

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 5/28/2019 12:00:00 AM

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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.

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.

Margaret M. Tisher