Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2025 6:54:08 PM First name: Alex Last name: Russell Organization: Title: Comments: Flathead Comprehensive River Management Plan

## Dear Forest Service Supervisor,

I strongly encourage you to give the highest level of protection for the Flathead Comprehensive River Management Plan. The Bob Marshall and Spotted Bear Wilderness areas are some of the crown jewels of North American wilderness due to their lower-elevation outstanding habitat, and recreation potential. I have had the most profound wilderness experiences in these wilderness areas with incredible wildlife encounters and unspoiled views to the horizon in every direction. It is critical to manage these valuable resources in a way that can maintain the quality of the experience for visitors. Commercial use of these wilderness is important, but it is negatively impacting the experience of private parties as well as wildlife and water quality. I encourage the FS to re-examine current commercial use and consider its impacts on future generations of hunters, anglers, and recreators. Commercial and private use of Schafer Meadows should be more closely monitored. The increase in air traffic has already degraded the experience for other user groups. Placing the strongest protections will pay huge dividends for our future outdoorsmen and give them somewhere to unplug from the effects of creeping technological addiction.

Sincerely, Alex Russell