

CHAPTER 4 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

I. CHANGES BETWEEN THE DRAFT EIS AND THE FINAL EIS

There are no significant changes to this chapter between the DEIS and the FEIS

II. THE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND SCOPING PROCESS

Public Notices and Outreach

The Legal Notice for the Main Boulder Fuel Reduction Project appeared in the Bozeman Chronicle (the paper of record) on December 8, 2002. An ad was also placed in the Big Timber Pioneer on December 6, 2002 inviting public comments on the project. A news article appeared in the December 8, 2002 addition of the Bozeman Chronicle addressing the Forest Service's plans to reduce fire danger in the Main Boulder River Corridor.

A Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement was prepared for the project and appeared in the Federal Register on November 6, 2002.

A scoping letter requesting comments on the Main Boulder Fuel Reduction Project was mailed to more than 300 individuals, organizations, and agencies in December 2002. Eighteen letters of comment were received concerning the project during the public scoping comment period.

The Main Boulder Fuel Reduction Project was shown in the Gallatin National Forest's Proposed Project Listing for the quarters beginning October 2003 and again in January and April 2004. The Proposed Project Listing was mailed to several hundred people.

Chronology of Public Participation Activities

Forest Service officials have been meeting with the Boulder River Watershed Association and providing information and updates regarding the proposed Main Boulder Fuel Reduction Project for approximately 2 ½ years: There have been over twenty such meetings with the dates of these meetings being:

9/26/01, 8/31/01, 11/28/01, 1/30/02, 2/27/02, 3/27/02, 4/24/02, 5/29/02, 9/25/02, 10/30/02, 11/27/02, 1/29/03, 2/26/03, 3/26/03, 4/30/03, 5/28/03, 9/24/03, 10/29/03, 11/26/03, 1/28/04, and 2/24/04

Forest Service officials have also been attending meetings with the Boulder River Fuels Cooperative to collaborate fuel reduction efforts between the Forest Service and the adjacent private and corporate landowners. These meetings took place on: 5/7/03, 6/28/03, 8/5/03, 8/27/03, 9/4/03, 9/24/03, 10/22/03, 12/17/03, 1/17/04, 1/28/04, 2/15/04, 3/4/04.

A field trip guided by Forest Service officials was given to Senator Baucus's staff, Sweet Grass County Commissioners, Sweetgrass County Road Supervisors, Boulder River Watershed Forest Health Committee members, Big Timber/Sweetgrass County Fire Chief and Captain and a representative from the Greater Yellowstone Coalition on January 16, 2003.

On May 7, 2003 a meeting was held at the American Legion Hall in Big Timber to discuss a grant proposal for the Main Boulder Watershed Association.(WBWA). Twenty-five people were present representing the WBWA, Forest Service, Beartooth RD&C, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, Sweetgrass County

Disaster & Emergency Services, Sweetgrass & Park County Fire Departments, Sweetgrass County Commissioners, Sweetgrass County Planner, and the Sweetgrass County Grant Writer.

The district ranger took Park and Sweet Grass County Commissioners on a tour of the Main Boulder proposed project area on September 11, 2003.

Forest Service officials took a representative of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation on a tour of the project area in November 2003.

On March 12, 2004, a presentation of the Main Boulder Fuel Reduction Project was given to the Montana Forestry Conference, which was located at Fairmont Hot Springs in Anaconda, Montana.

III. AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED

Listed below are those agencies, tribes, elected officials, media, and organizations who either received the 12/06/2002 scoping letter, provided consultation, were involved via other outreach processes, or who provided scoping comments. In addition to those listed below, there were approximately 250 individuals, church camps, and small businesses that received the scoping document. Locations are in Montana unless indicated otherwise.

Federal Agencies

Bureau of Land Management; Billings
NRCS; Bozeman
Regional Office Visual Specialists (Larry Blocker and Chris Ryan); Missoula
Rural Areas Development Commission; Bozeman
US Environmental Protection Agency; Helena
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Helena

State Agencies

Farm Bureau; Bozeman, Big Timber
MCAFS Land Management; Townsend
MT Dept of Transportation; Bozeman
MT Dept of HES/WQB; Helena
MT Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; Helena
MT Environmental Info Center; Helena
MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Helena, Livingston, Columbus
MWF Wildlife Committee; Clancy

City Agencies

Big Timber Fire Department, Big Timber
City of Bozeman; Bozeman
City of Livingston; Livingston
Town of West Yellowstone; West Yellowstone
West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce; West Yellowstone

County Agencies

Gallatin Planning Office; Bozeman
Park County Conservation District, Livingston
Park County Rural Fire Department, Livingston
Sweetgrass County Recreation Assoc.; Big Timber
Sweetgrass County Department of Emergency Services, Big Timber
Sweetgrass Extension Agent; Big Timber
Sweetgrass County Road Department

Sweetgrass County Volunteer Fire Dept; Big Timber
Sweetgrass County Weed Supervisor; Big Timber

American Indian Tribes

Confederated Salish & Kootenai; Pablo
Crow Tribal Cultural Committee; Crow Agency
Crow Tribal Council; Crow Agency
Kootenai Cultural Committee; Pablo
Nez Pierce Tribe; Lapwai, ID
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes; Fort Hall, ID

