I would like to have you leave a copy of
12 that statement with the reporter at the time that you finish.

13 First of all, I'm going to ask the Forest Service to
14 outline the results of their study and then I'll ask for any
15 elected officials or any persons representing a federal or
16 state or local agency, and then the general public as indicated
17 in the register, or as they want to indicate later, can then
18 testify or make a statement.

19 First of all, to present the views of the Forest
20 Service we'll hear from Mr. Gary Morgan, who will be acting on
21 behalf of Mr. William Morden who is the Forest Supervisor for
22 Kootenai National Forest.

23 MR. MORGAN: Thank you, Larry. Mr. Presiding officer,
24 ladies and gentlemen, as directed by the Montana Wilderness
25 Study Act, Public Law 95-150, of November 2nd, 1977, the Forest

1 plan allocations for the area which is also nonwilderness.
2 Alternative A recommends a sixteen thousand four hundred acre
3 wilderness. Alternative B proposes a twenty-nine thousand six
4 hundred acre wilderness, Alternative C recommends the entire
5 thirty-five thousand nine hundred acre for wilderness and
6 Alternative D, which proposes a six thousand five hundred acre
7 wilderness.

8 It should be noted that until Congress decides
9 otherwise, the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area will be managed,
10 subject to existing private rights and uses, to maintain the
11 existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in
12 the National Wilderness Preservation System. No timber harvest,
13 road construction or other developmental activities will be
14 programmed under any alternative, including the Proposed Action,
15 until Congress makes a final decision on the management of the
16 area.

17 In closing, I will briefly review the schedule of
18 events regarding this study after this hearing. Written
19 statements will be accepted until March 1st, 1983. The report
20 and proposal will be reviewed in light of these statements
21 received and revised, as appropriate. After this review, the
22 Forest Service will submit a final recommendation to the Forest
23 Service Chief and Secretary of Agriculture, who will in turn
24 transmit them to the President and Congress. Any
25 recommendations by the President for wilderness shall become

1 in the vicinity of the area, other recreational pursuits, the
2 necessity to be able to manage the lands for wildlife,
3 including grizzly bears, I think are important considerations
4 that preclude wilderness. We support the recommendations and
5 recognize that the commercial forest lands around the periphery
6 of the area are important for timber harvest and we will be
7 probably making some additional recommendations, specific
8 recommendations in terms of how those areas might be better
9 utilized. That's enough there. We'll send the rest of it
10 in our written comments.

11 HEARINGS OFFICER: John McBride.

12 MR. McBRIDE: I'm John McBride, St. Regis Paper
13 Company. For an address, this is my home address, it's Route 1,
14 Box 1218. St. Regis Paper Company is a forest product company
15 and we're dependent upon forest products and as a result we are
16 quite interested in the timber aspects of this country,
17 including Ten Lakes, although it's at the edge of our influence.

18 We do feel that the Forest Service has complied with
19 the law and with the intent of the law in managing the area
20 under the S.393, Public Law 95-150. The closest proposal that
21 is written out, we feel, is the Proposed Action the Forest
22 Service has. We might prefer to see timber addressed a little
23 more extensively than it is, but we do find that the Proposed
24 Action is adequate and effective. We feel that it not only
25 protects our interest, it actually protects a number of other

1 Ten Lakes Study Area for a three-day backpacking trip and
2 enjoyed the company thoroughly and became very impressed with
3 the high wilderness suitability with this small, fragile
4 remnant of wild country which still exists in Northwestern
5 Montana.

6 I would like to comment on the methodology contained
7 within the report for the assessment of the wilderness resource.
8 Unfortunately, the Ten Lakes report lacks a discussion of
9 methodology or, in other words, how is that resource of
10 wilderness assessed, how is it viewed, how is it evaluated. The
11 law, I would remind the Forest Service, called S.393 mandates
12 a wilderness study and yet I have serious question as to
13 whether this report can really be called a wilderness study.
14 It might more appropriately be termed a nonwilderness study in
15 that nonwilderness resources of minerals, timber and
16 nonwilderness uses, such as snowmobiling, receive much more
17 consideration in the report than does the resource of wilderness.

18 It is not sufficient to merely repeat the original
19 Rare I and Rare II wilderness ratings, which the report does.
20 We need to know whether and how the wilderness attribute rating
21 system, for example, was specifically tailored to the Ten Lakes
22 Study Area. There's nothing in the report that indicates it
23 was.

24 The report does acknowledge that the area rates high
25 in naturalness and natural integrity, but the report goes on to

1 wilderness classification.

2 I want to discuss for a moment the mandate of the
3 Montana Wilderness Study Act; that is, that the Forest Service
4 maintain the presently existing potential for each study area
5 for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System
6 until otherwise determined by Congress. We see in this report
7 and in the Kootenai Forest plan that's proposed that some
8 thirty-six percent of the Wilderness Study Area is included in
9 the suitable timber base proposed in the plan and that a small
10 portion of future timber harvests on the Kootenai is partly
11 dependent on access in and developing this thirty-six percent
12 or approximately sixteen and a half thousand acres of so-called
13 suitability timberland within the Study Area. The concern we
14 have is that this can bias the process of objectivity for
15 wilderness studies that is required in the Montana Wilderness
16 Study Act in that an artificial economic dependency on
17 developing the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area is established.

18 Therefore, when the time comes for Congress to
19 consider the Ten Lakes as a possible addition to the wilderness
20 system, the industry most assuredly will say, well, you can't
21 do that, Congress, because X-amount of timber harvest is
22 scheduled or programmed after the first decade within the Ten
23 Lakes Area and so we see a future dependency that is created
24 that, in our view, tends to diminish the potential for
25 inclusion of the area in the wilderness system, in violation of

1 a sea of roads and clearcuts. There's going to be a million
2 and a half acres of the Kootenai Forest accessed, roaded and
3 developed and, for the most part, that's good. We need that
4 timber base to sustain timber industry and employment in
5 Lincoln County, but we also need places for refuge, for
6 solitude; places to diversify our economy, to help our
7 recreation industry, which interestingly enough has been one of
8 the few stable bright spots in our Northwestern Montana economy,
9 and if we destroy these small, wild places in the name of
10 short-sighted timber development and additional roads, we're
11 definitely going to suffer long-term economic as well as social
12 and environmental impacts.

13 The Ten Lakes provides us then with one of the only
14 opportunities for wilderness in Northwest Montana. This
15 opportunity can be realized with an almost insignificant
16 commodity of nonwilderness use trade-off. Ten Lakes is
17 well-suited for wilderness management, as I've already
18 indicated. The existing sixty-five hundred acres scenic area
19 or even a possible eighteen thousand acre expansion of the
20 scenic area, which is by no means insured in the report
21 proposed by the Forest Service, is not an adequate substitute
22 for the permanent statutory protection of wild country which
23 only the Wilderness Act can provide. For those of us who would
24 like to see the area remain as it is, nothing less than the
25 Wilderness Act will do.

1 thousand acre Ten Lake Wilderness. One letter is from Mr.
2 Graetz, publisher of Montana Magazine from Helena. Mr. Graetz
3 stresses the economic values of wilderness recreation and
4 wilderness protection as a means of diversifying and
5 stabilizing our economy without harming the land itself.

6 I have another personal letter in support of
7 Alternative C from Ellen Arguimbau, A-R-G-U-I-M-B-A-U, also of
8 Helena, Montana. Thank you for this opportunity.

9 HEARINGS OFFICER: Jay Vest.

10 MR. VEST: My name is Jay Vest and I'm a graduate
11 researcher at the University of Montana. I'm from Missoula.
12 My specialty there is wilderness history and philosophy and
13 policy. What I would like to do, first of all, is amplify on
14 some of the historic and philosophic principles in relation to
15 this, and then at a later date I will submit a comprehensive
16 policy assessment of the study.

17 First of all, we are basically Northern Europeans in
18 origin, and in Europe about three thousand years ago the
19 wilderness concept developed. There was a civilization there
20 known as the Celtic civilization and they established
21 wilderness sanctuaries known as nematones. These areas were
22 sacred. And you also see this in the Germanic peoples. The
23 areas were known as irminsuls. The point of this is we have a
24 wilderness heritage as old as our race. The areas were
25 established as a basis from which the people would study the

1 North America, we've developed ninety-eight percent of it. And
2 we had a wilderness dependent economy bent on developing these
3 lands.

