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Comments:

Dear Plan Revision Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I anticipate further comment on behalf of myself and members of my group, Great Old Broads for Wilderness.

At this time I wish to suggest that there are certain recreational uses of the Forest that preclude other legitimate uses by recreationists. To be precise, our opinion is that development of airstrips and commercial air activity in the Range would prevent opportunities for solitude by 'quiet' recreationists such as hikers, backpackers, hunters and fishermen/women. The loud and distracting nature of overhead flights is not compatible with the wilderness experience as sought after by people on foot, who make significant efforts to achieve an experience of natural wonder and solitude. Likewise, for those in winter who trek in by snowshoe or ski, snowmobile or snow-bike travel not only impacts the opportunity for a reflective experience to enjoy solitude and scenic beauty, but the motorized tracks disrupt backcountry trails' footprint and likely scare away whatever wildlife might have been in the area.

These motorized, mechanized recreational uses not only disrupt other (quiet) users, but more importantly, the fragile balance necessary to support wildlife in winter settings can be interrupted, with far-reaching effects for survival of species dependent on what little habitat is left for them.

In general, then, we oppose any accommodation for air travel, and support re-routing of trails like the Big Sky Snowmobile Trail, out of grizzly bear recovery zones, and over to already-developed road corridors in the Gallatin Canyon.

Thank you.