

Dear Forest Service,

The following is our input on the developing Forest Service plan:

My husband and I have lived in Red Lodge, MT since 1971 and 1977 respectively. We have tried to leave a small footprint, living in a modest home in the city limits, but, over time, we have seen increasing loss of plant and wildlife habitat as ranches and large land tracts have been divided into acreages, million dollar homes have been built and wild forage has been replaced with large grass lawns in our surrounding area. Montana has such a gift of open space and still has bountiful wildlife and abundant wild plants, but, every day, we hear about another endangered plant or animal. We feel it is Montana's responsibility to protect as much land as possible, even if it means very limited access to that land by humans. Wild animals can't buy real estate, but this is their home as much as developers' and millionaires'. The Forest Service holds the key to the protection of a good portion of this land. Our input is that much of National Forest land be left intact, not allowing mining, timber harvesting, mountain bikes or other adverse activities which would negatively affect the very important delicate ecological balance our world so needs to maintain. As Red Lodgians, we have to have perseverance living with lots of snow and cold weather, but, in exchange, we are watchful caretakers over our neighboring mountains, and we believe strongly in keeping them protected. Thank-you.

Peggy Lynn
Danny Lynn

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