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File Code: 1500  
Date: September 10, 2018

SEP 13 2018

Ravalli County Commissioners

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Dear Interested Party,

The Kootenai National Forest is initiating a 60-day objection period to allow individuals or organizations to submit objections to certain Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) eligibility findings. This is in response to the United States District Court decision from Judge Dana Christensen in Ten Lakes Snowmobile Club et al v. United States Forest Service et al. The court ordered the Forest Service to conduct an objection response period for Callahan and Ross Creek segments as eligible under the WSRA.

The environmental analysis document and other supporting documentation are available for review at Kootenai National Forest offices and online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/kootenai/landmanagement/planning> .

Please note that the consideration of objections is strictly limited to the WSRA eligibility findings for Ross and Callahan Creeks; no other issues will be considered during this objection period. Please refer to pages 13, 34-35, 46-47, and 63-64 of the Errata for the FEIS and Appendices (January 2015) for identification of outstanding remarkable values, and Appendix E –Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Rivers eligibility evaluation [https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprd3826662.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprd3826662.pdf) .

Only those who provided substantive formal comments during opportunities for public comment are eligible to file an objection pursuant to regulations at 36 CFR 219 subpart B. Mailed, emailed, faxed, or hand-delivered objections concerning this issue will be accepted for 60 calendar days following the publication of this notice.

Objections must be submitted to the reviewing officer at USDA Forest Service, Objection Reviewing Officer, 26 Fort Missoula Road, Missoula, MT 59804. The office business hours for those submitting a hand-delivered objection are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays, excluding holidays. Electronic objections must be submitted to: [appeals-northern-regional-office@fs.fed.us](mailto:appeals-northern-regional-office@fs.fed.us) with "Kootenai National Forest WSRA" in the subject line. Electronic objections must be submitted in a format that is readable with optical character recognition software (e.g. Word, PDF, Rich Text) and be searchable. An automated response will confirm that your electronic objection has been received. Faxed objections must be faxed to the Objection Reviewing Officer at: (406) 329-3411. Please include "Kootenai National Forest WSRA" in the subject line. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to an objection, a verification of identity will be requested confirming objection eligibility. If the objection is supported by documents, with the exceptions listed in 36 CFR 219.54(b), all documents must be provided with the objection; a bibliography is not sufficient.

The objection must meet the content requirements of 36 CFR 219.54, and include the following information:



- 1) The objector's name and address, along with telephone number or email address, if available;
- 2) A signature, or other verification of authorship upon request (a scanned signature for electronic mail may be filed with the objection);
- 3) Identification of the lead objector, when multiple names are listed on an objection. The Forest Service will communicate to all parties to an objection through the lead objector. Verification of the lead objector upon request;
- 4) The name of the plan revision being objected to, and the name and title of the responsible official;
- 5) A statement of the issues and/or the parts of the plan revision to which the objection applies;
- 6) A concise statement explaining the objection and suggestion of how the proposed plan decision may be improved. If applicable, the objector should identify how the objector believes that the plan revision is inconsistent with law, regulation, or policy; and
- 7) A statement that demonstrates the link between prior substantive formal comments submitted by the objector and the content of the objection, unless the objection concerns an issue that arose after the opportunity for formal comment.

It is the responsibility of the objector to ensure that the reviewing officer receives the objection in a timely manner. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the objection filing period. *All objections* are open to public inspection and will be posted to the Forest Service web site. Objections must be received 60 days from the date of the legal notice posting in the newspaper of record, anticipated to be posted September, 10, 2018 or soon after. For more information regarding this action please contact Mary Laws, Program Manager at 406-283-7648 or [mlaws@fs.fed.us](mailto:mlaws@fs.fed.us), or myself at 406-283-7764 or [cwbenson@fs.fed.us](mailto:cwbenson@fs.fed.us), or 31374 Hwy 2, Libby MT, 59923.

Sincerely,



CHAD W. BENSON  
Acting Forest Supervisor

cc: Mary Laws