

# City of Thompson Falls



Mayor

Rusti Leivestad

City Attorney

Timothy Goen

Ward I

Larry Lack  
Raoul Ribeiro, Pres.

Ward II

Katherine Maudrone  
Earlene Powell

Ward III

Hayley Allen-Blakney, VP  
Shawni Vaught

March 11, 2024

Land Management Plan Revision  
Attn: Amanda Milburn-Lolo Plan Revision Team  
Lolo National Forest  
24 Fort Missoula Road  
Missoula, MT 59804

RE: Lolo National Forest Plan Revision

Carolyn Upton, Forest Supervisor,

The City of Thompson Falls Public Water System continues to rely on the Ashley Creek Springs to supply the majority of their public drinking water supply. In the past, the Ashley Creek Municipal Watershed Planning efforts within the 1984 US Lolo Forest Plan has maintained a high-quality water level of Ashley Creek Springs used by the City of Thompson Falls Public Water System. Source water used for drinking water supplies with high-water quality levels have reduced operational treatment requirements under the EPA Safe Drinking Water Act Rules. The City's current water infrastructure is designed for the high-quality water in Ashley Creek Springs. Any changes in the level of water quality in the springs may require the City to add further treatment.

The City of Thompson Falls supports the continuation of the watershed management planning for water quality within the Draft 2024 USFS Forest Plan **Appendix 4 (page A4-1): Priority Watersheds and Conservation Network**; **Chapter 5 (page A4-14) – Municipal Watersheds and Source Water Protection Areas**

Sincerely,

Rusti Leivestad, Mayor  
Thompson Falls