

Kootenai Forest Plan Revision Objection-2013

Objectors Name: Greg Hinkle, State Senator (ret)

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Name of lead objector (if more than one): Senator Greg Hinkle, KNF original commenter #263

Name of the plan revision being objected to and the responsible official:

Kootenai National Forest Land Management Plan 2013 Revision.

Responsible Official: Faye L. Krueger – Regional Forester, Northern Region.

Statement of issues and/or parts of the plan revision which the objection applies:

- 1) KNF Forest management proposals do not have a clear, concise confirmation of the number of Grizzly Bears inhabiting the area of the KNF. The KNF EIS and draft Record of Decision, Grizzly Bear Amendment has not taken into consideration yet to be announced results of the Grizzly Bear hair snag sample tests (DNA) conducted by the US Geological Survey.
- 2) There is no real science to prove that roads and grizzly Bears are incompatible.

Statement explaining the objection and how the proposed plan should be altered:

- 1) The KNF EIS and draft Record of Decision, Grizzly Bear Amendment has not taken into consideration the to be announced results of the Grizzly Bear hair snag sample tests (DNA) conducted by the US Geological Survey. The results of this testing will give a greater understanding of the number of Grizzly Bears in the KNF but it will be inconclusive until further hair snagging tests are accomplished. The proposed plan should be based on accurate science and not implemented until a reliable verification of the number of Grizzly Bears in the KNF is obtained.
- 2) Recent technology using the Global Positioning System (GPS) has shown that Grizzly Bears actually prefer roaded areas over non-roaded areas. The attached (Attachment "A") Google Earth/GPS map is a result of data collected by Dr. Chris Servheen, Grizzly Bear Recovery Project Coordinator and John Waller 2005 PhD thesis at

Montana State University. Note that the highest concentration of 11 collared bears is on private roaded land in the area around Condon, Montana and the North/South travel by these bears are on or near Highway 2. This are is about 90 miles from the KNF. There is very little Grizzly Bear activity in wilderness or non-roaded areas shown on Attachment "A".

Proposed Solution

The KNF must re-evaluate all forest management proposals which are the result of the Draft Land Management Plan Revision. The Grizzly Bear Amendment to the Record of Decision must be made on accurate science. The KNF must be one clear, concise plan that does not restrict human activity based of flawed or incomplete studies on endangered species within the KNF. The proposed roadless or obliterated road provisions in the KNF Plan should be entirely removed.

Statement demonstrating the link between the objection and prior formal comments: My objections are the follow up to my comments made on 5/7/2012 to the proposed KNF Draft Land Management Plan Revision, commenter #263.

Signature:  _____
Date: November 22, 2013

cc:
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
Rep. Doc Hastings, Chairman

←
CITY OF
LAURENS

←
HWY 2



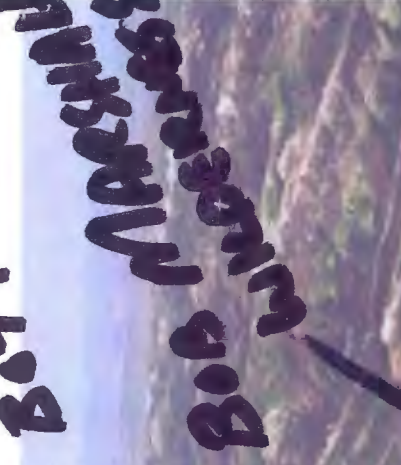
←
PRIVATE



←
VALLEY BOTTOM



←
BOB ADAMS



KNF PLAN OBJECTION - ATTACHMENT "A"

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