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Comments:

I have lived in Red Lodge for the past 25 years and spend almost every day out hiking, snowshoeing, skiing, paddling or biking in the Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness, the Gallatin, Pryors, or the Crazy Mountains. These areas are an irreplaceable treasure that I strongly feel we need to preserve now and for the future. In my opinion the wildlife habitat, flora, quiet trails, pristine water and scenic and recreational opportunities are superior to any others I've experienced. I have shared these beautiful places with friends and relatives, guided in these areas for adventure travel companies, and am a volunteer ambassador for the ABWF. I have seen many places change dramatically because they were not protected, and I feel even more protective of my Custer Gallatin backyard.

Absaroka Beartooth Mountains:

Specifically, I support Alternative D to retain areas currently recommended for Wilderness as described in Alternative A. The roadless lands of Dome Mountain, Emigrant Peak, Chico Peak, Woodbine, East Rosebud to Stillwater, and Red Lodge Creek.-Hellroaring Plateau and Line Creek Plateau should be recommended as wilderness because of their unique wilderness character.

Gallatin and Madison Ranges:

In Alternative C, I support the land designations proposed by the Gallatin Forest Partnership Agreement for the Gallatin, Madison and Henry's Lake Mountains Geographic Area. I am aware that much time and work went into this proposal receiving input from people in all walks of life, is sustainable, and ecologically sensitive, and as such should receive emphasis in the plan revision.

Pryor Mountains:

I support Alternative D to protect the roadless areas in the Lost Water Canyon, Bear Canyon, and in the Big Pryor area as Wilderness. They are unique and sacred lands.

Recommended Wilderness Areas:

Please include that the management of Recommended Wilderness Areas be the same as designated wilderness to protect it in its current "wilderness" state. For this to happen it is important to avoid weed infestations, erosion from off-road use, and polluted air and water prior to possible wilderness designation.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my support of preserving the beauty, habitat and peaceful opportunities of the Custer Gallatin Forest. I appreciate your dedication and hard work in conserving and managing these exceptional lands.