

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 4:39:51 PM

First name: Leonie

Last name: Terfort

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Forest Service's responsibility is to preserve the wilderness of the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex, not promote any use, such as outfitting or guiding.

The U.S. Forest Service is proposing to renew existing outfitter permits (Permit Reauthorization #65359), without disclosing which permits exactly, their locations, their impact or any associated information. Thereby the forest service is making it impossible for themselves to make a responsible, beneficial, fact based, transparent decision and the public they are making it impossible to provide meaningful public input.

Accordingly, the Forest Service must make the following information available for public review on its website and must also extend the public comment period for another 45 days after information is published on the website:

- The overall environmental impact.
- Specify how the proposed Permit Reauthorization #65359 benefits the preservation of wilderness, because preservation of wilderness is the forest services responsibility and goal. How exactly does Permit Reauthorization #65359 benefit wildlife and the environment.
- Disclose the impact from these commercial operation and who benefits.
- permitted service days versus actual use for each permit
- annual inspections, performance evaluations, or public complaints related to each campsite or operator
- any NEPA documents and related decisions dealing with outfitting service levels or allocation in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex
- the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex Character Narrative
- 2017 needs assessment and extent necessary documentation
- Campsite Management Plans for each outfitter camp

Given the many impacts outfitting has on the Wilderness, the Forest Service must not use a Categorical Exclusion (CE) to renew any outfitter permits. An Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement with accompanying public input is called for to properly protect this fabled Wilderness Complex.

Thank for your consideration.