

Date submitted (UTC-11): 1/18/2019 5:10:11 PM

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Comments:

While I am a supporter of wild lands and wilderness areas in the United States, I also believe it is important to consider the historical usage of any area being considered for adding to existing wilderness areas or even creating new ones.

The proposed Salmon-Challis Forest Plan Revision #49464 should be modified to exclude the areas of King Mountain that have historically supported access for hang gliding and paragliding activities and the economic benefits to the communities from Arco all the way north to Salmon. The current road access to traditional hang gliding and paragliding launches could easily be excluded from the proposed wilderness areas with little impact to the overall Plan. Hang gliding and paragliding are activities with virtually zero environmental impact outside of vehicle access to launch sites.

Very few launch sites are needed to provide adequate access to the abundant skies above. King Mountain is a landmark flying site renowned worldwide for provided flights over some of the most scenic terrain in the world. The entire Lost River Range and most of central Idaho is flown by free flight enthusiasts from the King Mountain launches.

Please adjust the boundaries of the proposed wilderness area to exclude the existing hang gliding and paragliding launches and the access roads.

Respectfully,  
Eric Beckman