

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Lewis and Clark  
National Forest

1101 15<sup>th</sup> Street North  
P.O. Box 869  
Great Falls, MT 59403-0869  
406 791-7700  
FAX 406 761-1972

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**File Code:** 1950

**Date:** August 6, 2008

Dear Interested Party;

Some time ago, the White Sulphur Springs Ranger District notified you of a proposed land exchange with a private landowner in the Taylor Hills and Tenderfoot Creek area of the White Sulphur Springs Ranger District, Little Belt Mountains, Meagher County, Montana. The exchange would result in the Forest Service acquiring 151.52 acres of privately owned lands located in Sections 13 and 14, T14N, R5E and Sections 18 and 19, T14N, R6E in exchange for 158.83 acres of National Forest System lands located within Section 30 and Section 32, T14N, R5E. In addition, the Forest Service would acquire public rights-of-way on Roads No. 6424 and 6372 and on Trails No. 342 and 345 that provide public access into Tenderfoot Creek. The United States would authorize forest road easements on Roads No. 6372 and 6424 and on a road segment of Trail No. 342 for access to private lands.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) of the proposed action and the consequences of taking no action has been completed. Preliminary issues, based on comments received during the scoping process, included effects to inventoried roadless areas and threatened, endangered or sensitive wildlife and plant populations from potential private land development. Effects to these, and other, resources are evaluated in the EA.

The EA is available for review on the Lewis and Clark Forest website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark/projects/>. If you desire a hard copy of the EA, please contact White Sulphur Springs District Ranger Carol Hatfield at (406) 547-3361. Comments on the project will be accepted for 30 days from the day after publication of legal notice of the project in the Great Falls Tribune; please check the Tribune for the exact date. Written comments should be sent to Lesley W. Thompson, Lewis and Clark National Forest, P.O. Box 869, Great Falls, MT. 59403. Electronic comments may be submitted to: [comments-northern-lewisclark@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-northern-lewisclark@fs.fed.us). Please type "Taylor Hill Land Exchange" in the subject line. I will make a decision on the project after I have reviewed the comments on the EA.

Thank you for your interest in the Lewis and Clark National Forest.

Sincerely,

*/S/ LESLEY W. THOMPSON*  
LESLEY W. THOMPSON  
Forest Supervisor

cc: Carol Hatfield, Guy H Adams, Robert Dennee, Lisa M Subcasky