

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT**  
**LONESOME WOOD VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECT**  
**USDA - FOREST SERVICE**  
**Gallatin National Forest**  
**Hebgen Lake Ranger District**  
**Gallatin County, Montana**

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Lonesome Wood Vegetation Management (LW) Project is available for public review and comment. This EA addresses the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of approximately 3100 acres of proposed vegetation treatments.

This analysis has been prepared to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, and the Gallatin National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (1987). The information and analysis in this document will be used to determine whether to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) or a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) (40 CFR 1508.9).

The proposed project is designed to achieve the goals of increased firefighter and public safety, and reduced wildland fire risks to adjacent land and structures that have been identified as WUI. The Lonesome Wood Vegetation Management project has two primary focuses: reducing wildland fuels in the wildland urban interface (WUI), and providing adequate evacuation routes for forest users, homeowners, and business owners and their customers. The project area is located on National Forest System (NFS) lands on the west side of Hebgen Lake. The LW project area extends from Highway 20 on the south, and Hebgen Lake on the east and north.

A complete EA with maps is available on the website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin>. To request a paper copy of the EA, contact the Hebgen Lake Ranger District by phone at (406) 823-6961, or visit the District Office at 331 Gallatin Road, West Yellowstone, MT. Business hours are Mon- Fri, 0800-1630

In accordance with 36 CFR 215.5, as published in the Federal Register, Volume 68 no. 107, June 4, 2003, **comments must be postmarked or received within 30 days following the date of publication of this legal notice in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle.** In order to retain your administrative appeal rights, you must provide timely, written, oral, or electronic comments. They must include: (1) name, address, telephone number, and organization represented, (if any); (2) title of the document on which the comment is being submitted; (3) specific facts and supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider; and (4) signature. For appeal eligibility, each individual or representative from each organization submitting comments must either sign the comments or verify their identity upon request. Individual members of an organization must submit their own comments to meet the requirement for appeal eligibility. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection.

Comments on the EA should be sent to:  
Gallatin National Forest – Bozeman Ranger District  
3710 Fallon St, Ste. C, Bozeman, MT 59771  
Attn: Teri Seth – Re: Lonesome Wood EA

Written comments must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service, e-mailed, or otherwise submitted by 11:59 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. Hand delivered comments must be time and date imprinted at the Gallatin National Forest, Bozeman or Hebgen Lake Ranger District Offices by the close of business on the last day of the comment period.

Oral comments must be provided at the Gallatin National Forest, Bozeman or Hebgen Lake Ranger Districts during normal business hours via telephone or in person, or if during non-business hours, must be at an official agency function (such as a public meeting), which is designed to elicit public comment. Comments must be received by the close of business on the last day of the comment period.

Comments may be submitted electronically to the following e-mail address: **comments-northern-gallatin@fs.fed.us** and must be in one of the following formats: MS Word, Word Perfect or RTF. The subject line must contain the name of the project for which you are submitting comments. For electronically mailed comments, the sender should receive an automated electronic acknowledgement from the agency as confirmation of receipt. If the sender does not receive an automated acknowledgement of the receipt of comments, it is the sender's responsibility to ensure timely receipt by other means.

Additional information is available from Teri Seth at the Bozeman Ranger Station (406)522-2520, or Anna Anderson at the Hebgen Lake Ranger Station (406)823-6961.