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Comments: I strongly urge the Custer Gallatin to withdraw the SPLAT.

Here are my concerns as an avid visitor, backcountry hiker and photographer of Yellowstone National Park for over 30 years:

World class scenic views and visitors hiking the trails along the Continental Divide will be harmed with this proposed project. It will degrade the silence that so many seek in the park!

We have so few truly "wild" and undeveloped areas in our country. Yellowstone National Park was set aside to be that. More roads should be removed - not built - to provide secure habitat for grizzly bear, moose, and elk, and reduce sediment running into creeks and rivers in Hebgen Basin.

Cumulatively logging over 20,000 acres of habitat and building 71 miles of roads - the equivalent of building a road from West Yellowstone to Ennis, Montana - is a major action and significant long-term harm to wildlife, soils, and water quality.

The Custer Gallatin's analysis - stating that cumulatively logging nearly 32 square miles of habitat and building 71 miles of road on the South Plateau and North Hebgen is somehow beneficial to wildlife species - doesn't fool ANYONE!

As such, an Environmental Impact Statement is required to provide the public an analysis responsive to the significant ecological impacts expected from the Custer Gallatin's logging and road building projects.

Wildlife biologists need to evaluate how logging, building roads, and prescribing fire near highways in Hebgen Basin effects migratory buffalo.

The size, degree, and duration of the Custer Gallatin's logging and road building projects impairs the resiliency for wildlife species and the ecosystem in Hebgen Basin.

Fire can be beneficial for habitat in the range of migratory buffalo, but it needs to be used in a manner that doesn't draw buffalo or any wildlife onto or across highways.

The Custer Gallatin NEEDS to conduct an Environmental Impact Statement of all logging and road building underway and planned in Hebgen Basin, including in the South Plateau and North Hebgen.