Alterations to boundaries of HD 63

Extend the NE boundary northward to the Battle Ridge Divide, using the Bridger Range on the West as a boundary, the county line on the east. The people who live there are more closely aligned with other residents of Bridger canyon than of Townsend or north-central Gallatin County, on the West of the Bridgers. Voters north of the Battle Ridge divide have more in common with people in Wilsall than most of HD 63 or Radersburg, Winston or Toston. Include them in the legislative voting district that Wilsall is in.

Straighten the SW corner lines. Triple Tree Subdivision is presently divided by a road, leaving residents on the south of the road in HD 70 rather than with their neighbors. Brajenka Lane is also “orphaned” in HD 70, a very odd carve-out. Straightening would put the lane’s voters in HD 63, a logical inclusion.

Straighten the two right angle corners in the SW. This would include dozens of homes in the “Hardin”? subdivision. These peoples’ commercial ties and most of their schools are in Bozeman. They are more similar to the suburban residents of HD 63 than the ranchette, ag, tourism industry and resort residents of HD 70.

In the NW area of the district, straighten the line as show, around Bridger Creek Golf Course. This would encompass two streets whose neighborhood is similar to the neighborhood just across McIlhatten Lane. This line has the virtue of straightening and meeting the contiguous criterion.

These changes take voters from some of the more rapidly growing districts and would probably bring HD 63 (now 8,800 ?) closer to the desired 9,800.
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October 24, 2011

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission;

We are in Mineral County and our District is HD14. French Town is in Missoula County and right outside of Missoula. French Town shops and goes to functions in Missoula. We shop in Mineral County and go to functions in Mineral County. We don't see people from French Town in our area and they don't know us.

When it comes election time it is difficult to do campaigning or fundraising in their area as they don't know us and we don't know them. We don't know their candidates and they don't know ours.

On the map I highlighted in red where we would like to see the new line drawn. I know the population equality has to be met, but maybe we could pull in areas that are more in line with concerns that effect our area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joan Carroll