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Montana Department of Transportation

2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena MT 59620-1001

REC'D LCNF OCT 20 2006

Jim Lynch, Director
Brian Schweitzer, Governor

26-2-S-1-1-D

October 18, 2006

Spike Thompson, Forest Supervisor
Lewis and Clark National Forest
P.O. Box 869
Great Falls, Montana 59403-0869

Subject: Comments on draft EIS

Dear Spike,

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) has reviewed the draft Environmental Statement for the Lewis and Clark National Forest, Jefferson Division.

MDT supports inclusion of the five airstrips identified in the draft plan in the final Jefferson Division Travel Management Plan. These airstrips are: Russian Flat, Deep Creek Park, Lost Fork of the Judith, Middle Fork of the Judith and Holiday Camp.

The document on page 76 states that neither the Middle Fork Ranch or Lost Fork airstrips are shown on the Montana aeronautical chart, produced by the MDT Aeronautics Division. The Middle Fork Ranch airstrip is depicted on the chart as *restricted, for private use only*.

Aviation is crucial to Montana's transportation system and recreational airstrip opportunities provide a vital piece of our transportation infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Lynch
Director

copies: Debbie Alke, Aeronautics Administrator