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Comments:

I appreciate all the Forest Service does to protect our wilderness. However, given the current rules and policies about "acceptable" activities I don't agree with the re-designation of the Salmon-Chanllis National Forest to a "Wilderness Area". The boundaries of the Salmon-Chanllis area include King Mountain and the Lost River and Lemhi ranges which historically have been one of the premier Hang Gliding and Paragliding destinations in the United States. This area has hosted National and International flying events that pilots from all over the world have come to enjoy. King Mountain is known world wide as a "destination" that pilots travel thousands of miles to enjoy. The way the current rules read Hang Gliding and Paragliding is forbidden in Wilderness Areas. I've never understood the reason for this rule because obviously flying is a much lower impact activity than many other activities that are allowed. I know this is not the time to debate this rule but since it is the current rule changing the designation to Wilderness at this time would close this area to a group of people who has a long history of respecting and enjoying this area. Pilots are some the most environmentally conscious people around because their sport is literally "One with Nature". They live in the air with the birds. There is no human activity that is done in the wilderness that has less environment impact than flying over it in a completely silent manner as Hang Gliding and paragliding do.

Please preserve this unique and historically important site that allows some of us humans to enjoy it only the eagles can.