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Comments: I studied forestry and wildlife management at Colorado State University, and served for 37 years as a national park ranger, including as resource management specialist at Yellowstone. The myth that unnatural fuel buildup exacerbated the 1988 Yellowstone fires has been debunked by forest scientists, but has been the Forest Service's mantra for decades, and has been propagated to justify all manner of forest destruction. It is time to reverse course, and protect our forests from chainsaw and bulldozer, to allow them to function as watershed stabilizers, carbon sequesters, and wildlife habitat. Biodiversity, which we are losing at a frightening rate, depends on maintaining natural processes that are impeded by "harvesting" primitive forests. I have enjoyed many hikes and nordic ski outings in the Gallatins. I have also witnessed impacts on nordic skiing due to removal of trees that formerly captured and held snow, to the detriment of the experience. Please discard the time worn paradigm of "get out the cut," and accept your responsibility to manage our forests for their many services they provide, and recognize them as communities, not commodities.