

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/25/2019 4:27:37 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to you to express my support for the wilderness recommendations in Alternative D of the Revised Draft Forest Plan with the following improvements:

- 1) Add the entire 230,000 wild, road less acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommend Wilderness in the final forest plan.
- 2) 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.
- 3) Improve the specifics for administering the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses in the draft plan. For example, 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. Research shows that impacts increase significantly when group-sizes exceed eight head of stock and 12 people. Reduce group size limits to protect all Wildernesses on the forest from harm.
- 4) End all ecologically destructive fish stocking in naturally fishless wilderness lakes, which significantly alters the areas' natural conditions.
- 5)Address the issue of human and pack animal feces contamination of lakes and streams on the Beartooth Plateau in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. Eliminating fish stocking would likely go a long way toward solving this problem, but additional measures must be included if needed.

Thank you for consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Margaret Spak