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Organization:

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Comments: GMUG Draft Assessment Comments

Dear GMUG Planning Team,

Thank you for asking for my input.

It is my opinion that the long term game and gain for the most people who live and or visit in this area is through recreation.

Extractive resources are a dead end. Move towards renewables to preserve what we have in the GMUG.

As so poignantly noted by the people of northern British Columbia fighting to save the Sacred Headwaters: "15 years of jobs or 1500 years to restore the land once the jobs are done". Tourism is sustainable and is only growing as are peoples demand for pristine landscapes as the world gets paved and farmed. It is far easier to protect than to restore.

Recreation tends to keep the money in the local economy and provide jobs for locals.

A 2013 report shows outdoor recreation creates 3 times the jobs as oil and gas on public lands. Annual consumer spending in outdoor rec is the third highest category for households. Link here

https://www.nwf.org/~media/PDFs/Wildlife/Tribal-Lands/NWF_PublicLands_Final_HighRes.ashx

Please choose the long view vs. the short gain.

Sincerely,

Mr. James Wilkes

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