

**FERRY COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 2011-25
Opposing "Wilderness Designations"**

WHEREAS, Ferry County, a political sub-division of the State of Washington and the Ferry County Commissioners' are duly elected representatives of the citizens of Ferry County; and

WHEREAS, only 17% of Ferry County is private land leaving the rest intermingled with state and federal lands and a significant portion of the Colville National Forest is located in Ferry County; and

WHEREAS, the areas that are being proposed for "Wilderness Designations" do not meet the criteria as called for in the Federal Wilderness Act of 1964 or the Washington State Wilderness Act of 1984; and

WHEREAS, "Wilderness Designations" restricts effective management techniques and creates catastrophic wildfires placing Ferry County citizens and their property at risk; and

WHEREAS, equal access to the Colville National Forest by all Ferry County Citizens is important and necessary for cultural and economical purposes; and

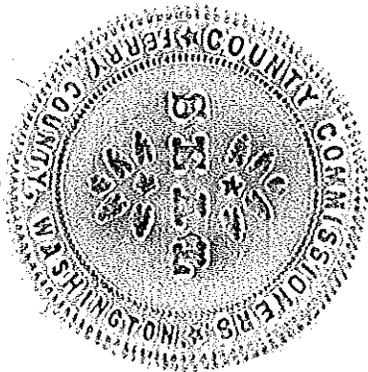
WHEREAS, with "Wilderness Designations" Ferry County would encounter loss of land, grazing, mining interests, recreation, managed water supply and timber production; and

WHEREAS, the Ferry County Community Wildfire Protection Plan has identified the hazards existing in the county and forest planning must take into account the efforts this county has already undertaken to build a comprehensive local plan that is compliant with FEMA requirements, state growth management and county plans. "Wilderness Designations" does not have a protection plan for our forest and private property.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED that the Ferry County Board of County Commissioners oppose any and all "Wilderness Designations" for Ferry County in order to insure equal access to the Colville National Forest for all citizens within Ferry County.

ADOPTED this 23rd day of May, 2011.

BOARD OF FERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FERRY COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Brad L Miller

BRAD L. MILLER, Chairman

Abstained

ROBERT L. "BOB" HEATH, Vice Chair

Brian Dassel

BRIAN DANSEL, Member

ATTEST:

Teri Kinney

657 Debbie Bechtol, Clerk of the Board

Attachment 1

News Release
April 29, 2011

From: Ferry County Cattleman's Association

Subj: No Support for Wilderness Areas-Kettle Range

The Ferry County Cattleman's Association voted unanimously at its April, 2011 business meeting to again go on public record as they did in 2008, opposing wilderness designations in the Kettle Range located in Ferry County's section of the Colville National Forest. The Associations President, Gordon Strandberg stated the Associations position saying, "A lot of propaganda has been in the news and spread throughout the inland northwest about how everyone from the timber industry, to ranchers, to environmentalists are in support of designating wilderness in the Kettle Range area. It is said 'if you tell a lie enough times, people begin to think it's true'". We want to set the record straight by stating some of our reasons:

1. The Kettle Crest does not hold wilderness characteristics. Having walked and ridden our horses in the area being pushed for designation, there are old roads found in many places along with old cabin sites, major highways, fences, water troughs, and signs of human work found throughout the region. In fact, from the crest you can look either direction and see lights at night, talk on a cell phone, hear airplanes overhead and highway sounds on forest roads, Highway 20 and Boulder Creek Road. Looking closely at the proposed wilderness boundaries zig zagging around some of these make it "look like" they did not exist.
2. If Wilderness designation is given, it will not be long before it will be pushed to be expanded. We offer as evidence that contained within the same proposal being pushed for the Kettle Range is an expansion of the Selkirk Wilderness Area. It does not stop once the first step is passed. If it did, the people pushing it would be out of a job as that is their profession, to always set their sights further and further ahead.
3. Wilderness area designation does not protect the forest, it means "let it burn" if the fire is lightning caused. We have seen what happened on White Mountain, Lambert Mountain and Mt. Leona where catastrophic fires occurred because of their low priority, no equipment, "roadless area" designation. Those fires were not stopped until the State Department of Natural Resources and other agencies finally brought in fire fighting equipment when private land, BPA power lines, and highways were threatened. Imagine the charred forest, and thousands of dead animals under similar conditions in a totally roadless "Wilderness" area.
4. Ranchers cannot survive in a wilderness area management scheme. There were ranchers utilizing forest grazing when the Pasayten Wilderness went in. None are there now because of the restrictive new rules making it unmanageable. Miles of fence and horse riding trails cannot be cleaned and maintained without tools that are banned in wilderness areas. If you do not believe us, check out Wilderness Watch's webpage as they list case after case where their lawsuits have stopped

repair of manmade improvements from lookouts, watering troughs to restoring old cabins. Wilderness Watch's web site states: "The wilderness Act defines wilderness as 'an area of undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions.'" The act also states, "there shall be...no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment or motorboats, no landing of aircraft ... and no structure or installation within wilderness." So, no matter what local advocates assure us will be allowed to continue once an area is put into wilderness (such as fences, water troughs, snow peak cabins, etc) outside groups (like Wilderness Watch) will call the final shots using the court system.

