



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Flathead National Forest

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**File Code:** 1570  
**Date:** August 27, 2021

Dear Objector:

This letter is in response to your objections filed on the Stovepipe Environmental Assessment and draft Decision Notice released by Bill Mulholland, Tally Lake District Ranger. I have reviewed your objections and the project record. My review of your objections was conducted in accordance with the administrative review procedures found at 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PROCESS

The regulations provide for a pre-decisional administrative review process of issues raised by objectors and suggested remedies that would resolve the objections. I considered your issues related to the National Environmental Policy Act, fisheries, and wildlife.

#### OBJECTION RESOLUTION MEETING

I proposed a resolution meeting on August 19, 2021 to discuss potential remedies to your objections but did not receive a response from you. Because the only other objector supports the proposed action, I did not hold a meeting.

#### RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS

As specified at 36 CFR 218.11(b), this letter is my response to your objections to the environmental assessment, draft decision notice, and project record. The responsible official provided adequate analysis of issues raised and provided acceptable documentation of compliance with applicable law, regulation, and policy.

#### CONCLUSION

The responsible official may sign the Decision Notice for this project. My review constitutes the final administrative determination of the United States Department of Agriculture; no further review from any other Forest Service or United States Department of Agriculture official of my written response to your objection is available [36 CFR 218.11(b)(2)].

Sincerely,

KURTIS E. STEELE  
Forest Supervisor

cc: William Mulholland, Tami Mackenzie, Julie Gerrior, Tami Mackenzie, Michele Draggo, Cody Hutchinson, Olga Troxel

