

Sign on to protect the Madison River

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That problems exist on the Madison is beyond dispute. FWP has already submitted a plan and FWP manager Travis Horton and FWP fisheries biologist Dave Moser have said the river may be near a tipping point and regulations are needed. Current overuse is causing both environmental and social conflict. The fish simply cannot thrive in a river that sees over 200,000 angling days per year, and people cannot enjoy the river when crowded boat and wade anglers compete to fish. Surveys show this. The problems can't be ignored. To do so would be to jeopardize the health of the fishery and compromise one of the jewels of Montana's resources.

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We strongly advocate that the Commission send a plan to conserve the Madison River to public comment as soon as possible so that regulations can be implemented for 2020. We believe that further delays are unacceptable. Please conserve and protect the Madison River.

We urge you to advocate for a Madison River Recreation Plan immediately.

First Name *

Curtis

Last Name *

Kruer

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P.O. Box 753, Sheridan, MT 59749

Email *

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406-842-5099

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

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First Name *

Josh

Last Name *

LOughren

Address *

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Email *

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Phone Number *

9549098022

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First Name *

Jordyn

Last Name *

Kessler

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5004 Christopher St Ramsey, NJ 07446

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jordyn.kessler@comcast.net

Phone Number *

8605591360

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First Name *

Richard

Last Name *

Artusy

Address *

150 US Highway 287 South Cameron MT

Email *

richartusy@artusy.com

Phone Number *

5302273490

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First Name *

Niriam

Last Name *

Rohrbaugh

Address *

23 Big Bend Rd. Cameron, MT 59720

Email *

Please protect the Madison River.

Phone Number *

406 682 3371

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First Name *

Michael

Last Name *

Kiger

Address *

2697 E Sawyer Rd Green Valley, Az. 85614

Email *

michaelkiger@yahoo.com

Phone Number *

520-625-3235

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First Name *

Oscar

Last Name *

Gonzalez

Address *

17827 windflower way unit 107,DALLAS Tx 75252

Email *

boxman2@hotmail.com

Phone Number *

2146497028

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Please save the Madison

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First Name *

Jerry

Last Name *

Sherman

Address *

407 Flathead ave

Email *

jjshermanmd@yahoo.com

Phone Number *

4062197912

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

There are too many fishermen on the upper Madison River. I have fished it for 40 years and it is only getting worse. I recommend banning boats on the stretch from Quake to Lyons. Fish mortality increases with more fishermen using the same waters.

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First Name *

Tom

Last Name *

Pruitt

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Email *

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Phone Number *

406-842-5139

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Please promote wade only sections!!!

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First Name *

Ron

Last Name *

Landis

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ralrocky@optonline.net

Phone Number *

2032217626

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

As many have, I began fishing the Madison River from Yellowstone Park down to Bear Trap Canyon beginning in 1978. It was wide open then with very little fishing pressure, a delight to visit as I'd pick off rainbows and browns at any time. Then the Madison River was "discovered," inviting land developers, outfitters, shop owners, and more who thrived on the increasing population of summer time fishermen and tourists. The days of solitude were gone. Overcrowding changed that forever as it did for the Madison's recreational management needs.

There was a time saying "managing recreation" was a preposterous notion, but we have arrived at a time that it's absolutely necessary. There are innumerate examples of how overuse ruins a resource, many of which I've personally witnessed and many more read about, and the single compelling insight to each is that had we heeded the warnings the catastrophes could have been avoided. Rivers turned into polluted sleuths, fish species exterminated and all fauna that depend on them for food, and abundant noise and sight pollution turned a pristine resource into a cesspool of congestion. We have a chance to avoid that now if we manage the Madison wisely. There isn't a reason that such a beautiful resource can't be preserved for the enjoyment of everyone, wade fisherman, float fisherman, once-a-year fisherman, boaters, et al.

Let's also not forget those species that aren't human that have depended on the Madison for sustenance and safety. They can't hop in their SUV or pick-up and drive down to Bozeman to pick up supplies. They are stuck with what Providence has provided and we have no right to destroy it. The heavy impact of human traffic is notorious for such ruin.

For all these reasons, "recreational management" might not make everyone happy, but a "I win, you loose," strategy for any single contingency will be disastrous for all. As an example, living in the East, I watched commercial fishing lobby heavily for light restrictions on striped bass, and after winning it was just three years that the striped bass population crashed. A perfect example of lopsided solutions.

