

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/4/2019 1:43:39 PM

First name: Lalie

Last name: Burns

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The draft plan provides in complete direction for administering the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses. Current wilderness management plans allow destructively large groups of up to 25 head of stock (horses and mules) and 15 people in most areas. Research indicates group-sizes exceeding eight head of stock and 12 people significantly increases negative impacts on wilderness areas. Forest Service enforcement to reduce group size limits accordingly is critical to protect Wildernesses areas. Further, verbiage preventing the ecologically destructive fish stocking in naturally fishless wilderness lakes needs to be added to prohibit introduction of non native species which significantly alters the areas' natural conditions.

Prohibit trail construction or reconstruction in the currently trailless areas of the Absaroka Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses providing remote areas for wildlife as well as premier areas for solitude for humans.

Alternative D of the Revised Draft Forest Plan is moving in the right direction; however, language maintaining the entire 230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Wilderness needs inclusion in the final forest plan.

Prohibit all motorized and mechanized uses, and any other activities not consistent with wilderness protection, in the Recommended Wilderness areas to preserve their wilderness qualities until Congress acts on the wilderness recommendations.