The Custer Gallatin National Forest conducted a proper NEPA process for a trail relocation proposal, involving 0.28 miles (1500 ft), in the Bridgers. They did an Environmental Assessment and filed their Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Why has the Custer Gallatin National Forest ignored this proper NEPA process for this 8+ miles proposed trail relocation, involving up and down steep, high elevation terrain that crosses 4 creeks, has wolverines and genetically pure Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout? The public needs the science. We need the proper NEPA process to be conducted.

In meeting the requirements of the NEPA, the Forest Service seeks to:

1. Fully integrate NEPA requirements into agency planning and decisionmaking (36 CFR 220.4(c)(2));
2. Use a systematic, interdisciplinary approach to fully consider the impacts of Forest Service proposed actions on the physical, biological, social, and economic aspects of the human environment (40 CFR 1507.2(a), 40 CFR 1508.14);
3. Involve interested and affected agencies, State and local governments, Tribes, Alaska Native corporations, organizations, and individuals in planning and decisionmaking (40 CFR 1500.1(b), 40 CFR 1500.2(b) and (d), 40 CFR 1501.7, 40 CFR 1503.1, 40 CFR 1506.6); and
4. Conduct and document environmental analyses and subsequent decisions appropriately, efficiently, and cost effectively.

A Citizen’s Guide to the NEPA, Having Your Voice Heard - This guide has been developed to help citizens and organizations who are concerned about the environmental effects of federal decisionmaking to effectively participate in Federal agencies’ environmental reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).