So what is the prescription needed for the Madison? I leave that in your capable scientific and social hands to sort out, but I know that everyone, and I mean everyone must expect to give up something if a long lasting compromise can be worked out. If everyone walks away grumbling a bit about the solution, then my experience in negotiations has taught me you probably have the right solution.

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First Name *

Charles

Last Name *

Friedman

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Phone Number *

3105033966

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A fragile natural resource not to be taken for granted in good water years.

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First Name *

Darrell

Last Name *

Horn

Address *

905 30th St NW, Rochester, MN 55901

Email *

sodabutte@charter.net

Phone Number *

507-292-3260

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First Name *

James

Last Name *

Hall

Address *

3598 SW WILLOWBROOK LANE

Email *

jameshall3598@sbcglobal.net

Phone Number *

7852733391

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

Yes, I definitely agree with the need for a controlled recreational plan. Starting in 2019 I voluntarily changed my yearly two month stay in Ennis for the last ten years to only two months every two years because of overcrowding and the use of flotation devices (boats-rafts) between \$3 Bridge and Lyons Bridge.

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We urge you to advocate for a Madison River Recreation Plan immediately.

First Name *

jeffrey

Last Name *

armstrong

Address *

4035 South Salt Lick Loop , Island Park,ID

Email *

jeffa@specializedrail.com

Phone Number *

8013010203

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I agree with the idea of a wade section only from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge , however , some sections of the river in this area would become virtually inaccessible to the public due to private property areas that allow fisherman to walk only in the water or up to the high water mark . This is not possible in some sections and during certain times of the year. By disallowing boat access , these areas would essentially become accessible by only a very few who own property adjacent to the river. In order to prevent this , fisherman , other than the property owners, should be allowed a wider walking area next to the river , say up to 3 feet, so that all areas of the wade section are accessible to all.

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First Name *

John

Last Name *

Bingham

Address *

24 Rainbow Point Rd., McAllister, Montana 59740

Email *

jaylbingham@gmail.com

Phone Number *

3108010641

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In addition, the loophole in the rules for the wading section that allows people in pontoon or open bottom boats to fish from the boats as long as their feet are on the river bottom, needs to be corrected to prevent same. This loophole is contrary to the spirit and the letter of the rules limiting fishing on wade only section to those wading the river.

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First Name *

michael

Last Name *

henry

Address *

p.o. box 191. cameron mt 59620

Email *

mthenrymt@gmail.com

Phone Number *

7147420040

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First Name *

Gary

Last Name *

Hansen

Address *

2121 South 850 East, Bountiful, UT 84010

Email *

hansen7777@me.com

Phone Number *

3852456969

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First Name *

Jack & Susan

Last Name *

Brown

Address *

707 Grove Ave. Mohnnton, Pa. 19540

Email *

jbrown707@comcast.net

Phone Number *

610 823 6796

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First Name *

Bruce

Last Name *

Dau

Address *

131 Catalpa St, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Email *

cruzbruce@gmail.com

Phone Number *

8314273974

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First Name *

Barbara

Last Name *

McClure

Address *

25 Big Bend Road Cameron, MT 59720

Email *

bmcclure4@me.com

Phone Number *

(415)302-6606

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First Name *

Steve

Last Name *

Cox

Address *

2090 Old Taylor Road, ste 200, Oxford, MS 38655

Email *

w.stevecox@gmail.com

Phone Number *

662-902-7135

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First Name *

craig

Last Name *

mathews

Address *

80 E Horse Creek Rd Cameron, Mt 59720

Email *

candj@3rivers.net

Phone Number *

406-682-3038

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First Name *

Jackie

Last Name *

Mathews

Address *

80 E Horse Creek Rd, Cameron, Mt 59720

Email *

candj@3rivers.net

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First Name *

William

Last Name *

Preever

Address *

781 W. Knickerbocker Drive

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william.preever@comcast.net

Phone Number *

408-245-9580

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First Name *

Jon

Last Name *

Bowman

Address *

311 Centennial St Santa Cruz Ca 95060

Email *

jonbow50@gmail.com

Phone Number *

8312472897

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First Name *

Leroy

Last Name *

Wullstein

Address *

2365 St Marys Dr, SLC, Ut 84108

Email *

Lhwullstein@yahoo.com

Phone Number *

801 243 2779

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

A management plan for the Madison is long over due! Mitigating overcrowding and appropriate closure for spawning times are the key to sustainability.

