

Glenda Wiles

From: C. Grandstaff <grandstaff@cybernet1.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 12:50 PM
To: Glenda Wiles
Cc: Skip Kowalski; Russ Lawrence; Jim Rokosch
Subject: comment on Hughes Creek Road from Bitterrooters for Planning

Glenda,
Would you please see that the commission receives this comment for the Sept. 21 meeting?
Thanks,
C.

Bitterrooters for Planning is a 501(c)3 organization with over 500 members that has been advocating for good land use policies in Ravalli County since 1995.

In the past year, our advocacy has brought us into contact with other groups and individuals who are volunteering their time to protect public lands and access to those lands. Our goal to advocate for good land use policies has now expanded to include the public lands that surround the Bitterroot Valley. We strongly urge the commission to stand by its earlier decision - and honor a Montana Supreme Court decision - to open Hughes Creek Road.

We also would remind the commission that roads are a critical and, at times, contentious issue in Ravalli County, and that these road issues can sometimes lead to lawsuits. With that being said, BfP also urges the commission to complete the road policy that was pledged over a year ago. A well-reasoned road policy can prevent the type of lawsuits the commission is dealing with currently, and will provide the public with the safe roads we deserve.

Carlotta Grandstaff
Communications Director, Bitterrooters for Planning