

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/19/2022 3:45:26 PM

First name: Mary Margaret

Last name: Smith

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a public land owner and a Montanan, I fully reject the land swap proposed by the East Crazy Inspiration Divide Land Exchange #63115. This proposal is clearly not in the public's interest -- which was first made evident by how this convoluted exchange even became to be. The only interests that stand to gain from this proposed land exchange are the large out-of-state money holders and the already wealthy, elite members of the Yellowstone Club. I simply cannot contain my disappointment in the USFS. As a member of the public who entrusts the USFS with managing our public lands, and our public rights to accessing those lands when those are threatened or at stake, I am shocked that this land swap was even considered. The question that is seeming being ignored, but should be paramount in the decision making is simple: is this proposal enhancing public access to the Crazy mountains like it claims? I would argue that selling the land where PUBLIC trailheads exist, eliminating PUBLIC mineral rights, forfeiting PUBLIC water rights, and not negotiating any PUBLIC easement access gives a clear and resounding answer to that question -- "NO." But therein lies the beauty of public lands, and the irony of the situation. These large out-of-state money holders and Yellowstone Club members are also members of the public. They can use, recreate, and enjoy our public lands along side the rest of us -- and we encourage and welcome them to do so! We are all members of the public and we all win when public lands win. So why broker a greedy deal that eliminates that collective access? That shared communal space? I just don't understand and I won't let my voice be misrepresented. Keep public lands in public hands. Thank you.