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We urge you to advocate for a Madison River Recreation Plan immediately.

First Name *

Roger

Last Name *

Wild

Address *

14120 Rocky Mountain Road

Email *

mtnrwild@yahoo.com

Phone Number *

7192372617

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

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First Name *

Frank

Last Name *

Mckeever

Address *

114 First St Alder, MT. (PO Box 72 Alder 59710)

Email *

femckeeper3@msn.com

Phone Number *

919 597 0768

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Existing wade only sections, such as Valley Garden, have become frequented by guide boats who deposit their clients at the best spots early in the day, presenting an unfair advantage.

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First Name *

randy

Last Name *

brown

Address *

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drhrbrown@excite.com

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9166351037

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First Name *

Hugh

Last Name *

Zackheim

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Email *

montanazac@mac.com

Phone Number *

4064496366

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For generations Montana anglers have supported wade-only fishing – and wade-only access – on the section of the Madison River between Hebgen Dam and Lyons Bridge. As evidence of the public support for no-boat regulations, take a look at how Montana FWP acquired the heart of this section, the Three Dollar Bridge Fishing Access Site. From 1998 - 2001 when this property was threatened with sale, subdivision and development, long-time Madison River anglers answered the call and donated hundreds of thousands of dollars. These funds were crucial to a nonprofit acquisition of these three miles of Madison River frontage. This irreplaceable access and riparian habitat was subsequently transferred to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks for permanent public use and enjoyment.

The anglers who made the Three Dollar Bridge Project happen had a tradition of wade fishing this great water – the one area of the Madison where boat traffic was virtually non-existent. As a staffer who worked on this conservation effort for more than four years, it's clear that public commitment to preserving the wade-fishing section was the prime driver for this incredible conservation story.

In recent years, we've seen an explosive increase in floating use of the Madison by outfitters and other anglers, including use of boats to access the Hebgen - Lyons section. The resultant diminishment of recreational quality is evident, and makes it even more important to have a wade-only fishing section that is also strictly managed as wade-only access. Otherwise, boats will dominate here too, bringing cadres of floated-in anglers who damage the experience of anglers – of all ages – who have worked hard and in good-faith to walk to their prize fishing waters.

It's time to halt the rampant increase in boating use in at least one significant section of the Madison River by outlawing use of boats for fishing access in the Hebgen - Lyons section. By doing so, we'll preserve one of Montana's pre-eminent outdoor experiences. And we'll also uphold our pact with those who stepped up at a critical time to conserve a part of the Madison River where dedicated anglers can still seek a fishing challenge in the best tradition of the sport.

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First Name *

marilyn

Last Name *

brown

Address *

18 west brown dr, cameronmt

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First Name *

Richard

Last Name *

Pond

Address *

7706 Sand Prairie Dr., Houston, TX 77095

Email *

rickpond99@aol.com

Phone Number *

713-800-5500

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First Name *

Robert

Last Name *

Vanyo

Address *

252 Rainbow Trout Run Big Sky MT59716

Email *

bob.vanyo@vanyo.com

Phone Number *

406-995-4756

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It is becoming much to crowded. No longer a fun river to fish.

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First Name *

Justin

Last Name *

Grover

Address *

1488 W 4980 S

Email *

jg513jg@yahoo.com

Phone Number *

18018575816

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First Name *

Keith

Last Name *

Shein

Address *

25 Big Bend Road, Cameron, MT 59720

Email *

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Phone Number *

406-682-7784

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First Name *

Wilson

Last Name *

Carter

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Email *

wilsonmcarter@gmail.com

Phone Number *

4044028630

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Fishing is a spiritual, often solitary activity..."the more, the merrier is counterintuitive.

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First Name *

David

Last Name *

Lattimore

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Phone Number *

8015802943

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The Commission has delayed making any decisions to protect the river for years. Now is the time to act and act in a manor that will have a real impact on the preservation of our irreplaceable resource!!!!!!

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First Name *

Susan

Last Name *

Eib

Address *

405 n 5th street Livingston MT 59047

Email *

eibsusan@yahoo.com

Phone Number *

4065994363

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First Name *

Gale

Last Name *

Lefkowitz

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Email *

Gwhale@sbcglobal.net

Phone Number *

805-444-1050

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

Please do something. This beautiful river is being overrun. Future generations will thank you for preserving some of its beauty and wonder for them.