4 Today, two percent of North America is in a wild
5 condition. If we are dependent on that last two percent to
6 sustain ourselves, then I would say that we're in a very sad
7 shape. We're not only in a crisis as recognized by our current
8 recession -- or depression. I don't like the term recession.
9 I think it is, in fact, a depression. My point is that we
10 can't continue to be based on a wilderness dependent economy.
11 We have to strive for some sort of stable state economy, a
12 balanced economy, one that we can maintain and sustain over the
13 long term over our productive lands.

14 On the Kootenai Forest, the timber base is one point
15 five million acres, according to the most recent draft plan.
16 That certainly, in relation to this small Ten Lakes Wilderness
17 Study Area, is a much better environment to harvest timber on
18 and it's absurd to say that we have to have this last little
19 area to sustain our economy.

20 The other aspects I would like to emphasize is in
21 terms of wilderness and multiple use. Wilderness tends to be a
22 soft kind of land use practice; by that, it does not consume
23 the land. The land maintains its health. We can go into
24 wilderness areas that are large enough to where we can observe
25 large areas of land, an ecosystem's health, and the state that

1 Seeing as how we are one of the last developed states,
2 we have a chance to do our development in such a way as to
3 prevent the total annihilation of our land base, what's
4 happened in many other states. We also have a chance to hang
5 on to our frontier heritage, such as guides and outfitters
6 taking horses into this area and this sort of thing. That's
7 the kind of frontier thing -- It would be a shame to see that
8 lost, that quality of life.

9 The other aspect I want to emphasize is the spiritual
10 solitude, which is a concept that has not been fully explained
11 or investigated by the Federal Resource Agency, and it's a
12 concept that interests me very strongly so I've been tracking
13 it down. Etymologically, solitude can be traced back to the
14 Latin "solace" and "tude". So the soul relates to the sun, or
15 the soul in here (indicating). The "tude" is an abstraction
16 for a mood. So the result is soul mood. That's spirituality.
17 At that point, it's not so much how far you are alone in the
18 sense you need the wild environment for this kind of thing in
19 the terms of what I was talking about in Northern Europe with
20 the sacred groves and so forth, but you also -- It's not so
21 much a matter of being alone from others. It's the matter of
22 degree in which they behave. Merely being alone does not
23 constitute spirituality. We all know that. If people behave
24 in a spiritual manner and a sacred manner, then we can accept
25 them and recognize their presence and still enjoy the solitude

1 helped us become what we are in any aspect you want to take it.
2 Even if you take it through the Judaic-Christian tradition,
3 humankind was cast out of the garden to develop into the
4 wilderness in that sense and it has done us the greatest good
5 in that sense.

6 Okay, another aspect I would like to continue on
7 slightly with is --

8 HEARINGS OFFICER: Excuse me, I'll give you another
9 minute, okay?

10 MR. VEST: Okay, let me just go back to the theme I
11 just touched on earlier and that's coexistence. If we have a
12 charge in life, we have a charge to coexist with the others,
13 other than human persons out there, the wildlife, the landscape
14 and so forth. So by coexisting we can have some sacred areas
15 preserved, their values preserved for themselves, for their own
16 purposes, to be what they are and not just for us. Thank you,
17 and I support Alternative C. I will make a more detailed
18 statement of the policy and so forth at a later date.

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: Keith Engebretson.

20 MR. ENGBRETSON: My name is Keith Engebretson. I am
21 the District Land Manager for Champion's Timberlands Pleasant
22 Valley District at Marion, Montana. I would like to thank you
23 for this opportunity to express Champion's statement here.

24 Champion International Corporation manages six hundred
25 eighty-two thousand acres of timberlands in Western Montana.

1 heavily upon the raw materials generated from the mills in the
2 vicinity of Ten Lakes. The Frenchtown pulp mill produces five
3 hundred thousand tons of finished product annually and employs
4 seven hundred people. To accomplish this goal it requires ten
5 percent roundwood and ninety percent wastewood in the form of
6 wood chips and sawdust. The local mills, specifically American
7 Timber Company, Kasanka Lumber Company and the Owens and Hurst
8 Lumber Company currently provide one third of the wastewood
9 needs for the Frenchtown mill. But Kootenai National Forest
10 accounts for sixty percent of the local mills' roundwood usage.
11 By reducing this timber base, it would add to the already
12 dwindling timber supply. Therefore, Champion's concern is
13 maintaining the timber base in order to meet present and future
14 wood product demands. Thank you.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: Ronald Buentemeir.

16 MR. BUENTEMEIR: Thank you. My name is Ronald
17 Buentemeir. I reside at 225 Dillon Road, Columbia Falls,
18 Montana. My comments today are made first as a professional
19 forester, and secondly, as a forester for FHA Stoltze Land and
20 Lumber Company in Columbia Falls, Montana. I am personally
21 familiar with the area. I have been familiar with it for over
22 twenty years and I support and our company supports the Forest
23 Service's alternative. We think that is the best management
24 and I personally think that's the best management for those
25 acres. Thank you.

1 recreation. The proposed forest plan admits that demand for
2 roadless recreation will exceed supply within forty years.
3 That's a pretty questionable prediction when you look at the
4 increase in demand in other parts of the country. There are
5 already use restrictions in some national parks and
6 wildernesses in other states, as well as on some rivers. The
7 heavily used Cabinet Mountain Wilderness Area is a prime
8 candidate for use restrictions in the near future. It's
9 inevitable; there simply isn't enough space for the demands
10 that will be put on it. It's already difficult or impossible
11 for outfitters to get some types of use permits in the Kootenai
12 National Forest because of development that's already occurred.
13 That's only one symptom of increasing use conflicts. What's
14 needed is more wilderness and nonmotorized recreational
15 opportunities, not less. Incidentally, the forest points out
16 this projected shortfall in roadless recreation, but proposes
17 no remedy for the problem.

18 I support motorized recreation on public lands. I
19 think the right to drive cars, four-wheel drive vehicles,
20 motorcycles, snowmobiles and other recreational vehicles should
21 be protected. I use them myself. However, to deny wilderness
22 designation in Ten Lakes because of snowmobiles or motorcycle
23 use is ridiculous. There are six thousand miles of roads
24 already on this forest and there will eventually be twelve
25 thousand if the engineers have their way. Even with the

1 But pretty soon it begins getting ripe and the heads begin to
2 fall over and maybe people outside the fence begin to get
3 hungry for that wheat and the wheat is all fenced in because
4 it's wilderness area. Well, it seems to me that we have
5 resources and the resources are growing only in certain
6 places. They're not necessarily growing.

7 The Ten Lakes Area, the people that are the head of
8 the Anaconda Company prior to when Montana was a state
9 developed some mines in there and they looked like real good
10 mines, but it's so inaccessible that they dropped them because
11 they couldn't get near them. Well, the point is there very
12 probably is pretty good mineralization there that should be
13 used and I think it should be left so we can use those things.
14 The time we need our resources is now when you're ready to eat.
15 It's not a year from now or ten years from now or fence off and
16 don't use it.

17 This morning's Spokesman Review told about silver,
18 particularly in 1982 I think the United States used something
19 like one hundred forty-four million ounces of silver and they
20 produced only thirty-eight million ounces. That leaves quite a
21 balance that was shipped in. There was a balance of payment
22 owing part of a trillion or two trillion dollar indebtedness.

23 But specially coming back to this everything all
24 living, everything basic that we have comes directly from the
25 ground and it doesn't make a difference about whether it's a

1 if other people have shown up. Thank you.

2 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 3:00 p.m. and
3 subsequently reconvened at 3:30 p.m., and the following
4 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

5 HEARINGS OFFICER: For the purpose of the record, we
6 reconvened at 3:30 with no one present so we are recessing
7 until four o'clock.

8 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 3:35 p.m. and
9 subsequently reconvened at 4:00 p.m., and the following
10 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

11 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, we're going to reconvene
12 again at four o'clock to see if any other persons come in that
13 might want to testify in the hearing relative to the Ten Lakes
14 Wilderness Study Area Proposal by the Forest Service. I see we
15 have a couple of people who have turned out. Do either of you
16 want to make a statement for the record?

17 MS. NEWCOMER: No.

18 MR. DECKER: I'm not familiar with what they're taking
19 about yet.

20 HEARINGS OFFICER: We'll give you a chance to look at
21 it and maybe you'll want to make one. I think we'll wait for a
22 while and give you a chance to see if you want to make a
23 statement and if you don't, we'll just recess until this
24 evening, so we'll just wait a few minutes and see.

