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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a born and raised Montanan. I've moved throughout the state but spent the majority of my time in the Bitterroot and Flathead. I grew up rafting in MT and Idaho doing multi day whitewater and fishing trips. I own a raft now and frequently enjoy the forks of the Flathead River. I adamantly oppose a permit system for use. I understand the need to limit the degradation of the ecosystem through overuse but what does a free permit system even accomplish? Limit THE GUIDES. Teach new users proper etiquette. Lead initiatives to clean up trash and debris when it's present. But it seems silly to make regular users jump through another hoop who for the most part, do the right thing every time they go enjoy the river. It seems like this initiative has good intentions but is being executed poorly. To be quite frank, I don't want to or feel the need to let the government know every time I want to go enjoy our public lands. Why have the system in place if not to get people use to it and then slowly start limiting their use? I agree with the messaging but ADAMANTLY oppose any permitting for standard users.