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Lesley Robinson
Mt Fish and Wildlife Comm.
1420 East Sixth Ave.
Helena, Mt. 59620

Re; Proposed petition to ban all motors from the Bull River

Dear Ms. Robinson:

I am writing to you regarding the proposed ban on motors on the Bull River in NW Montana.

I have lived on the Bull River for 38 years now, above where the East Fork comes into the river. I have obtained the rulemaking petition by Paul Overman, of Heron, Mt. that would ban all powered water craft on the Bull River. I note there are no exceptions listed, including electric motors.

I was told this would be heard at your Dec. 19 meeting, although it is not currently listed anywhere I could find. I have spoken to your representative in Thompson Falls regarding this.

I have had a small 9 foot boat with a 1.5 hp motor for many years. With such a small motor, none of the potential problems noted by Mr. Overman have been observed by me.

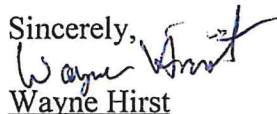
Now, hardly anyone wants to see jet skis or powerful boats on the river, as it is too small. But I have not observed these problems along this middle stretch of the river, although there were complaints about jet skiis by the 8 mile bridge over 20 years ago. I, or most people, would never want fast power boats or jet skiis on the river. But to ban them all - even electric motors?

I believe that limiting any power boats to under, say 5hp. would suffice.

I have seen no increase in power boats in many years here on the middle stretch of the Bull River, as access would be difficult. That is also why I have not seen that much increase in floaters over the years, as access is difficult below me and many floaters get out of the river at the 8 mile bridge, above my house.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and I fully intend to issue comments at the meeting, which I am told will be by Zoom, so I'll go to the Kalispell office if I have to do so.

Sincerely,



Wayne Hirst

120 E. Fork Bull River Rd.
Noxon, Mt. 59853

