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Comments:

Alternative D is the only alternative that will stop mineral extraction in the Stillwater Complex. At this time, there is NO need for any mineral extraction in this region. This alone, makes alternative D the only viable choice in my opinion.

However, there are other issues that Alternative D also addresses and meets the needs of inhabitants- specifically grizzly bears. The Grizzly Bear Recovery Zone needs to cover the whole national forest, so needs to include all of Absaroka Beartooth, Bangtail, Bridger, Crazy Mountains, Gallatin, and Henry's Lake forest regions. Native American Indians should have more input on the management of the grizzly bears in this region-well any region-as they were 1. here first; 2. have a spiritual connection to grizzly bears; and 3. have better management ideas than most Eurasian/Caucasian people in the United States of America.

Having spent many years roaming the Absarokas and Beartooths, more protected regions as in wilderness designations are needed to prevent all out carnage and destruction. Motorized vehicles of course are not to be a part of these wilderness areas but even more importantly no mountain bikes either!

Not only did I live in Sunlight Basin summers from 1967-1972; I also lived at Clay Butte Fire Tower in the early 1980s. I have been fortunate to hike much of the backcountry of the Clarks Fork District west of Sunlight Basin and north of Clay Butte into Montana and the Gallatin Forest. I have had more than one encounter with grizzly bears-none disastrous, none endangering them or myself, but just enough to keep my heart racing and my senses alert. More than one night was spent in a tent wondering if I might end up as food for a bear. BUT I would not change those fearful nights at all. The goats, the elk, the moose, all add to the beauty of the forests, but the grizzly bears keep me humble and alert.

Please do not decrease the wildness of the Gallatin Forest by choosing any other alternative than D.

Thank you.