

Chris Taggart

From: Mills, Barry <barry.mills@umconnect.umt.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners Office
Cc: Melissa Odell
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fw: Conservation Easement Application: Triple D aka Drew & Kaci Lewis and Gary & Robin Beadle

TO: Ravalli County Commissioners

FROM: Barry & Paulie Mills
3081 Redjou Lane
Stevensville, MT 59870

RE: Conservation Easement Application: Triple D aka Drew & Kaci Lewis and Gary & Robin Beadle

Paulie and I are writing in support of the Tripple D Ranch's application for a Conservation Easement on land, on Middle Burnt Fork and along Redjou Lane, on the Sunset Bench in Stevensville.

We are very pleased that the Beadle's and Lewis's are considering a conservation easement on their land. The Sunset Bench and Burnt Fork area is very special to us. Paulie in particular grew up in this area, spending her summers on what was then the Thoft Ranch. The land under consideration is located across the road from us now.

For our part, Paulie and I bought the 70 acres we now farm on Redjou some 35 years ago. In the past few years we have upgraded the hay fields improving cultivation, and installed an extensive wheel line irrigation system to improve the production of the land. So, our investment in the land and area is financial, with history, and more importantly emotional. The Sunset Bench is a beautiful setting in an already unique area in Montana.

We, like the Beadles and Lewis's, are pursuing setting aside our land in a conservation easement, feel that the uninterrupted flow of land dedicated to agriculture would further enhance and protect the rural nature of this area. This is especially important with the increased interest in development in Ravalli County, and especially in areas such as the Sunset Bench.

We wholeheartedly endorse your favorably acting on Tripple D's application for a conservation easement.

Sincerely,

Barry & Paulie Mills
3081 Redjou Lane
Stevensville, MT 59870

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe the email to be malicious and/or phishing email, please use the **Phish Alert** button.