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Organization:

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Comments: My comments pertain only to the North Fork of the Flathead River as that is the section of river that I live within "shouting" distance of and am most familiar with. Due to the congestion on the river that has increased dramatically over the past 4 years, along with the congestion on the North Fork Rd. with vehicles pulling multiple rafts and school buses filled with rafters from commercial outfitters, I am in favor of the proposed permit system for river float trips. I would like to see it taken a step further and cease commercial river rafting on the North Fork of the Flathead that is currently allowed. The "wild and scenic river" will not live up to this designation if the current river use continues to grow as it has in the past few years.

I am dismayed to see the negative impacts that the high river use has resulted in over the past few years. Never before in my 20+ years of residency in the North Fork have I seen so much garbage/debris and human waste along the river pull-out sites, even at those sites that have outhouse facilities. I believe some controls need to be put into effect.

Thank you for this opportunity to be heard.