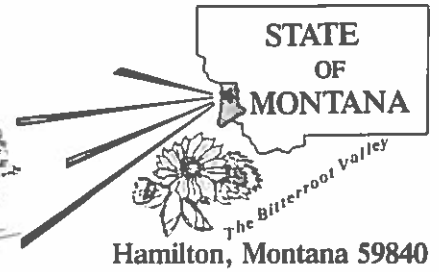
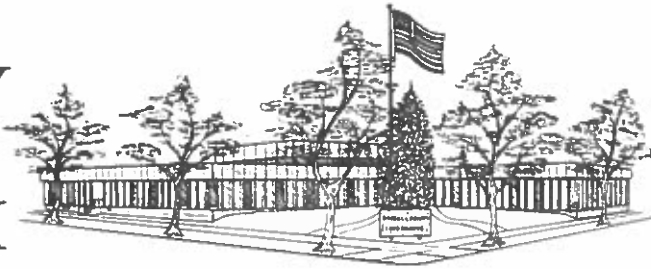


# COUNTY OF RAVALLI



RAVALLI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
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406-375-6500  
[commissioners@rc.mt.gov](mailto:commissioners@rc.mt.gov)

April 12, 2019

Eric Winthers  
Darby/Sula Ranger District  
PO Box 388  
Darby, MT 59829

## **RE: Objection Letter for the Darby Lumber Lands Phase II Project**

Dear Eric,

The Board of Ravalli County Commissioners (BCC) thanks you, Forest Service staff and Supervisor Anderson for your continued efforts to work with Commissioners and resolve important issues on our National Forest in Ravalli County. We request your consideration of the BCC's objections on this project.

The BCC objects to the seasonal closure of Robbins Gulch Road. This road had provided historical public access into the Robbins Gulch area. The Ravalli County Natural Resource Use Policy states in part "Ravalli County is opposed to road and trail closures and/or decommissioning. There shall be no net loss of Forest Service road/trails. We support additional roads/trails." We support relocating the existing access to reduce water quality impacts.

The Commissioners attempted to meaningfully participate in the discussion on the closure of Robbins Gulch Road and a number of other historical and cultural accesses that were closed through the implementation of the travel plan, but were denied standing.

The Commissioners would also like to encourage the Forest Service to create a connector loop around Cold Spring Hill to enhance public access to public lands.

Thank you for your consideration of these objections.

Sincerely,

Ravalli County Board of Commissioners

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Burrows, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Chilcott, Member

*ABSENT*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Hoffman, Vice-Chair