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Comments:

Comment on Custer Gallatin Forest Plan DEIS

The Forest Service failed to provide a "No Action" alternative.

The Forest Service failed to provide a "Preferred" alternative. - WHY?

Page 79, Table 15, Lands suitable for timber production of approximately 500 to 600 thousand acres while annual treatment acres on page 81, alternatives B, C, D and E reflect a mere 5 to 8 thousand acres treated annually. This very limited amount of treatment (<1% of suitable) will never effectively treat what is needed.

Page 79 and 80 of the DEIS states: "Both the projected wood sale quantity and the projected timber sale quantity are limited by the projected fiscal capability...[hellip]". The DEIS failed to include mention of an increased capacity based on the statutory appropriation of the Montana Legislature to the Good Neighbor Authority which will increase funding for planning and implementation of timber sales and increased sale quantities. I request the Forest Service increase projected timber sale quantities based on the State's contribution to this effort.

Additional comments written on postcard - This GNA authority is a great new cooperative tool to be recognized and accelerated by the USFS. It is approved by Congress and Montana Legislature, it needs to be used and implemented to be viable and successful! This is a good place to start on the CGNF Forest Plan, DEIS, Thank you.

Joel A. Nelson Retired Forester

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