

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/1/2022 7:56:46 PM

First name: Elias

Last name: Kassirer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing regarding SPLAT. This is a hugely destructive project which needs to be stopped.

The scope of the road building and logging is staggering! The effect upon the migratory buffalo alone will be catastrophic. Of course, other wildlife will be impacted including grizzlies, lynx, and wolverines. In recent years there has been a staggering decline in wildlife populations attributable to mismanagement of public wildlands by agencies like the Forest Service. Please be reminded that agencies like the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management are funded by us - the taxpayers with our hard earned dollars. It is reprehensible that this proposed destruction should be funded by the taxpayers. The timber industry does not pay your salaries nor cover the costs of these projects despite the fact that they stand to financially benefit from this project.

Hopefully, you will see fit to do the right thing and cancel this entire SPLAT project. Short of that, the Forest Service needs to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to examine the cumulative impact this project, which is what federal law requires anytime a project has the potential to adversely impact wildlife, water quality, soils, the climate, or the human environment.

There is simply no good reason to proceed with this project. We need to protect and preserve the land, water, and creatures in this magnificent region. Certainly, you are all well aware of the price we are paying for past and ongoing projects like SPLAT. I am pleading with you to cancel this project.

Thank you for taking my thoughts and concerns into consideration.

Respectfully,

Eli Kassirer - New Paltz, NY (part time Montana resident)

\*