25 (Discussion held off the record.)

1 recessed at 4:10 until 4:30 and it's now 4:30 and no one has
2 arrived at the hearing room that wishes to make a statement.
3 There appearing to be no indication that anyone else plans to
4 attend this afternoon, we will now be in recess until 7:00 this
5 evening.

6 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 4:31 p.m. and
7 subsequently reconvened at 7:00 p.m., and the following
8 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

9 HEARINGS OFFICER: It's 7:00 and I think we'll
10 reconvene this hearing. This session of the hearing was
11 convened this afternoon at 2:00 at the Venture Inn at Libby and
12 was recessed at 4:30 until 7:00 this evening.

13 This hearing has been called for the purpose of
14 considering the results of the Forest Service's studies
15 relative to the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. I'm
16 going to briefly go over the background for the hearing for the
17 benefit of those who are in attendance this evening.

18 On November 1st, 1977, Congress passed the Montana
19 Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150. The Act requires a
20 Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations to
21 Congress on the wilderness suitability of nine separate
22 national forest areas in Montana containing nine hundred
23 seventy-three thousand acres.

24 Two of the nine areas, Mount Henry and Ten Lakes, are
25 on the Kootenai National Forest. The Ten Lakes Montana

1 your name, your address and whom you represent, if anyone, and
2 the nature of your interest in the matter. You will be
3 speaking at the microphone at the podium where I am standing.
4 Try and speak slowly and distinctly so that the reporter to my
5 right can record your complete statement. I'm not going to set
6 a time limitation for each speaker.

7 In lieu of making an oral statement, you may file a
8 written statement discussing the results of this study.
9 Written statements submitted during the hearing will be
10 available for your review at any time you might wish to see
11 them. To accommodate those who have not prepared written
12 statements but who desire to submit them or other material
13 relevant to this proceeding, the record will be kept open until
14 March 1st of this year. Written statements submitted prior to
15 March 1st will become part of the official hearing record.
16 Your statements should be sent to the Forest Supervisor of the
17 Kootenai National Forest here at Libby. All information
18 received at this hearing as well as any of those written
19 statements that you submit prior to March 1st will all become
20 part of the written record and receive the same consideration.

21 All the information at this hearing will be recorded
22 and a transcript prepared by the reporter after the hearing. A
23 completed transcript will be open to the public for inspection
24 at the offices of the Regional Forester at Missoula, as well as
25 the Forest Supervisor's Office here at Libby. Anyone desiring

1 consideration and interest in the area.

2 If you look at the map of Ten Lakes, you'll see that,
3 using a political term, it's a rather gerrymandered area. My
4 concern is partially because of this gerrymandering. The
5 impact that has historically followed wilderness
6 classifications within surrounding areas could be widely
7 encompassing what is specifically limited to the Wilderness
8 Study Area for the Ten Lakes. A concern for buffer strips,
9 limited user entry because of heavy impacted areas of entry,
10 that would all be of high concern to me if I was wanting to
11 travel in the Ten Lakes Area for wilderness experience.

12 Certainly to date there has been, there has been a
13 great deal of recreational use in the area. That recreational
14 use has not been limited solely to backpacking or other types
15 of recreation that is in agreement to the legal definition of
16 wilderness. I find that it's very difficult to support or
17 encourage wilderness classification of an area that has had
18 historical use of recreational activity that for Northwestern
19 Montana is rather heavy during the winter, which such
20 recreational activity could be in direct juxtaposition to legal
21 wilderness acceptable recreational usage.

22 I have heard comments that motorized winter travel,
23 snowmobiles if you will, could possibly be allowed in this one
24 wilderness if such area was considered for wilderness. I would
25 submit that colleagues that I know that support wilderness

1 alternative of not recommending wilderness classification, but
2 maintaining, per se, an administrative primitive area
3 management for acres within the Study Area would protect the
4 critical, pristine areas that we all recognize has high value
5 for recreation, but it would not limit the uses that we also
6 share in other places of the Ten Lakes, recreation or economic,
7 that we don't wish to lose at this time. Thank you.

8 HEARINGS OFFICER: Is there anyone else who would like
9 to come forward to make a statement? Is there anyone in
10 attendance who would like to come forward and make a statement
11 at this time? What I think we'll do is we'll take a ten minute
12 recess and give you time to make a statement in light of what's
13 been said and give a chance for some other people to come. So
14 we'll take a ten minute recess until 7:25 and then we'll
15 reconvene.

16 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 7:15 p.m. and
17 subsequently reconvened at 7:25 p.m., and the following
18 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: It's 7:25 so we're going to
20 reconvene again. Is there anyone here who wants to come up and
21 make a statement? All right. What I'm going to do is just
22 keep the hearing open and just be here probably up until at
23 least 8:00 and if anybody comes in and wants to make a
24 statement, we'll let them. At 8:00 we'll assess the situation
25 and see whether we should continue to remain here or not. I'm

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF MONTANA)
: ss.
County of Missoula)

I, Melody Jeffries, RPR, Official-Freelance Court
Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula,
Montana, do hereby certify:

That I was duly authorized to and did report the
testimony and evidence in the above-entitled cause;

I further certify that the foregoing pages of this
transcript represent a true and accurate transcription of my
stenotype notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on
this the 24th day of January, 1983.

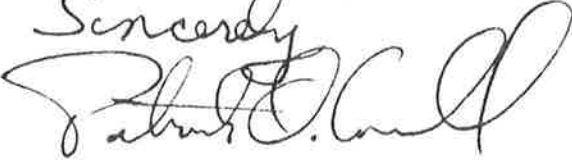
Melody Jeffries
Melody Jeffries, RPR
Official-Freelance Court Reporter
State of Montana, Residing in
Missoula, Montana.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 24th
day of January, 1983.

Mary W. Davis
NOTARY PUBLIC FOR THE STATE OF MONTANA
Residing in Missoula, Montana.
My Commission expires 04/07/85

of this area need be as designated wilderness, rather, an administrative designation of "primitive" without the associated limitations of wilderness as defined in the Wilderness Act. I believe the USFS capable of administering a primitive area without Congress's heavy hand being involved; moreover, the associated repercussions of a designated wilderness: i.e., buffer zones, user wilderness experience, can be avoided.

My position is to avoid legal wilderness, just administer said reasonable areas as de facto wilderness under administrative jurisdiction

Sincerely

 Patrick O. Connell

MY NAME IS KEITH ENGEBRETSON. I AM THE DISTRICT LAND MANAGER FOR CHAMPION TIMBERLANDS PLEASANT VALLEY DISTRICT AT MARION, MONTANA. CHAMPION INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION MANAGES 682,000 ACRES OF TIMBERLANDS IN WESTERN MONTANA. IT OPERATES A TOTAL OF 11 MILES AND PLANTS IN MONTANA AND IDAHO.

CHAMPION SUPPORTS AND RECOMMENDS THE ADOPTION OF THE "PROPOSED ACTION" ALTERNATIVE OF THE TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA. THE "PROPOSED ACTION" ALTERNATIVE OF THE KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST DRAFT ENVIROMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CALLS FOR A NONWILDERNESS CLASSIFICATION. CHAMPION AGREES WITH THIS BECAUSE, FIRST, THERE IS ADEQUATE LEGISLATED WILDERNESS IN THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS SYSTEM. PRESENTLY, 1.7 MILLION ACRES IS WITHIN 150 AIR MILES AND 0.4 MILLION ACRES IS WITHIN 100 AIR MILES OF THE STUDY AREA. SECOND TEN LAKES DOES NOT LEND ITSELF TO A HIGH OPPORTUNITY FOR SOLITUDE. THIS IS DUE TO THE AREAS IRREGULAR CONFIGURATION AND, EXISTING ROADS AND PREVIOUS LOGGING ACTIVITY ADJACENT TO THE STUDY AREA.

