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Comments:

Dear Sir or Madam:

The best currently available scientific information supports strengthening and adopting Alternative D with enforceable standards for American bison, bighorn sheep, and threatened grizzly bears.

Conserving American bison viability and diversity, and their ability to roam National Forest habitat should be Forest-wide standards.

Restoring habitat connectivity for American bison should be a Forest-wide priority and standard.

To restore connectivity, and conserve the viability and diversity of American bison's genetically distinct sub-populations, the Custer Gallatin Forest needs to adopt a standard to close and not permit cattle grazing allotments in bison range.

To restore connectivity, and conserve the viability and diversity of native bighorn sheep populations, the Custer Gallatin Forest needs to adopt a standard to not permit domestic sheep grazing in bighorn sheep range.

The current best available scientific information supports including enforceable Forest-wide standards to protect key linkage areas, habitat connectivity, and food security for threatened grizzly bears.

The Custer Gallatin Forest must adopt a Forest-wide standard for all grazing permits requiring "let-down" fencing and remove barriers that impede migration of native species.

Adopt a desired condition for the Custer Gallatin Forest to be a leader in the development of wildlife safe passages and measures on highways constructed in migration corridors on the National Forest.

Restore more wetlands, creek banks, pond edges, and riparian habitat through strong standards and more annual projects to benefit American bison and native species diversity.

The Custer Gallatin Forest has a duty to fulfill its responsibilities and trust obligations safeguarding treaty rights, sacred species, sacred sites, and traditional cultural places of significance to aboriginal people.

Thank you,

Shawn Cline