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First name: Zack

Last name: Anderson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I am writing with my comments regarding the possible permit requirement for Recreational use of the North Fork River From the Canadian border south.

My wife and I are one of the shareholders/owners of Moose City River and Beaver Dam Protection Association(A.K.A Moose City) located just South of the Border at the northern end of the North fork Road. Our property borders the River for around a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile or so. One of the things that our kids and their friends treasure about Moose City is the direct access to the beautiful North Fork River that this property allows. We access the river for rafting, tubing, swimming and fishing throughout six months of the year. Personally, I have put our raft in from our property many times for float trips that conclude at the Wurtz access. These floats consist of the kids fishing, swimming and taking in the incredible scenery and chance wildlife spotting along this stretch of river. Our children and many of their friends have spent many hot summer afternoons doing short inner tube floats from our property down to the end of Beaver Boulevard where they exit the river and return for another float.

Although I am not aware of the specific restrictions that "permitted" use of the river would bring, I am very much opposed to being restricted from using the river freely for the above mentioned uses. I am further concerned local folks such as ourselves and others in our group whom pay property taxes not only on this property but also in Flathead County elsewhere would be disallowed to access the water freely. It seems to me that property owners along the river should be exempt from any restrictions or burdens while recreating on a public body of water that borders private property. This would be similar to requiring folks whom own private property along Flathead Lake to acquire a permit in order to access and recreate on the lake directly from their property. Similarly, I can't imagine this would ever be acceptable nor do I imagine any other owners along the North Fork River finding restrictions on their use of it, acceptable.

We are not opposed to putting restrictions on commercial use of the river in this area. Although our property is approximately 300 feet down river from the public access, we have found evidence of trespassing at our northern property boundary presumably due to individuals walking down the shoreline to access their rafts. They are doing this later in the season as the water flow goes down and consequently the river is really shallow until it nears our property and thus can sustain the additional occupants of the raft without catching on rocks. Additionally, over the last few years we have noticed the drastic increase in vehicles parking to the north of our property in "overflow" parking across from the Border station.

My wife, our kids, our guests and myself ask you not to place restrictions on our private use of this majestic place of beauty so we can continue to enjoy it for ourselves and introduce others to it as well.

Please include me in any future correspondence regarding this process.

Thank you for your time regarding this matter.