



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 14, 2004**

**Contact:**  
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**OR**  
**Individual District Ranger (see list in**  
**the release)**

### **FOREST PLAN REVISION WORKGROUP MEETINGS WRAP-UP IN APRIL**

**Coeur d'Alene, ID and Libby, MT: This news release has some "NEW" meeting dates so please post this news release.....**The first phase of the Forest Plan Revision Workgroup meetings is nearing the final stretch of all the hard work and time that has been put in by workgroup participants. These workgroups have been meeting since September of last year to: learn about the Forest Plan revision planning process, the issues and possible changes that could be made from the 1987 Forest Plans; learn and understand each others interests and issues; and to develop desired condition statements for a specific Geographic Area (GA).

At the end of April, the workgroups will be submitting their Desired Condition statements and other information to the Forest Plan Revision team for them to consider in developing the Draft Forest Plan. Jodi Kramer reiterates, "Participating in the workgroup meetings is not the only one way that you can be involved and voicing your ideas. Comments can also be submitted to: Revision Team, 1101 U.S. Hwy. 2 West, Libby, MT 59923, or email at (r1\_kipz\_revision@fs.fed.us). Input that the Forest Service receives by the end of April will be considered by the revision team in development of the Draft Forest Plan.

"The level of involvement and interaction we've seen at the workgroup meetings has been fantastic, with some meetings growing to 150 members at any one meeting.

I'm encouraged to see people coming together and discussing very complex and controversial issues. The level of understanding and interaction of everyone involved has been one of the positive outcomes of these workgroup meetings," reports Ranotta McNair, Idaho Panhandle Forest Supervisor.

The wrap-up of the workgroup meetings does not mean that public involvement ends the end of April. Through the summer, the KIPZ revision team will be working on developing the alternatives, mapping the Management Areas and developing other portions of the Draft Forest Plan. In the fall, the Forest Service will reconvene the workgroup meetings and any other additional meetings to share parts of the Draft Forest Plan, which includes the draft alternatives with the public. However, the focus of the fall meetings will be to share how the public input was considered in developing the Draft Forest Plan.

Following is the list of Workgroup meetings through the month of April. If you have not attended any previous workgroup meetings and would like to get caught up on what the group has been working on or would like to know more about the workgroup in your community, contact your local District Ranger or Jodi Kramer at (208) 765-7235. Please see our website <http://www.fs.fed.us/kipz> for a current schedule of upcoming meetings, workgroup meeting notes, and other information about the revision process.

**Currently Scheduled Meetings:  
Idaho Panhandle National Forest Meetings**

- **St. Maries, ID: April 14<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> (last meeting), 7:00-9:00 pm, St. Maries Federal Building, Contact: 208-245-6001 or 245-6072 (St. Joe GA)**
- **Sandpoint, ID: April 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:00 pm, District Office in Federal Building, Contact: 208-265-6601 (Pend Oreille GA)**
- **Bonnors Ferry, ID: April 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 pm, Bonnors Ferry Library, Contact: 208-267-6701 (Lower Kootenai GA)**
- **Priest Lake, ID: April 21<sup>st</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:30 pm, Priest Lake Ranger Station Cookhouse, Contact: 208-443-2512 (Priest GA)**

- **Coeur d'Alene, ID: April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00-9:00 pm, Canyon Elementary School at E. 27405 School Loop Road off Rose Lake exit on I-90, Contact: 208-556-5101 or 208-765-7235 for meeting location. (CdA GA)**
- **Spokane, WA: April 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, University High School in Spokane, Pines and 32<sup>nd</sup> street. Contact: 208-765-7438 or 765-7235.**

#### **Kootenai National Forest Meetings**

- **Eureka, MT: April 14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 pm, Forest Service office in Eureka, Contact: 406-296-2536 or 406-882-4451 (Kooocanusa and Tobacco GAs)**
- **Noxon, MT: April 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 pm, Heron School Resource Room, Contact: 406-827-0714 (Clark GA)**
- **Eureka, MT: T.I.M.B.E.R. meeting, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 4:00-5:30 pm, Lincoln County Annex Building Conference Room in Eureka, Contact: Steve Newman at 406-296-2514.**

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