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Comments: The Flathead River is highly popular for recreation and should be protected. However, care needs to be used in the decision-making process to make sure that a balanced decision for use is put into place. In particular, as a packrafter and big raft boater, I want to emphasize how much of a lower impact packrafters have while traveling through a river corridor and we should be considered "low impact users". One packrafter isn't going to have the same impact as the same person on a 13'+ frame raft. This should be taken into account in the management plan.

I support the free, mandatory float permits to improve visitor use data without restricting access.

I support waste packout and firepan requirements to protect water quality and the environment-HOWEVER I also advocate for flexibility in firepan sizes and waste containment systems suitable for packrafters.

I advocate for increased visitor experience monitoring to track congestion and river conditions.

I request transparency on how user capacities were determined and how private user input was considered.

I encourage the Forest Service to clarify how private paddlers are managed differently from outfitters.