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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my adamant opposition to the proposed timber sale in Jardine, Montana. This project is a fundamental miscalculation of land management and a direct threat to the integrity of this designated wilderness area.

Infrastructure and Socioeconomic Strain:

The town of Gardiner is already at its breaking point. Our current infrastructure-roads, emergency services, housing, and basic utilities-is already heavily taxed by peak-season tourism and ongoing regional contracts. Introducing a large-scale logging operation would cripple the community's ability to function. The project fails to account for the lack of local housing for crews or the impact of heavy equipment on roads that are already high-maintenance.

Mischaracterization of Land Use:

The claim that this project is "forest health" or "selective cutting" is a thin veil for industrial-scale destruction. This area was designated for protection because it is a vital ecosystem, not a resource for extraction. If the goal is truly "cleaning up" the forest, there are low-impact methods that do not involve wiping out large swaths of timber or destroying the wilderness character of the region.

Public Opposition and Legal Standing:

The local community is unified in this stance: this project is neither wanted nor sustainable. We are prepared to utilize every legal and administrative avenue available to protect this forest. We will stand as a permanent obstacle to this project until it is terminated.

Conclusion:

Stay out of Jardine. Stay out of our forest. This project must be halted immediately.