



# 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](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark/news/index.shtml)

July 7, 2006  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dick Schwecke  
(406) 791-7747

## **LEWIS AND CLARK TRAVEL MANAGEMENT DEIS RELEASED, PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES SCHEDULED**

Forest Service travel planners are releasing for public review and comment the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for revising travel management in the Little Belt, Castle and north half of the Crazy Mountains, Lewis and Clark National Forest. The complete DEIS will be placed in 61 public and college libraries around the state and will be posted on the Lewis and Clark National Forest web site: [www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark).

Comments received during the public scoping process for the analysis were used to identify issues and develop four summer alternatives and three winter alternatives for the travel management plan for approximately 1,050,110 acres of National Forest System lands administered by the Judith, Belt Creek, Musselshell and White Sulphur Springs Ranger Districts in Cascade, Meagher, Judith Basin, Sweetgrass, Park and Wheatland counties.

This analysis evaluates the impacts of motorized and non-motorized travel within the project area and identifies a variety of alternatives allowing recreational use and enjoyment of the National Forest System lands while minimizing resource damage, reducing adverse effects to wildlife and reducing conflicts between types of uses. The study focuses on identifying the types of use and season of use that are appropriate on roads, trails and specific areas within the analysis area. Needs for securing additional legal public access routes to reach National Forest System lands are identified and discussed, but no decision will be made on acquiring specific routes.

-more-

2/DEIS

Forest Service staff will be discussing the alternatives at eight open houses:

CITY	LOCATION	DATE	TIME
White Sulphur Springs	White Sulphur Springs Elementary School, 209 Central Ave. So.	July 13 (Thurs.)	7 – 9 pm
Lewistown	BLM office, conf. room, 920 NE Main	July 20 (Thurs.)	7 – 9 pm
Roundup	Wells Fargo Bank conf. room, 12 Main St	July 24 (Mon.)	7 – 9 pm
Billings	Custer NF conf. room, 1310 Main St	July 25 (Tues.)	7 – 9 pm
Harlowton	Forest Service office, 809 2nd NW	July 27 (Thurs.)	7 – 9 pm
Stanford	Forest Service office, 109 Central Ave.	July 27 (Thurs.)	7 – 9 pm
Great Falls	Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, 4201 Giant Springs Road	August 1 (Tues.)	7 – 9 pm
Neihart/Monarch	Belt Creek Ranger Station, U.S. Hwy 89	August 19 (Sat.)	10-12 am

The Open Houses will begin with presentations by forest leaders and team specialists. The public may then visit open house “stations” to ask specific questions about each alternative.

Written comments should be sent to Forest Supervisor “Spike” Thompson, Lewis and Clark National Forest, PO Box 869, Great Falls, MT 59403-0869 by **September 15**. Also, comments may be submitted electronically to: [comments-northern-lewisclark@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-northern-lewisclark@fs.fed.us). Please indicate **LBCC** **Travel Plan DEIS** on the subject line of electronic comments.

For more information, call Team Leader Dick Schwecke, (406) 791-7747.

XXX