

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 4/23/2019 3:59:03 PM

First name: Sandra

Last name: Cobb

Organization:

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

Address1: 3880 Ellendale Rd

Address2:

City: Moreland Hills

State: OH

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code: 44022

Country: United States

Email: smcobb@beechmere.com

Phone: (04) 402-4742

Comments:

I support the wilderness recommendations in Alternative D of the Revised Draft Forest Plan. But you should improve it by adding the entire 230,000 wild, roadless acres of the Gallatin Range as Recommend Wilderness in the final forest plan. The following three points also expand on the importance for the wild Gallatin Range.

Please prohibit all motorized & mechanized uses, & any other activities not consistent with wilderness protection, in the Recommended Wilderness areas so as to preserve their wilderness qualities until Congress acts on the wilderness recommendations.

What about the Absaroka-Beartooth and Lee Metcalf Wildernesses? The current wilderness management plans allows destructively large groups of up to 25 head of stock (horses and mules) and 15 people in most areas. Research shows that impacts increase significantly when group-sizes exceed eight head of stock and 12 people. The Forest Service should reduce group size limits accordingly so as to protect all Wildernesses on the forest from harm. Further, the forest plan should put an end to ecologically destructive fish stocking in naturally fishless wilderness lakes, which significantly alters the areas' natural conditions.

Also address the problem of human and pack animal feces contamination of lakes and streams on the Beartooth Plateau in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. Eliminating fish stocking would likely go a long way toward solving this problem, but additional measures must be included if needed.