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Title:

Comments: I attended the excellent Forest Service presentation in Bozeman on 11/15/22. It is obvious that a tremendous amount of work has gone into developing this proposal. While no group gets everything they want, the overall proposal will improve access to mountain recreation in the Crazy Mountains and Big Sky region. The creation of a large contiguous public lands area in the Crazies with a well developed loop trail will be a big improvement. The permissive use of the Sweetgrass Creek Road will still be an option on request to private landowners. I understand elk hunters' concerns about loss of lower elevation habitat in the trade although hunting on these parcels can be problematic due to the current checkerboard ownership pattern. On balance, this swap with new trail development will be a plus for the area and will increase low impact use by hikers, backpackers and horse packers. Hopefully we can move ahead with making this proposal a reality.