THE TEN LAKES STUDY AREA HAS PROVIDED A DIVERSITY OF OTHER USES AS WELL AS TIMBER PRODUCTION ADDING TO THE STABILITY OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY. RECREATION USE IS OF THE NONMOTORIZED FORM OF DISPERSED RECREATION, INCLUDING HIKING, NATURE STUDY, CAMPING, HORSEBACK RIDING, HUNTING AND FISHING. SNOWMOBILING HAS ALSO BEEN PERMITTED SINCE 1976 AND IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE. AS STATED IN THE DEIS, TOTAL VISITOR USE HAS INCREASED 45% FROM 9,200 VISITOR DAYS IN 1976 TO 16,700 VISITOR DAYS IN 1981. THESE USES PROVIDE A MORE BALANCED LOCAL ECONOMIC BASE. BY NARROWING

1027 No. Jackson
Helena, MT, 59601
January 16, 1983

Mr Bill Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai Nat'l Forest
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr Morden:

I would like to go on record as supporting Alternative C for the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study area.

Northwest Montana has been an area of heavy timber harvest for many years. For this reason The Kootenai Forest has a lower percentage of wilderness designation than any other Forest in the state. There are fewer remaining areas left - a natural state suitable for grizzly bear habitat, non-motorized recreation + solitude. Even the Cabinet Mtn Wilderness has been so heavily impacted by mining that it can hardly be said to be still wilderness. Since the Ten Lakes area is one of only two areas left - the Kootenai Nat'l Forest under Wilderness study status it would truly be a shame to further subdivide this small area allowing much of it to be lost permanently to the public. The area should not be "locked up" by the timber ~~leaves~~. The whole of this tiny remaining Northwest Montana Wilderness should receive protection under Alternative C.

Thank you for your consideration

Ellen H. Arguimbau
(Ellen H. Arguimbau)

ALFRED E. "Bud" JOURNEY

ROUTE 2 BOX 250
LIBBY, MONTANA 59923

(406) 293-6985



January 18, 1903

COMMENTS FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TEN LAKES WILDERNESS AREA

I can't believe that I'm here defending the appropriateness of the Ten Lakes Area as wilderness. There is so pitiful little of this country that is wilderness that it is preposterous that we don't jump at the opportunity to include this area in the nation's wilderness system.

A person need only take out a map and look at the paltry amount of this 2½ million acre forest, that is wilderness, to see the crying need for more wilderness. If all of the Ten Lakes Area and all the Scotchman Peaks Area and all the proposed additions to the Cabinet Wilderness is combined with the existing Cabinet Wilderness, the total acreage would be less than 10% of the Kootenai National Forest.

That's pretty pathetic when you look at the rapidly growing demand for a rapidly decreasing ~~an~~ resource -- roadless recreation. The proposed forest plan admits that demand, for roadless recreation, will exceed supply within forty years. That's a pretty questionable prediction when you look at the increase in demand in other parts of the country. There are already use restrictions in some national parks and ~~for~~ wildernesses in other states, as well as on some rivers. The heavily used Cabinet Mountain Wilderness Area is a prime candidate for use restrictions in the near future. It's inevitable; there simply isn't enough space for the demands that will be put on it.

1 UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

2
3
4
5 COPY
6

7
8 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

9 FOR THE KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST PROPOSAL FOR
10 TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA (PL 95-150)
11

12
13
14 PUBLIC HEARING

15 Taken at the Outlaw Inn
16 Kalispell, Montana
17 Wednesday, January 19, 1983 - 2:00 p.m.
18

19
20
21
22
23
24 Reported by Melody Jeffries, Official-Freelance Court
25 Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula,
Montana.

I N D E X

HEARINGS OFFICER: LAWRENCE M. JAKUB

U.S. FOREST SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES:

PAUL LEIMBACH, Forest Supervisor's Office
TIM O'GORMAN, Forest Supervisor's Office
GARY MORGAN, Forest Supervisor's Office

Introduction and Meeting Objectives. . Lawrence M. Jakub. . . 3

SPEAKERS:

CAROL FREE, 2196 Mission Trail Kalispell. 7

BUD CLINCH, Montana Logging Association, Kalispell. . . . 8

RICHARD KUHL, 867 North Main, Kalispell 11

TOM HIRLOCK, 417 Third Street West, Kalispell 17

JOHN GATCHEL, Flathead Chapter Territory of Montana
Wilderness Association. 21

JOHN FREE, 2216 Mission Trail, Kalispell. 26

MIKE FREE, 2196 Mission Trail, Kalispell. 29

DALE BURK, 295 Kootenai Creek, Stevensville 30

WAYNE HERMAN, 573 Second Avenue North, Kalispell. . . . 45

JAMES R. CONNER, 78 Konley Drive, Kalispell 46

Certificate of Court Reporter 53

1 analyzed at part of the Kootenai National Forest planning
2 process. A map of the Ten Lakes Area and its environs, as well
3 as maps of the alternatives analyzed, are displayed in this
4 room to my left, on the wall.

5 This hearing session, the one yesterday at Libby, as
6 well as the one on Monday, January 17th, at Eureka, are being
7 held to consider the results of the Forest Service's study
8 relative to this Ten Lakes Area.

9 In accordance with the public notice, this hearing is
10 reconvened and opened today, January 19th, 1983, at two p.m. at
11 the Outlaw Inn at Kalispell, Montana. I've been designated as
12 the presiding officer for the hearing. My name is Lawrence M.
13 Jakub and I am the attorney in charge with the U.S. Department
14 of Agriculture, Office of General Counsel, located at Missoula,
15 Montana.

16 A few words about the procedure which will be followed.
17 This hearing is not a debate, a trial, or a question and answer
18 assembly, but it's merely an advisory hearing wherein
19 interested persons can come forward and provide oral statements
20 or other information relative to the matters named in the
21 notice for the hearing. A statement of interested parties will
22 not be taken under oath, but each person desiring to express
23 his views should come to the front of the room and state your
24 name and address and whom you represent, if anyone, and state
25 your interest in the matter. You'll be speaking here at the

1 to this room you may desire to make a statement. If so, you
2 may have been asked to register, so I'll start with those
3 persons who are registered, if there are any. Do you have any
4 people registered?

5 MR. LEIMBACH: We have a Mr. Dale Burk. I don't know
6 if he's here yet.

7 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, I'll just go on to
8 anyone who happens to be present that would care to make a
9 statement at this time who hasn't registered. Is there anyone
10 here who would like to come forward to make a statement? Okay,
11 if not, I guess what we'll have to do is we'll just wait. I'm
12 going to hold the hearing open and we'll just go off the record
13 and any of you who might want to make a statement, indicate so
14 and you'll have an opportunity to do so, or we'll just wait for
15 people to come in and make statements if they would like, so
16 we'll go off the record.

17 (Discussion held off the record.)

18 HEARINGS OFFICER: Back on the record for a minute. I
19 might ask that if, during our little recess here anyone has
20 decided they want to make a statement, if so, feel free to come
21 up and go to it. If not, we'll just go off the record again
22 and wait and see if somebody wants to or comes in and wants to.
23 I don't know how long we'll wait, but we'll be here for a while.

24 (Discussion held off the record.)

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: Why don't we go back on the record

1 an opportunity to come, that might want to testify at the
2 hearing relative to the Ten Lakes Study Proposal by the Forest
3 Service. It's now 4:03 and we'll go back on the record. Is
4 there anyone here that would like to come up and make a
5 statement at this time? All right, why don't you come forward
6 and state your name and your address and whom you represent.

7 MR. CLINCH: To the mike?

8 HEARINGS OFFICER: Right, up to the microphone.

9 MR. CLINCH: Yes, my name is Bud Clinch and I
10 represent the Montana Logging Association here in Kalispell and
11 our Association would like it entered on the record as
12 supporting the Proposed Action Alternative, the nonwilderness
13 designation, in accordance with the recommendations as set
14 forth by the Forest Service, and that's all. Thank you.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, fine. Let's go off the
16 record.

17 (Discussion held off the record.)

18 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, back on record. It's
19 4:05 and there being no one else in attendance that either
20 wants to make a statement or otherwise, we're now going to
21 recess until seven o'clock this evening.

22 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 4:05 p.m. and
23 subsequently reconvened at 7:05 p.m., and the following
24 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, it's a little bit after

1 wall to my left.

2 This hearing session, the one yesterday at Libby, as
3 well as the session at Eureka on January 17th, are being held
4 to consider the results of the Forest Service's study. This
5 evening's session will be the final session for those hearings.

6 I've been designated as presiding officer of this
7 hearing. My name is Lawrence M. Jakub and I'm the attorney in
8 charge with the Office of General Counsel for the U.S.
9 Department of Agriculture located at Missoula, Montana.

