

May 18th, 2022

Bitterroot National Forest

Stevensville Ranger District Front Desk

88 Main Street, Stevensville, MT 59870

RE: Bitterroot Front Project Scoping Projects

Dear Mr. Brown,

I thank you for your collaborative efforts during the scoping phase of the Bitterroot Front Project. Ravalli County currently has the greatest risk from wildfires in Montana and without projects like this, the general welfare of citizens in Ravalli County will suffer. Wildfire can be disastrous to communities and forgoing proactive management can negatively impact public and private lands, the safety of emergency response teams, wildlife habitat and water quality. Without comprehensive forest management, the odds of another devastating wildfire such as the 2017 Roaring Lion Fire increase. I support this project because it will take steps to mitigate the potential threat of wildfire and help maintain a stable tax base, minimize damage to public and private facilities and reduce prolonged business and public service interruptions in Ravalli County. Please consider this comment letter as part of the official record for the Bitterroot Front Project.

Sincerely,

 5-18-2022

Rob Livesay

Ravalli County Planning Director