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Comments: I agree with American Whitewater's response to the proposed river plan.

"Greater recognition of the unique recreational roles that the various reaches play because of their high quality and lack of lottery-permits, as well as their range of difficulty, accessibility, and character.

A more comprehensive approach to monitoring, managing, and supporting all forms of outdoor recreation in the river corridors rather than the current narrow focus on paddling.

A clearer description of proposed management actions, and a stepwise plan for how they would be rolled out.

Lottery based permits should generally be among the last options employed to limit use."

As locals it is our duty to protect and preserve the river. I believe that we can try other approaches to preserving our river without jumping into a lottery system. I live in the Flathead Valley and I put in for multiple river permits every year and they are very competitive to win. I understand and respect the uniqueness of having a Wild and Scenic river being assessable year round to the public. I think a fee for day and multiday floats would be a good start to help fund for more rangers. This way rangers can check in with anyone putting on the river at the major put-ins. As locals we are open to try other ideas that can prevent us from moving to a lottery.