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Comments:

FW: [Website feedback] The Gallatin Range

-----Original Message-----

From: admin@example.gov [mailto:admin@example.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 3:14 PM

To: FS-Webmaster <webmaster@fs.fed.us>

Subject: [Website feedback] The Gallatin Range

lisa simonin (not verified) (reachinglisa@yahoo.com) sent a message using the contact form at <http://www.fs.fed.us/about-agency/contact-us>.

Message

Hello,

Encompassing more than three million acres, the Custer Gallatin National Forest in Montana is a stronghold for iconic wildlife species like grizzly bears, gray wolves, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, and moose, which are very sensitive to human disturbance and development, and are teetering on the brink. This isn't new news. I support the wilderness recommendations in Alternative D of the Revised Draft Forest Plan; however, they must be improved by adding the entire

230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommend Wilderness in the final forest plan.

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

The draft plan has little direction for administering the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses. The current wilderness management plans allows destructively large groups of up to 25 head of stock (horses and mules) and

15 people in most areas. 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. This can permanently upset the Eco balance.

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.

I wanted to show the importance of the WILD in Gallatin Range. Given the course of climate change, the recent Earth day and all the ways people are damaging the planet, here is a way to make amends and help a global situation. Thank you for the consideration.