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We urge you to advocate for a Madison River Recreation Plan immediately.

First Name *

Hoyt

Last Name *

Tarola

Address *

24 Sundance Bench Rd., Cameron, Mt. 59720

Email *

htarola@sbcglobal.net

Phone Number *

805-444-1090

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

Commercial fishing interests have overwhelmed the Madison river the past few years to the detriment of the walk/wade fisherman and particularly to the detriment of the fishery and the environment. Please enact the proposed recreation plan of April 2018 and save the Madison River for future generations.

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First Name *

Michael

Last Name *

Weigand

Address *

3888 Teton Road, Island Park, ID 83429

Email *

aspenmoose@aol.com

Phone Number *

208 558-7144

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The popularity of the Madison River has exceeded its ability to support quality fishing. The number of guided boats on the river provides income to the area but at too great a price. Please protect the river for future generations.

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We urge you to advocate for a Madison River Recreation Plan immediately.

First Name *

Joseph

Last Name *

Janik

Address *

310 Montana Way, Ennis 59729

Email *

broadview7@aol.com

Phone Number *

15612129610

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The river is overcrowded with commercial drift boat traffic. I am in favor of a Madison County Resident permit for guides. The rapid growth of Bozeman has caused an inordinate amount of guide traffic on the river. Let's work to protect this valuable resource.

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First Name *

Stanley

Last Name *

Hastings

Address *

799 mt Zion rd

Email *

Shastings@fuse.net

Phone Number *

8593711878

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First Name *

Jack

Last Name *

OBrien

Address *

15 Chestnut St, West Newbury, MA 01985

Email *

obr216@hotmail.com

Phone Number *

978-914-3983

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First Name *

Scott

Last Name *

Merle

Address *

2851 NW Hill St

Email *

merleydude@gmail.com

Phone Number *

3604810189

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First Name *

Robert

Last Name *

DeVries

Address *

2207 Jersey St. Quincy, Illinois

Email *

Mjrjdv@comcast.net

Phone Number *

217 224 1817

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The Madison River has brought me fond memories during the 10 trips made over my lifetime. At 84 years old I can't reach the pocket water as in the past.

I have floated the last two years on the Mother Madison. I brought my beloved grandson out to Yellowstone country seven years ago where he became enchanted with its waters—especially the Madison. His name is on the plaque at the Three Dollar Bridge. God took him when his heart ceased to beat in his cabin behind Blue Ribbon Fly Shop. Save and nurture the Mother Madison so all can rest peacefully knowing others will find its beauty and peace.

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First Name *

al

Last Name *

simpson

Address *

95 foothill trail, Ennis

Email *

ags2nff@gmail.com

Phone Number *

434 962-3629

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

I wade fish, but no longer fish much of the Madison. A mile-hike at \$3 bridge fails to find unoccupied water. In addition, amateur boaters often intrude on a run I'm fishing. Not sure what all needs to be or can be done, but too many boats everywhere, and too many anglers. Both the experience and the catch suffer!

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First Name *

Brandt

Last Name *

Williams

Address *

4467 Hwy 287 N Ennis Montana 59729

Email *

brandtwilliams@gmail.com

Phone Number *

9252864305

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

I am an MRF member and whole heartdly disagree with the MRF and do NOT support a recreation plan as proposed by the MRF. This is an ill conceived plan that does NOT take into consideration the many aspects of the use of the Madison River. This recreation plan only serves the interests of a handful of residents that have a vested interest in protecting their properties. There is no biological river health reason that a recreation plan should be adopted only some uncorroborated anecdotal evidence of conflict at a couple of river access points. Show real scientific proof that the river needs to be metered. I am a vocal opponent of this plan and any plan that does not consider ALL aspects of the use of the Madison River. I have made my opinion know to Governor Bullock and the legislature. It is the responsibility of the MRF board to represent ALL of its members. This note has been copied and sent to the Board of Outfitters, Governor Bullock, and members of the Montana State Legislature.

