Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/5/2025 6:51:51 PM

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Title:

Comments: I wanted to comment on the planning for all three forks of the Flathead. As as resident of Kalispell for the last 30 years, I have seen the incredible rise of use on all three forks. My greatest wish is that this resource will not be exploited for the commercial and out-of-state use. I have seen this grow at an insane rate over the last five years.

As a resident of the area, my ability to partake in the recreational opportunities in this area has been drastically limited. We no longer can find a campground for our travel trailer, get a backpacking permit in Glacier, find a parking place for rafting the Middle Fork of the Flathead, get and entrance pass for our car in Glacier, or find a trail that is not clogged with tourists during the summer.

It is my opinion that the commercial and outfitter use of all three forks needs to be limited. The plan to set use days above what is already being used for outfitters is ridiculous. It is already being over used at the current level. I think the regulations on the Big Hole is a great example on how to monitor the river. Curtain days for private trips and then days for outfitters. Something has to be done. Soon living in this paradise will become a place locals will have to travel 50 miles away from to be able for find a place to take advantage of the recreational opportunities.