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Comments:

I recommend Alternative D of the draft forest plan, with the suggested improvements outlined below. I believe this would offer the best protection for the Gallatin Range and other critical wildlife habitat across the Custer Gallatin National Forest.

1. Limit group size to 8 stock and 12 people
2. Regulate human and pack animal feces contamination of lakes and streams on the Beartooth Plateau in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness
3. Eliminate fish stocking
4. Eliminate vacant grazing allotments
5. Eliminate trail construction or reconstruction in the currently trailless areas of the Absaroka Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses
6. Include the entire 230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommend Wilderness in the final forest plan
7. Prohibit all motorized and mechanized uses, and any other activities not consistent with wilderness protection.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.