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First name: Gia

Last name: Randono

Organization: Lewis & Clark Trail Adventures

Title: Co-Owner

Comments: As the owner of Lewis and Clark Trail Adventures and a 4th generation Montanan, based in Missoula, Montana, my business depends heavily on area rivers and the tributaries on the Lolo National Forest that feed them. Each year, my company takes 1000+ people on area rivers. These people include both local Montanans as well as out-of-state visitors, who support Montana's tourism economy and keep coming back for memorable experiences on our rivers.

The Lolo National Forest is part of the identity of those who live, work, and visit Missoula and its outlying rural communities. Montana, in general, and the Lolo National Forest, specifically, have an abundance of copious, clean, cold water.

At a time of increasingly volatile temperatures, weather, flooding, and snowpack, it's critical to protect the bounty of free-flowing, cold rivers we have now through Wild and Scenic eligible protections applied to rivers and streams on the Lolo National Forest under the Lolo Forest Plan.

The best way to protect these rivers is to recognize the location and importance of persistent cold water that provides habitat for fish and helps keep our river-loving floaters cool.

On behalf of me and my business, I'm asking the Lolo National Forest to implement policies that preserve and acknowledge Outstandingly Remarkable Values to identify and protect cold rivers with key fish habitat, both now and what's predicted into the future.