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First name: Brad

Last name: Coutant

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 223 Wyoming Ave.

Address2:

City: Billings

State:

Province/Region: MT

Zip/Postal Code: 59101

Country: United States

Email: bradpatty@bresnan.net

Phone: 4066473084

Comments:

My wife and I hiked in the Chalk Buttes southwest of Ekalaka in mid May. As we climbed the steep buttes and admired the expansive views we discovered a unique environment, startlingly different from the surrounding plains. We saw birch trees, Oregon grape and other species one does not expect to see in arid southeast Montana. We believe this remarkable but fragile area should be kept free of mechanized and motorized recreation and that the Chalk Buttes should be designated as a Backcountry Area.