

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 6/4/2019 3:08:20 PM

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Hi Folks,

I wanted to give my small bit of input on the proposed alternatives. In case you don't know me or didn't catch the name of the commenter I work in trails and recreation on the Bozeman District. I feel like those of us who work and play on the National Forest have a little different perspective on things but I feel like my input applies to both my personal and professional feelings.

Overall I like much of what I see in alternative C. The spirit of compromise that is reflected in this alternative is often what I find to be lacking from many of the user groups who I work with. My only concern with this is that it is a very complex proposal with many different designations and layers of protections. From a work perspective this can complicate decision making and planning efforts but that is part of our job to deal with these complicated decisions.

My real issue is from the perspective of a Forest visitor. Trying to make sense of a very complicated plan can make it difficult for one to interpret rules and regulations as well as understand what these designations mean to me as a Forest visitor. I began working on the Bozeman District right at the end of our travel planning process and I have seen first hand how a very complicated plan can make it hard for the general public to make sense of rules and regulations. The more complicated that we make things might make sense for those of us who work and study these plans all the time but the average person doesn't really stand a chance.

I guess in the end this is just a very long winded effort to say that my input is to keep it simple. I think we all agree that those of us who are tasked with managing the forest will always try and do what we feel is in the best interest of the resource, even if there are not multiple layers of protections piled on top of each other. The real benefit of simplicity is given to those who can't or won't put forth the time to study these plans and simply want to enjoy their Forests and see them protected.