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Comments: I urge the Helena Ranger District to extend the public comment period for the Blue Copper Project Draft Environmental Assessment and to hold at least one public hearing before comments close. This is a large and complex mineral exploration proposal on public lands near Helena, with serious potential impacts to water, wildlife, habitat connectivity, recreation, nearby communities, and the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail. The public needs more time to meaningfully review the proposal and understand its consequences, especially because important analysis and consultation appear to still be incomplete. A public hearing is also necessary so residents, landowners, hunters, anglers, businesses, and other affected members of the public can hear directly from agency staff and ask questions. A mining project of this scale should not move forward without a fair and accessible opportunity for informed public participation. Because the Helena Ranger District is responsible for the on-the-ground stewardship of these public lands and for ensuring meaningful public involvement in decisions affecting them, it should provide the public with more time and an accessible public hearing before moving forward. These are our public lands after all, and this is your job. Thank you.