

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/13/2022 12:53:29 AM

First name: David

Last name: Patenaude

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

My biggest concerns are as follows:

Voluntary deed restrictions, or conservation easements, that prohibit industrial, commercial, and residential development must be negotiated and analyzed as part of the EA and a condition of the exchange. If voluntary measures are not agreed to, the Forest Service should place land use restrictions on any wetlands, sensitive habitats, and cultural sites prior to exchanging the land.

The Forest Service should reserve public and administrative access on sections 7, 8, and 10 in Sweetgrass drainage to maintain the status quo.

The Crazy Mountains are native lands. Several Indigenous Peoples, including but not limited to the Crow, Salish, Cheyenne, Sioux, and Blackfeet have been historically and are still connected to this landscape, so engagement, consultation, and co-management should include all regional Indigenous nations that identify as being connected.

Since the CGNF opened public comment and held public meetings prior to the completion of the EA the public needs another opportunity for engagement once the environmental analysis is complete.

The impacts of the land exchange and a new trail through previously unfragmented land should be thoroughly analyzed with a full Environmental Impact Statement.

Regards,