



Flathead National Forest

Media Release

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Flathead National Forest Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) Accepting Project Proposals

The Flathead National Forest Flathead County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) is requesting project proposals for implementation in 2006. Proposals are due by May 6, 2005 and are available from the forest's website /www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead/ or by contacting Denise Germann with the Forest Service at 758-5252.

The committee will grant approximately \$250,000 for a variety of projects. Funds may be used for projects on federal and non-federal lands that benefit National Forest System lands. Approximately 50% of the funding will be granted to road, trail and watershed projects.

Recent RAC projects include;

- Forest thinning and planting activities on the Flathead National Forest
- Replacement of the East Fork Swift Bridge on Stillwater State Forest,
- Realignment of the county's North Fork Road north of Columbia Falls,
- Noxious weed control activities across the county
- Improvements at Round Meadows Ski and Bike Trail Area on the Flathead National Forest,
- Trail improvements within the Bob Marshall Wilderness,
- Forest health improvement activities on the Flathead National Forest, and
- Road and watershed improvements across the county.

The Flathead County Resource Advisory Committee was chartered in 2001 by the US Department of Agriculture under the Federal Advisory Committee Act and is authorized under Section 205 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, Public Law 106-393. This law replaced an arrangement that gave counties 25% of the Forest Service receipts from logging, grazing, recreation and other activities on National Forest Lands. The law provides rural counties a predictable level of funding for local schools, roads and natural resource projects.

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