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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I went to the back country in the Frank Church and Selway wilderness areas for over 20 years faithfully. I want to take my grandchildren now but the trails are not being maintained because of money? (that is what I am told). A large part of this is the restriction of use of chain saws in the backcountry. I now know that the majority of trails are not passable and the areas are not able to be enjoyed by anyone other than airplanes flying overhead. I don't believe that was the intent of the wilderness organizers and congress. I worked on the Salmon Challis at Indianola fighting fires for two summers in the years 1976 and 1977. The management policy by the USFS that has allowed the majority of the backcountry to burn has not helped the wilderness but made it a land of no use. Why this has not helped with numbers of elk and deer or the health of the animals that remain should not be a question of why. It is simply that the wilderness and forest plan has not helped but hurt the big game and limits the land to no use. What a shame. I only wish that Idaho would take back the state and allow for management by local people and governments or make this the chance to allow for the use of chain saws to manage the trail systems that have been in place for hundred of years. If we don't do something soon to allow for the use of chain saws they will become impossible to make them useable.