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Comments:

The Gallatin Watershed Council (GWC) was established in 2004 to support the sustainability and health of the Lower Gallatin Watershed through collaborative partnerships, community education, restoration efforts, and individual empowerment. We bring together our community's diverse interests and work towards purposeful, practical usage and stewardship of healthy watershed resources, today and tomorrow.

GWC commends the community outreach and collaborative approach that the agency has taken in revising the Custer Gallatin Forest Plan. GWC is supportive of water-related recommendations listed in the Gallatin Forest Partnership Agreement including efforts to:

? Maintain and enhance the ecological health of headwaters streams in the Gallatin Range.

? Identify, protect and enhance riparian areas, streambeds and water resources that provide native fish spawning and wildlife habitat.

? Identify and protect source-water needs for the Gallatin Watershed prioritizing the use of green infrastructure and conservation to meet future needs.

? Restore riparian areas and wetlands utilizing best management practices in restoration and enhancement projects.

? Collaborate with other entities for on the ground stewardship and education