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First name: Linda

Last name: Tanner

Organization: no company

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 1692 County Road 818

Address2:

City: Black

State: MO

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code: 63625

Country: United States

Email: lnda2lnda@yahoo.com

Phone: 5732694415

Comments:

Alternative D is the only option that will offer the best protection for the 711,000 acres of wilderness, and more.

The draft plan is vague and ambiguous regarding administering the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses. The current wilderness management plans allows destructively large groups of up to 25 head of stock (horses and mules) and 15 people in most areas. The impacts from such large groups are not acceptable.

Further, fish stocking in naturally fishless wilderness lakes alters that ecosystem and any amphibian tadpoles are up for grabs by introduced fish.

The issue of human and pack animal feces contamination of lakes and stream needs to be addressed.

Grazing allotments now vacant in the Wildernesses should be closed so these areas can return to a wild condition.

There should be no trail construction or reconstruction in the currently trailless areas of the Absaroka Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses. This provides remote areas for wildlife as well as premier areas for solitude.

I strongly suggest the wilderness recommendations in Alternative D of the Revised Draft Forest Plan; but the recommendations must include adding the entire 230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommend Wilderness in the final forest plan.

Regarding the wild Gallatin Range, the plan should prohibit all motorized and mechanized uses, and any other activities not consistent with wilderness protection, in the Recommended Wilderness areas so as to preserve their wilderness qualities until Congress acts on the wilderness recommendations.