Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/7/2024 3:44:02 AM First name: Jordan Last name: Vaughan Organization: Title:

Comments: I object to the proposed renewal of 62 special-use outfitter permits in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex Outfitter and Guide Permit Reauthorization as it currently stands. Many outfitter camps in this area have permanent or semi-permanent structures (tent frames, hitching posts, corrals, fences, and heavily-used trails that look like maintained roads) that degrade the Wilderness's wild character and thus violate the Wilderness Act ("the imprint of man's work [is] substantially unnoticeable [in designated Wilderness]" [16 U.S. Code § 1131(c)] and "there shall be [...] no structure or installation within any [Wilderness] area" [16 U.S. Code § 1133(c)]). Outfitters and guides must not be allowed to erect or maintain such structures; consequently, the Forest Service must not use categorical exclusions to renew outfitter permits. It must conduct environmental assessments or compile environmental impact statements, both with public input, to properly protect this Wilderness and others under the Forest Service's jurisdiction.

Although this Reauthorization requests site-specific public comments, it is missing vital site-specific information, such as:

- 1. the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex Character Narrative
- 2. annual inspections, performance evaluations, and public complaints for every campsite and operator
- 3. campsite management plans for every outfitter camp
- 4. permitted service days vs. actual use for every outfitter permit
- 5. 2017 needs assessment and extent necessary documentation; and

6. all National Environmentalal Policy Act (NEPA) documents and associated decisions concerning outfitting service levels or allocation in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex.

Therefore, the Forest Service must openly publish this information on its website and extend this public comment period for at least 45 more days for sufficient public review.

Finally, on a more fundamental level, the Forest Service's duty is to preserve the wilderness character of its Wilderness areas, not to promote any particular use, such as outfitting or guiding. Such uses are secondary and incidental: They do not deserve special treatment or exceptions from public scrutiny.

Thank you for your consideration.