Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/8/2025 4:57:17 AM First name: Patrick Last name: McDonnell Organization:

Title:

Comments: I wanted to comment as a frequent packraft enthusiast who has gone on multiple trips through the south fork of the flathead wilderness stretch that pack rafts are low impact and should not be treated as traditional rafts which require much bigger footprints and require horses and complicated shuttles. I think offering a free to all no number limit permit is acceptable if absolutely necessary. However I do not feel that the river use is that substantial that any required permits are necessary. I also feel that there should be no time limits on how long a person is allowed to be in the wilderness if it is determined that a permit is required. I consider permits nothing more than adding another layer of complexity, cost, and bureaucracy to something that can be simple. When I stay at a vehicle campground which allows reservations and all the sites are taken yet many remain empty overnight I see the huge drawbacks to permits and reservations.