



News Release

United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Lewis and Clark National Forest
P.O. Box 869
Great Falls, MT 59403-0869

www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark/news/index.shtml

March 30, 2006
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOREST SERVICE SEEKING FIRE EQUIPMENT CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Forest Service officials are seeking information about contractors with private engines, water trucks, tenders and potable water tenders who are interested in fighting fire in 2006 on the Lewis and Clark National Forest.

Since these resources may be used for initial attack or extended support to fires in the forest, contractors, equipment operators and their employees must attend an 8-hour "Fire Refresher Training Session" to meet Forest Service fire safety requirements. Contractors must pass equipment inspections, provide training certificates for personnel and provide documentation of work capacity testing and completion of annual refresher training. Also, all contractors must be registered in Central Contractor Registration at <http://www.ccr.gov> and carry worker's compensation or an exemption.

Forest Service personnel will be conducting water handling equipment inspections April 10-14, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Montana ExpoPark, 5th Avenue Northwest, Great Falls, **by appointment only**. To make an appointment for equipment inspection, call fire dispatch at (406) 731-5300.

For more information, call procurement officer Jane Ottenheimer, (406) 791-7715.

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