

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/1/2024 7:00:01 AM

First name: Sean

Last name: Edmison

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The responsibility of the Forest Service is to preserve the wild and untouched nature of any designated Wilderness area like the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex, rather than to promote any particular use like as outfitting/guiding. Moreover, the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex Outfitter and Guide Permit Reauthorization lacks the kinds of details and site-specific information that any reviewer would need in order to provide specific comments or recommendations. Thus, it is the responsibility of the Forest Service to make the following information available for public review on its website:

- the permitted service days versus actual use for each permit;
- annual inspections, performance evaluations, and public complaints related to each campsite, operator, and outfitter;
- 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 assessment of needs and extent necessary documentation; and
- Campsite Management Plans for each outfitter camp;

Furthermore, to allow for time for concerned citizens to review the materials and have time to comment on them, the public comment period must be extended for another 45 days after information is published on the website.

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.