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September 21, 2021

## VIA EMAIL FOLLOWED BY U.S. MAIL

Ravalli County Board of County Commissioners 215 S. 4th Street, Suite A Hamilton, MT 59840 gwiles@rc.mt.gov

Re: Request for Removal of Illegal Encroachments & Obstructions on Hughes Creek Road

## **Dear Commissioners:**

My firm represents the Public Land/Water Access Association. PLWA respectfully requests that the Ravalli County Board of County Commissioners comply with the mandatory provisions of MCA, §§ 7-14-2133 and 7-14-2134 and "immediately" remove the new unlawful gate and other obstructions blocking public access to the Hughes Creek Road. Ravalli County has known since July 2021 of the new gate as well as the felled trees obstructing the original roadbed beyond the new illegal gate (pictures enclosed). With all due respect, the two months that has elapsed has been more than enough time to develop a plan, comply with the law and have these obstructions removed.

If the gate and trees are not removed by <u>October 16, 2021</u>, PLWA will assume that Ravalli County has no intention of performing its clear legal duties under §§ 7-14-2133 and 7-14-2134, MCA to remove the encroachment and obstructions.

Sincerely,

Kyle W. Nelson

KWN:kp Enclosures cc: Dan Huls, Commissioner (Email: dhuls@rc.mt.gov)

Greg Chilcott, Commissioner (Email: <a href="mailto:gchilcott@rc.mt.gov">gchilcott@rc.mt.gov</a>)

Jeff Burrows, Commissioner (Email: jburrows@rc.mt.gov)

Stephen Holton, Ravalli County Sheriff (Email: <a href="mailto:sholton@rc.mt.gov">sholton@rc.mt.gov</a>)

Royce McCarty, Ravalli County Attorney's Office (Email: rmccarty@rc.mt.gov)

Bill Fulbright, Ravalli County Attorney (Email: <u>bfulbright@rc.mt.gov</u>)

Ryan Domsalla, U.S. Forest Service (Email: rdomsalla@fs.fed.us)

Greg Gianforte, Montana Governor (Fax: 406-444-5529)

Austin Knudsen, Montana Attorney General (Email: contactdoj@mt.gov)