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Comments:

The Custer Gallatin National Forest is home to a plethora of mammal species that are sensitive to human disturbance and that, nationwide, see their habitats shrinking due to encroaching development. The proposed development in the northern Gallatin Range would be detrimental to the wildlife there, including the continuity of their ability to move freely from place to place. Recommendations in Alternative D of the draft forest plan would be best suited to protect the Gallatin Range as well as all the other wildlife habitat throughout the Custer Gallatin National Forest, but must also include the addition of the entire 230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommended Wilderness.. Major concerns are how to address human and pack animal feces contamination in the waterways. And the Forest Service should reduce the allowed stock animal group size limit to protect the Wilderness, and should end fish stocking in wilderness lakes that are, by nature, unable to sustain fish. And in order for native plant rejuvenation to occur, vacant grazing allotments in the Wildernesses should cease to exist.