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Forest Supervisor Mary Erickson 12/20/2022

P.O Box 130

Bozeman, MT 59771

Women in Ranching

Amber Smith, Executive Director

P.O. Box 76

Cohagen, MT 59322

Dear Supervisor Erickson,

It is with great interest that I have been following the efforts of the citizen-proposed East Crazy Inspiration Land Exchange #63115.

When national discourse can be divided, here is an example of local effort that reminds us of the value of showing up in community, sitting with differences and challenging conversations and moving forward with collaborations that benefit the entire community.

Designing a federal proposal of this scope is challenging and time-consuming and we have been excited to hear that both sides of the discussion came together to put forward a solution.

The proposed land exchange creates positive outcomes for wildlife habitat, working land families and outdoor enthusiasts alike. Increased access by the public, removing the barriers of long-checkerboarded land, and better opportunities for the U.S. Forest service to care for backcountry land feels like wins, alongside support from local ranchers and landowners.

What a fantastic example of cooperation, collaboration and community-oriented volunteer efforts.

I hope this proposition moves forward and gains the applause it deserves! Thank you for your time and consideration in this important conversation and I am hopeful to see this proposal advance.

Sincerely,

12/20/2022

Amber Smith