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First name: Mark

Last name: Escajeda

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 859 Santa Maria Way

Address2:

City: Lafayette

State: CA

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code: 94549

Country: United States

Email: mark.escajeda@gmail.com

Phone:

Comments:

Please add the entire 230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommended Wilderness as laid out in Alternative D of the Revised Draft Forest Plan.

All motorized and mechanized uses, and any other activities not consistent with wilderness protection, should be prohibited in the Recommended Wilderness areas so as to preserve their wilderness qualities until Congress acts on the wilderness recommendations.

What of administering the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses? The current wilderness management plans allow destructively large groups of up to 25 head of stock (horses and mules) and 15 people in most areas. As you may be aware, research shows that impacts increase significantly when group-sizes exceed eight head of stock and 12 people. The Forest Service should reduce group size limits accordingly so as to protect all Wildernesses on the forest from harm. Further, the forest plan should put an end to ecologically destructive fish stocking in naturally fishless wilderness lakes, which significantly alters the areas' natural conditions. Let fish figure it out.

The plan must address the issue of human and pack animal feces contamination of lakes and streams on the Beartooth Plateau in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. Eliminating fish stocking would likely go a long way toward solving this problem, but additional measures must be included if needed.