

NORTH FORK PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

77 Moose Creek Rd, Polebridge, MT 59928

*Lake County Conservation District
ATTN: Swan Forest Initiative
64352 Hwy 93,
Ronan, MT 59864*

June 1, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

The North Fork Preservation Association (NFPA) is a conservation organization working to protect the wilderness character, watershed, and wildlife of the North Fork of the Flathead River Valley. Our members are strong proponents of public lands.

The Swan Forest Initiative is a barely-veiled attempt to take public land that belongs to all of the people of this nation and transfer its resources to one specific county. These lands are national forest lands, not state or LCCD lands, and this transfer is no better than **theft on a grand scale**. The national forests were established to serve the people of the United States as a whole and to maintain clean water, wildlife, wilderness, recreation, as well as timber production.

Montanans overwhelmingly reject the idea of public land transfer to states or other local government bodies. This proposal goes against strong public opinion. It is our hope that this proposal will be denied.

Sincerely,

Debo Powers, President

A nonprofit corporation dedicated to preserving the integrity of the North Fork of the Flathead Valley on the western edge of Waterton/Glacier International Peace Park.