



United States Department of Interior  
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Bureau of Land Management

Missoula Field Office  
Missoula, Montana 59804

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **BLM INVITES COMMENTS ON HOODOOS PLANNING EFFORT**

MISSOULA (January 3, 2006) – The Missoula Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management is starting the environmental assessment (EA) process for nearly 30,000 acres of BLM land in the Hoodoos Mountain Range in Powell County. The lands are located between Helmville and Garrison Junction.

Interested individuals are invited to attend one of the two open houses hosted by the BLM to share information on the proposed activities and gather public comments. Open houses will be held:

- January 19 from 2-6 pm in Helmville at the Helmville Community Center;
- January 24 from 2-5 pm in Deer Lodge at the USDA building conference room.

BLM invites your comments on the proposal and to be most helpful, the comments should be submitted by February 6. If you would like a copy of the EA or would like to discuss the proposal but cannot attend one of the open houses, contact George Hirschenberger at the Missoula Field Office, (406) 329-3908.

Actions proposed for the Hoodoos include cutting and removal of trees and prescribed burning to improve forest health, wildlife habitat and to reduce fuels; protecting stream banks and riparian areas to improve conditions; construction of a new road; correcting problems with existing roads; renewal of six grazing leases; and construction of a trail.