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Comments:

I would like to comment today on the subject of the importance of migration corridors for wildlife in the Custer Gallatin National Forest. I base my comments on a presentation made by R. Travis Belote in January 2018. I agree with Dr. Belote's comments: Looking at a U.S. map, roads are everywhere so roadless areas need to be elevated in their importance for biodiversity. "The big job of the conservation community is to connect the protected areas, so that there is better representation of natural diversity." He points out that wilderness can be quantified via data in pixels. He recommends that we focus on the carnivores.

How Dr. Belote came to support the recommendations of the Gallatin Forest Partnership is a mystery. I believe that the points he makes in his publications support Alternative D in the plan revision, and a recommended Wilderness of 230,000 acres for the greatest protection of wildlife in our future.