Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/21/2022 7:16:59 PM First name: Linda Last name: Nell Organization:

Title:

Comments: The powers currently in power in the wild west which is Big Sky (aka those with power, money and other resources which many of us hard working long-time residents do not), have facilitated many land swaps since the original checkerboarded BLM land. Most have not been advantageous to the public interest. As a family who has owned and worked the land in West Fork (long before "Big Sky") many changes have been imposed for many of the reasons set out above. We are now subjected to overcrowding, stressed resources, traffic, noise and light pollution, private and medical helicopters overhead, avalanche control blasting and limited access to what used to be acres and acres of public land now gated, sold to private entities, and restricted. Don't get me started on the impact to wildlife with numerous examples of river otter, beaver, deer, elk, moose and bear being killed or euthanized from construction traffic, ill equiped tourists or negligent developers. This land swap may be good for those who wish to preserve a way of life there, but is NOT a good idea for here. Swap infers a fair trade. Further limiting rights of individual landowners and users in Big Sky is not fair in my option since we have been victim to this process for decades. My hope is to preserve our limited (yes, after seeing about what has happened in other states, this is the road we travel as well - no public lands), do not let "progress" and development drive what manu Montanan's hold dear! NO to the "swap." Let outside interests who want to buy Montana donate the resource back to the public - what is a major part of making Montana the Last Best Place!