

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/8/2022 11:37:42 AM

First name: Daniel

Last name: Layton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Crazy Mountains are a special and unique place that is important to me. I appreciate your efforts to address the public and private checkerboarding.

But I request that, as a condition of the land exchange, conservation easements are put on public lands going into private ownership. Without easements in place, there is no guarantee that existing low-elevation wildlife habitat will stay intact. Consolidation could end up harming wildlife by opening the door to private development, that 100% will happen, within the existing Forest boundary. Please include easements as a condition of the exchange, as you did for the South Crazy Mountains Land Exchange.

In addition, the Forest Service should retain public and administrative access claims to sections 7, 8 and 10 in Sweetgrass drainage. Relinquishing these claims sets a dangerous precedent for access disputes and gets ahead of litigation that is currently under appeal.

I do not agree with allowing the Yellowstone Club, and its untrustworthy characters, to expand their footprint in this sacred area of Montana. Tourism is essential to Montana, however their historical effect on public access is too concerning to let this deal go through. Please help keep Montana wild and not overrun with big elites that ruin it for the rest of us.