

Chapter 4 - Consultation, Distribution, List of Preparers, References, and Glossary

4.1 CONSULTATION

4.1.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Chapter 2 details the public participation to date. The initial scoping document (Project Record) was sent on February 2, 2004 to approximately 91 individuals, government agencies, tribal governments, news media, businesses, and organizations that have shown interest in similar projects on the Custer National Forest. The public comment period ended on May 1, 2004. A legal advertisement inviting comments was placed in the Billings Gazette (Billings, MT) in February 2, 2004, summarizing the information provided in the document. News releases were sent to local newspapers.

Public meetings were held in Red Lodge, Pryor, Bridger, Billings, and Columbus, Montana and Lovell, Wyoming in February 2004 to discuss the scoping document. Public meetings were also held in Red Lodge, Bridger, Billings, and Columbus, Montana and Lovell, Wyoming in July 2006.

Seven collaboration meetings were held over a period of four months in early 2007 (January through April). The attendance at the collaboration sessions ranged from 65 to 159 individuals. The attendees worked together during these seven half day sessions reviewing information and maps to identify points of agreement. While no specific collaborative alternative was developed, several points of agreement on roads and trails were reached (see Table 2-1).

In response to these efforts, over 5000 letters, personal comments, or phone calls were received. Collaborative group session information was documented and reviewed. The analysis of electronic, written and verbal comments preliminarily identified several potential issues. Some of these issues were identified as significant issues and were used to formulate many elements of the alternatives.

The Draft EIS was published in the Federal Register October 5, 2007 which began a 60 day comment period (original 45 day comment period with a 15 day extension). Also, a news release was provided to local news media at the beginning of the comment period. The Draft EIS was made available to interested parties identified in the updated EIS mailing list. In response to the comment period, over 500 letters, personal comments, or phone calls were received. A content analysis of the comments was conducted and response to comments is found in Chapter 5.

4.1.2 CONSULTATION WITH OTHERS

The following agencies were consulted during preparation of the EIS:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
Bureau of Land Management

Coordination with the Crow Tribe has been ongoing in the form of the original project scoping letter, public meetings, agency meetings, letter correspondences and proposed/scheduled field trips which

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outlined the proposed project specifics and requested any concerns that they may have regarding cultural resources or traditional cultural properties. This coordination effort is intended to insure that any tribal concerns or comments are addressed throughout the NEPA process in regards to ARPA, AIRFA, NAGPRA and/or Bulletin 38 issues.

4.2 DISTRIBUTION

This document has been distributed in hardcopy or electronic format to individuals that have expressed an interest in the project and receiving this document, and to the officials, agencies, firms, and organizations listed below

U.S. Federal Officials

Honorable Denny Rehberg – Congressman
Honorable John Tester – Senator
Honorable Max Baucus – Senator

U.S. Federal Agencies

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
USDA APHIS PPD/EAD
Natural Resources Conservation Service
USDA National Agricultural Library
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Northwestern Division
Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Northwest Power Planning Council
Federal Aviation Administration
Federal Highway Administrator
U.S. Department of Energy

Native American Tribes

The Crow Tribe

Local Officials

Albert Brown – Carbon County Commissioner
David Davidson – Carbon County Commissioner
John Prinkki – Carbon County Commissioner
Dennis Hoyem – Stillwater County Commissioner
Maureen Davey – Stillwater County Commissioner
Jerry L. Friend – Stillwater County Commissioner
Elaine Allstad – Sweetgrass County Commissioner
Lloyd Berg – Sweetgrass County Commissioner
Phillip Hathaway – Sweetgrass County Commissioner
Larry Lahren – Park County Commissioner
Jim Durgan – Park County Commissioner
Dick Murphy – Park County Commissioner
Bill Kennedy – Yellowstone County Commissioner
Jim Reno – Yellowstone County Commissioner
John Ostlund – Yellowstone County Commissioner

Libraries

Billings Parmly Library
Stillwater County Library
Bridger Public Library
Red Lodge Carnegie Library

Organizations and Firms

Montana River Action
Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society
Greater Yellowstone Coalition
Montana Native Plant Society
Treasure State ATV Association
Voyageur Outward Bound
Pryor Mountain Wild Mustang Center
Wiley Church
Montana Pilot's Association
Billings Rod and Gun Club
Capital Trail Vehicle Association
Families for Outdoor Recreation
Montana Wilderness Association
Beartooth Back Country Horsemen
Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
Beartooth Mountain Christian Ranch
Montana Wilderness Association
Families for Outdoor Recreation
Montana 4X4 Association
Treasure State ATV Association
Citizens for Balanced Use
International Mountain Bike Association
Rimrock 4X4 Club
Outdoors Montana
Billings Motorcycle Club
American Motorcycle Association
Magic City Four Wheelers
Park City Recreation Association
Frontier Heritage Alliance
Montana Snowmobile Association
Treasure State Alliance
Quiet Trails
Montana Wildlife Federation
Stillwater Protective Association
Yellowstone River Parks Association
Yellowstone Valley Cycling Club
Northern Plains Resource Council
Montana Multiple Use Association
Bench Ranch Guest and Guide Services
GeoScience Associates, Inc.
Paint Brush Adventures
Benbow ATV Rentals

4.3 LIST OF PREPARERS

The following people prepared the EIS in an interdisciplinary manner.

Babete Anderson, Public Affairs Specialist/Executive Assistant, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Human Environment

Education: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Montana State University-Billings

Experience: 22 years in public information with the USDA, Forest Service.

