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Comments: I am alarmed by the U.S. Forest Service's South Plateau Landscape Area Treatment Project (SPLAT) proposal to bulldoze 56 miles of roads into the Hebgen Basin-one of the few places our buffalo are allowed to roam in their too narrow range. Their calving grounds and winter range in Custer Gallatin are also threatened with plans to bulldoze 15 miles of roads and almost 9 sq. miles of logging.

It seems the U.S. Forest Service can't log the bison's limited range fast enough before they are granted protections under the Endangered Species Act and ignores the impact on animals who are already recognized as Threatened under the ESA such as grizzlies, lynx, and wolverines.

No wonder we're seeing drastic declines in our wildlife. We are destroying and degrading their habitat at an alarming rate thanks to proposals like this SPLAT. It doesn't even mention the impact this will have on bison in the Forest Service's documentation for this proposal! Intense logging, burning and miles of new roads won't have any significant effect on wildlife in the Yellowstone ecosystem?! Doesn't federal law require an EIS on projects of this size and impact? It seems the Forest Service is tripping over itself to serve the timber industry instead of its stated mission to maintain healthy, viable forests.

Proposing prescribed burns near busy roads which will attract bison to feed on spring growth will subject them and motorists to even more fatal encounters.

The Forest Service's puzzling claim that logging nearly 32 square miles of habitat and building 71 miles of road on the South Plateau and North Hebgen is beneficial to wildlife is false and cannot be supported by science.

This proposal (SPLAT) is shocking in its brazenness, size, and lack of scientific integrity. It requires a serious EIS. Better yet, it requires withdrawal of SPLAT by the U.S. Forest Service.