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Title:

Comments: My objections pertain to the issue stated below in the following areas: Badger-Two Medicine, Elkhorn Wildlife Management Unit, and the Loco Mountains in the Crazy Mountains. I have submitted comments on these areas during the former comment period for the Helen-Lewis and Clark Forest Land Management Plan.

1.Statement of issues and parts of the plan to which the objection applies: Badger-Two Medicine area - mechanized travel, Blackfeet cultural heritage, wilderness character.

Reason for the Objection: The Blackfeet Nation has recommended that the area be closed to mountain bikes. Allowing mechanized travel in the Badger-Two Medicine runs counter to the cultural and spiritual values of the Blackfeet Nation.

Proposed Solution: I advocate for maintaining the integrity and attributes of the Badger-Two Medicine Traditional Cultural District. I advocate for the Forest Service (FS) restrict motorized and mechanized travel in the Badger-Two Medicine to protect the cultural values and resources of the Blackfeet Nation, preserve wilderness character and fish and wildlife habitat, and to manage the area for continued traditional forms of foot and horseback recreation on foot or horseback.

Statement demonstrating link between objection and prior formal comments: In my former comment on the forest plan I encouraged the Forest Service to support the tribal treaty rights in the Badger-Two Medicine. I cited the recent suspension of nearly all the mining leases in the Badger-Two Medicine is an important step in the process of protecting the cultural and spiritual rights of the Blackfeet Nation. Now, with the last mining lease suspended, protection of the rights and cultural practices of the Blackfeet Nation has even more relevance and timeliness.

2.Statement of issues and parts of the plan to which the objection applies: Badger-Two Medicine Management.

Reason for the Objection: As part of the cultural identity of the Blackfeet Nation, the Blackfeet should logically and legally share in the responsibilities for managing the Badger-Two Medicine.

Proposed Solution: Increase cooperation and provide authority of the Blackfeet Nation to participate in management decisions in the Badger-Two Medicine. Management as a Primitive ROS, suitability or unsuitability for timber production, and preservation of ecological diversity are examples of management issues in which the Blackfeet Nation deserves involvement.

Statement demonstrating link between objection and prior formal comments: In my former comments, I advocated for involvement of the Blackfeet Nation's tribal government in management decisions of the Badger-Two Medicine in coordination with the Forest Service.

3.Statement of issues and parts of the plan to which the objection applies: Elkhorn Wildlife Management Unit (WMU_

Reason for the Objection: The forest plan fails to protect the wild core of the WMU and fails to maintain wildlife habitat and wildlife management as its principle priority for the Elkhorn WMU. By providing opportunities for oil and gas exploration, the plan runs counter to the intent and priorities of WMUs. As habitat for elk, deer, and

wolverines, the Elkhorns deserve full WMU protections. Connectivity to other wildlands is an additional reason to fully protect wildlife and wildlife habitat of the Elkhorn WMU.

Proposed Solution: I recommend adoption of Alternative (DEIS 2018) to protect the wild core of the WMU. I recommend that a ban on oil and gas leases be instituted for the entire Elkhorn WMU to protect the elk population and wildlife habitat, and to maintain opportunities for hunters in a wild landscape.

Statement demonstrating link between objection and prior formal comments: In my former comments, I recognized the value of designating WMUs to be protected specifically for wildlife. The Elkhorns appropriately fits this designation. I have backpacked in the Elkhorn WMU, viewed elk populations and prime elk habitat, and attest to the value to having certain landscapes protected specifically for wildlife.

4.Statement of issues and parts of the plan to which the objection applies: The Loco Mountain area in the Crazy Mountains contains no protection in the final plan.

Reason for the Objection: The Loco Mountain area is very remote, has no motorized routes, and contains excellent wildlife habitat for elk and potential habitat for wolverines and Canada lynx.

Proposed Solution: Designate a Primitive ROS setting for the Loco Mountain area to protect wildlife habitat and values, and to offer opportunities for backcountry hunting, hiking, fishing and traditional hiking and horseback riding opportunities.

Statement demonstrating link between objection and prior formal comments. In my former comments I advocated for recommended wilderness for the Loco Mountains to protect wildlife habitat secure migration routes. I have hiked and backpacked in the Crazy Mountains and can attest to the wildness and remoteness of this area, extensive wildlife habitat, and opportunities for elk hunting, hiking and horseback riding.