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First name: David Last name: Nolt Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in opposition to this proposed land exchange. Not only would the public be losing access to critical wildlife habitat on the front of the range, but we would also be abandoning any claim to a public right of way to the Sweetgrass Creek trailhead. A landowner's assurance that they "intend" to allow public access and a land swap that "respects the status quo regarding permissive public access into the upper Sweet Grass Creek drainage over Rein Lane" is not solving any public access issues. It is exactly that: status quo.

While I wholeheartedly support compromises that benefit both landowners and the public, this is clearly another halfhearted attempt at solving the difficult access issues in the Crazy Mountains. Landowners would get what they want, the Forest Service would avoid the hard work involved with fighting for the public's access, involved non-profits would get a PR win, and the public would ultimately lose out on more quality habitat and yet another access point to this range. We can and must do better than this.