

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, May 13, 2024 10:46:01 AM
Last Modified: Monday, May 13, 2024 10:48:48 AM
Time Spent: 00:02:46
IP Address: 104.28.116.191

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: Ben Montgomery
City/Town: Polson
State/Province: MT
Email Address: benmontgomery406@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Flathead Lake Wildlife Habitat Protection Area Rules

I support the proposed changes. I'm a resident of Polson, use the islands and recreate on Flathead lake frequently.

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 8:31:14 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 10:20:43 AM
Time Spent: 01:49:29
IP Address: 69.51.103.82

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: Haaken Anderson
City/Town: Bozeman
State/Province: MT
Email Address: Haaken.anderson@bsd7students.org

Q2

Please comment on Flathead Lake Wildlife Habitat Protection Area Rules

Dear fish, wildlife and parks, regarding the cedar and bird island issue I firmly believe that alternative A would be very beneficial for the natural habitat of flathead lake. I am a student at bozeman high school who has taken a year long AP environmental course as well as volunteered with the montana conservation corps for two hitches. Not only would the use of designated campsites and restrooms help the habitat on the island but it would also help the aquatic life in the lake. An excess amount of feces and garbage on the island will make its way into the lake by wind or even leaching through the ground. This can pose a major threat to fish ,birds and other native species. If this alternative is not followed the problem will only grow. More people are moving to Montana every day and our recreational wilderness will only grow more stressed.

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 8:26:54 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 12:45:12 PM
Time Spent: 04:18:17
IP Address: 69.51.103.82

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Liza Thompson
City/Town:	Bozeman
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	liza.thompson@bsd7students.org

Q2

Please comment on Flathead Lake Wildlife Habitat Protection Area Rules

I support more recreational regulations on Flathead Lake's islands. While currently there are some regulations on some of the islands such as latrine construction and duration limits, the islands' ecosystems continue to be negatively impacted. In a 2009 study by the Montana FWP, they found that smaller islands such as Bird and O'Neil were being affected in a number of ways such as human, vegetation, soil, wildlife, and public facilities issues—even post-regulations. But even so, it doesn't matter the level of activity in these areas; In a study conducted by the NIH they found that, "significant levels of environmental degradation [were] evident at campsites due to biophysical impacts of human use and recreation...irrespective of the level/frequency of use." According to The Whitefish Lake Institute's "Whitefish Area Water Resources Report: A Status of the Whitefish Lake Watershed and Surrounding Area", roughly 20% of Flathead and Lake counties' annual economies comes from nature-based tourism. So, preserving these beautiful sights not only helps the ecosystem but also the larger community.

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 9:37:32 AM
Last Modified: Monday, May 27, 2024 10:26:29 AM
Time Spent: Over a day
IP Address: 72.175.53.185

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Montana Wildlife Federation
City/Town:	Missoula
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	jeff@mtwf.org

Q2

Please comment on Flathead Lake Wildlife Habitat Protection Area Rules

MWF supports the development of composting latrines on Cedar and Bird islands, along with development of designated campsites, combined with length-of-stay and maximum campsite occupancy limits in other areas. The camping fees associated with these developments reflects FWP's stated goal of providing good, but limited camping facilities in order to rein in unregulated use of these unique island habitats. These appropriate actions should help mitigate the growing impact of human visitation and recreation on each of these islands. We are glad to see FWP recognizes the need to protect these unique habitats from being over run by recreationists on Flathead Lake. Providing guardrails to the public by creating designated campsites, latrines, and limiting some areas to day-use only protects wildlife and their habitat from citizens who may be unaware of the impact they are having on the landscape.
