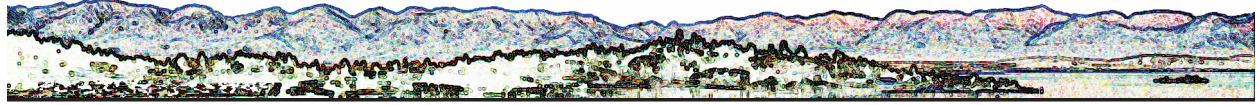


Swan View's News

Summer 2026



Swan View Coalition
3165 Foothill Road
Kalispell, MT 59901

"Nature and human nature on the same path."

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Apocalypse Now - The Trump Version!

The movie "Apocalypse Now" has been described as showing how "extreme violence and war destroy the human mind and strip away civilization's thin mask of morality." The same can be said of President Trump's war on the environment and our public lands!

On page 2 we provide Mike Bader's assessment of the situation in his "Five Horsemen of the Environmental Apocalypse."

On page 3 we summarize what we are doing about it through lawsuits and public comments on formal rule-making.

On pages 4 and 5, we ask for your help and comments on Trump's efforts to repeal protections afforded by the Forest Service's Roadless Rule and Travel Management Rule - which would flood your public lands with

extractive machinery and motorized mayhem! We make submitting comments simple for you!

On page 6 we provide some unsolicited praise for our work!

We want to say THANK YOU to all of you who have supported our

work for 41 years through your generous donations and kind words! And we want to THANK YOU for sticking with us through these incredibly challenging times!

On page 7, we share the

good news that [Cinnabar Foundation](#) will again match/double your donations up to \$4,500 this summer and fall! Please [make a donation today](#) if you are able.



Keith

The Five Horsemen of the Environmental Apocalypse!

by Mike Bader, Independent Consultant

The Trump Administration has released five horsemen to run roughshod over America the Beautiful, playing out their version of Manifest Destiny 2.0 at the expense of all that is good and whole.

In seemingly separate, but connected actions, the very agencies entrusted with protecting our national heritage seek to drive threatened and endangered wildlife off the landscape like the native Americans before them. Under a cloak of "efficiency" and "local control," they are wreaking havoc leading to plunder and lawlessness, clearing the way for bulldozers and industrial anarchy.

First, the Department of Interior redefined "harm" under the Endangered Species Act so that habitat destruction is no longer considered harmful to threatened and endangered species. That's like saying we could take away food, shelter, heat, water and clothing from people and it would have no effect on their well-being. No harm, no foul.

Second, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service implied removing Endangered Species Act protection for grizzly bears less than two years after concluding that a host of cumulative threats puts the species at increased risk of extinction throughout their range in the lower 48.

Third, the Fish & Wildlife Service proposed an expanded "4(d) rule" that Interior Secretary Doug Burgum says turns grizzly bear management over to the states that want trophy hunting and to kill them whenever near livestock, even on public lands. Like failed state management of wolves, the proposed rule creates expanded exemptions for killing grizzly bears and would give out kill permits like Halloween candy.

Fourth, the Department of Agriculture proposed canceling the Roadless Area Conservation Rule. Tens of millions of acres of the wildest National Forests would be opened to new roads, logging, motorized use and other development. This despite that 99% of the comments from the American people oppose this industrial land grab. Say goodbye to connecting isolated grizzly bear populations and say hello to dramatic reductions in elk, Montana's five-week general hunting season, bull trout, salmon, old growth forests and clean water supplies for humans.

Fifth, the Department of Agriculture has proposed to shred National Travel Management Planning on National Forests, opening the way to off-trail cross-country travel by ATVs, snowmobiles and 4-x-4s. Management of motorized access to seasonally protect sensitive wildlife and fish habitat would go out the window, replaced with a system of motorized mayhem.

Taken in sum, these five horsemen would unleash an environmental apocalypse. Other actions have already eroded the National Environmental Policy Act, limited public comment and other mechanisms meant to maintain checks and balances. They are dismantling a system of land and wildlife management years in the making that has sustained ecosystems, restored elk populations and brought wildlife back from the brink of extinction. These connected actions also undermine the public's right to have a say over management of its own lands.

Many organizations are fighting the good fight but they need your help. Please get informed and involved. These connected actions must be stopped before the soul of America is permanently wounded.

What We are Doing About the Environmental Apocalypse!

On July 14, [we sued](#) the Trump Administration for repealing the Endangered Species Act's definition of "harm" so that habitat destruction would no longer be unlawful. "Roads built for logging and other human access destroy grizzly bear habitat and the bear's ability to use that habitat," [said Swan View Coalition Chair Keith Hammer](#). "Repealing the harm rule will allow industry to devastate the habitat grizzly bears and many other wildlife species depend on for their survival."

As [reported in our last newsletter](#), we [sued the Flathead National Forest](#) for attempting to build roads and log the West Reservoir Project without consulting with Fish and Wildlife Service about the impacts

to threatened species like grizzly bears and bull trout. The project would build five miles of permanent roads while claiming that doesn't increase total road density and is exempt from consultation because the logging, far away from human dwellings, is an emergency (like everything else in the Trump Administration).

