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# Gallatin National Forest News Release



For Immediate Release  
Date: March 2, 2007

Contact: Marna Daley, 406-587-6703

## **Forest Service Seeks Public Input on Proposed Commercial and Personal Use Mushroom Permits**

The Gallatin National Forest is seeking comments on a proposal to provide opportunities for both personal and commercial harvest of mushrooms, utilizing a permitting system, while minimizing the social and resource impacts that may occur.

Recently burned areas often provide personal and commercial spring-time mushroom harvest opportunities. "It is imperative that the Forest prepare for the arrival of mushroom harvesters, although predicting where and when mushrooms may grow is difficult," said Marna Daley, Gallatin Forest Public Affairs Officer. "A permit system will help the Forest manage the people who are likely to come and harvest mushrooms while protecting natural resources that may be affected."

The Forest is proposing to utilize a permit system for mushroom collectors during the spring of 2007. The Forest proposes to sell permits for commercial and personal mushroom harvesters while requiring commercial harvesters to camp in designated areas with garbage and sanitation services.

"Some amount of mushroom flush is expected sometime between May and July, 2007," stated Daley. "Mushroom seasons will likely vary somewhat, depending on local weather conditions and mushroom availability."

For additional information please contact the Big Timber Ranger District at 406-932-5155. Comments or input regarding this proposal should be submitted by March 20<sup>th</sup> to Brent Foster, Big Timber Ranger District, 225 Big Timber Loop, Big Timber, MT, 59011.

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