Mike W. Bergstrom, Zone Archaeologist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Cultural Resources; Archeological Resources

Education: B.S., Sociology - Anthropology Option

Experience: 23 years as an archaeologist, 13 years with the USDA Forest Service

Brenda Christensen, Civil Engineer, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Public Safety; Maintenance and Administration of Roads and Trails; Editing

Education: B.S., Civil Engineering

Experience: 19 years as a Civil Engineer with USDA Forest Service; Registered Professional Engineer since 1994 in the state of Oregon.

Doug Epperly, Recreation Program Manager, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Project Leader; Chapters 1 and 2; Implementation and Enforcement; Editing

Education: B.S., Forestry

Experience: 20 years of land management and NEPA experience with the USDA Forest Service; 5 years of land management and NEPA coordination with the US Bureau of Reclamation

Krista Gebert, Regional Economist (Acting), USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Economics

Education: M.A., Economics, B.A., Economics

Experience: Economist with the USDA FS Rocky Mountain Research Station since 1996.

Jeff Gildehaus, Outdoor Recreation Planner, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Recreation

Experience: 19 years in Recreation with the USDA Forest Service

Mary Gonzales, GIS Specialist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Mapping

Education: B.S., Renewable Natural Resources

Experience: 5 years as a GIS Specialist and 15 years as a Culturist with USDA Forest Service

Thomas Highberger, Outdoor Recreation Planner, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Proposed Action and Alternative Development

Experience: 35 years in Recreation Management with USDA Forest Service

Terry Jones, Range Management Specialist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Proposed Action and Alternative Development

Education: B.S., Range Management

Experience: 20 years as a Range Management Specialist with USDA Forest Service

Halcyon LaPoint, Archeologist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Cultural Resources; Traditional Cultural Properties

Education: M.A., Anthropology

Experience: 21 years as an Archeologist with USDA Forest Service

John R. Lane, Soil Scientist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Soils

Education: B.S. Forest Resource Management; M.S. Soils.

Experience: 21 years as a Soil Scientist with USDA Forest Service, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (Soil Conservation Service), USDI National Park Service, and Private Industry

Mark Nienow, Forest Hydrologist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Water Quality

Education: B.S., Water Resources

Experience: 20 years as a Hydrologist with USDA Forest Service

Pat Pierson, Geologist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Proposed Action and Alternative Development

Education: B. S. Forest Management, B. S. Geology

Experience: 30 years in Natural Resource Management with USDA Forest Service

Barbara Pitman, Wildlife Biologist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Wildlife and Habitat

Education: B.S., Geology, and further education in Wildlife Biology

Experience: 7 years as Wildlife Biologist with USDA Forest Service

Kim Reid, Range Management Specialist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Vegetation Ecology; Weeds; Sensitive Plants; Editing

Education: B.S., Range Management

Experience: 29 years in Range Management, Field Ecology, and Botany with USDA Forest Service

Jeff Stockwell, Fire Management Officer, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Proposed Action and Alternative Development

Education: B.S. Forestry

Experience: 20 years in Fire Management with USDA Forest Service

Keith Stockmann, Economist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Economics

Education: B.A., Economics, M.S., Environmental Studies and Ph.D., Forestry

Experience: 7 years as an Economist with USDA Forest Service

Darin A. Watschke, Fisheries Biologist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Fisheries and Aquatics

Education: B.S., Fish and Wildlife Management; M.S., Fisheries Ecology

Experience: 10 years in Fisheries with USDA Forest Service; Fisheries Biologist since 2004.

Allie Wood, Wilderness and Trails, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Proposed Action and Alternative Development

Education: B.S. Natural Resource Management

Experience: 15 years in Wilderness and Trails Management with USDA Forest Service

Annette Yeager, Natural Resource Specialist, USDA Forest Service

Contribution: Project File Management

Education: B.S. Biology

Experience: 10 years in Natural Resource Management with USDA Forest Service

4.4 REFERENCES

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4.4.3 RECREATION

4.4.3.1 Recreation

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4.4.3.2 Human Environment

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4.4.5 WATER QUALITY, FISHERIES, AND AQUATICS

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4.5 GLOSSARY

Area – A discrete, specifically delineated space that is smaller, and in most cases much smaller, than a Ranger District.

Designated Road, Trail, or Area - A National Forest System road, a National Forest System trail, or an area on National Forest System lands that is designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR 212.51 on a motor vehicle use map. (36 CFR 212.1)

Designation – Motor vehicle use on NFS roads and trails, and in areas on NFS lands shall be designated by vehicle class and, if appropriate, by time of year.

Forest Road or Trail - A forest road or trail is a road or trail wholly or partly within, or adjacent to, and serving the National Forest System and which is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources. (23 USC 101)

Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) – - Map required by the 2005 Motorized Travel Rule that indicates designated roads, trails and areas.

National Forest System Road (System Road) - A forest road other than a road which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a State, *county* or other local public road authority. (36 CFR 212.1, 36 CFR 251.51, 36 CFR 261.2)

National Forest System Trail (System Trail) - A forest trail other than a trail which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a State, county or other local public road authority. (36 CFR 212.1)

Off-highway Vehicle – Any motor vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, snow, ice, marsh, swampland or other natural terrain.

Road – A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail.

Route Decommissioning – Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state.

Season of Use - The time of year that a system road is designated for use.

Temporary road or trail – A road or trail necessary for emergency operations or authorized by contract, permit, lease, or other written authorization that is not a forest road or trail and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas.

Trail – A route 50 inches or less in width or a route over 50 inches wide that is identified and managed as a trail.

Unauthorized road (non-system road) – A road or trail that is not a forest road or trail.

Other Relevant Info: State laws regarding operation of motor vehicles apply to system roads; state laws regarding operation of motor vehicles do not apply to system trails. (CFR's defer to state laws on system roads.).

- End of Chapter 4 -