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Title:

Comments: Hello.

I would like to start by saying thank you to everyone involved who has put in the hard work to get the project to this point. Improving access and conservation in the Crazies is a very worthwhile effort.

That said, I don't believe that the proposal in its current form is the best we can do, and isn't even "good enough", which isn't an acceptable level of effort for such a special place.

The proposal as defined lacks some key elements that the public and Crazies deserve, namely:

- private agreements and assurances that are critical to the project are unenforceable and rely on good faith of current land owners. Without any sort of deed restrictions or legally binding agreements, there is no agreement of the continuation of these agreements or assurances.
- the mineral rights being maintained, presents the possibility of unwinding all of the hard work to conserve the area, by allowing landowners to essentially use the area however they see fit in pursuit of mineral exploration or extraction
- the missing monetary value and lopsided exchange of water rights does not provide the public with a fair assessment or assurance of what is being exchanged
- the assumption that there are only two valid options to be explored is shortsighted and doesn't provide enough opportunity for alternative solutions to the issues facing access and conservation in the area
- the loss of quality fishing and hunting grounds doesn't fairly consider the impacts to those user groups
- the environmental impacts to the high altitude areas of building a new trail and increased user numbers isn't addressed or considered as part of this assessment
- the lack of guaranteed access to sweetgrass creek removes one of the best entry points for the east crazies and capitulates a prescriptive easement that should be enforced or resolved with the land owner
- the proposed agreement with a private landowner and the Crow tribe is wonderful, however it fails to address any other indigenous groups who may have valid and reasonable claims of historical use and access

Given these issues, while I support the effort so far and want to see a successful project completed, I do not support the current proposal and would like to see additional effort put into other alternatives mentioned.