Elected Officials

Max Baucus; MT State Senator; Bozeman
Carbon County Commissioners; Red Lodge
Conrad Burns; MT State Senator; Bozeman
Gallatin County Commissioners; Bozeman
Leif Johnson, U.S. Attorney Office; Billings
Madison County Commissioners; Virginia City
Meager County Commissioners; White Sulphur Springs
Park Conservation District, Amy Miller; Livingston
Park County Commissioners; Livingston
Dennis Rehberg; MT State Representative; Helena
Sweetgrass County Commissioners; Big Timber
Sweetgrass County Sheriff, Big Timber

Media

Bozeman Daily Chronicle; Bozeman
Big Timber Pioneer; Big Timber
High Country News; Paonia, CO
KCTZ-FOX; Bozeman
MSU Exponent, Bozeman
Scott McMillion; Livingston

Organizations

Alliance for the Wild Rockies; Missoula, Bozeman
American Wildlands; Bozeman
Bear Creek Council; Gardiner
Big Sky Snowriders; Livingston Defenders of Wildlife; Missoula
Boulder River Fuels Cooperative, Big Timber
Boulder River Watershed Association, Big Timber
Boulder Outfitter & Guide Assn; Absarokee
Cottonwood Resource Council; Big Timber
Crazy Mtn Stockgrowers; Big Timber
Ducks Unlimited; Big Timber
Greater Yellowstone Backcountry Horsemen; Billings
Ecology Center; Missoula
Gallatin Backcountry Horsemen, Bozeman
Gallatin Valley Snowmobile Assn; Bozeman
Grassroots for Multiple Use; Hamilton
MT Ecosystems Defense Council; Bozeman
MT Trail Riders Assn; Bozeman
MT Wilderness Assn, Helena, Bozeman
MT Wildlife Federation; Helena
Native Ecosystems Council; Willow Creek
Northern Plains Resource Council, Billings
Sierra Club Grizzly Ecosystems; Bozeman

Sierra Club Headwaters Group; Virginia City
 Stillwater PGM Resources; Big Timber
 Sweetgrass County Wool Growers; Big Timber
 Sweetgrass Recreation Assn; Big Timber
 The Nature Conservancy; Helena
 Teddy Roosevelt Conservation Assn; Missoula
 Trout Unlimited; Livingston
 UP Forest resources; Iron River
 Wilderness Society; Bozeman

Logging & Wood Products Companies

Alpine Log Homes; Victor
 Clark Timber Products, Ashton, ID
 Cody Lumber; Cody, WY
 Dan George; Clyde Park
 Independent Forest Products Assn; Helena
 Intermountain Forestry Industry; Cour D’Alene, ID
 JD Lumber; Priest River, ID
 Louisiana Pacific Corp; Belgrade
 T&S Logging; Bozeman
 Montana Wood Product Assn; Helena
 Rod Vanover Logging; Belgrade

IV. LIST OF PREPARERS

The Forest Service Employees listed in Table 4-1 below comprise the Interdisciplinary Team that conducted the Environmental Analysis and prepared the disclosure document for the project.

Table 4-1 List of Preparers

Name	Responsibility	Years Experience
Diana Allen	Fuels Specialist	15
Walt Allen	Cultural Resources	22
Bill Avey	District Ranger Record of Decision	23
Steve Cassani	Economics	27
Steve Christiansen	Environmental Specialist	25
Frank Cifala	Recreation/Wilderness/Roadless Specialist	25
Brent Foster	ID Team Leader	22
Roger Gowen	Silviculturist	27
Jonathan Kempff	Transportation	21
Sally Orr	Weeds/Range Specialist	22
Barb Ping	Co ID Team Leader Writer/Editor	21
Jane Ruchman	Scenery	16
Steve Schacht	Wildlife	13
Henry Shovic	Soils, GIS Analyst/Support	29
Scot Shuler	Fisheries	16
Mark Story	Hydrology, Air Quality	28
Kari Vannice	Public Information Officer	3

V. DISTRIBUTION AND REVIEW OF THE EIS'S FOR THIS PROJECT

Distribution

Availability of the FEIS was posted in the Federal Register. A legal notice was published in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle (the paper of record), stating that the FEIS is available for public review and comment, starting the official appeal period.. Copies of the January 2005 FEIS were mailed to persons, groups, local governments, and agencies that have expressed interest in the project. The mailing list was compiled using names and addresses from the following sources:

- Parties who requested to have their names placed on the mailing list for the project;
- Parties who have submitted written comments to date in the process;
- Federal and State agencies consulted during preparation of the EIS

Review

Copies of this FEIS can be obtained or viewed at the following locations:

- Bozeman Ranger District Office, Bozeman, MT
- Big Timber Ranger District Office, Big Timber, MT

Copies of the document are also available from the following address:

- USDA-Forest Service
- C/o Barbara Ping
- Forest Ecology Group
- Bozeman Ranger District
- 3710 Fallon St. Suite C
- Bozeman, Montana 59718
- (406)-522-2570