

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 4/25/2019 2:52:52 PM

First name: Candace

Last name: Anon

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1:

Address2:

City:

State:

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code:

Country: United States

Email: cmcvolz@yahoo.com

Phone:

Comments:

I support the wilderness recommendations in Alternative D of the Revised Draft Forest Plan, but please improve them by adding all 230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommended Wilderness in the final forest plan. The following four points also expand on the importance of the wild Gallatin Range:

1) Prohibit all motorized and mechanized uses, and any other activities not consistent with wilderness protection, in the Recommended Wilderness areas to preserve their wilderness qualities until Congress acts on the wilderness recommendations;

2) The draft plan has little direction for administering the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses. The current wilderness management plans allow destructively large groups of up to 25 head of stock (horses and mules) and 15 people in most areas. Research shows that impacts increase significantly when group sizes exceed eight head of stock and 12 people. The Forest Service should reduce group size limits accordingly to protect all Wilderness and the forests from harm;

3) Additionally, the forest plan should put an end to ecologically destructive fish stocking in naturally fishless wilderness lakes, which, along with the waste products from fish stocking, would significantly alter the lakes' natural conditions;

4) The plan must address the issue of human and pack animal feces contamination of lakes and streams on the Beartooth Plateau in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. Eliminating fish stocking would likely go a long way toward solving this problem, but additional measures must be included.