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First Name *

Keri

Last Name *

Geiser

Address *

5 Little Shadow Catcher Rd

Email *

Klg2294@yahoo.com

Phone Number *

8142897678

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First Name *

Pete

Last Name *

Woolley

Address *

Maison Guixona Banca, France 64430

Email *

Peterwoolley84@hotmail.com

Phone Number *

33 6 29 75 87 12

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First Name *

Matthew

Last Name *

Purcell

Address *

PO Box 412 Ennis, MT

Email *

perkpurcell17@gmail.com

Phone Number *

4062191898

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First Name *

Donald

Last Name *

Smith

Address *

20 Osprey Lane, Cameron Mt 59720

Email *

onthemadison@gmail.com

Phone Number *

4065992740

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

I use to be able to wade fish on the upper Madison without interference from fishermen in boats. Why can't we have at least one section of the many miles of river for wade fishing only. MANY are wade fishing at Raynolds and \$3 Bridge, please give them a break. Some of those in boats have no respect for private property and ignore the high water mark. Some of the river use to be closed for part of the year and that should be reinstated to give the fish a break during spawning.

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We urge you to advocate for a Madison River Recreation Plan immediately.

First Name *

Sarah

Last Name *

Deckard

Address *

20902 Ochre Willow Tr

Email *

Sarahdeckard@sbcglobal.net

Phone Number *

2818899652

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First Name *

Nick

Last Name *

Runyon

Address *

2201 Baxter Lane, #3275 Bozeman MT 59718

Email *

nick@mediatractor.com

Phone Number *

4064046310

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First Name *

Cledith and Dinah

Last Name *

Oakley

Address *

5 Pleasant View Circle, Daytona Beach, FL 32118

Email *

doakley637@aol.com

Phone Number *

386-871-8671

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First Name *

Andy

Last Name *

Burnett

Address *

10 Brown Road, Cameron Mt

Email *

asbdvm@gmail.com

Phone Number *

775-741-1990

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First Name *

randall

Last Name *

venturacci

Address *

890 E Patriot Blvd

Email *

Rlv52@hotmail.com

Phone Number *

17757710015

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First Name *

Lonnie

Last Name *

Mason

Address *

246 Luiseno Oceanside Ca 92057

Email *

Lonniem77@aol.com

Phone Number *

7757429773

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First Name *

William

Last Name *

Dickinson

Address *

2420 Lynnwood Drive, Columbia, MO 65203

Email *

Mrbill@aol.com

Phone Number *

573-449-7522

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First Name *

Scott

Last Name *

Deckard

Address *

20902 Ochre Willow Trl. Cypress, TX 77433

Email *

Scottdeckard6594@yahoo.com

Phone Number *

8327998228

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

The Madison was my first true fly fishing experience. What a beautiful exciting resource that must be protected for future generations.

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First Name *

Mary

Last Name *

Donlon

Address *

Fallow Lodge

Email *

mgdonlon@gmail.com

Phone Number *

0872818408

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For the future...to be enjoyed and loved for generations to come

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First Name *

Tim

Last Name *

Bozorth

Address *

1253 Ludwig Lane

Email *

tdbozorth@hotmail.com

Phone Number *

404-599-3672

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

I've fish the Madison for fourty seven years. I own a drift boat but won't use it on the Madison anymore due to rude guides yelling at me and my wife. I also am displaced from fishing downstream from Lyon's Bridge due to the number of drift boats in the summer. Due to a these conflicts I fish from Reynold's Bridge to Lyons. Except now I find after walking downstream from \$3 Bridge boats parked where I walked 30-45 minutes to fish. Please restore the "Wade Only" section of the Madison to what it was originally intended.

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First Name *

Dan

Last Name *

Stockton

Address *

59 Park Plaza Rd

Email *

dan.trout.stalker46@gmail.com

Phone Number *

7192211228

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First Name *

Leslie

Last Name *

Stockton

Address *

59 Park Plaza Rd

Email *

dan.trout.stalker46@gmail.com

Phone Number *

7192214570

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First Name *

Michael

Last Name *

Nemeth

Address *

92760 Ricki St Benton Harbor Mi 49022

Email *

hawk5674@gmail.com

Phone Number *

2694243497

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First Name *

Tom

Last Name *

Cameron

Address *

4637 Sycamore Drive

Email *

allcam@comcast.net

Phone Number *

801-300-1592

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We urge you to advocate for a Madison River Recreation Plan immediately.

First Name *

Jack

Last Name *

Brown

Address *

707 Grove Ave.

Email *

jbrown707@comcast.net

Phone Number *

6108236796

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First Name *

Marla

Last Name *

Barlow

Address *

17692 highway 67

Email *

marlarae@juno.com

Phone Number *

7604400329

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First Name *

monty

Last Name *

foley

Address *

126 conewango ave.

