

BLACKFOOT CLEARWATER STEWARDSHIP ACT OF 2017 – S. 507, SENATOR JON TESTER

WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT—

- The new Tester bill would severely and permanently damage the Monture-N. Fork Blackfoot Proposed Wilderness Area by creating motorized/mechanized play areas in the heart of the roadless area, while allowing new timber harvest and temporary roadbuilding. This area is proposed for wilderness in the Lolo National Forest Plan and managed for non-motorized use year-round. It is between the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area and the Blackfoot Clearwater Wildlife Management Area. It is also well within the Recovery Area for grizzly bears.
- The bill leaves a 9,000 acre section of roadless area on the scenic Swan Front unprotected. Altogether, 48,000 acres of proposed wilderness areas are left unprotected and subject to logging, roadbuilding and new motorized use.
- The bill mandates a landscape review and a ten year schedule of restoration projects, both in cooperation with private collaborative interests; a primary purpose is to supply commercial forest products to Pyramid Mountain Lumber Company, Seeley Lake, Montana
- The bill allows private groups to contribute labor and finances towards construction of new trails, including motorized routes
- The bill allows temporary roads and timber harvest to accommodate the motorized and mechanized uses in the new recreation areas

The Bill *MUST* —

- protect all 99,000 acres of the Monture-N. Fork Blackfoot Roadless Area as Wilderness. Say no to motorized and mechanized play areas in the heart of this area.
- protect all 127,000 acres of roadless area as designated Wilderness on the Seeley lake Ranger District, Lolo National Forest
- respect the National Forest Planning process with full application of national environmental laws with full public involvement