5. Some of the local environmental representatives pushing wilderness in exchange for bringing back some increased logging, etc, fail to state that they are the same ones who filed lawsuits that stopped the logging on national forests here in the first place. We, the workers taking care of the land to help assure our future livelihood for generations have created a landscape that looks so nice that newcomers want to lock it up and protect it. If our management was so bad, how did it get to look so good over the last century?

Ferry County Cattleman's Association
Gordon Strandberg, President
Malo, Washington

RESOLUTION 2011-06

"OPPOSING WILDERNESS DESIGNATION"

WHEREAS, THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL wish to show their support to the Ferry County Commissioners on their Resolution 2011-25 "Opposing Wilderness Designation";

WHEREAS, ONLY 17% OF Ferry County is private land leaving the rest intermingled with state and federal lands and a significant portion of the Colville Nation Forest is located in Ferry County; and

WHEREAS, the areas that are being proposed for "Wilderness Designations" do not meet the criteria as called for in the Federal Wilderness Act of 1964 or the Washington State Wilderness Act of 1984; and

WHEREAS, "Wilderness Designation" restrict effective management techniques and creates catastrophic wildfire placing Ferry County citizens and their property at risk; and

WHEREAS, equal access to the Colville National Forest by all Ferry County Citizens is important and necessary for cultural and economical purposes; and

WHEREAS, with "Wilderness Designations" Ferry County would encounter loss of land, grazing, mining interests, recreation, managed water supply and timber production; and

WHEREAS, THE Ferry County Community Wildfire Protection Plan has identified the hazards existing in the county and forest planning must take into account the efforts of this county has already undertaken to build a comprehensive local plan that is compliant with FEMA requirements, state growth management and county plan. "Wilderness Designations" does not have a protection plan for our forest and private property.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council oppose any and all "Wilderness Designations" for Ferry County in order to insure equal access to the Colville National Forest for all citizens within Ferry County.

ADOPTED this 6th day of June, 2011.

Jim Burnside
Jim Burnside, Mayor

Loni Simone
Council Member, Position #1, Loni Simone

Linda Hall
Council Member, Position #2, Linda Hall

Dave Michel
Council Member, Position #3, Dave Michel

Open position
Council Member, Position #4

Larry Heming
Council Member, Position #5, Larry Heming

FERRY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT 2
RESOLUTION NO. 2011-01

Opposing "Wilderness Designations"

WHEREAS, Ferry County, Parks and Recreation District 2, a political sub-division of the State of Washington and the Ferry County Parks and Recreation Commissioners' are duly elected representatives of the citizens of Ferry County; and

WHEREAS, only 17% of Ferry County is private land (much of which is private forest holdings) leaving the rest intermingled with state and federal lands and a significant portion of the National Forest is located in Ferry County; recreation on the Colville and Okanogan-Wenatchee Forests are some of our best opportunities and funded by some snowmobile funds from the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the areas that are being proposed for "Wilderness Designations" do not meet the criteria as called for in the Federal Wilderness Act of 1964 or the Washington State Wilderness Act of 1984; and

WHEREAS, "Wilderness Designations" restricts effective management techniques and creates catastrophic wildfires placing Ferry County citizens and their property at risk; and

WHEREAS, equal access to the Colville National Forest by all Ferry County Citizens is important and necessary for cultural, recreation and economic purposes; and

WHEREAS, with "Wilderness Designations" Ferry County would encounter loss of land, grazing, mining interests, recreation, managed water supply and timber production; and

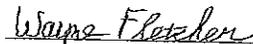
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED that the Ferry County Parks and Recreation District 2 oppose any and all "Wilderness Designations" for Ferry County in order to insure equal access to the Colville National Forest for all citizens within Ferry County and visitors.

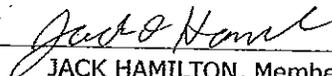
ADOPTED this 8th day of June, 2011.

BOARD OF FERRY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONERS
FERRY COUNTY, WASHINGTON


CURTIS BRENNER, Chairman


LARRY BEARDSLEE, Secretary


WAYNE FLETCHER, Member


JACK HAMILTON, Member