Email *

tukktaway@webtv.net

Phone Number *

814-726-1600

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EARTHLINGS.COM

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First Name *

Sylvia

Last Name *

Cavener

Address *

903 Del Mar Lane

Email *

Sylviacavener80@gmail.com

Phone Number *

8172653898

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First Name *

Trevor

Last Name *

Watts

Address *

175 lombardy dr

Email *

gokiwi@charter .net

Phone Number *

541 440 2278

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First Name *

Susan

Last Name *

Carmody

Address *

3006 E 6th Street Tucson AZ

Email *

Sanaa14@aol.com

Phone Number *

5202072316

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First Name *

Michael

Last Name *

Reck

Address *

61 B Torry Rd

Email *

mikereck59@gmail.com

Phone Number *

5407521250

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

I was astonished in July to see several boat access sites filled and trucks with boat trailers overflowing onto highway 287. Very dangerous and alarming.

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First Name *

Charles

Last Name *

Anderson

Address *

2689 Comanche Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Email *

crossanderson@gmail.com

Phone Number *

801-583-0311

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

I totally support the MFW&P Madison River Draft Recreation Management Plan-Environmental Assessment dated April 19, 2018. Please implement ASAP!!!

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First Name *

William

Last Name *

Liebegott

Address *

1007 Cottonwood Rd

Email *

bliebegott@gmail.com

Phone Number *

702-265-9013

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Madison River is like a highway.

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First Name *

Michael

Last Name *

Kiger

Address *

2697 E Sawyer Rd Green Valley, AZ. 85614

Email *

michaelkiger@yahoo.com

Phone Number *

(C) 303-919-6837

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This mighty resource needs management and guidance. The MRF strives to initiate these.

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First Name *

Hilleary

Last Name *

Hoskinson

Address *

207 madison trail Cameron , MT

Email *

hillearyh@gmail.com

Phone Number *

650-245-7033

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

I support all the changes, but thought is needed as to how the proposed "wade only" section does not set a precedent on MT stream access laws. I would support limiting commercial boat traffic in the wade section. However I think that private anglers should be able to use a watercraft for transportation to spread out concentration of wade fisherman in that section and to not allow some sections to become defacto private.

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First Name *

Mic

Last Name *

Keating

Address *

8415 Lancaster Drive, Pasco, WA. 99301

Email *

Mckeating47@gmail.com

Phone Number *

206-660-8994

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First Name *

Dennis

Last Name *

O'Callaghan

Address *

725 Hillview Court, Vacaville, Ca. 95688

Email *

dennisoc40@aol.com

Phone Number *

17077188468

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

I have fished the Madison for over 50 years. I believe some type of limitation on guided trips on the river is needed. I also support a wade only section of river .

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We urge you to advocate for a Madison River Recreation Plan immediately.

First Name *

Dan

Last Name *

Miller

Address *

638 McCoy Rd, Belt, MT 59412

Email *

dgmiller@3rivers.net

Phone Number *

406-788-5233

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

I grew up fishing the Madison, and as a lifelong fisherman who loves the Madison, I often now feel like I'm fishing on the Bighorn River with the number of anglers, and in particular the number of boats that utilize the upper Madison on any given day between Memorial and Labor Day weekends. I strongly believe that we, as citizens and stakeholders in MT waters, need to preserve and protect, not just the great fishery itself, but the EXPERIENCE that goes along with the fishery. While it appears that the fishing itself is still good, (for now?), the experience of being out on the river without seeing dozens and dozens of boats has diminished the overall experience that we all love. I would hate for it to become a "permit only" river like the Smith, (and I don't feel like we are at that point or that the public would go for that), but perhaps having some restrictions on days for guide usage and/or boat vs wade usage may be in good order. I do recall that there was a moratorium on guide days allowed back in the late 80's/early 90's era, perhaps something similar could be a partial solution as well. At any rate, I do feel that we need to be proactive and find a solution now, rather than reactive to a changing or damaged fishery due to the pressure later when the continued high usage does strain/stress the resource.

