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Comments: I oppose the proposed "fuel break" projects on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest known as the Buttermilk and Basin Cataract Project and the Georgetown Fuel Break Project.

As with many logging projects in our national forests, these projects are misleadingly presented as beneficial to the public. The beneficiary of the proposed removal of trees facilitated by the Forest Service under the guise of the euphemism "fuel break projects" will be timber companies at the expense of wildlife, their habitat, American taxpayers, and people around the world suffering from the accelerating effects of climate change exacerbated by emissions from massive logging projects such as these.

The proposed "fuel break" projects violate the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) because they are not fuel management projects within 1.5 miles of communities at-risk as required by law. They also violate the Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

Also, the use of a CE (categorical exclusion) is inappropriate for these "fuel breaks" because the proposed projects will impose permanent conditions on the landscape that will have significant permanent adverse impacts on wildlife including but not limited to raptors such as the goshawk, Cooper's hawk, and the great gray owl among others.

Do not allow these projects to go forward.