

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 6/5/2019 10:08:06 AM

First name: Lauren

Last name: Burgess

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 1708 Alder Court

Address2:

City: Bozeman

State:

Province/Region: Montana

Zip/Postal Code: 59715

Country: United States

Email: lauren@headwalldigital.com

Phone: 4066904782

Comments:

I'm writing in support of Alternative C. In addition, I support the recommendations from the Winter Wildlands Alliance. And I hope that Montana's native tribes are included throughout the planning process, and their heritage and rights honored.

The idealist in me wishes we could make it all wilderness. Even though I've only lived here thirteen years, not a lifetime, and I don't have the multi-generational perspective of some, I still see the expanding Gallatin Valley and increased pressures from human recreators and resource extraction. And I know the already-threatened wildlife need our protection with great worry. And in addition to the land itself, our watersheds can't support our needs without serious forethought and protection. I wish we could give full capital W Wilderness protection to the whole forest.

But as I take a harder look at the economics of the situation, I believe that our best solution involves a mix of wilderness protections, sustainable recreation, and responsible use. I would love to see a Bozeman which EXPERIENCES and APPRECIATES its wild landscapes, than one which is either 1) closed off from the reality and gratitude which comes from first-person experience or 2) overuses, abuses, and underappreciates the land.

I also understand that a compromise is much more likely to become reality than something that far down one end of the spectrum.

I hope the shared vision and realistic, collaborative, responsible approach of the Gallatin Forest Partnership will be allowed to help form a roadmap for forest management. I love these lands SO much.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and for all your hard work in creating and implementing these forests' future.