

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/31/2025 10:04:23 PM

First name: Debra

Last name: Ashton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am commenting on the Flathead River Scenic Corridor, specifically the fact that the Forest Service's proposed actions fall short in that they don't acknowledge current recreation impacts or address the current significant threats to Wilderness in one of America's preeminent wild places.

Habitat protection is critical and must be protected immediately. The Flathead River and Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex both deserve immediate attention and action in order to preserve the wild.

The Forest Service needs more scientific data about user capacity numbers. Immediate action is critical to address wildlife displacement in Wilderness caused by current recreation numbers.

Immediate action is needed to reduce impacts to the Middle Fork of the Flathead caused by flights in and out of Schafer airstrip in the Great Bear Wilderness.

The vast majority of use on the wild rivers should be public, and commercial outfitting and guiding should be limited to only the level that is "necessary and "proper" as required by the Wilderness Act.

Data collection and analysis needs to encompass the entirety of the Flathead River corridor, one-quarter mile to either side of the river.

Immediate action is needed to bring the impacts along the South Fork of the Flathead into compliance with the area's Wilderness Management Plan.