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Comments:

Dear Supervisor Erickson & the planning team,

My move to Bozeman in 2013 had considerably more to do with Montana's wild places than my graduate school program at MSU. A few months after my arrival, on an early Fall backpacking trip into the Crazies (my first in Montana), I knew for sure that SW Montana was the only place I wanted to be. That weekend- camping near Blue Lake, hiking up around Pear Lake to the summit of Crazy Peak, and sharing a sunset drink with my friends as we exhaustedly reflected on our successful summit bid- I was blown away by the magnificence of this special island range. I have since spent many dozens of weekends exploring the lakes and high peaks of the Crazies and will certainly spend many more.

While I could talk about the Crazies alone all day, I will get to the point.

-I support the maximum available protections for the Crazies, as depicted in Alt D. While I recognize that the checkerboard land ownership of this area makes permanent wilderness designation difficult, I think the wild roadless sections of the Crazies deserve maximal protection.

-I urge the Forest Service to consult with Crow tribal leaders on all current and future decisions related to the Crazies and other places sacred to them.

-I support the Gallatin Forest Partnership's vision for the future of the Gallatin range, and hope to see the GFP's agreement implemented in full in the final forest plan.

-I would like to see increased wilderness protections for the Pryors, including no expansion of motorized or mechanized transport, again with consult from Crow tribal leaders.

-I support the elimination of all non-conforming uses within all WSAs and RWAs across the Forest.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments. I appreciate the opportunity to weigh in as well as the planning team's perseverance throughout this long process.

Best Regards,  
Spencer Bruce