

To: Forest Service
as a property owner ²⁰¹⁹ ^{Boarding Mt. Park since 1946 in Bridger}
Talking Points and Topics for Forest Service Comments-check Gallatin Wildlife Association website for more; gallatinwildlifeassociation.com
Wilderness:

- Gallatin Range comprises a very important piece of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.
- The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem is the largest essentially intact functioning ecosystem in the temperate zones of the world.
- Gallatin Range contains the last major roadless area in the northern Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and priceless wildlands.
- Need to safeguard key wildlife habitat areas and secure a 40-mile long unbroken habitat link for grizzly bears.
- There is 230,000 of roadless lands that meet the criteria of wilderness character. Anything less would be short changing future generations of the spectacular wildlands for wildlife.
- There is 711,000 of potential wilderness lands that has been set aside in Alternative
D. Some of these lands will be in the Gallatins, Pryors, and other current wilderness areas.

Wildlife:

- Proclaimed by prominent scientists that the Hyalite Porcupine Buffalo Horn Wilderness Study Area (HPH WSA) is renowned for it's wildlife. Species such as elk, grizzly and black bear, wolverine, moose and so many other species inhabit the slopes of the Gallatin Range. — We need to preserve this!
- The Gallatin Range serves as a wildlife corridor and connectivity route for a variety of species who are trying to reach other ecosystems to the north. (Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem)
- Please ask the CGNF to state that the I-90 corridor between Bozeman and Livingston ^{is} as a permeable barrier to wildlife. This relates to wildlife connectivity in order that wildlife can and may move northward without fear of mortality on the interstate.
- There needs to be among the Forest Service the acknowledgement of a greater number of species of conservation concern. Species such as bison, bighorn sheep and others need to be reviewed as meeting this criteria.

Climate Change:

- Wildlife species which require large landscapes need to be able to move in order to fight ill effects of climate change.

With hotter drier weather patterns, will leave more chances for fire. It has been shown that timber harvesting and dries out a forest faster than leaving the forest intact. This could lead to more vegetative changes.

- Wilderness and National Parks are best to sustain an ecosystem when the effects of climate change are factored in.
- Timber harvesting actually increases the release of carbon into the atmosphere enhancing the ill-effects of climate change
- <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/custergallatin/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd482956>

This is very important in my mind & not understood by many people
This also something that is not understood by very many people and is very important to us all.
Thank You for listening! Sonja Berg