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Comments:

I support the wilderness recommendations in Alternative D of the Revised Draft Forest Plan; however, they must be improved by adding the entire 230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommended Wilderness in the final forest plan. The following three points also expand on the importance for the wild Gallatin Range.

The plan should prohibit all motorized and mechanized uses, in the Recommended Wilderness areas so as to preserve their wilderness qualities until Congress acts on the wilderness.

The draft plan has little direction for administering the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses. The Forest Service should reduce group size limits to protect all Wildernesses on the forest from harm. Further, the forest plan should put an end to ecologically destructive fish stocking in naturally fishless wilderness lakes, which significantly alters the areas' natural conditions.

If these areas are to remain Wilderness, the plan must address the issue of human and pack animal waste and contamination of lakes and streams. I was taught and follow a simple rule--bring it in, pack it out.