



## Flathead National Forest

## Media Release

September 26, 2005

Contact: Denise Germann  
406-758-5252  
406-249-1714 cell

### Tally Lake District Offers Public Field Trip for Valley Face Fuels Reduction Project

The Tally Lake District of the Flathead National Forest is hosting a public field trip on Thursday, October 6, 1-5pm, to view aspects of the proposed Valley Face Fuels Reduction Project. The project is designed to reduce hazardous fuels and improve forest health conditions on Forest Service lands located ten to fifteen air miles west and southwest of Whitefish. The proposal includes a variety of timber harvest and/or fuel reduction treatments that emphasize the retention of large fire resistant trees, the salvage of timber killed by insects and disease, and the creation of residual stands that are less prone to insects, disease, and high intensity wildfires.

Field trip participants will view several proposed treatment areas within the Valley Face project. The itinerary will also include a stop at a unit from a similar recent project to demonstrate the appearance of a timber stand following fuel reduction treatment.

Interested individuals are asked to register for the field trip by calling the Tally Lake District at (406) 863-5400. Please meet at the Round Meadows Ski Area parking lot on the Star Meadows Road in time for the 1 pm departure. Round Meadows Ski Area is approximately one mile west of the junction of the Star Meadows Road and Farm to Market Road northwest of Whitefish.

Members of the public are invited to drive their private vehicles and carpooling is encouraged. Space may also be available in Forest Service vehicles that will return to the parking lot following the field trip. Additional Information about the field trip or the proposed project is available at the Tally Lake District Office in Whitefish or by contacting Project Leader Bryan Donner at (406) 863-5408.

-END-