



219 Vawter Street Helena MT 59601 406.449.2795

William Avey, Supervisor
Helena and Lewis and Clark National Forest
Helena National Forest
2880 Skyway Drive
Helena, MT 59601

January 2, 2015

Dear Supervisor Avey,

The Helena Hunters and Anglers Association would like to thank you for the action recently taken to address the illegal camp built, maintained and utilized near the south end of Black Hall Meadows. The story was reported in the Helena Independent Record on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2014. Several members of the Helena Hunters and Anglers Association had observed these illegal activities and responded by documenting their occurrence and reporting the suspected violations to the Helena National Forest. We now note with great satisfaction that USFS law enforcement and supervisory personnel brought this issue to a successful conclusion. Your actions on this matter are sincerely appreciated by our organization while strengthening our organization's commitment to working with the USFS to protect the many values found on our national forests.

We realized that the national forest staff people, particularly your law enforcement agents, have a difficult task spread across a large and diverse landscape. We also recognize that much, if not most, of their time is spent addressing questionable human behavior on the public estate. Thus I would like to share with you and them a story of human behavior on the national forest of a more positive nature. The attached letter, written to Theodore Roosevelt IV, relates an event that occurred during the hunting season of 2013. It occurred within sight of the trail that was used to access the illegal camp near Black Hall Meadows. The letter to Roosevelt was part of our communication with the family associated with the induction of former President Theodore Roosevelt into the Montana Outdoor Hall of Fame. We hope you will share this letter and the one attached with officer Tony Fedele and other USFS law enforcement personnel as a way of reminding us all of the many positive experiences occurring on America's public lands. They are experiences that can and do occur because those who would violate our relationship with our last wild places are being brought to justice.

Please accept the sincere thank you of the Helena Hunters and Anglers Association for your action on the Black Hall Meadow Case.

Jim Posewitz, Secretary
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