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First name: Nathan

Last name: Boddy

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Good afternoon,

I'm penning this message to express my opposition to an increase of over 100% the number of outfitter use days in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.

I feel as though commercial uses upon public land should meet the highest level of scrutiny. While I certainly do not stand in opposition to such uses, and increase of the proposed magnitude can hardly be justified. Certainly, if an upward adjustment is needed, a far smaller step would make sense before more than doubling outfitter/guide pressures.

As a hunter and angler, my interests are in assuring that public land hunting continues to be a viable option for residents far into the future. Closing land access, privatizing access and/or placing more of the privilege of hunting into the hands of only those who can afford it is the wrong way to go. The more MT landowners see that guiding and 'pay to play' access as the way of the future, the more hunting will be beyond reach of most Montana residents.

Sincerely,

Nathan Boddy