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First name: Julie

Last name: Turner

Organization:

Title:

Comments: According to what I have read, The Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex has a long history of outfitting and guiding, and many outfitters there have been great supporters of protecting these Wildernesses. But, outfitting and camps have impacts which are often glossed over or overlooked. Some Wilderness trails are so heavily used by pack animals that they more resemble roads than foot or horse trails. Some outfitter campsites in Wilderness areas are allowed to have structures like tent frames, corrals, and hitching posts. All of these outfitter impacts are exacerbated by the extraordinarily large people and pack stock party sizes allowed in the Wildernesses.

Now the Forest Service proposes to renew 62 special use outfitter permits that will be in place for at least a decade, without disclosing the impacts from these commercial operations. This seems like a really bad idea that won't protect the Wilderness area. I think the agency should go through a more rigorous environmental review on each of these permits.

Please protect the wilderness character in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex as you consider outfitter permits.