10 I'm going to briefly review the procedure which we
11 will be following this evening. This hearing is not a debate,
12 a trial, or a question and answer assembly, but an advisory
13 hearing wherein interested persons may present written or oral
14 statements relative to the matters named in the notice to this
15 hearing. The statement of interested parties will not be taken
16 under oath, but each person desiring to express their views
17 should come to the front of the room and state your name and
18 address and whom you represent, if anyone, and the nature of
19 your interest in the matter. You'll be speaking in the
20 microphone where I'm standing at the podium in the front of the
21 room.

22 When giving your statements, speak slowly and clearly
23 so that the reporter can record your complete statement. I'm
24 not going to set any limitation of time for each individual
25 speaker.

1 make a few general observations tonight.

2 First, I have a slight complaint against the summary
3 and the more detailed report and proposal in regards to the
4 pictures that are presented in those reports. Anybody who did
5 not know that area and did not read the fine script that goes
6 with those pictures would get the idea that those pictures in
7 the summary accurately represent the Ten Lakes Study Area. A
8 more accurate representation would be the other ten pictures on
9 the wall over there that did not get included in the written
10 report, and I think that's important because it discourages
11 people from outside the general area who are interested in
12 preserving the wilderness option, but who do not have exact
13 firsthand knowledge of this area from being enthused about the
14 area and that's -- They would get, by looking at the pictures
15 presented, they would get a very biased view of the area.

16 Second, I also question the rating system used to
17 evaluate this area's wilderness characteristics. On page 9 of
18 the summary it says, "The area rated high in naturalness and
19 natural integrity, but that opportunities for solitude were
20 limited in portions of the area because of existing roads and
21 previous logging activity adjacent to the area." Now, you
22 can't have it both ways.

23 The present Forest Service policy is that you will log
24 and do resource extraction right up to the edge of any existing
25 wilderness boundary so I fail to see why, if an existing

1 logging and grazing developments. But if the oil and gas folks
2 want to go in there, the area can be opened up and roads can be
3 punched into any area in there.

4 Salvage operations. It's a little unclear from the
5 documents just how that's going to work. Salvage operations
6 can be undertaken in the eighteen thousand acre plus
7 semi-primitive nonmotorized wilderness or recreation area, but
8 it's a little unclear whether they're going to do it by road or
9 cable logging or helicopter logging, but I suspect, given the
10 size of the timber up there, you're essentially prohibited to
11 do helicopter logging and cable logging up there and it would
12 almost require that if anybody wanted to do salvage logging or
13 insect control logging or anything of that type, it would mean
14 an excursion of roads inside the present proposal.

15 FERC developments are another thing and any time
16 somebody wants to put a claim through FERC, the claim is taken
17 out of Forest Service's responsibility and Federal Energy
18 Regulatory Commission would then develop that area as it sees
19 fit, as I understand it.

20 My main concern here is that people not be sold a bill
21 of goods that the present proposal is going to preserve that
22 area. I think it should be flatly stated in those proposals
23 that there is only one option that gives the area as full
24 protection as possible and that's the wilderness option, and to
25 pretend otherwise is not going only to lead to the ruination of

1 clear to everybody because the way it's written now, people
2 cannot make a very informed decision.

3 I would like to make one, I guess, final comment and
4 that is the proposal in general does not weigh any national
5 need for wilderness, which is a shrinking resource, against the
6 It doesn't take that into consideration at all and what I'm
7 fearing is -- I'll be very blunt -- is that everybody
8 recognizes that area and there are few commodity resources that
9 would contribute to the economy and if Kootenai can meet its
10 RPA goals in other ways, that even bears my statements out. So
11 I think what's happening is we're getting into a fight between
12 snowmobilers and people who want to protect the area more fully.
13 So what I'm trying to say is this: That if those people who
14 want to keep the area as it is, but still have some form of
15 motorized recreation in it, if they realize that oil and gas
16 leasing can take that area away from them, if salvage area can
17 take that away from them, if FERC can take that area away from
18 them, at least as it is, they may not be so enthused about the
19 present proposal.

20 And I also am concerned -- And at the same time I
21 would hope that the national need for wilderness, which is a
22 shrinking resource, is not lost against the desires of people
23 presently using that area for their motorized vehicles. I
24 think we'll find that in the next fifty years that the
25 wilderness resource lands devoted to wilderness will increase

1 Kootenai trying to put it into perspective of the whole forest.

2 The Kootenai Forest may be already, and certainly in
3 the near future, will be like no other forest in Montana. It
4 will be logged, logged and relogged, you might say. I'm not
5 objecting to some logging, but it's going to be developed so
6 totally as to be almost unbelievable in the State of Montana.
7 It's the sort of thing you might not be surprised at in a state
8 like Connecticut where you expect every acre to be developed,
9 but this forest is really going to be developed. It's hard to
10 believe.

11 The Forest Service has an overall thrust. It's seen
12 elsewhere in the forest in this area. They feel that they can,
13 or at least they tell us that they feel that they can, improve
14 for almost every benefit, whether it's preventing scenic
15 degradation, provide for the grizzly. They seem to think that
16 the one way to achieve just about every goal is to maintain the
17 vegetation; in other words, to take out trees; in other words,
18 to log. I would disagree with that. Again, not talking just
19 about Ten Lakes, but the surrounding area and the whole forest.

20 So, let's try to put it in perspective. What might
21 then remain in the Kootenai Valley portion of the Kootenai
22 Forest in twenty years or so, let's say? Well, we have the
23 Cabinet Wilderness. We have two types of areas: Wilderness,
24 primitive recreation areas. I combined semi-primitive and
25 primitive into one group for these purposes. I don't want to

1 plan to leave much more than that. So, I'm emphasizing these
2 primitive recreation lands -- You might call them primitive
3 recreation scraps because so little of this forest is going to
4 be left natural the way things look now and, as I indicated,
5 the Cabinet Mountains vicinity is worth the naturalness that
6 will essentially remain in the Kootenai in the future. I don't
7 think that's enough of the forest to stay natural. It's a
8 doggone shame, to put it mildly. It's so little of such a vast
9 land. It should remain natural. It is not -- It is not a
10 private timber farm. It is, in fact, a national forest and
11 natural values are a very important part of the national forest.
12 You people know what natural values are. I'm sure all you
13 people have hiked. Some of you guys have hiked a lot more than
14 I have, maybe. Natural values like peace and quiet. The
15 ability to get away from the works of man, to get away, as much
16 as possible, from the works of man. You cannot entirely escape
17 the works of man, because jets are always going over and
18 airplanes and you can't get away from it all, but I try to get
19 away.

20 Another natural value that this area has is that they
21 remind us of what the forest was like, what the Kootenai Valley
22 was like before we came along with all our machinery. And the
23 Forest Service plan for Ten Lakes would leave essentially the
24 top of the ridges, the upper parts of the ridges, not the
25 timbered basins at all, to speak of, and that's a pity because

1 my volunteer capacity as chapter president. The Chapter Board
2 of Directors recently voted to wholeheartedly endorse
3 Alternative C, recommending wilderness classification for the
4 entire remaining wildland of Ten Lakes.

5 I would also like to clarify a few points about
6 wilderness, briefly. Wilderness provides protection for
7 watersheds, diverse opportunities for primitive recreation. It
8 provides unique educational opportunities of the scientific,
9 the historical or a personal-social nature. It may provide
10 grazing. Perhaps most valuable, it is a biological reserve, a
11 remnant of the wild America which stretched from sea to sea, as
12 the gentleman before me referred to a piece of the Kootenai
13 that's out there that was once the entire Kootenai Forest in a
14 wild state. Within this is a vast library of biological
15 information which has evolved over millions of years. It's a
16 last chance to conserve the diversity of our our wild gene pool.
17 This wild library or gene pool of information can and does
18 provide economic benefits, and that's regardless of whether a
19 person ever sets foot in such a wild area.

20 Wilderness is multiple use in the fullest sense and is
21 legally defined as such. It is land on which we confer, really,
22 the highest level of respect. And thus, we leave our machines
23 behind to travel and experience the land, essentially the same
24 way that Lewis and Clark, Teddy Roosevelt, Bob Marshall or
25 Winton Wedemeyer traveled across the landscape. There are no

1 Ten Lakes wild, but I wonder if those snow machines enthusiasts
2 have fully considered what may befall our Ten Lakes if we pass
3 up this opportunity to confer the highest level of respect, the
4 highest protection we have, wilderness designation, on the Ten
5 Lakes.

