
Beartooth Ranger District News Release



For Immediate Release
Date: January 4, 2010

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Forest Service Seeking Comments on Red Lodge Mountain Easement Exchange

AG/JMA Red Lodge Realty Holdings, LLC (AG/JMA) has submitted a proposal to the Forest Service to exchange easements on portions of Red Lodge Ski Area Road No. 21749, located in the Red Lodge Mountain area of the Custer National Forest. AG/JMA and the Forest Service have entered into a non-binding "Reciprocal Access Agreement" that forms the basis for this proposed action.

As part of the proposal, AG/JMA would reconstruct approximately 1.5 miles of Road No. 21479, which extends across Forest Service and AG/JMA lands. This reconstruction would start at the existing parking lot at the base of the ski area and extend to Forest Service lands near the start of Section 26, T7S, R19E. Reconstruction would improve alignment, reduce steep grades, and meet Carbon County road standards. All reconstruction work would be completed at AG/JMA's expense. Both easements would be permanent, and would provide for year-round access. AG/JMA would acquire approximately 8,000 lineal feet (approx. 12 acres) of road easement, while the Forest Service would acquire approximately 2,500 lineal feet (approx. 4 acres) of road easement across AG/JMA lands above the proposed reconstructed portion of the road.

A public meeting will be held to provide information about the proposal and to provide an opportunity for interested people to identify issues related to the proposal. The meeting will be held January 27 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Red Lodge Senior Citizens Center, 201 S. Villard Ave, in Red Lodge.

Public comments, whether mailed, emailed, or faxed, must be received or postmarked by Monday, February 8, 2010. Address comments to Traute Parrie, District Ranger - Beartooth Ranger District, 6811 Hwy 212, Red Lodge, MT, 59068. Email comments to comments-northern-custer-beartooth@fs.fed.us. Fax comments to 406-446-3918.

For more information, please contact the Beartooth Ranger District at 406-446-2103.

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<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/custer>