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Comments:

I am in favor of Alternative D of the Custer Gallatin revision draft plan. We need to designate more wilderness acreage throughout the Custer Gallatin forest. The forest service needs to maintain ecosystems for wildlife including keeping corridors connected for natural migration routes. Some methods that may allow this are to keep lands road-less, keep lands closed to motorized use and monitor lands more carefully to limit abuse and destruction by disrespectful users.

Also the plan should prohibit all motorized and mechanized uses, and any other activities not consistent with wilderness protection, in Recommended Wilderness areas to preserve their wilderness qualities until Congress acts on the wilderness recommendations.

I think it is important to designate wilderness in the Crazy Mountains especially for their spiritual and cultural significance to the Apsaalooke Nation (Crow Tribe). Other sacred sites should also be considered for wilderness in the Beartooth and Pryor mountain ranges.

I have hiked, skied and biked on trails in the Custer Gallatin National Forest for over 40 years. I am especially glad I have been able to spend many days hiking through the Absaroka-Beartooth wilderness area enjoying the incredible landscapes, wildlife and peaceful solitude. We are so fortunate it was designated as wilderness over 40 years ago. The forest service can do better for future generations by designating even more wilderness!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan P. Lanning