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First name: Sam

Last name: Anon

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for taking public comment. The proposed project and scope of the land involved are problematic for numerous reasons. Firstly, it's obvious the primary goal is commercial logging, which is destroying the last of our few natural wilderness areas. The area is protected, as 71% of the proposed area is under special conservation designations, including the Wild and Scenic River area. Given that the proposed project would impact 40 miles of land along highway 2, the protected river corridor would certainly be negatively impacted. Also rather redundant to reduce fuels there when the highway already serves the purpose of a fire break. Secondly, I ask that a public meeting be held with thorough visual representations of the proposed treatment types when the draft EA is released. Thirdly, I am seriously concerned about the disturbance to the now nearly uninterrupted wildlife corridor from the wilderness area into GNP, which would severely harm the local wildlife who depend on this habitat and shelter, including the grizzly bear, and critical habitat for bull trout, a threatened species. Fourthly, the old growth forests are nonrenewable, and offer stability to local and global climate; if these trees are logged or their surrounding area is disturbed, there will be secondary effects that will contribute to further environmental degradation, including potentially exacerbating wildfires. Finally, please consider the importance of roadless areas remaining roadless; the removal of the forest will certainly bring authorized and unauthorized access, which around here most commonly results in human-caused forest fires, whether by accident or intention.

Our wild and scenic lands are the reason people come to Montana, if this prime tourist attraction is destroyed, it will be a major economic loss for the state. People are already boycotting coming here due to the culture and history of ecocide; let's not give them another reason.

Please consider logging young tree farms, if necessary, and respectfully, do not touch our beautiful, life-giving wilderness areas. We all depend on them.