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Comments:

I greatly enjoy hunting and backpacking in and about the Custer-Gallatin National Forest and associated Wilderness and Recommended Wilderness. It is of vital importance that we act now to protect these lands. I have researched numerous NGOs and have gleaned from them several key points of interest and concern.

Chief among these are the following:

Protect the Wilderness values and cultural significance of the Crazy Mountains.

Raise, to full Wilderness status, recommended Wilderness in the Lionhead.

The Gallatin Forest Partnership is of critical importance and should be implemented at once.

Protect and expand recommended Wilderness around the Absaroka-Beartooth; raise to full Wilderness status ASAP.

Recommend new Wilderness in the Pryors, some of the most pristine and beautiful areas anywhere.

Manage recommended Wilderness just like designated Wilderness---it would be a shame to allow areas already identified as exceptional to suffer from a lack of management.

These resources will play a crucial role in the social, cultural, and economic future of Montana for countless generations to come. The economic value of pristine Wilderness over time vastly exceeds any possible, short-term value that might be derived from the destruction of non-renewable resources.

Say "YES!" to the future! Save and protect the Wilderness!

Thank you.