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First name: David

Last name: Harrison

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 585 Washington St S

Address2:

City: Salem

State: OR

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code: 97302

Country: United States

Email: HARRIRAD@YAHOO.COM

Phone: 5035851243

Comments:

I worked in Yellowstone in college and backpacked throughout the park and in surrounding national forests. I support the wilderness recommendations in Alternative D of the Revised Draft Forest Plan. However, I would like to see them improved by adding all 230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommended Wilderness in the final forest plan. The plan should prohibit all motorized and mechanized uses in the Recommended Wilderness areas so as to preserve their wilderness qualities until Congress acts on the wilderness recommendations. The plan should also address the issue of contamination of lakes and streams on the Beartooth Plateau by human and animal waste. Stopping the practice of fish stocking would probably help improve this problem, though additional measures may be needed. Finally, the size of groups allowed in the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wilderness areas should be limited to 8 stock and 12 people to protect them from adverse impacts. Thank you for considering my input.