We worked with Earthjustice and [joined in their comments](#) opposing FWS's proposed grizzly bear ESA 4(d) rule, which would grant greater authority over grizzly bear management to the lower 48 States, allowing the States greater latitude in killing bears among other things. While short of a full removal of ESA protections (de-listing) the proposed 4(d) rule greatly diminishes the bears' ESA protections, in addition to the removal of habitat protections brought

about by the simultaneous repealing of the definition of "harm" to the species.

We are also working with Earthjustice in writing and joining comments opposing the Trump Administration's repeal of the longstanding Forest Service Roadless Rule, which has protected roadless public lands from the worst of logging and road building. Earthjustice will likely be using our [Road Hunt](#) and [other road closure effectiveness reports](#) to make the case that the Forest Service cannot afford to manage

and make effective its current road closures, let alone additional road closures needed to secure fish and wildlife habitats. **Please see page 4 and submit your own comments opposing repeal of the Roadless Rule!**

We are also working with Earthjustice and the Public Lands Center to file comments opposing the Trump Administration's proposed trashing of the Forest Service's current Travel Management rules to allow greater motor vehicle access to your National Forests and wildlife habitats! Over many decades, travel management evolved to the inevitable conclusion that public lands must be considered closed to disruptive and damaging motorized use unless carefully and specifically designated as open to such use. The Trump proposal would stand all those decades of management evolution on its head and designate public lands open to motor vehicles unless specifically designated as closed! **Please see page 5 and submit your own comments opposing the new Travel Management rule!**

Please note that every action on this page involves our attorneys at [Earthjustice](#) in one way or another. As the Trump Administration attempts to overwhelm the public and government with endless repeals and chaos, we must all team up to cover it all. We are forever thankful for being teamed up with [Earthjustice](#)!

Trump to Repeal the Forest Service "Roadless Rule" *Your Comments Needed by September 21!*

In August 2025, President Trump proposed repealing the Forest Service's 2001 Roadless Rule, put in place to protect Inventoried Roadless Areas from most logging and road building. The Forest Service received comments from 625,000 individuals and organizations, with 99% of them opposing the Roadless Rule repeal!

This August, the Forest Service announced it has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement to rationalize its proposed repeal. We need your help to once again demonstrate 99% of the public oppose this plan to hand America's Roadless Areas over to extractive industries, road builders and motor vehicles!

The Forest Service [press release](#) says Roadless Areas need to be opened up to roads and logging to protect homes and communities from wild-fire, even though by definition homes and communities are not located in Roadless Areas! Most telling in the press release is that the governors of Montana, Wyoming and Utah heap praise on Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz for the proposal to log and road Roadless Areas. Schultz previously headed State logging programs in Montana and Idaho before becoming a private logging corporation executive.

In short, the proposed repeal of the Roadless Rule has little to do with protecting people, communities, or the land and has everything to do with making timber corporations rich at public expense. The 2001 Roadless Rule and its EIS were written with

the acknowledgement that research shows that roadless lands are more ecologically resilient than roaded and managed lands and that more than 80% of wildfires are human caused and most of those start near roads. The Roadless Rule also recognized that the Forest Service and taxpayers already face a \$6 billion backlog in maintenance of existing roads and can hardly afford to build and maintain more!

While the Trump Administration would like you to spend many hours trying to re-analyze all the reasons for the 2001 Roadless Rule in order to explain its reversal/denial of them, that is the administration's job, not yours. We ask you to please make a comment like the following by September 21:



"I fully support the Roadless Rule and want it strengthened, not repealed. You must explain in your Final EIS why you now deny each and every reason the Roadless Rule was put in place in 2001. The only thing that has changed is the climate, which makes the protection of Roadless Areas more important, not less."

To comment, go to <https://www.regulations.gov/document/FS-2025-0001-223869> and click on "Comment."

If you'd like more points to make in your comments, along with cites to page numbers in the DEIS, [visit Center for Western Priorities' action page](#). Presented there are more than a dozen statements from the DEIS indicating the repeal will make things worse for forests, wildlife and taxpayers!

Trump Trashing Forest Service Travel Management Rules Your Comments Needed by September 23!

Only after decades of abuse and misuse of public lands did the Forest Service issue its current Travel Management Rule (TMR) to restrict motor vehicles to only roads, trails and areas clearly designated as open to such travel - with the remainder being legally closed. Prior to that, motorized vehicle users were simply tearing down closure signs to then use closed areas without legal penalties because there were no signs saying "closed" (as shown in the photo below).

In August, the Trump Administration proposed to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and issue a new TMR that would revert back to an "open unless closed" policy, which will confuse the public and again frustrate law enforcement.

Additionally, the new TMR would remove criteria requiring the Forest Service to minimize motor vehicle impacts to soils, watersheds, vegetation, wildlife, and other people - criteria Trump has already tried to negate by repealing 50-year-old Executive Orders issued by Presidents Nixon and Carter to reign in the off-road vehicle problem.

