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First name: Brandt

Last name: Mannchen

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear U.S. Forest Service,

These are my personal comments about the U.S. Forest Service (FS) proposed Flathead Comprehensive River Management Plan #56536.

1) I want the FS to emphasize, along with the Flathead River Wild and Scenic River System, protection of habitat on the river and in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex, together, since they are one ecosystem and should be managed and protected as one. This will also result in the protection of wild country, which is what wilderness is, from overuse by humans and their technological activities.

2) I support the FS preparing more specific and detailed scientific information about carrying capacity for humans and their recreational activities and then applying this so that wilderness character is protected and trammeling is reduced to a minimum.

3) Because recreational numbers are so high, including fishing, guiding, kayaking and canoeing, and other recreational uses of the river and Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex, the FS should immediately address human disturbances (people, planes, boats, vehicles, etc.) and displacement of wildlife. Current recreational uses are too great for wildlife to act and behave as the wild animals they are and grow as wild plants that exist in these two areas.

4) The FS should also reduce impacts on the Middle Fork of the Flathead River and Great Bear Wilderness due to overflights that come from Schafer airstrip. Airplanes aren't natural in wilderness areas and their noise and visibility detracts from wilderness character and increases trammeling in wilderness.

5) I support dedication of most of the allocated use on the Flathead River Wild and Scenic River and wildernesses adjacent to it to public use and not commercial outfitting and guide use. Commercial outfitting and guide use should be limited and only equal to what is "necessary and proper" as required by the Wilderness Act.

6) The FS should conduct data collection and analysis for the entire Flathead River Corridor, on both sides of the River, for at least a minimum of 1/4 mile away from the River.

7) Another area where the FS needs to take immediate action to reduce environmental impacts is the South Fork of the Flathead River which must be brought into compliance with the wilderness management plan for the area.

I appreciate this opportunity to comment on this proposal. Thank you.