Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 3:48:11 PM
First name: Gloria
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Thank you for accepting public comment on the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex.

I strongly believe that it is the Forest Service's responsibility to preserve the spirit of wilderness that is found throughout the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex. This area does not serve any one group or special interest but belongs to all Americans. The promotion of any particular use of this wilderness complex including outfitting/guiding would be antithetical to the purpose of wilderness which is an intact system in and of itself, providing biodiversity that is unseen in any other part of the world.

The Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex Outfitter and Guide Permit Reauthorization lacks site-specific information, despite requesting site-specific comments. 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 including the following:

- 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.
The Categorical Exclusion opens up loopholes and sets up a damaging precedent for all other wilderness areas moving forward.

I appreciate your consideration of the points I have made above.