

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/19/2022 2:36:55 PM

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Comments: As a resident of Montana for over 25 years, and as a strong proponent of public lands, I am writing in opposition to the East Crazy Inspiration Divide Land Exchange. This proposal clearly prioritizes private interests over the best interests of the public.

I am concerned about the inequitable surrendering of prime lower-elevation parcels and elk winter range for steep and rocky higher elevation parcels. The imbalance in land values is considerable.

This proposal asks the public to surrender a disproportionate percentage of mineral rights. Why should the public give up 100% of mineral rights in exchange for mineral rights on only two of the 11 sections it is receiving? In Montana, mineral rights supersede surface rights, so it is not unreasonable to assume that the owners may decide to claim these valuable rights in the future. I am concerned that this would open those lands to mineral development.

The proposal asks the public to give up all water rights on land it is giving to the landowners, while it does not receive the water rights on all the land it receives. According to the stream miles on page 50-51 of the EA, the public gives up more fish-bearing miles than it receives in return. The public does not support this!

The proposal asks the public to give up 52 acres of wetlands and receives only 7.8 acres in return, meaning the public stands to lose 44.6 acres of wetlands. The public does not support this either!

A loss of 40+ acres of wetlands, an imbalance of land and timber values, and the loss of fishable streams violates the law. With no other viable alternatives offered, I support Alternative A, No Action, and ask that the USFS deny this proposal which would negatively impact our public lands, public access and public opportunities.