The new TMR would also remove current criteria requiring that the Forest Service road system be kept to the minimum necessary, would provide for adding unlawful user-created roads and trails to the road and trail system, would minimize public participation in travel designations, and

would allow Class 1 e-bikes to be treated as non-motorized vehicles even though they clearly have a motor!

This is all a gift to hand over public lands and wildlife habitat to the motorized recreation industry and extractive industries, which need more roads to haul more public resources to their private mills at taxpayer expense. You can read more about this "trifecta" in the [Yellowstonian](#).

We ask you to please make a comment like the following by September 23:

"I fully support the current Travel Management Rule and want it strengthened, not gutted. You must explain in your EIS why you now deny each and every reason the current Travel Management Rule was put in place in 2005.

The only thing that has changed is an increase in the types and numbers of motor vehicles, which makes public land protection more important, not less."

To comment, go to <https://www.regulations.gov/document/FS-2026-0100-0001> and click on "Comment."

You may want to add you want retained and strengthened all of the current criteria to minimize the road system and minimize impacts from off-road vehicles to provide greater protection of soils, watersheds, vegetation, wildlife, and people. The Forest Service already admits to having 380,000 miles of road and 165,000 miles of trails!



Unsolicited Praise for Our Work!

"I appreciate your laser focus on preserving what is left of the environment in the Flathead. It is literally an uphill battle." P.N.

"The Court does not share [federal] Defendants' narrow reading of *Swan View* and *Swan View's* reasoning is not confined to the Flathead National Forest."

U.S. District Court Judge
Dana Christensen

"Thanks! The excellent precedent from the Flathead litigation was key to our success [on the Bitterroot NF]." M.S.

"I appreciate you taking the time to help me parse through the lawsuit and be a part of the piece [news article]." J.L.

"Thanks for sending, it's a good article and good quotes!" K.B.

"Great quotes!" M.B.

"Keep up the good work. We owe you for it, the bears owe you for it, the forests owe you, and so does the world." K.H.

"Thank you for providing these excerpts; such critical science for us all to try and understand as we try and

protect our forests and the whole ecosystem." P.A.

"Thanks for doing, doing and still doing. Another thanks for keeping a computer-less me informed [via a print newsletter]." B.H.

"Thanks for hanging in there during these incredibly crazy times." J.S.

"Thank you for all the critical work you have done, and continue to do, on behalf of all of our natural world."

P.A.

May Dolly Parton rest in peace:



"We should pay more attention to how we're treating our mountains, how we're treating our world, how we're just treating everything."

We're just mistreating Mother Nature. That's, like, being ugly to your mama, you know?"

-Dolly Parton

Cinnabar Foundation is Matching Your Donations Up to \$4,500: Donate Today and Double Your Gift!

We rely in large part on member donations to fund our work protecting habitat for fish, wildlife and people. **You can help us broaden our membership by giving Gift Memberships at \$25 each, either on-line or using the form below! It's easy to join with and help others support our work:**

1. Send a check to Swan View Coalition at 3165 Foothill Road, Kalispell, MT 59901 - or -

2. Use your credit card securely on-line at
<https://swanviewcoalition.networkforgood.com>
(or by clicking on the Donate Now button at right)!



Network for Good handles your transaction securely for us and informs us immediately via email of your donation by credit card. You can also choose to give monthly, quarterly or yearly there to make it easier or more affordable (or change your mind anytime)! If you have other info you want to get to us, such as Gift Membership info, simply email it to keith@swanview.org or mail it to the address in #1, above.



If there is pink on your mailing label, it means you haven't donated in nearly a year or more. Please make a donation so we can keep sending you our newsletter and continue our work!

[] Here's \$25 to cover my minimum dues, newsletters, alerts, and Swan Ranger Reports.

[] Here's \$50 to help restore a bit of peace and quiet to America's public lands.

[] Here's \$100 to help keep forest roads from ending up in America's bull trout streams.

[] Here's \$500 to help secure grizzly, lynx and wolverine habitat for future generations.

[] Here's \$_____ to help save the world, one mountain range and one river at a time!

[] Here's \$_____ for _____ Gift Memberships at a minimum of \$25 each. I've included each recipient's name, mailing address, email address, and my greeting on separate paper.

[] As a gift of appreciation for my donation, please send me [] the Swan/Flathead history booklet "The Lineage of Chief Aeneas: A History of People and Place" and/or [] a Swan Ranger patch (circle "hang-loop" or "sew-on").

[] Save paper! Email my newsletters to _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

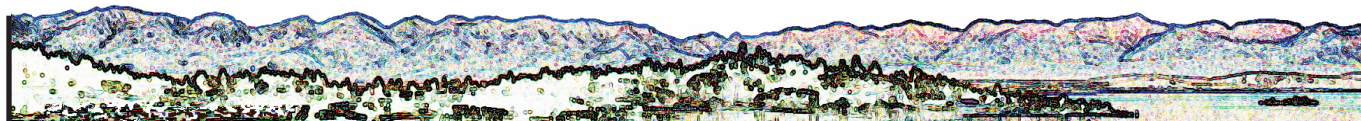
CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

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