



NEWS RELEASE

Lolo National Forest

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United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Lolo National Forest
Building 24, Fort Missoula
Missoula, Montana 59804

For Immediate Release

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Missoula County Resource Advisory Committee Still Recruiting

Missoula, MT. – The Lolo National Forest and Missoula County continue to seek applicants for the newly-formed Missoula County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) and officials are encouraging interested individuals to apply as soon as possible. The committee will make recommendations on projects that provide benefit to Forest Service land within Missoula County.

The funding and administration for Missoula County RAC projects will be provided under the authority of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act, which was recently reauthorized in October with the passing of Public Law 110-343.

The Forest Service and Missoula County are seeking individuals with an interest in resource management and a strong desire to work collaboratively within a diverse group of interests. Applicants are not required to be Missoula County Residents but they must be residents of the state of Montana. The RAC positions are unpaid but members can be reimbursed for travel. The outreach for RAC membership will continue until a strong pool of applicants is established, according to county and Forest Service officials.

The RAC will consist of 15 members and three alternates, one alternate for each category. Five members will be selected for each group and members will serve four year terms. To be eligible, a prospective RAC applicant must meet the criteria of one of the following three categories:

One: Five regular members and one replacement who represent one or more of the following interests:

- Organized labor or non-timber forest product harvester groups
- Developed outdoor recreation, off-highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities
- Energy and mineral development or commercial or recreational fishing interests
- Commercial timber industry
- Federal grazing or other land use permit holders, or non-industrial private forest land owners.

Two: Five regular members and one replacement who represent one or more of the following interests:

- Nationally recognized environmental organizations
- Regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations
- Dispersed recreation activities
- Archaeological and historical interests
- Nationally or regionally recognized wild horse or burro groups, wildlife or hunting organizations or watershed organizations

Three: Five regular members and one replacement who represent one or more of the following interests:

- State-elected office holders or their designee
- County or local elected office holders
- American Indian tribal representatives from tribes within or adjacent to RAC area
- School officials or teachers
- Citizens representing the affected public at large

Interested applicants can go to the following website to download the required application form: https://wwwnotes.fs.fed.us/r4/payments_to_states.nsf. The RAC member application form is located under the heading, Title II, in the upper left-hand section of the web page. A hard copy application must be signed and submitted to: Lolo National Forest Public Affairs Office, Building 24, Fort Missoula, Missoula, MT. 59804.

Applications are also available by contacting Bob Reid at the Missoula County Courthouse, 200 W. Broadway (258-4758), or by pick-up at the Missoula Ranger District front office, Building 24, Fort Missoula. For additional information please contact Boyd Hartwig at (406) 329-1024, or Bob Reid at (406) 258-4758.

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