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Comments:

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Dear Custer-Gallatin Revision team,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Custer-Gallatin National Forest plan revision. You will notice that my comments below favor wildlife, wild country, and slow human-powered recreation. Given the global increase in human population and mounting pressure on our wild public lands, it is more important than ever that we protect core habitat as well as the lands that connect that core habitat. We must not prioritize more trails, recreation and extraction at the cost of our last remaining wild country. Thank you for considering these comments and for the bold choices that you will make in this important revision process.

Protect the Crazy Mountains to preserve their wilderness values and manage the area in close consultation with the Crow Nation. I ask that Alternative D protections be applied to the larger boundaries of Alternative C to fully protect the Crazies. This means no additional roads, trails, development, energy leases, mining and off road vehicle traffic should be allowed.

I fully support the adoption and implementation of the Gallatin Forest Partnership agreement that is reflected in Alternative C. This includes the Hyalite-Porcupine-Buffalo Horn WSA, as well as the Cowboy Heaven and Quake Lake area.

The Lionhead area should remain recommended wilderness. This means selecting the No-Action Alternative A. I encourage Forest Service leaders not to allow decades of mismanagement lead to the loss of recommended wilderness. This 22,800 acre area is as wild today as it was in the 1980's when it was first recommended by managers. It is not impossible, or too late, to protect this area. Instead, the forest plan revision offers an opportunity to do what should have been done long ago, maintain wilderness character and the potential for future designation for the Lionhead. Rather than letting this precious wild country go, it is time for a strong back and to do what is right. Demonstrate to the public that the Custer-Gallatin does not give up on its wild country.

In the Pryor Mountains the wild character and cultural significance of Bear Canyon, Big Pryor, and the Punch Bowl should be protected and managed as recommended Wilderness, as reflected in Alternative D. The existing Lost Water Canyon Recommended Wilderness area should also be expanded to 13,000 acres. These four areas are not suitable for motorized recreation and mechanized recreation, both of which degrade the wilderness quality of the areas and threaten irreplaceable cultural values.

In the Absaroka Beartooth I support retaining all the existing lands adjacent to the AB as recommended Wilderness and additionally recommending Dome Mountain, Emigrant Peak, Chico Peak, Woodbine, East Rosebud to Stillwater, and Red Lodge Creek as reflected in Alternative D.

I support managing the Tongue River Breaks, King Mountain, and Cook Mountain in the Ashland district as recommended Wilderness

I support managing recommended Wilderness just like designated Wilderness, allowing only foot and horse travel in recommended Wilderness and not allowing any mechanized or motorized use. Over and over again

wilderness lands have been lost in our state after non-conforming uses have become established (potential example: Lionhead area). Lets not repeat old mistakes, and instead protect the real potential for future wilderness designation.

Thank you again for considering these comments.