
From: Craig Merhoff [CMMerhoff1965@outdrs.net]
Sent: Saturday, April 11, 2009 3:18 PM
To: Stockade Block
Cc: Mike Kratochvil
Subject: Draft Stockade Block Area Management Plan from G. Craig Merhoff, MD, FACS

Ms. Nancy Pustis- Eastern Region Manager
Stockade Block AMP
Department of State Lands

Dear Ms. Pustis:

I have just completed reading the Draft Stockade Block Area Management Plan and I find most of it to be well thought out and quite reasonable. What I don't find reasonable is the unprecedented consideration stated on page 35 and continued on page 36 of leasing hunting rights on this 230,000 acres of land which would necessarily exclude the majority of those presently hunting this area. Hunters and other outdoors persons have historically enjoyed unfettered access to this land and no mention is noted of any detrimental activity by these users. Leasing guiding rights is reasonable as long as the guides don't consider the presence of those who either can't afford a guide or who chose to hunt without a guide to be trespassing on "their land". The latter situation is occasionally encountered on other public lands and is to be condemned and I don't think that the DSL would condone such behavior.

Please eliminate the proposed consideration of the leasing of hunting rights from this otherwise very appropriate draft plan before it is finalized so that all sportsmen and women can continue to hunt this area.

Thank you for your consideration.

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