

To Whom it May Concern

First, thank you for all of your hard work in the LoLo Forest Planning Process. This is the first time I have written a comment. I have lived in Montana full time since I retired in June of 2020. However, I have visited this state since my son enrolled at MSU Bozeman in the year of 2004. I purchased property in 2009. During this period of time I have come to love and respect the outdoor ethic of Montana. Originally from Texas with a career in Japan and many travels in other parts of the world, I understand what it is like to have no public land to access. I have also witnessed the total destruction of rainforest in Malaysia for palm oil plantations and of coral reefs due to human destruction, climate change and other pollutants dumped in our oceans. I bike, hike, and ski in Montana's wild places. I've become involved in various nonprofits in the Bozeman area who are committed to protecting these wild places. I am finally getting an education and how these protections work. It's a huge job, and I truly respect the individuals who have devoted careers to help with this process.

My career was educating sixth grade students. In that capacity I have witnessed first hand how important the natural world is for humanity. I took every opportunity to share the outdoors with my students. To educate them about ecology, conservation, plants and animals, the atmosphere, water, and they ate it up. Children deserve to have these wild places to visit. They deserve to have these wild places to protect the plants and animals who live there and provide clean air and water to this planet. We have to leave something for future generations.

Thank you for doing everything possible to Keep Montana Wild!

Sincerely,
Tamara Clark