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Comments:

Protecting wild places is more important now than ever. Land is being cleared and drained for development, farming, and fossil fuels at a rate that is unsustainable for species to survive. Custer Gallatin National Forest in Montana is home to iconic wildlife species such as grizzly bears, gray wolves, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, and moose, which are very sensitive to human disturbance and development, and are teetering on the brink. For us and for future generations, we must protect the wild places that remain. For these reasons, please change your draft forest management plan to include:

- \* Stop fish stocking in lakes that are naturally fishless

- \* Close vacant grazing allotments in the Wilderness so they can return to their natural wild condition.

- \* Prohibit all motorized and mechanized uses to preserve the wilderness qualities.

- \* Prohibit trail construction or reconstruction in the currently trailless areas of the Absaroka Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses.

- \* I recommend Alternative D of the Revised Draft Forest Plan, with the addition of keeping all 230,000 wild and roadless acres as Recommended Wilderness in the final forest plan.