



Bryan Donner
Tally Lake Ranger District
1335 Highway 93 West
Whitefish, MT 59937

February 16, 2007

Dear Bryan,

The Flathead Audubon Society is a local, active group of people interested in sound stewardship and management of natural resources. Our members frequently use National Forest lands including the Big Mountain area for a variety of purposes.

After review of your letter requesting input on the "Chair 2 Realignment Project," we submit the following comments.

The proposed realignment appears to have relatively minor physical effects and is confined to an already intensively developed area. From the map provided, it looks as though the lower terminal would be on or very near a stream. Best Management Practices should be applied at the stream crossing as well as throughout any disturbed areas in the project area to minimize soil erosion and water quality degradation. Monitoring and enforcement is also needed to ensure effectiveness of the Best Management Practices.

What are the cumulative effects of this proposed project in association with other known and projected projects on The Big Mountain and on other Forest Service lands in the area? Cumulative effects need to be analyzed and disclosed. The Flathead Audubon Society has received several scoping letters over the past year or so concerning proposed activities on Big Mountain and none have referenced the other projects. Is the Chair 2 realignment consistent with the Master Plan or is it in need of revision?

Yours truly,

/s/ Lewis Young

Conservation Chair
Flathead Audubon Society
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Eureka, MT 59917