Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/1/2018 4:23:28 PM First name: Crista Last name: Abel Organization: Title: Comments: Comment draft plan - CGNF

Mar 1, 2018

Forest Plan Revision Team PO Box 130 Bozeman, MT 59771

Dear Revision Team,

I am writing to comment on the proposed Custer Gallatin National Forest Plan Revision. I urge the Forest Service to prioritize connecting wildlife habitat and to develop management strategies that promote healthy aquatic systems, habitat for wildlife, and reduce human-wildlife conflict.

It is critical that the Forest Service improve habitat and work to reduce human-wildlife conflicts to promote connection between the grizzly bears of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem. Grizzly bears, however are one of many species must move beyond park borders to national forest lands to access food, reach seasonal habitat, and connect with other portions of their population. The plan should provide additional measures to support bison on the national forest as well.

The Forest Service has prioritized wild life in it's plans for many years. I believe that this is one more opportunity to demonstrate the importance of protecting ecosystems that the Forest Service has long understood. Please ensure protections are in place in the Custer Gallatin National Forest Plan to adequately protect and enhance Yellowstone wildlife.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Crista Abel 1175 S 132nd St Gilbert, AZ 85233-8017 (480) 831-1329 abelclan@cox.net