

Ravalli County Commissioners Office

From: Ron Evans <revans@consultmchugh.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 7, 2015 9:55 AM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners Office
Subject: Change in Floodplain restrictions

I urge the commission not to allow any development in the floodplain of the Bitterroot. The latest figures I've seen attribute the recreational activities on the Bitterroot to contribute \$16MM annually to the economy of the county. I recognize that the current prohibition of any development in the Bitterroot's floodplain is the most restrictive in the state, however the Bitterroot is unique in MT in the way it is constantly moving its channel. Consequently, nowhere in the floodplain is totally safe from flooding, and to prevent flooding most likely will require taxpayer dollars and result in a reduction of aquatic habitat. The cumulative effect is to kill the goose that annually lays \$16MM in eggs.

Thank you for considering my views.

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