PART 1 of 2

CONSTITUTIONALLY SOUND

SOLUTIONS FOR OUR PUBLIC LANDS

Because we all want Healthy air, water and wildlife, Abundant outdoor recreation, and Safe, vibrant communities.

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Jennifer Fielder

Elected to Montana State Senate 2012
Chaired SJ 15 State Study of Federal Land Management 2013-14
CEO – The American Lands Council 2016-Present
THE FEDERAL FAULT LINE

OVER 50% FEDERALLY CONTROLLED

LESS THAN 5% FEDERALLY CONTROLLED

Areas shown in red are federally controlled lands.
Does it Matter? Absolutely!

Guess which half is owned by Washington DC?
TYPICAL, UNTENDED NATIONAL FOREST

Dense, overgrown, unhealthy...

A catastrophic wildfire waiting to happen.
Deadly toxins in OUR air and water
Destruction of everything in sight
Wildfires in 11 western states, *1916-2012

*11 states: AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY
WORSENING TRENDS

“Anyone of school age knows the history of the U.S. Forest Service in seeking reductions of A.U.M.s (Animal Unit Months) or even in the elimination of cattle grazing during the last four decades.”

-- Nevada Federal Chief Judge Robert Jones
United States vs. Wayne Hage, 2012

“A systematic dismantling of livestock ranching in Utah”

-- Randy Parker, CEO
Utah Farm Bureau
WORSENING TRENDS

ACCESS OBSTRUCTED
Since 1995 the Federal Gov’t has CLOSED over 20,000 miles of access roads on federally controlled public lands – just in Montana alone.

That’s a loss of 1,000 miles per year!

Data from HJR13 Montana EQC Legislative Study
Inventory of roads closed to motorized access
WORSENING TRENDS
UC Merced Expert: Forest Thinning Could Free Up Water, Reduce Fire Risk

“Researchers at UC Merced think that thinning overgrown forests throughout the Sierra could result in as much as a million acre feet of extra water each year for the state.”

- 1 AF (Acre Foot) of water = 326,000 gallons
- 1 Million AF = 326 billion gallons
- Enough To Supply More Than 2 Million Families For One Year!
POLITICIZED SCIENCE
IRRESPONSIBLE ECONOMICS

To Infinity... & Beyond!

National Debt
(1940-Present)

1980
LESS THAN $1 TRILLION DEBT

Source: U.S. National Debt Clock
http://www.brattle.com/debt_clock/
RESOURCES SQUANDERED

- $150 trillion mineral value on federal lands

- $6 billion timber value on federal lands in Montana
“The Decision Makers”
“The People”
“The selected alternative will limit our ability as resource managers to respond to fire, wind throw, insects and disease, and to provide timber or other commodities.”
PROACTIVE MANAGEMENT PREVENTS DEVASTATING WILDFIRES, SAVES MONEY, GENERATES REVENUE & IMPROVES WILDLIFE HABITAT.
BENEFITS OF ACTIVE MANAGEMENT:

- FIRE RESILIENCY
- CLEAN AIR & WATER
- IMPROVED WILDLIFE HABITAT
- MULTI-USE ACCESSIBILITY
- WOOD, MINERALS, ENERGY & AG PRODUCTS
- JOBS, RECREATION, SCENERY, HEALTH
= ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

For every $1 spent on active vegetation management:
$17 can be saved on wildfire suppression costs; and $500 can be saved in total losses.

- The Total Cost of Fire by Mowery & Gray, 2013
Don’t we all want
HEALTHY AIR, WATER & WILDLIFE?
ABUNDANT OUTDOOR RECREATION?
SAFE, VIBRANT COMMUNITIES?