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Comments:

I wish I could write this knowing that my voice would matter, but I've lived here long enough to know better.

I wish I could say that I was a member of some group that someone would care about, but I'm not. I'm a "Native" for whatever that's worth. Unfortunately being born and raised here apparently doesn't make me someone of value since I was born here just a couple hundred years too late to be a qualified Native American.

I wish that special interest groups would stop calling for all of us to be kicked out of here so they can show up for a few days a year and watch the chipmunks migrate on the Y to Y.

I wish they would understand that it takes all of us simple people working here to keep these small towns alive and give them a place to buy coffee, or come find them when they get lost.

I wish our Government worked for us, not against us on an every steepening slippery slope.

I wish the BLM and Forest Service would stop closing roads through administration or lack of maintenance thereby making it easier to designate it wilderness.

I wish a lot of things that I'm not going to get, but I'll try anyway.

I wish you would use some common sense and realize that for the most part (there are always a few slobs) the people who's lives depend on our forests and their resources have the most to lose and the biggest desire to use our resources in a sustainable way. We don't want to see them locked away and watch them burn. We already have enough wilderness in this state. We can protect a resource and use it too. People in New York, L.A. and Sun Valley may not realize that, but real people know this. I ask that you keep in mind there are people living in these towns who's lives will be affected by wilderness a lot more than the special interest groups you hear from on a daily basis. The local citizens usually don't have the time to go to meetings or lobby congress. They are busy making a living and keeping things running around here. They deserve protection every bit as much as these acres do.