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# Gallatin National Forest News Release



For Immediate Release  
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Contact: Marna Daley, (406) 587-6703

## Local Managers Receive Proposal for Endurance Race - Scoping Comments Requested

Bozeman, MT... A group of southwest Montana land management agencies have received an application for a special use permit for a commercial endurance race event. This non-motorized race would occur between June 21 – July 2, 2008 and involve the following Federal and Montana State agencies: Gallatin National Forest, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Montana Department of Natural Resources – State Trust Land, Bureau of Land Management – Dillon and Butte Field Offices. The agencies have prepared a scoping document that will be available December 21, 2007. Comments on this proposal should be received by January 25, 2008.

The long-distance race could involve up to 90 teams, 4 people each. Teams would be competing on foot, mountain bike, 2-person inflatable boats, swim boards and hard kayaks. Racers would change from one mode of transportation to another at designated Transition Areas (TAs) where there would be a medical tent, a race official tent, porta-potties and trash facilities. Teams would travel day and night, except for the stretch on the Gallatin River which would be day travel only.

“The Gallatin National Forest is taking the lead for coordinating this request for public comments since the largest portions of the race course would be on lands that this Forest manages,” said Marna Daley, Gallatin National Forest Public Affairs Officer. “The scoping document is organized by agency and the corresponding sections of the race course that agency is responsible for. Comments on specific components of the proposed race should be directed to the appropriate management agency as identified in the scoping letter. It is important to remember that the scoping documents address lands managed by the federal and state management agencies, however, some private land and county roads may also be utilized by the teams.”

Additional information, including a hard copy of the scoping document can be obtained by contacting the Gallatin National Forest, (406) 587-6701; 10 East Babcock, Bozeman, MT. The scoping letter is also available on-line at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin> click on the ‘Projects and Plans’ link.

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