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First name: Joel A.

Last name: Nelson

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 29 Gray Hawk Ct.

Address2:

City: Kalispell

State: MT

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code: 59901

Country: United States

Email:

Phone:

Comments:

Comment on Custer Gallatin Forest Plan DEIS

The Forest Service failed to provide a "No Action" alternative.

The Forest Service failed to provide a "Preferred" alternative. - WHY?

Page 50, Objectives (FW-OBJ-FIRE) 02 suggest a minimum of 37,500 acres burned annually. While on page 81, Objectives (FW-OBJ-TIM) 03 alternatives B, C, D and E suggest vegetation management treatments on 5 to 8 thousand annually. Vegetation treatment is superior to fire as smoke from both wildfire and prescribed burns produce toxic chemicals which according to Montana DEQ website can cause "premature mortality". According to reports the people in Seeley Lake are still experiencing reduced lung function nearly a year after the fires in 2018.

I request the Forest Service increase the annual vegetation treatment acres in an effort to reduce fire severity, reduce toxic chemical emissions, and increase available timber resources to support local mills and communities.

I feel burning a minimum, 37,500 acres annually is poor management objective and choice. Prescribed fire treatment can be good on site treatment units, time of year, and fuel loads. Burning windows air quality regs are probably not going to allow 37,500 acres/year to be burned. Air quality is important for health (illegible?) and massive CO2 emissions. I feel commercial logging and vegetative management is a more effective and viable option. Please consider this option as a favorable treatment option. It will also provide revenue with logs. Thanks

Joel A Nelson