6 First on the horizon, as has been mentioned, the wild
7 area will be leased for oil and gas development. Outsiders,
8 such as Director Robert Burford, will be telling us what to do
9 with the land close to us, the Ten Lakes and, specifically, he
10 mentioned in December that any land not specifically withdrawn
11 by Congress will be leased, will be open to mineral entry. The
12 Congress has made it clear in this last session that only
13 wilderness will be withdrawn from development. Illustrating
14 this danger is the recent decision of the foresters to
15 recommend the leasing of the Jewel Basin and there was no
16 public discussion of this decision. And, as was mentioned
17 before, the Jewel Basin actually enjoys a slightly higher level
18 of protection. It's protected by the U regulations and the
19 Secretary of Agriculture.

20 I recall a discussion, sitting on the ridge just below
21 Poor Man Mountain, with the district ranger and several other
22 members of the Kootenai Forest three years ago in which I asked
23 them what the situation was on oil and gas, and someone
24 commented that the entire area was under lease complication and
25 that it was a damn shame that here was the last wild place in

1 by passing up first-rate protection just so we can drive our
2 snow machines up the last mile and a half to Wolverine Cabin of
3 a twenty-some odd mile trip? If we agree to this, are we
4 really considering what's best for the future of this wild
5 enclave?

6 Aldo Leopold says, "Man always destroys the things he
7 loves and so we, the pioneers, have destroyed the wilderness.
8 Be that as it may, I'm glad that I shall never be young without
9 wild country to be young in. Of what avail are forty freedoms
10 without a few blank spots on the map?"

11 Let us leave this small corner of the Forest's
12 development maps blank, Congressionally protected as wilderness,
13 a remnant of the once wild Kootenai for generations to follow.
14 Thank you.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: John Free.

16 MR. FREE: My name is John Free. I live at 2216
17 Mission Trail, Kalispell. I speak in support of the Forest
18 Service proposal. I guess I do sympathize with the other
19 people that want wilderness, but I think there's some
20 limitation that wilderness places, in the sense of what I
21 understand some of these people when they describe wilderness,
22 and I think some of those limitations are access on a day-use
23 basis by the elderly families with small children, people that
24 cannot hike five-ten-twenty miles to get in where they want to
25 go, and I know you can get into Paradise and Bluebird on

1 from man's influence on society. Man is a part of the
2 environment. We are here whether we like it or not. We're not
3 severed from the environment. We're part of the wilderness
4 even if we go into it. We're part of it, and if several people
5 go in there, so be it. I think we can still control those
6 things and I think the Forest Service is making attempts to do
7 that.

8 I'm also a reader and an advocate of Aldo Leopold. In
9 fact, I belonged to an Aldo Leopold Conservation Club probably
10 twenty years ago, back in college, and I believe in many of his
11 tenets and what he said, but I also believe in these wilderness
12 areas you can go into this area on horseback. Some wilderness
13 area will not allow horseback. I'm not saying they would or
14 wouldn't, but as I understand, some areas don't allow horses to
15 go in, some do. He was also a hunter and there are many things
16 that -- Wilderness wouldn't stop hunting necessarily, but it
17 would stop hunting by people that are disabled, people that
18 would like to get closer to the area without having to hike in
19 a long ways, and some people say that's not the purist way of
20 doing it. Some of us aren't purists, but we still like the
21 outdoors. I have a great respect for the outdoors. And I have
22 seen many of the things the Forest Service has done around here
23 that I do like. Not necessarily in the Ten Lakes Area, but in
24 other areas. They've opened it up more to families and this
25 type of thing. Our population is going to grow older. We're

1 hike up to, and they said they liked it.

2 And another family which was staying at the Crystal
3 Lakes Resort, they said they drove in for just for a day and my
4 mom talked to them, but they said -- I guess that he said it
5 was pretty beautiful, and this would be cut off to a lot of
6 people, Montana's beauty, and I guess it would just be cut off
7 and a lot of people would not be able to see it and a lot of
8 people aren't the real long hikers. They're shorter and
9 Wolverine Lake is closer and so is Bluebird Lake and Paradise
10 Lake.

11 I guess, in conclusion, I am in support of to keep it
12 open and to keep it open for road access so that people can use
13 it, families can use it, people that don't want to hike in for
14 three days or maybe a week or so.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: This concludes the people I have
16 formally registered. Is there anyone else?

17 DALE BURK: My name has been on the list for at least
18 two or three weeks. I wrote a letter to the Kootenai Forest.

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Dale Burk.

20 MR. BURK: For the record, my name is Dale Burk. I
21 live at 295 Kootenai Creek Road, Stevensville, Montana. Mr.
22 Jakub, Larry, could I ask a couple of questions so I might --
23 Are the Kootenai Forest and the planning staff represented here
24 tonight? How are our comments going to be gotten to the people
25 who are going to make the decisions? Is there a hearing record

1 the countless degrees of both pro and con testimony no longer
2 exist, and it seems to me that's a foundation of information
3 that at least should be available in the library or Forest
4 Service research library or something, but it disappeared.

5 I want to state for the record, too, that as a boy
6 about the age of the young fellow who just testified here,
7 growing up in the environment of Trego, Montana, which is near
8 the mouth of Grave Creek, the tributary stream, I hiked into
9 the area involved before there was road there when it was a
10 twelve-mile hike just to get to Weasel Lake. I was in those
11 drainages long before they did the spruce bud worm preliminary
12 cuts and the subsequent four thousand massive acre cuts in the
13 Wigwam, so I've seen that environment over a period of the last
14 thirty to thirty-five years.

15 I find that if I pointed myself in the direction from
16 any road up there and hiked two miles, I would either be in the
17 Glacier Park or the Kootenai drainage. There's no place in
18 there that's twenty-five miles wide. It's fairly easy to hike.

19 I would like to submit a document which I will mail to
20 the Forest Service and point out that, in the terms of
21 availability in the forest of motorized travel in the Kootenai
22 National Forest, that this dot represents about how many lands
23 would be closed to recreation travel in the forest if you
24 created wilderness, and there is no other wilderness in the
25 upper Whitefish Range, so I feel that that value also was not

1 guess the question I have is that with all of these degrees, I
2 wonder who would be listed as the qualified thinker on the
3 forest because, frankly, I find more errors of logic and more
4 misrepresentations of basic data, basic information in this
5 report than you hear in most James Watt syllogisms and, frankly,
6 as a member of the public and a longtime critic and analyst of
7 forest planning, having been involved nationally in the
8 compilation of the entire hearing process of the Bitterroot
9 Forest controversy, the Congressional hearings on the Forest
10 Planning Act and the National Resource Planning Act, I frankly
11 am appalled at what I see as a lack of professionalism in the
12 mere presentation of information in this report, and I guess
13 that I feel on that that there's, in modern terminology in the
14 computer thinking there's a phrase called gigo, and it means
15 garbage in, garbage out, and I feel that's what we've got is
16 that we have a thoughtless, computerized, unfeeling,
17 insensitive recommendation that is without foundation on basic
18 professional evaluations of these resources.

19 I would like to go through some of the basic points
20 for the record. Unlike an earlier witness, I would like to
21 compliment the Forest Service for the inclusion of the
22 photographs in the report. I simply wish there had been more
23 of them because I share the view that they present only a
24 partial representation. I would like to have had a photograph
25 somewhere taken from ground level in the Wigwam Drainage that

1 of a threatened and endangered species such as the grizzly bear
2 is not included in the present net value." That in itself, by
3 itself, as far as I'm concerned, makes this analysis both
4 morally and legally irrelevant to a true determination of
5 what's there. That this has for years been recognized as one
6 of the significant portions of the grizzly habitat in the upper
7 Whitefish Range and for it to be assigned or for the Forest
8 Service to consider that it has no present value is mind
9 boggling at least.

