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Comments: I have some thoughts that I hope you will consider as you prepare the management plan for the Flathead River Wild and Scenic River system.

First of all, time is of the essence. Habitat protection on the Flathead River is not something that can wait, and the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex deserves immediate action in order to preserve the wild.

Second, I believe the Forest Service needs more scientific data and data analysis to effectively determine user capacity numbers on the entirety of the Flathead River corridor, spanning at least one-quarter mile to either side of the river. Current recreation numbers are displacing wildlife in Wilderness. Limit these numbers by:

- a. Giving priority (and majority) use on the wild rivers to public use. Commercial outfitting and guiding should be limited to only the level that is "necessary" and "proper" as required by the Wilderness Act.
- b. Reducing the number of flights in and out of Schafer airstrip in the Great Bear Wilderness. These flights are negatively affecting the Middle Fork of the Flathead.

Thank you.