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Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Revised Forest Plan - CGNF. I first traveled to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem in 1989, less than one year after the YNP and GYE fires in 1988. My family and I returned each year until moving to Bozeman, Montana in 2014. I have always been attracted to the CGNF and surrounding landscapes because it exemplifies a relatively intact ecosystem. Ecosystems of this magnitude and quality are extremely rare in North America and beyond. My family and I have participated in a variety of outdoor activities that are supported by the CGNF area under review including: floating river and lakes use, hiking, mountain biking, fishing, backpacking, car camping, bird watching, wildlife watching, etc.

There is an grand opportunity with this plan revision to protect this landscape that will have regional, national and international impacts on quality of life, watershed protection, wildlife protection and positive climate change impact.

I support Option D for its' effect of preserving the greatest area by limiting motorized use, promoting water quality, protecting critical and valuable wildlife populations. Likewise, Option D has the greatest ability to combat climate change impacts. As an avid mountain bike enthusiast, previous off-road motorcycle owner I understand well that Option D provides plenty of opportunities for mechanized travel outside of the designated wilderness areas. It is not well known by the general public, or mechanized travel enthusiasts that 95% of public lands are open to motorized and mechanized travel and less than 2.7% of the loser 48 states are designated wilderness.

Option D provides the greatest protection for endangered animal and plant species. Wildlife migration routes are vital to the ecosystem function and Option D is by far the best tool for ensuring this.

I moved to Montana, my friends from out-of-state and the public in general are motivated to live and visit here because a relatively intact ecosystem exists. Option D presents the opportunity of generation to protect the value of wildlife, water, flora and climate. Options A, B, C and E fall short of the management and protection this ecosystem deserves.

Respectfully,

Mark Momberg