



Photo: Harvey Locke

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Spring Happening!

June 22, 2015

Dear Greetings!:

June arrived, the rain finally fell, the rivers came up, and then the sun returned. Within a few days the Flathead River level dropped and the waters cleared. Here's what we've been *up* to as springtime in Montana has taken its course:

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The Swan Mountains as viewed from Sunset Ridge in the Mission Mountains, just one of many wildland areas not recommended for wilderness by the Flathead National Forest.

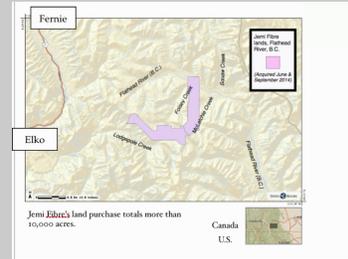
(Photo: Stephen Gnam)

- **A New Forest Plan in the Works** The Flathead National Forest has closed the comment period on its "proposed action" for the revision of the forest management plan. *Headwaters Montana* submitted several documents and a letter of comment. The take away: logging will likely increase; protection for

grizzlies and other wildlife will decrease; expect more activity on your favorite backcountry trails. These changes appear to be inevitable as the local human population grows and demand for resources and recreational opportunity increase. [Read more...](#)

- **Logging in the Canadian Flathead** There's a new logging outfit in the Canadian reach of our transboundary North Fork Flathead River. Jemi Fibre is known as a 'cut and run' operator. Will they log "Sportsmans Ridge" and impact bull trout recovery?

[Read more...](#)



Jemi Fibre's holdings in the upper Canadian Flathead River



Our efforts to expand Waterton - Glacier International Peace Park into the Canadian Flathead began in 2000. Is our goal attainable and in sight?

Will B.C. Create a New Park in the Flathead?:

Efforts continue across the border to double the size of Waterton Lakes National Park and create an even larger Wildlife Management Area. The campaign takes forward steps. [Read more...](#)

Managing Visitors on Glacier's Going to the Sun Road:

Glacier Park's managers have initiated a visitor use assessment for the Going to the Sun Road. Increasing visitor numbers, stress on

infrastructure and trails, as well as the 'visitor experience' has prompted a review of the management plan. *Headwaters Montana* submitted comments. [Read more...](#)



Glacier Park managers will be developing a new Sun Road management plan.

- **Are Oil Trains Good for the Flathead River and Flathead Lake?** Remember the coal mining threat north of the border?

Well, Canadians have nothing on U.S. shipments of [a million of gallons per day](#) of Bakken crude oil along the Middle Fork of the Flathead River. An oil train derailment represents a more immediate threat to the health and safety of people and our remarkable environment than coal mines ever did. [Read more...](#)



What options do we have to ensure that Flathead River and Flathead Lake avoid an oil spill?

Will the Kootenai National Forest Ever Get Ten Lakes Right?

We've joined with Montana Wilderness Association, The Wilderness Society, Winter Wildlands Alliance, and Earth Justice to take the mismanagement of

the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study area to the next level. This is a complex issue with a long and convoluted history. If you want to know the details, read our groups' joint letter. [Read more...](#)

- **Collaborative Processes Can Work** We think talking to neighbors and 'traditional opponents' can help resolve long-standing issues. We pioneered the successful Whitefish Range Partnership. And we continue to talk to others in our community. We signed off on the Whitefish Range Face Project. And we're part of the conversation on the Kootenai National Forest (KNF) to protect wilderness quality lands, going way beyond the KNF wilderness recommendations.
- **Does National Forest Management Need Reform?** We're working with The Wilderness Society, Montana Wilderness Association, and many others in a conversation with Montana's congressional delegation on what's needed and what's appropriate with regard to national forest management. Topics include managing forest fire fighting costs, providing greater certainty for the forest products industry, and protecting the environment - including adding to Montana's wilderness treasure. [Read more...](#)

Hope you have good summer plans for outdoor fun with friends and family.

Cheers!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Huddle".

Executive Director

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Please Donate

Please click [here](#) to donate. Your donation will help us promote protection of the wild lands, open space, and clean water you value, and help us reach hundreds of others. **Thank You!**

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Protecting the Water, Wildlife and Traditional Outdoor Heritage in the Crown of the Continent!