Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2024 9:59:55 PM First name: Michael Last name: King Organization:

## Title:

Comments: I'm a life-long Montanan and have hiked and backpacked in the Bob Marshall wilderness complex for 40 years. Over the years, I have become increasingly concerned about the Forest Service's lax regulation of outfitters and guides consistent with the mandates of the Wilderness Act - among other things, the building of structures, the allowance of hidden stashes of equipment, large client sizes, and the accumulation of trash, human waste, and horse/pack animal waste. Because the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex and Guide Permit Reauthorization fails in include site-specific information, the Forest Service should publish such information on its website and extend the public comment period for a reasonable period of time. The information the Forest Service should provide on its website should include at least the following: 1) the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex Character Narrative, 2) 2017 needs assessment and extent necessary documentation, 3) any NEPA documents and related decisions dealing with outfitting service levels or allocation in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex, 4) Campsite Management Plans for each outfitter camp, 5) annual inspections, performance evaluations, or public complaints related to each campsite or operator, and 6) permitted service days versus actual use for each permit. 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. Finally, due to the significant impacts outfitting and guiding has on the Bob Marshall wilderness resource, an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement is necessary, not a categorical exclusion. Please recall the debacle that occurred over the categorical exclusion the Forest Service issued for the proposed expansion of the Holland Lake Lodge. Thank you.