

Forest Service prepares to unveil travel map

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CATALDO — The Forest Service will have its second open house public meeting on May 31 to discuss the Travel Plan Project for the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District.

The meeting will be 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Canyon Elementary School in Cataldo.

"A few weeks ago we met with interested members of the public to introduce the project and discuss the new rule for motor vehicle access on the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District," said Linda McFaddan, deputy district ranger. "The May 31 meeting will be much different — truly a working meeting."

Recommendations submitted by participants will be screened to help sort out which may be appropriate to include under the proposed action for the Travel Plan project, McFaddan said.

Interests represented in developing the plan include ATV users, motorcycle riders, hunters, horse riders, hikers, conservationists and environmental organizations.

In 2005, the Forest Service published a new rule for providing motor vehicle access to national forests and grasslands. The rule requires each national forest to designate those roads, trails and areas open to motorized vehicle use, and identify them on a motor vehicle use map.

The Coeur d'Alene District Travel Plan Project is intended to develop that map, which will be available free to the public.

Another meeting is anticipated next month.

To get to Canyon Elementary School from Interstate 90, take the Rose Lake St. Maries Exit 34, turn left and cross the freeway. Then turn right and follow East Canyon Road for 1.2 miles. Turn left at East School House Loop and go about 0.3 miles to the school.

Information: Don Garringer, 769-3055; Rob Davies 769-3067; www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/cda/travelplan