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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Supervisor,

I've been a Wilderness advocate since 1975. Not that being so for so long is of any significance, but what is significant is Wilderness is needed now, more so than ever in Montana. I understand the best science, and the best long term sustainability of these precious resources is to seek meaningful and appropriate designations. With that in mind, please consider the following for Wilderness or Special designation:

- * the 22,800 acres of recommended Wilderness in the Lionhead;
- * the 151,000-acre Hyalite-Porcupine-Buffalo Horn Wilderness Study Area (WSA);
- * the Gallatin Forest Partnership agreement, which is reflected in Alternative C;
- * the protection of the Crazies' wilderness characteristics and cultural significance;
- * the wild character and cultural significance of Bear Canyon, Big Pryor, and the Punch Bowl areas in the Pryor Mountains by managing them as recommended Wilderness, as reflected in Alternative D;
- * the existing Lost Water Canyon Recommended Wilderness area expanded to 13,000 acres as reflected in Alternative D;
- * manage the following places as recommended Wilderness as reflected in Alternative D: Line Creek Plateau (the entirety of the plateau), Red Lodge Creek-Hellroaring Plateau, North Fork, Strawberry Creek, Chico Peak, Emigrant Peak, and Dome Mountain;
- * manage Bad Canyon as a Backcountry area with no mechanized and motorized recreation as proposed in Alternative B;
- * the Tongue River Breaks, King Mountain, and Cook Mountain all remain off-limits to motorized recreation, while still allowing ranchers the option to use ATVs to administer essential components of their permits, as reflected in Alternative C;
- * the Sioux Ranger District be managed as a "backcountry area" prohibiting motorized and mechanized recreation, as reflected in Alternative D; and
- * adopt clear standards that prohibit non-conforming uses in RWAs.

215 years ago, no one could have predicted where we are today and what has become of the culture and the landscape. 215 from now, we have no idea what will be needed and what will be missed. Perhaps the best we can do is manage what we can towards a fully functioning ecosystem. If we are going to err, let us err toward restraint. If we are planning, let us plan in a way the past can be proud of and the future will cherish. In this regards, do the least harm, promote the greatest biodiversity.

Thank you for all you do.

Best regards,