Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/16/2019 3:49:20 AM

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Title:

Comments: As a recreationist who uses National Forest lands in the Crazy Mountains, I am strongly opposed to the exchange of public land sections 4 and 8 (Township 2 N., Range 11 E.) for private sections 11, 13 and 21 (Township 3 N., Range 11 E.).

Sections 4 and 8 are currently legally open to public use by walk-in access on trails 270 and 272. These two sections offer high-quality mid and low elevation wildlife and fisheries habitat that is far superior to that found in sections 11, 13 and 21 which they would be traded for.

The public will suffer a significant net loss of valuable hunting, fishing (e.g., Rock Creek), hiking and other recreational opportunities if sections 4 and 8 are traded away. The mosaic of lowland forest and open meadows found in these two sections is uncommon elsewhere in the Crazies and should not be traded away for less-accessible lands possessing lower wildlife and recreational values.