

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/24/2019 8:01:25 PM

First name: Anon

Last name: Anon

Organization:

Title:

Comments: This statement is in regards to the South Crazy Mountain Land Exchange.

It is foolish to exchange land that provides the public so many high-quality hunting and fishing opportunities for land that significantly decreases the type and quality of hunting and fishing opportunities. It is not in the best interest of the public. The USFS should honor its motto, "Caring for the Land and Serving the People" by not continuing with this land swap, because it does not serve the people.

Swapping land to get more USFS land connected is a great idea at face value. However, high-quality land should not be traded for inferior pieces just to connect a few dots. It provides benefits to a limited few and denies the many. That, to me, does not meet the USFS's motto, nor its mission statement, "To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations." How are the needs of future generations met when they no longer have access to high-quality hunting and fishing areas due to foolish land exchanges?

I am a Montana employee of the USFS and have been for over 18 years. The Crazy Mountains have been a challenging issue for years. But not only in that area, many areas of Montana have been inundated by wealthy individuals who do their level best to deny public access to federal lands. It has been getting increasingly more and more difficult to access public land in recent years. Do not make land exchanges that include high-quality land already legally and easily accessible for land that is significantly inferior. All that is going to do is add to the list of reasons people are growing frustrated and disenfranchised with the USFS.

"Serve the People" and "meet the needs of future generations" by making appropriate land exchanges. All of us who work, recreate, and enjoy our Federal lands are counting on you to make the right decision and discontinue the South Crazy Mountains Land Exchange in its current form.