10 Then it says on page 6 that the value of providing
11 visual quality protection in sensitive areas, such as the
12 western edge of the study area, is not included in the present
13 net value. How can you make an evaluation of the aesthetic
14 impact on that face which faces the community of Eureka and
15 that entire highway entrance area from Canada and for other
16 travelers who come to Kootenai, how can you make a
17 determination if that high value isn't given any value? It
18 seems to me just a simple, fundamental error is not simply in
19 logic, but in fact analysis. I have moved on down and my
20 response of that came in the various -- I think the confusion
21 that comes with the various groups of these acronyms like NPB,
22 or net public benefit, and PNV, present net value and I
23 wondered why there wasn't any future net value anywhere in the
24 report. It doesn't appear. Why not? I think if we want to
25 talk about and quote Aldo Leopold, I think that we should read

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23 wondered why there wasn't any future net value anywhere in the
24 report. It doesn't appear. Why not? I think if we want to
25 talk about and quote Aldo Leopold, I think that we should read

1 forestry. I don't believe that we should leave strips and that
2 sort of thing along highways. I believe that our forestry
3 should be based on sufficient environmental protective measures,
4 that we should be proud to let it hang out in the open. I feel
5 that feeling whether it's visually or otherwise. Why do we
6 want to leave the Eureka face as it is so that we can hide what
7 we do on the other side of the mountains from the bulk of the
8 traveling public and the people who live in Eureka? My guess
9 is that if the proposal had been to log on the face of Kasanka
10 Face and ridge, there would be an incredible outcry in Eureka.
11 See, that's why that statement is in here. If it's stated as a
12 value here, why isn't it included in the present net value?

13 Like a couple of the previous people who spoke, and I
14 assume spoke at other hearings, that the reviewers on page 9
15 conclude that the area rated high in naturalness and natural
16 integrity, but the opportunities for solitude were limited in
17 portions of the area because of existing roads and previous
18 logging activity adjacent to the Study Area. That in itself in
19 portions of the area is not sufficient reason to leave the area
20 unqualified as wilderness. That is a fundamental error of
21 thinking, let alone of logic and fairness to the process of
22 multiple use consideration, let alone a determination.

23 Down in item F it states that it is estimated that the
24 area supports between forty and sixty elk. Grizzly bear
25 sightings have been made in the area and virtually the entire

1 simply as pure, raw wilderness and all of the naturalness that
2 it represents, not only to wildlife, but to water, to scenic
3 values, to human use. I don't find many things in that report
4 that dealt with the area as wilderness. Everything seems to be
5 based totally on a totalitarian notion that unless man somehow
6 touches it and changes it, it has no value.

7 As a hunter, I wish to take great exception to the
8 analysis of the Forest Service as stated on page 15 and item 4,
9 the "Effect on Recreation", that the timber management and
10 associated road construction change roadless recreation
11 opportunities to motorized recreation opportunities. Timber
12 management and road construction can have the most significant
13 effect on visual quality and I found no real analysis in this
14 report based on the studies done in the Bitterroot, based on
15 the studies done in Chamberlain, based on the study done in the
16 Beaverhead National Forest, to the effect that roading in areas
17 had very deleterious effects on elk populations and ultimately,
18 unless there are very stringent controls of these roads if they
19 are put in, that there is a significant deterioration of
20 hunting as a recreational activity. I frankly don't buy the
21 Forest Service analysis as stated in this particular district.

22 And then on page 16, a real strange misstatement of
23 logic that I believe needs challenging has to do with the
24 effect on wilderness under "Recreation Management", item 1. It
25 says that motorized recreation is not compatible with

1 page 17 titled, "Effects on Recreation", item No. 4. It
2 states: "Alternative D and the Proposed Action would provide
3 the most opportunities and favorable setting for motorized
4 dispersed recreation. Alternatives B and C and the current
5 direction would provide the most opportunities and favorable
6 settings for nonmotorized dispersed recreation." I fail to see
7 how that has any direct relationship to the most good for the
8 most people in the long run. What you get is that we're
9 dealing with a national forest and not these few people in that
10 whole area who use that for their snowmobiles and who, as I
11 pointed out earlier, have pointless, countless acres of vast,
12 heavy-snowed and open areas for using snowmobiles.

13 In the past, there have been a considerable number of
14 violations in the area with people in there with motor vehicles
15 and, as I recall, one district ranger on the Fortine District
16 named Dean Weiden (phon.) who, when he was there, went to great
17 efforts to try and enforce that, and I just don't seem to see
18 that same sort of dedication with the present people or the
19 people who wrote this plan. I looked for Dean Weiden's name in
20 vain on the list of people who had participated in this and his
21 name wasn't on the list, even though he is a former ranger in
22 that district, but he was sensitive to those kinds of values
23 and maybe that's why he is no longer on that district or the
24 Kootenai Forest, for that matter. That's a rhetorical
25 statement of my own asking for, perhaps, not a direct comment

1 will, I'll use the Forest Service term or the timber industry
2 term "bug-killed trees" to deteriorate and feed the insects and
3 ultimately return to the soil or regenerate that area's ability
4 to provide the very environment we now look upon as good and
5 favorable. I feel that value was not given to naturalness to a
6 process that has proven that it works.

7 Then it says really kind of an interesting thing on
8 page 18 that we have one of those strange little quirks of
9 logic where, in making a statement that is pro-development, the
10 reverse is true if you look carefully at the statement. It
11 says, this is in paragraph 4, "For example, as access impacts
12 wildlife habitat, the quality of the hunting recreational
13 experience may decrease, but the maintenance of nonmotorized
14 semi-primitive recreation setting can reduce this effect." My
15 goodness, can you see that those little pockets of wildland
16 help hunting? What will bigger pockets of wildland do? I
17 would like that question answered by the Forest Service.

18 I would even like them to answer the question what you
19 would have if the entire area was left as the elk sanctuary
20 area as it is now. Would we not be able to maintain the high
21 quality of elk hunting in that area? I believe this statement
22 is, in reality, an admission that the more wilderness, the
23 better the sanctuary habitat for elk and the better quality of
24 hunting, both in terms of numbers and quality.

25 I will submit a written statement, but I would somehow

1 that way forever, but I'm a sceptic. I've seen what has
2 happened in other areas and we have our -- Locally we have an
3 area, Jewel Basin. That's a beautiful area and it's managed
4 good, fairly good I think, but then with the oil and gas leases
5 coming up, they've leased that and it makes you wonder what
6 would happen in the Ten Lakes Basin. I hate to see that area
7 open to political whims. It wouldn't take much from our James
8 Watt, or whoever it is in the future could be just that caliber,
9 wouldn't take much more than a stroke of a pen to wipe that out
10 and it might be for a temporary benefit in an area that needs
11 timber; that is, a given point, but I really think that in the
12 long range and in the future, I know people don't realize
13 farther down the line what that area will be like.

14 We have a lot of areas comparable to that right now,
15 but as time goes by I think it's going to become more and more
16 apparent for the value of that area for the tourist industry
17 and for several other reasons. And there are an awful lot of
18 pressures for development in that entire area from all kinds of
19 different aspects and I really believe that for the protection
20 for future generations and also due to the fact of the lack of
21 wilderness on the Kootenai Forest, I truly believe that the
22 best way to go on this is Alternative C and I would like to
23 reemphasize that as my feelings. Thank you.

24 HEARINGS OFFICER: James Conner.

25 MR. CONNER: My name is James R. Conner, C-O-N-N-E-R.

1 cite specific data to support that claim. The numbers, such as
2 they are on snowmobiles, appear to be derived from a Graves
3 Creek Unit Plan prepared in 1974 that dealt with an area far
4 larger than the Study Area and there was no intent to
5 disaggregate this information. We'll be hearing more about
6 this in the future.

7 Finally, as Mr. Burk pointed out, the reviewing
8 officials have a strange and inaccurate understanding of what
9 wilderness is and what wilderness is not because they have
10 applied in 1978, five years after Congress passed the
11 endangered Wilderness Act, they have applied, once again, the
12 sights and sounds and smells criterion that is used to
13 disqualify wilderness from wilderness consideration.

14 I think that's an important point because on the 9th
15 of February, 1978, Morris Udall, who was in Congress at the
16 time the original Wilderness Act was passed, stood on the floor
17 of Congress and explained why that criterion was invalid. And
18 I would have thought that within fifty years the message would
19 have trickled down into the Kootenai Forest. I brought with me
20 part of that speech. I enter it into the record now. But I
21 will state for the record now that I can give you a practical
22 example of why we should not be worried about clearcuts on the
23 boundaries of Ten Lakes.

24 This summer, along with another man in this room, I
25 stood on a high peak in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. As I

1 record here. I recessed the hearing at 8:08 with the idea we
2 would reconvene at 8:30 to see if anyone else would want to
3 make a statement or anyone else would come. At this time, is
4 there anyone in attendance that would like to make an oral
5 statement that hasn't already? All right. The time being 8:32,
6 with no other persons caring to make a statement and there
7 being no indications of anyone else that plans to attend this
8 evening, I hereby adjourn the hearings relative to the Ten
9 Lakes Wilderness Study Act Area. Thank you for your attendance.

