

Glenda Wiles

From: Johnson, Michael W <Michael_W_Johnson@rl.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 7, 2015 2:51 PM
To: Glenda Wiles
Subject: Proposed Bitterroot Floodplain Regulations Changes

Dear Sir,

I write to voice my strong objection to changing the current Bitterroot River floodplain development regulations. The proposed revision to allow residential construction in the river's floodplain will necessarily result in detrimental changes to the river and its denizens. It cannot help but do so given that the river shore will be modified, legally or otherwise, to protect the large real estate investments that will occur as a result of these revised regulations. The river is a priceless and fragile resource, one from which our community derives immense benefit. From a larger perspective Montana has but one great asset – its incomparable woods and waters. What possible benefit can result from encouraging development of the river's banks – a few more dollars of property tax income? Of what value will these dollars be when the river is channelized, and its natural beauty and fishery degraded?

Please leave well enough alone – do not change the current river floodplain development regulations.

Respectfully,

Mike Johnson
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