

Chapter 4: Consultation, Distribution, List of Preparers, References, and Glossary

4.1 CONSULTATION

4.1.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Chapter 2 details the public participation to date. The initial scoping document (Project Record) was sent on November 26, 2007 to approximately 237 individuals, government agencies, tribal governments, news media, businesses, and organizations that have shown interest in similar projects on the Custer National Forest. The public comment period ended on January 25, 2008. A news release inviting comments was placed in the Billings Gazette (Billings, MT) on November 27, 2008, summarizing the information provided in the document. News releases were sent to local newspapers.

Public meetings were held in Ashland, Miles City, Billings, and Broadus, Montana in December, 2007.

In response to these efforts, 64 letters, personal comments, or phone calls were received. Collaborative group session information was documented and reviewed. The analysis of electronic, written and verbal comments preliminarily identified several potential issues. Some of these issues were identified as significant issues and were used to formulate the alternatives.

4.1.2 CONSULTATION WITH OTHERS

The following agencies were consulted during preparation of the EIS:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
Bureau of Land Management

Coordination with the affected Tribes has been ongoing in the form of the original project scoping letter, public meetings, agency meetings, letter correspondences and proposed/scheduled field trips which outlined the proposed project specifics and requested any concerns that they may have regarding cultural resources or traditional cultural properties. This coordination effort is intended to insure that any tribal concerns or comments are addressed throughout the NEPA process in regards to ARPA, AIRFA, NAGPRA and/or Bulletin 38 issues.

4.2 DISTRIBUTION

This document has been distributed in hardcopy or electronic format to individuals that have expressed an interest in the project and receiving this document, and to the officials, agencies, firms, and organizations listed below

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U.S. Federal Officials

Honorable Denny Rehberg – Congressman
Honorable John Tester – Senator
Honorable Max Baucus – Senator

Local Officials

Powder River County Commissioner
Rosebud County Commissioner

U.S. Federal Agencies

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
USDA APHIS PPD/EAD
Natural Resources Conservation Service
USDA National Agricultural Library
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Northwestern Division
Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Environmental
Policy and Compliance
Northwest Power Planning Council
Federal Aviation Administration
Federal Highway Administrator
U.S. Department of Energy
Bureau of Land Management

Organizations and Firms

Wilderness Society
Wild West Institute
Colstrip Rod and Gun Club
Rosebud Audubon Society
Alliance for the Wild Rockies
Montana Wilderness Association
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Rocky Mtn. Elk Foundation
Back County Horseman, Yellowstone
Rimrock 4x4
Magic City 4x4 Inc.
National off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council
Montana River Action
Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society
Greater Yellowstone Coalition

Native American Tribes

Crow Tribe
Northern Cheyenne Tribe

4.3 LIST OF PREPARERS

The following people prepared the EIS in an interdisciplinary manner.

Babete Anderson, Public Affairs Specialist/Executive Assistant, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Human Environment

Education: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Montana State University-Billings

Experience: 22 years in public information with the USDA, Forest Service.

Brian Anderson, Fuels Module Leader, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Content Analysis, Alternative Development

Education: B.S., Forestry

Experience: 4 years of timber sale preparation experience; 4 years of silvicultural experience; 6 years of experience in fire and fuels management – all with the USDA Forest Service

Mike W. Bergstrom, Zone Archaeologist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Cultural Resources; Archeological Resources

Education: B.S., Sociology - Anthropology Option

Experience: 23 years as an archaeologist, 13 years with the USDA Forest Service

Brenda Christensen, Civil Engineer, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Public Safety; Maintenance and Administration of Roads and Trails; Editing

Education: B.S., Civil Engineering

Experience: 20 years as a Civil Engineer with USDA Forest Service; Registered Professional Engineer since 1994 in the state of Oregon.

Megan Dawson, Rangeland Management Specialist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Content Analysis, Alternative Development

Education: B.S., Rangeland Science; A.S., Rangeland Management

Experience: 4 years of land management experience with the USDA Forest Service

Doug Epperly, Recreation Program Manager, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Project Leader; Chapters 1 and 2; Recreation; Editing

Education: B.S., Forestry

Experience: 20 years of land management and NEPA experience with the USDA Forest Service; 5 years of land management and NEPA coordination with the US Bureau of Reclamation

Kim Frasier, Resource Assistant, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Content Analysis, Alternative Development

Education: Business and administrative management

Experience: 6 years of administrative management experience with the USDA Forest Service

Nathan Gassman, Natural Resource Specialist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Content Analysis, Alternative Development

Education: B.S., Forestry

Experience: 5 years of land management and NEPA experience with the USDA Forest Service

Mary Gonzales, GIS Specialist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Mapping

Education: B.S., Renewable Natural Resources

Experience: 5 years as a GIS Specialist and 15 years as a Culturist with USDA Forest Service

Halcyon LaPoint, Archeologist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Cultural Resources; Traditional Cultural Properties

Education: M.A., Anthropology

Experience: 21 years as an Archeologist with USDA Forest Service

John R. Lane, Soil Scientist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Soils

Education: B.S. Forest Resource Management; M.S. Soils.

