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Comments:

I whole heartedly agree with the Forest Service recommendation for Borah Peak and the North Slope Pioneers for wilderness protection. I am in favor of keeping these areas in the plan as recommended for wilderness designation.

These areas must be maintained for their wilderness character: natural, undeveloped, untrammeled, potential for solitude and primitive recreation.

To celebrate the new century, I camped at the base of Borah Peak in 2000 and climbed to her summit with my daughter. It was a thrill of a lifetime to stand on the tallest peak in Idaho. As we climbed, we passed through and by a large variety of plants, including the spectacular Bristle Cone Pine trees that grace Borah's slopes. I will always treasure this experience and hope that generations to come can see this place in its natural state as I had the fortune to do.

Idaho still has other stretches of spectacular country just as deserving as existing wilderness areas that Congress has not yet considered for designations. Until Congress acts, the Forest Service should manage these areas to preserve their solitude and opportunities for unconfined recreation.

Thank you.

Alida Bockino

Moscow, Idaho