MARCH 7, 2016

WALLOWA - WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST
LOSTINE CORRIDOR PUBLIC SAFETY PROJECT ATTN: SHIKA PENCE
P.O. BOX 905
JOSEPH, OR 97846

DEAR MS. PENCE:

I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT ON THE LOSTINE CORRIDOR PUBLIC SAFETY PROJECT.

AS A FREQUENT USER OF THE LOSTINE CORRIDOR FOR RECREATION, I AGREE WITH YOUR SENSITIVITY ~~OF~~ TO THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NATURAL RESOURCE VALUES - INCLUDING WILDLIFE HABITAT, FISH HABITAT, & SCENIC QUALITY. I ALSO AGREE THAT THE HIGH FUEL LOAD FROM DEAD & DOWNED TREES POSES A HAZARD TO THESE QUALITIES & VALUES AS WELL AS TO PUBLIC SAFETY. AS A FIREWOOD - BURNING RESIDENT OF WALLOWA VALLEY, I HAVE OFTEN LAMENTED THAT THE DOWNED WOOD ALONG THE LOSTINE CORRIDOR HAS BEEN UNAVAILABLE TO LOCAL RESIDENTS AS FIREWOOD. I THINK THAT OPENING THE CORRIDOR TO FIREWOOD CUTTING BY THE PUBLIC WOULD HELP REDUCE THE FIRE DANGER AS WELL AS PROVIDE A NEEDED RESOURCE TO FIREWOOD CUTTERS. I BELIEVE THAT THIS AREA REQUIRES SPECIAL RULES THAT WOULD PROTECT THE SCENIC, RECREATION, & OTHER RESOURCE VALUES - eg. LIMITING THE TIMING OF CUTTING FIREWOOD TO MINIMIZE RECREATION DISTURBANCE, AND LIMITING GROUND DISTURBANCE FROM YARDING & LOADING FIREWOOD.

I HAVE COMMENTED TO THE FOREST SERVICE IN PREVIOUS YEARS ABOUT FIREWOOD CUTTING IN THE LOSTINE CORRIDOR, & I AM PLEASED THAT YOU ARE WILLING TO CONSIDER THIS USE NOW.

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING MY COMMENTS.

SINCERELY,

Janet Hohmann

Janet Hohmann
69796 Jim Town Rd.
Wallowa, OR 97885