



News Release

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Forest Service
Lewis and Clark National Forest
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PUBLIC COMMENT SOUGHT ON RACE PROPOSAL

The Great Falls Triathlon Club is proposing to host a Belt Creek Headwaters Relay Race on Saturday, March 31. The race will cross portions of the Lewis and Clark National Forest at Showdown Montana (ski area) and will use O'Brien Creek Cross Country Ski Trail in the Little Belt Mountains. Previously, this event was successfully hosted during the 1980s.

Race planners are routing the first leg of the 4-leg race to start at the top of Showdown with participants on alpine skis racing to the junction of the ski area and O'Brien Creek cross-country ski trail. There, racers will change to cross-country skis and travel to Neihart town limits via O'Brien Creek. All portions of the event will occur on existing ski trails. The remaining two legs of the race are on private land or the US Highway 89 right-of-way and include running and bicycling. The event organizer will be responsible for all safety and other related issues.

The public is invited to send comments about the proposed race to Rangers Tina Lanier and Tim Benedict, Belt Creek Ranger District, 4234 US Highway 89 North, Neihart, MT 59465 by **February 15, 2007**. For more information, call Forest Service staff at the Belt Creek Ranger Station, (406) 236-5511.

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