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First Name *

gordon

Last Name *

seibert

Address *

4950 S Westmoor Rd

Email *

myjunk@xmission.com

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8015588792

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First Name *

chad

Last Name *

plumly

Address *

610 mark trail ct

Email *

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4045800093

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First Name *

Bill

Last Name *

Morris

Address *

411 Harkness Cir Durham, NC 27705

Email *

bill.morrisnc@outlook.com

Phone Number *

252.732.5978

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I first fished the Madison in 1982, and I've returned nearly every year since. As an out-of-state angler I've added many thousands of dollars to the Treasure State's budget. That may not mean much, but multiply me by thousands of other visitors who have come to know and love the Madison. I don't float much, and when I do it's not been with outfitters. Having said that, I have nothing against them or their business - which is, after all, allowing less experienced people to enjoy the river for a day. I'm not a fisheries biologist, or even a die-hard conservationist. What I can tell the Governor and all concerned is that during July the float from Lyons Bridge to Palisades is a sorry spectacle. Not fun, and not a great advertisement for Montana fishing. In forming any solution, put me down for any plan that reduces pressure on the river and if there's going to be pain spread it evenly. Paying people not to fish is not a new idea. When Florida banned gill nets and seines, the state compensated the commercial fishermen. Outfitters are commercial fishermen, by another name.

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First Name *

Ted

Last Name *

Porter

Address *

10834 hartsook street

Email *

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Phone Number *

3233774520

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First Name *

Geoff

Last Name *

Tulloch

Address *

12 Knowles Ave Nashville Tennessee 37204

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GeoffT@healthsprings.com

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6153427658

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First Name *

Penny

Last Name *

Purcell

Address *

1036 Sherringham Way Waxhaw, NC 28173

Email *

pennypurcell@aol.com

Phone Number *

7943615970

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First Name *

Dan

Last Name *

Purcell

Address *

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danpurcell2@purccon.com

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7947659820

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First Name *

Matthew

Last Name *

Crockett

Address *

523 McClung Ave Knoxville, TN 37920

Email *

mcrock@utk.edu

Phone Number *

6163787765

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First Name *

George

Last Name *

Sideris

Address *

20 Indian Pipe Drive, Wynantskill, NY 12198

Email *

gsideris@nycap.rr.com

Phone Number *

9177424393

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Please act now. Do not allow the Madison to become like the unfishable rivers in the east. Failure to protect the Madison now, will have detrimental financial implications for many years in the surrounding communities

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First Name *

Austin

Last Name *

Rea

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7654 Linden Forest Rd Charlotte, NC 28270

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brea1@gmail.com

Phone Number *

7048752214

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First Name *

Greg

Last Name *

Ewert

Address *

225 Saunders road. Lake forest IL

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Greg@gregewertmd.com

Phone Number *

13128100270

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First Name *

Faith

Last Name *

Conroy

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1509 US Highway 287 N

Email *

faithconroy@yahoo.com

Phone Number *

4066823090

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That problems exist on the Madison is beyond dispute. FWP has already submitted a plan and FWP manager Travis Horton and FWP fisheries biologist Dave Moser have said the river may be near a tipping point and regulations are needed. Current overuse is causing both environmental and social conflict. The fish simply cannot thrive in a river that sees over 200,000 angling days per year, and people cannot enjoy the river when crowded boat and wade anglers compete to fish. Surveys show this. The problems can't be ignored. To do so would be to jeopardize the health of the fishery and compromise one of the jewels of Montana's resources.

The MRF continues to support the main ideas set forth in the FWP plan. We believe there should be a wade-only section of the river from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge to protect wade anglers from boat conflicts and to reduce pressure on the river. People want this. Surveys have proved it. As well, the FWP plan advocates caps on use of the river, limiting stretches of the river by days to prevent overuse. How this is implemented should be left to the experts at FWP; however, we believe it needs to be done. And we sincerely hope that however it is accomplished does not result in monetizing existing permits. Finally, we hope that FWP's proposals to ban glass on the river and to keep intact the primitive area from Grey Cliffs to the confluence of the Jefferson are also considered. The MRF stands ready to support the Commission in creating such regulations.

We strongly advocate that the Commission send a plan to conserve the Madison River to public comment as soon as possible so that regulations can be implemented for 2020. We believe that further delays are unacceptable. Please conserve and protect the Madison River.

We urge you to advocate for a Madison River Recreation Plan immediately.

First Name *

Jim

Last Name *

Wilson

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406823090

Please add any additional comments to be added to the letter here. Share your personal experiences as to why the Madison River needs a recreation plan now.

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First Name *

Jack & Susan

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Brown

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Faye

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