



## Flathead National Forest

## Media Release

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### **Public Comments Wanted for C.H.R Motorized Route & Area Designation Proposal on Hungry Horse and Glacier View Districts**

The Hungry Horse and Glacier View Districts of the Flathead National Forest are asking for public comment on a proposal to designate wheeled motorized travel in several specific areas across the districts: Cedar Flats, Hungry Horse Track, FK & L trails adjacent to Emery Bay Campground, Hungry Horse Reservoir, and along the North and Middle Forks of the Flathead River. The proposal also identifies a season of use on existing wheeled motorized trails along the Swan Crest north of Jewel Basin Hiking Area.

These specific areas of the Hungry Horse and Glacier View Districts were identified as areas for potential changes to the existing open motorized transportation system. The purpose of this project, C.H.R. Motorized Route and Area Designation Project, is to restrict and designate a system of motorized roads, trails and areas that continue to provide access to the wild and scenic river corridor and Hungry Horse Reservoir, as well as manage motorized use within the wildland urban interface areas adjacent to the communities of Columbia Falls and Hungry Horse.

The project proposes:

**Cedar Flats** – Designate approximately nine miles of existing routes in the Cedar Flats area north of Columbia Falls as trails open seasonally to vehicles 50 inches wide or less, and construct two short segments of trail to provide multiple loop systems.

**Hungry Horse Track Area** – Designate approximately two miles of existing routes, adjacent to the designated Hungry Horse Track, as trails open seasonally to vehicles 50 inches wide or less. Motorized travel on Road #11090 would be prohibited and motorized travel would be limited on Road #11090A.

**FK&L** – Designate approximately one-third of a mile of existing routes as trails open to vehicles 50 inches wide or less adjacent to the dispersed areas known as

FK&L on the east side of Hungry Horse Reservoir near the Emery Bay Campground.

**Wild and Scenic River Corridors** - Designate all wheeled motorized travel within the Wild and Scenic River corridors for the Middle and North Forks of the Flathead River to system roads, trails, and areas for the purpose of accessing the corridor.

**Hungry Horse Reservoir** – Designate specific areas below the high water line on Hungry Horse Reservoir to allow for existing access to the reservoir.

**Swan Crest Motorized Trails** – Manage existing wheeled motorized trails along the Swan Crest north of the Jewel Basin Hiking Area for seasonal wheeled motorized use, rather than year-round use.

Maps and additional information about the project can be obtained at [www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead). The public is invited to schedule a visit with project coordinators Paula Peterson or Michele Draggoo by contacting 387-3800.

Comments on this proposal should be received by the Forest Service by Friday, March 21. It is anticipated an environmental analysis will be published late spring and a decision determined late summer.

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