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First name: Kirsten

Last name: Gerbatsch

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 909 12th Ave

Address2:

City: Helena

State:

Province/Region: MT

Zip/Postal Code: 59601

Country: United States

Email: k.gerbatsch@gmail.com

Phone: 4069269099

Comments:

I live in Helena, but spend half my time in Livingston with my partner and I am an avid outdoor recreationist: hiking, mountain biking, and back country skiing. I am a member of the Winter Wildlands Alliance I support the Gallatin Forest Partnership Agreement and would like to see it adopted into the final plan.

I support the Wilderness recommendations in Alternative C with the exception of the Lionhead, which should be managed as a non-motorized Backcountry Area. I would like to see the rugged roadless lands to the west of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness - Chico Peak, Emigrant Peak, and Dome Mountain - recommended for Wilderness and we support a non-motorized backcountry designation for the Lionhead. I ski in these mountains up Emigrant and Chico almost every week. It is special country and deserves wilderness protections.

I support designating the Recreation Emphasis Areas identified in Alternative E, but ask that the Bridger Winter Recreation Emphasis Area be expanded north to Fairy Lake.

The revised plan should include an objective to begin winter travel planning on the Custer portion of the forest within 1 year of completing forest plan revision. The winter ROS maps in the final forest plan must show desired future conditions reflecting where over-snow vehicles are ecologically, socially, and physically suitable, and not simply map where snowmobiles are currently allowed.

The Forest Service should monitor wildlife populations across the forest, particularly in areas with high human use, and adapt recreation management as necessary to protect wildlife.

Thank you for considering my comments as a local constituent.