

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/23/2022 2:22:42 AM

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Organization:

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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Crazy Mountain land exchange. Pitchfork Limited Partnership owns land (Township 4 North, 13 East, Section 19) that as of now borders the national forest in the Crazy Mountains. If this land exchange is completed Pitchfork's property will no longer boarder the national forest. It is our understanding, through conversations with realtors that property can be substantially more valuable if it borders the national forest. We have seen no analysis, to our knowledge or even concern of what that impact might be.

We also have concerns about further limiting access to lower national forest land, effectively giving control of access to two landowners between Big Timber Creek and Sweet Grass Creek. Which brings the question, by decreasing private land ownership bordering the forest service, will we also be decreasing the odds of public access across private land to the forest service and thus possibly being detrimental to wildlife management? Also, a concern is the choice by the forest service to use outside money to solve their access issues. This could turn into a very slippery slope, if an agency created by the federal government to protect and manage the public's land turns to large outside financial interests to solve their management issues.

Thank you again for the opportunity to voice our concerns, and or the opportunity to find possible solutions.