

## Glenda Wiles

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**From:** Suzy Foss <suzyfoss@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 15, 2015 4:28 PM  
**To:** Jeff Burrows; J.R. Iman; Greg Chilcott; Glenda Wiles; Terry Nelson  
**Subject:** Kellogg School Closure

This from a dear friend and outstanding county commissioner from Shoshone County, ID, the panhandle of Idaho and timber rich, mineral rich and broke due to Federal control over the public lands. I know that earlier this year, while testifying on the Idaho Pan Handle Travel Management Plan proposed after over 20 years of rewriting to avoid litigation by the neo-environmentalist, Larry stated that his county was going to have to choose between a road department and a sheriff's department and that this winter would be the last time they would be able to do some snow plowing on county roads. The same story was told by the 3 commissioners from the Kootanai Forest the next day during their hearing. Libby is also a town that is struggling to provide basic services while their forests continue to grow and thicken.

Please keep a watch on the next travel management releases and participate, as I did, when the time for input is open. Expanded wilderness, road closures, wild and scenic river expansions, all to reduce the cost of forest management as they cannot afford the on the ground staffing to process timber sales in a sustainable manner. Julie King of the Bitterroot had the best success in Region 1 in timber harvest, so good that she is expected to keep her numbers up but lost her only silviculturist to another forest. No one in the Bitterroot to cruise the sales but keep up the good work Bitterroot National Forest. Jeff, I sure hope you are visiting with Julie and supporting her in whatever manner you guys can. We do not want to become another dying county by waiting too late to fight for change and be on top of the travel management process. It is probably too late in the minds of the USFS but it should not be allowed to move forward with that thinking as the lack of Local Government was found to be a huge issue in the other two plans.

Thanks,

Suzy

**Date:** March 12, 2015 at 12:17:43 AM MDT  
**Subject:** Kellogg School Closure  
**From:** Larry Yergler <larryyergler@gmail.com>

I just returned home from a Kellogg School District 391 board meeting where the school board voted to close an elementary school. Sunnyside School in Kellogg and will bus all City of Kellogg residents to the City of Pinehurst. Declining enrollment within the population because of lack of employment is the major contributor.

KSD 391 once a school district rich from revenues off of National Forest timber harvests and the jobs provided employed many families whose livelihood depended on this cultural way of life in our community. Now the jobs are gone, the families have relocated and our communities and schools suffer the consequence.

While SRS funds served as a temporary solution they have done more damage than good. Destroying the logging infrastructure and our economic stability has led to a demise in our population with long term repercussions like declining school enrollments, lost future job opportunities and overall a degradation of social well being. All these detrimental outcomes violate the Congressional intent of NEPA which sought to protect local communities from federal actions.

And the state of the forest continues to decline with more dead and dying timber, poor watershed conditions and an unhealthy state of the forest. These are in direct violation of the NFMA which mandates managing the National Forests for present and future timber availability and protecting watersheds for the good of the Nation.

The citizens in our community are not sharing equal amenities offered the larger communities with less federal forest lands, more available tax base and more opportunities for private industry.

I am dismayed that our community, our heritage and our social stability continues to decline because of an inability to utilize the National Forest like Gifford Pinchot promised, "revenues will come from the utilization... of an endless supply of timber."

My 11 year old grandson will probably not be able to live in Kellogg, earn a decent living, and raise a family here when he reaches his adult life.

Sincerely,

Larry Yergler  
former Shoshone County Commissioner