

News Release

USDA Forest Service
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: February 6, 2007

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Bridger-Teton National Forest Schedules March Plan Revision Workshops *Need for change in forest vegetation conditions, wildlife, timber and grazing to be addressed*

Western Wyoming – The Bridger-Teton National Forest invites the public to get involved in the revision of the Bridger-Teton Forest Plan, by attending one of four public workshops scheduled to occur in Jackson, Rock Springs, Afton, and Marbleton, Wyoming, during the week of March 5th. These workshops are part of a continual effort on the part of the Forest to meet with and involve local and regional communities in the revision of the Bridger-Teton Land and Resource Management Plan, also known as the Forest Plan.

In this round of workshops, the Forest Service would like to work with the public to discuss perspectives about what needs to change on the Bridger-Teton National Forest regarding several issues related to forest vegetation: Where do we see problems with ecosystem diversity, insect and disease outbreaks, or scenery? What is the current situation with regard to wildlife habitat, and what species or habitat areas should we be most concerned about? Where could timber harvesting and grazing be exacerbating problems with sustainability, and helping to resolve them? Using a variety of maps and workstations, Forest personnel and the public will work together to review current conditions on the ground and explore what needs to change, where, and how.

The dates and locations for the March workshops are as follows:

March 5th: Jackson, Wyoming, Jackson High School – 1910 W High School Rd., 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

March 6th: Rock Springs, Wyoming, White Mountain Library – 2935 Sweetwater Dr., 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m.*

March 7th: Afton, Wyoming, Star Valley Middle School – 505 Kennington-Burton Lane, 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

March 8th: Marbleton/Big Piney, Wyoming, Marbleton Fire Hall – South Hwy. 189, 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

As with previous meetings, these workshops are designed for the public to participate for the entire session. But if you are unable to attend for the entire time, please do come when you can; information and feedback forms will be available for you to collect and return later by mail, and even an abbreviated opportunity for interaction and discussion is better than none at all. For those who are unable to attend the workshops, there will also be an on-line opportunity to provide input.

In the first two rounds of Forest Plan Revision workshops, held in July and December, 2005, we worked with the public to develop and refine a framework of Desired Conditions. These have since been publicized as a draft Chapter 1 of the Revised Plan, available on the web at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/btnf/news/forest_plan_revision/fpr_static_lincs/fpr/chap1_6_14_06.pdf.

*: *due to several requests to the Forest Planning team, participants in the Rock Springs meeting on March 6th will also discuss oil and gas and recreation settings, just as the November workshop participants did in the rest of the State*

Our purpose in this round of workshops is to investigate how current conditions on the Forest compare to the Desired Conditions we worked together to identify in those earlier rounds. The difference between the two is the “Need for Change” that we’ll strive to address as we work together to develop a proposed Revision later this year.

For more information on the Bridger-Teton’s plan revision process, please visit the Plan Revision website at http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/btnf/news/forest_plan_revision/ or call Rick Fox, Forest Planner, at (307) 739-5563.

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