10 (Hearing concluded at 8:33 p.m.)
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Morris K. Udall

Extending the Wilderness System

Opponents of wilderness preservation often fall back on two dubious arguments in attempting to block legislation extending the National Wilderness Preservation System. These are that an area does not meet certain arbitrary standards of wilderness "purity" and that one should not be designated unless it has been through a formal administrative study process.

Representative Morris K. Udall (D-Ariz.), chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and primary sponsor of the Endangered American Wilderness Act of 1978, effectively demolished both these anti-wilderness arguments in a February 9 speech which preceded House approval of this important legislation. His clarification of these issues has special significance as Congress considers the pending legislation to add many millions of acres of Alaskan wilderness to the national system, as the Forest Service completes its current Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II), and as the Bureau of Land Management proceeds with similar study of the nation's vast public domain lands.

Some members of Congress are seeking to postpone Wilderness System protection for many of Alaska's wildland areas which have not been through a formal wilderness study process. Yet, as Representative Udall emphasizes, such a process is not universally mandated by the 1964 Wilderness Act. More than half the areas and almost three fourths of the acreage in the Wilderness System have not gone through formal study. Neither have the 17 areas newly designated under the Endangered American Wilderness Act.

The following is an abridged text of Mr. Udall's February 9 speech in support of the Endangered Act, which passed by an impressive 333 to 44 vote in the House and 84 to 5 in the Senate and was signed into law by President Carter on February 24.—Ed.

MR. SPEAKER, I rise in support of the conference report on the Endangered American Wilderness Act. This legislation, which I was proud to sponsor in the House last year, is in fulfillment of the precepts of the original Wilderness Act of 1964. In that act, it was declared to be a policy of Congress "to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness."

Here in this legislation, the Congress has recognized this responsibility, and has proposed that 17 carefully

selected roadless areas in the western national forests be designated as wilderness. In the process of identifying and refining these areas, we have sought to put a spotlight on the whole question of *de facto* wilderness on our national forests. Basically, this *de facto* wilderness is the still unroaded and undeveloped land—land which could be preserved or developed, but for which no final decision has yet been reached. In recent years, a number of problems have plagued the effort to resolve the future of these lands. Clearing up some of those problems is a key step both in expediting decisions on additional wilderness areas and in proceeding with the overall job of sound multiple-use management of our national forests generally. As we have worked out this bill, we have also made significant progress in settling a number of key policy issues, and I want briefly to summarize that progress for purposes of a clear legislative record.

A long and distracting debate over issues of basic definition has kept us from getting down to the real issues of substance. That controversy over criteria and definition has complicated an already too complex study, review and decision-making process, which has simply become bogged down. Finally, a lack of quality control within the study, review and decision-making process in the Executive Branch has culminated in a widespread lack of public trust in the decisions being made, and so challenges and further controversy have ensued.

The first of these problems plaguing wilderness decisions has become widely known as the "purity" debate. Since passage of the parent Wilderness Act in 1964, some agency interpretations have distorted the criteria of wilderness suitability into an excessively "pure" and narrow set of standards. Those standards have become far narrower in important details than the criteria Congress set down in the original law. As a result, decisions made by the agency have not been acceptable, have aroused additional controversy and required challenges and requests for Congress to intervene, case by case, to correct agency errors.

For example, contained in the bill are areas in close proximity to major metropolitan regions. One, Pusch Ridge, is the scenic backdrop of my hometown, Tucson. In years past, many beautiful areas such as this, easily accessible to thousands of people, young and old, have not been considered for wilderness just because they

be adhered to, and we have insisted that the information Congress needs to make a sound decision be available. The way that information is gathered, organized or published is not the important point. A variety of processes have been used, and a number of the wilderness areas we have designated over the years have resulted from congressional investigations and analysis, even in the absence of any formal wilderness study by any agency. I make this point with some emphasis, for I think it is wrong to suggest that a rigid formula for wilderness study is required, except where Congress has specifically applied the process outlined in the Wilderness Act to individual areas. In other cases, we can review the information presently available, and develop additional information through our own congressional hearing procedures, and we can thus satisfy ourselves that we already know enough to make sound decisions. In such cases, to insist upon further study would simply be to waste the taxpayers' money, the time of the agencies and the time of the Congress. And to force every potential wilderness area through that whole long and drawn-out process before we can decide whether or not all or part of it will be preserved would totally undermine our goal of expediting decision-making.

Needless opposition to wilderness has often been generated by widespread misinformation about what activities are and are not permissible within wilderness areas. Much of this has been the result of excessively rigid wilderness management policies of the Forest Service itself. For example, often the Forest Service mistakenly called for immediate removal of non-conforming structures the moment that an area was designated as wilderness.

One of the direct and beneficial results of the consideration of this legislation has been a review by the Forest Service of its wilderness management policies to bring them more in line with congressional intent. Assistant Secretary Cutler testified that they would be "more innovative in managing around objectionable features to minimize their impacts." This more flexible approach is welcome and long overdue.

As a result of legislation passed by the last Congress, the Forest Service is working on substantial improvements to its land-use planning process. Although it got off to a bad start, the RARE II process offers the promise of a more balanced and nationally consistent review of the remaining roadless and undeveloped areas on our national forest lands. It is our hope that the Forest Service will not make premature decisions about the future of these lands through the existing and often flawed land-use planning process. In a number of cases involving areas in this bill, earlier Forest Service plans were fundamentally deficient in ways that nearly guaranteed prolonged controversy, appeals and lawsuits.

We have always sought balance in our wilderness designations--to say, in effect, that yes we can have the best of both worlds. We can set aside the prime areas of wilderness to meet our obligation to the millions of yet unborn Americans and at the same time

insure that there are enough multiple-use lands remaining to meet this nation's needs for minerals, timber and livestock.

This bill is significant for the outstanding areas it adds to our treasury of protected wilderness areas. It is significant, too, as the vehicle for demonstrating some real progress with the problems I have discussed here. We have found it possible to reach decisions which enjoy a broad consensus, and we have thus narrowed the range of controversy. The Executive Branch leadership has put new policies into effect that promise further improvements, in criteria and in procedures. Just as I was pleased to have a role in securing the Wilderness Act in 1964 and the Eastern Wilderness Areas Act of 1974, so I am pleased with the real progress and the real balance represented by this landmark conservation measure, the Endangered American Wilderness Act of 1978.

So we stand here today with a good bill, a bill of which we can all be proud. In this legislation we are proposing that 1.3 million acres of our great national forests will be preserved forever in their natural state. To some in the resource extraction industries, this is an unnecessary lockup; to millions of other Americans it is an opportunity, an increasingly rare opportunity, to behold the wonders of nature basically unaffected by man's often destructive activities. One only has to go to Yellowstone, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area or any of our other great conservation areas to see the real need and interest of the American public in preserving what little we as a nation have left in a natural state.

Newest Wilderness Areas

The Endangered American Wilderness Act of 1978 adds 1,303,407 acres to the National Wilderness Preservation System, protecting the following 17 national forest roadless areas in 10 Western states: *Pusch Ridge*, Arizona, 56,430 acres; *Golden Trout*, California, 306,000 acres; *Santa Lucia*, California, 21,250 acres; *Ventana additions*, California, 61,000 acres; *Hunter-Fryingpan*, Colorado, 74,450 acres; *Gospel Hump*, Idaho, 206,000 acres; *Welcome Creek*, Montana, 28,440 acres; *Chama River Canyon*, New Mexico, 50,300 acres; *Manzano Mountain*, New Mexico, 37,000 acres; *Sandia Mountain*, New Mexico, 30,930 acres; *Three Sisters additions*, Oregon, 45,400 acres; *Kalmiopsis additions*, Oregon, 92,000 acres; *Mt. Hood additions*, Oregon, 33,000 acres; *Wild Rogue*, Oregon, 36,700 acres; *Lone Peak*, Utah, 29,567 acres; *Wenaha-Tucannon*, Washington and Oregon, 180,000 acres; and *Savage Run*, Wyoming, 14,940 acres. With the newly added *Ab-saroka-Beartooth*, Montana, 904,500 acres, national forest wilderness now totals 14,813,312 acres in 106 areas. The overall Wilderness System now totals 16,651,612 acres in 175 areas.