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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I would like to thank the Forest Service for all of the work that has gone into the Forest Plan. I was especially excited to see that the Forest Plan includes the following:

Maintaining the primitive character and management of the roadless areas in the Ashland Ranger District (Tongue River Breaks, King Mountain, and Cook Mountain). Expansion of recommended wilderness in Lost Water Canyon and the addition of Bear Canyon in the Pryor Mountains. Incorporating many elements of the Gallatin Forest Partnership, including recommended wilderness for the Gallatin Range. Ensuring recommended wilderness will be managed without non-conforming uses. Recommended wilderness in the Crazy Mountains and recognition of the area as important to the Crow Tribe..

Statement of issues and/or parts of the plan revision to which the objection applies:

My objections apply to the following issues in the Custer Gallatin Land Management Plan:

Cowboy Heaven (MG-CHBCA)

Crazy Mountains Backcountry Area (BC-CMBCA)

South Crazy Mountain Recommended Wilderness

Chalk Buttes Backcountry Area (SX-CBBCA)

Pryor Mountains BCAs

Elimination of recommended Wilderness, including Lionhead

Hyalite area (MG-HREA)

Concise statements explaining the objection and suggestions on how the proposed plan should be improved:

Cowboy Heaven (MG-CHBCA):

I strongly object to Cowboy Heaven not being recommended for Wilderness. I see too much of our beautiful areas not being preserved leading to disaster for the future of our wilderness and wildlife our eco system and our future for these areas are in great danger and cannot go back to what they are now . They need to be preserved for our future and for the enjoyment of all. Reality is \$ talks and all can be destroyed and lost forever. Money and buying power of big corporations is sad and the thought they don't care about our environment and resources and the wilderness is sad. Humans are our worst enemy. We need to preserve what we can before it's too late Please

incorporate this important element of the Gallatin Forest Partnership Agreement by recommending Cowboy Heaven for wilderness in the final plan.

Crazy Mountains:

We need to protect our wilderness, wildlife and land before it's too late. The proposed Backcountry Area should be modified to prohibit mechanized use. There are no existing mountain bike trails in this area and leaving the door open for the trails to become designated down the road only invites conflict where there doesn't need to be any. Sorry to say but people don't respect the wilderness and wildlife like they should. This being said there are many that do not enjoy the beauty but destroy these things I feel very strongly that the area should include a suitability component similar to the Bad Canyon backcountry area: The backcountry area is not suitable for mechanized transport, except use of game carts.

I would also like to see the Crazies BCA expanded east to include sections 4, 22, 26, and 34. If the proposed East Crazy Mountains land swap goes through, this will be a contiguous area and should be managed consistently with the adjacent backcountry area.

I was extremely pleased to see the Crazies receive some recommended wilderness protection. While I wish it was much bigger, I understand that there are many interests Supervisor Erickson is balancing. However, I ask that the South Crazy Mountains recommended wilderness be expanded east. That would help to make a larger contiguous recommended wilderness area.

Chalk Buttes:

The Chalk Buttes are another important place where I would like to see improved language in the backcountry area plan components. We need to preserve the land the environment, wildlife and think of the future of our ecosystem. People do not have the respect they should for the beauty God gave us. Similar to the Crazy Mountains, there are no existing designated mountain bike trails here. The Backcountry area should include the following suitability component in order to protect the current wild character of the area: The backcountry area is not suitable for mechanized transport, except use of game carts.

Pryor Mountains:

While I appreciate that recommended wilderness was expanded in Alternative F, I would like to see Punch Bowl and Big Pryor also recommended for wilderness. The Pryor mountain is a big beautiful place visit it often to view the wild horses. I think the Forest service along with the BLM overstep their bounds at times more so the BLM. This is for everyone to enjoy we need to preserve and protect them. The environment has been taking a toll and for the future we need to all work together for what is best. All the wildlife plays an important role in our ecosystem. Who are we to decide to wreck havoc on it. The big corporations think they can buy it, others want to change it. Leave nature alone and enjoy. For these reasons, I request that the Big Pryor and Punch Bowl areas be recommended for wilderness in the final plan.

Elimination of recommended Wilderness:

I was extremely disappointed that the Forest Service decided to eliminate 26,135 acres that had been previously recommended in the 1986 and 1987 plans respectively. I am particularly disappointed to see that the Lionhead recommended wilderness has been eliminated. It should not be the choice of a few to eliminate any wilderness area this is for all of us to enjoy for now and in the future. The environment, wilderness and wildlife needs to remain as safe from destruction. Once this is gone we cannot get it back. Please leave the areas without changing and destroying them. We all need a place of beauty and wildlife to call home for now and in the future. Please consider reincorporating the Lionhead, Burnt Mountain, Republic, Mystic, and Line Creek Plateau as recommended wilderness in the new plan. It is important that we continue to protect these areas as recommended wilderness because the wilderness character has not changed there since they were recommended in the old plans.

Hyalite:

I encourage the Forest Service to fully implement the Gallatin Forest Partnership agreement, including key elements of the agreement that would protect Hyalite. Currently the plan doesn't offer any protection for the South Cottonwood Area or Mount Blackmore. Once areas are open up it becomes easier to access and control. The environment has taken a toll already the wilderness and wildlife needs to be preserved and corporations need to not think they can buy up every thing. They don't care what happens now and in the future. We need to do what we can to protect and defend the areas in the proposal for now and in the future. It is important that these areas receive protection as the Gallatin Forest Partnership recommends.

In addition, I would like to see the Hyalite Recreation Emphasis area include the standard that was in Alternative C in the DEIS: Construction of new motorized trails shall not be allowed. It is very important that we ensure that the motorized footprint does not continue to expand because of the impact it has on the opportunity for high quality recreation for other users. There is plenty of motorized opportunity in Hyalite as is. Please include this important standard to ensure that Hyalite continues to be a place where users of all types can have high quality recreation experiences.

Please listen to the people and do what they want to enjoy the landscape for the future

Statement demonstrating the link between objection and prior formal comments:

I submitted a comment on the draft plan and draft EIS last spring. While I appreciate that many things I supported are included in the final plan, my objections speak to those priorities from my prior comments that were not included. Thank you for considering these objections that I believe could significantly improve the final plan.