

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2024 1:24:56 AM

First name: Marie

Last name: Hyder

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Forest Service's responsibility is to preserve the wilderness character of the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex, not to promote any particular use, such as outfitting/guiding. It must be noted that this complex holds the distinction of being one of the original 54 Wilderness areas designated with the passage of the Wilderness Act 60 years ago.

The Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex Outfitter and Guide Permit Reauthorization lacks site-specific information, despite requesting site-specific comments. The increased outfitting and camps are causing destruction to the area. 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:

- 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 you for your consideration.