

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2025 10:57:50 PM

First name: Marybeth

Last name: Mataya

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service,

Thank you so very much for your caring of our nation's forests and this particular wilderness, named after the dedicated Bob Marshall. Your new Comprehensive Plan is important and to help it succeed, it is necessary to consider some of the impacts of the intense use already on the Flathead River and in the air space over the river.

Traditionally, we've counted numbers of campers and land permit users--we have often failed in remembering how the wildlife of the river flowage and airspace are harmed by too much use and disturbance. We need limits on these now for breathing room in the air and water, and deeper scientific studies on the varied effects already and worsening in this area from the intense "loving" of this resource so we can save it.

Aldo Leopold warned us that we can love a place to death. So we need to expand the size around the river too for more disbursement of land users as well so they don't funnel too close to specific beloved areas in the watershed and wilderness. Please act to revise the plan to include these considerations and additions.

Thank you more than I can say.

Well done!

Marybeth Lorbiecki (Mataya)