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Organization:

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Comments: Greetings,

For many years I have been an avid user of all three forks of the flathead. I understand and agree that some sort of management philosophy must be put in place. The amount of use has dramatically increased and the experience is not the same.

I believe that the amount of use by commercial outfitters should be the first thing to be regulated. Why should someone be able to make a profit off of a public resource? Especially if that commercial use could result in the public being regulated and required to get a permit?

When I am out enjoying the river, the parties that stand out the most to me are the large very fancy commercial parties. The regular DIY folks don't stand out as much. This is relevant because you are planning to analyze experience. Not all user groups will effect the same experience.

I believe that wilderness is a very special, even spiritual place. The fact that it's getting over used and abused by commercial outfitters is wrong.

If any managment actions are put in place, the only option I see is reducing the amount of commercial outfitting first.

Public land is not the place for commercialization and private profits.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.