Experience: 21 years as a Soil Scientist with USDA Forest Service, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (Soil Conservation Service), USDI National Park Service, and Private Industry

Ryan Melin, Rangeland Management Specialist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Content Analysis, Alternative Development

Education: B.S., Rangeland Science

Experience: 3 years of rangeland management experience with the USDA Forest Service

Marty Mitzkus, District Fire Management Officer, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Content Analysis, Alternative Development

Education: A.S., Agricultural Business

Experience: 11 years of fire management experience with the USDI Bureau of Land Management; 9 years of fire management experience with the USDA Forest Service

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Mark Nienow, Forest Hydrologist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Water Quality

Education: B.S., Water Resources

Experience: 20 years as a Hydrologist with USDA Forest Service

Kim Reid, Range Management Specialist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Vegetation Ecology; Weeds; Sensitive Plants; Editing

Education: B.S., Range Management

Experience: 29 years in Range Management, Field Ecology, and Botany with USDA Forest Service

Keith Stockmann, Economist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Economics Review

Education: B.A., Economics, M.S., Environmental Studies and Ph.D., Forestry

Experience: 7 years as an Economist with USDA Forest Service

Scott Studiner, Rangeland Management Specialist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Content Analysis, Alternative Development

Education: B.S., Rangeland Science and Agricultural Economics

Experience: 20 years in range, fire, and land management with USDA Forest Service

Darin A. Watschke, Fisheries Biologist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Fisheries and Aquatics

Education: B.S., Fish and Wildlife Management; M.S., Fisheries Ecology

Experience: 10 years in Fisheries with USDA Forest Service; Fisheries Biologist since 2004.

Tom Whitford, Wildlife and Fisheries Program Manager, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Wildlife

Education: B.S., M.S., Wildlife Biology

Experience: 22 years of land management and NEPA experience with the USDA Forest Service

4.4 REFERENCES

4.4.1 CHAPTER 1: PURPOSE AND NEED, AND PROPOSED ACTION

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4.4.2 CHAPTER 2: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, ISSUES AND ALTERNATIVES

4.4.2.1 Air Quality

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4.4.2.2 Hiking and Riding Areas (Management Area J)

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4.4.2.3 Alternatives Considered in Detail

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4.4.3 CHAPTER 3: AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

4.4.3.1 Recreation

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4.4.3.2 Cultural Resources

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4.4.3.3 Wildlife

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4.5 GLOSSARY

Area – A discrete, specifically delineated space that is smaller, and in most cases much smaller, than a Ranger District.

Designated Road, Trail, or Area - A National Forest System road, a National Forest System trail, or an area on National Forest System lands that is designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR 212.51 on a motor vehicle use map. (36 CFR 212.1)

Designation – Motor vehicle use on NFS roads and trails, and in areas on NFS lands shall be designated by vehicle class and, if appropriate, by time of year.

Forest Road or Trail - A forest road or trail is a road or trail wholly or partly within, or adjacent to, and serving the National Forest System and which is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources. (23 USC 101)

Hiking and Riding Areas – Per the glossary in the 1986 Custer Forest Plan, this term applies to *“Three specific areas identified in the Ashland Unit Plan in which special management requirements were developed in to preserve the area’s characteristics for recreation purposes.”*

Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) – - Map required by the 2005 Motorized Travel Rule that indicates designated roads, trails and areas.

National Forest System Road (System Road) - A forest road other than a road which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a State, *county* or other local public road authority. (36 CFR 212.1, 36 CFR 251.51, 36 CFR 261.2)

National Forest System Trail (System Trail) - A forest trail other than a trail which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a State, county or other local public road authority. (36 CFR 212.1)

Off-highway Vehicle – Any motor vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, snow, ice, marsh, swampland or other natural terrain.

Road – A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail.

Route Decommissioning – Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state.

Season of Use - The time of year that a system road is designated for use.

Temporary road or trail – A road or trail necessary for emergency operations or authorized by contract, permit, lease, or other written authorization that is not a forest road or trail and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas.

Trail – A route 50 inches or less in width or a route over 50 inches wide that is identified and managed as a trail.

Unauthorized road (non-system road) – A road or trail that is not a forest road or trail.

Other Relevant Info: State laws regarding operation of motor vehicles apply to system roads; state laws regarding operation of motor vehicles do not apply to system trails. (CFR's defer to state laws on system roads.).

- End of Chapter 4 -