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Comments:

Greetings,

I write as a voting US citizen and visitor of Yellowstone; further, I just graduated with an MS in environmental science from Montana State, so have a particular investment in Yellowstone and its environs.

The Custer Gallatin Forest Plan Revision allows large groups of up to 25 head of stock (horses and mules) and 15 people in most areas, which is well beyond the bounds that science shows are harmful. The Forest Service should reduce group size limits to protect all Wildernesses on the forest from harm. Further, the forest plan should end ecologically destructive fish stocking in naturally fishless wilderness lakes, which significantly alters the areas' natural conditions.

It is also important that vacant grazing allotments in the Wildernesses should be closed so these areas can return to a wild condition.

Finally, while the wilderness recommendations in Alternative D are positive, they should be improved with the addition of the entire 230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommend Wilderness in the final forest plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,
Charles Byrne