



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Hungry Horse and Glacier View  
Ranger Districts  
(406) 387-3800  
Fax (406) 387-3889

8975 Highway 2 East  
P.O. Box 190340  
Hungry Horse, MT 59919

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File Code: 1950

Date: October 15, 2004

Dear Interested Individual,

A copy of the completed Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Hungry Horse Land Conveyance Project is enclosed for your review and comment. The EA is also available for review and downloading on the Flathead National Forest internet website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead>. You may obtain additional copies of the EA at either the Hungry Horse and Glacier View Ranger Districts Office in Hungry Horse or the Flathead National Forest Supervisor's Office in Kalispell.

This project, initiated in January 2004, is located adjacent to the town of Hungry Horse, Montana, on a portion of the present Forest Service Administrative site. The EA documents the effects of implementing the Proposed Action, as well as the effects of a "no-action" alternative. Issues received through internal and public comments during the scoping portion of this project have been considered during the analysis. Effects of both alternatives are described in the EA.

With this project the Forest Service is proposing to sell 92.22 acres of National Forest System land within the Hungry Horse administrative site. The funds produced would supplement other funds to construct a new office building for employees from the Hungry Horse, Spotted Bear, and Glacier View Ranger Districts of the Flathead National Forest. Congress authorized the proposed land sale through the Pilot Conveyance Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-7 108<sup>th</sup> Congress). The Forest Service is also directed to maximize the return of funds to the Government for use in the new office building project.

The project includes the proposal to sell land, the sale of six associated buildings, establishment of an administrative withdrawal on an adjoining 122-acre site, and construction of a new office building with associated utilities. A highest and best use analysis was conducted resulting in a marketing approach that recommended dividing the 92.22 acres into 5 individual tracts. Certain approvals from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality will be required to comply with state laws. A high production water well occupies one of the tracts that is proposed to be sold to the Hungry Horse Water District. The well can benefit the Hungry Horse Community.

Abigail R. Kimbell, Region One Regional Forester, is the Responsible Official for this project. Your comments on this project will be considered before making a decision. Please provide any concerns or site specific information you have that doesn't appear to have been considered in the document and your reasoning why it should be considered prior to reaching a decision.

To be most effective, please provide comments specific to the proposed action. Comments may be submitted in writing, orally, or through electronic means. In order to retain your administrative appeal rights, you must provide timely, substantive written, oral, or electronic comments during the 30-day comment period. Each individual or representative from each organization submitting substantive comments must either sign the comments or verify identity



upon request.

You may send or deliver written comments to either:

David Ondov  
Flathead National Forest  
1935 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. E.  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
Business Hours 8:00-4:30 weekdays

Jimmy DeHerrera  
Hungry Horse and Glacier View Ranger Districts  
P.O. Box 190340  
Hungry Horse, MT 59919  
Business hours 8:00-4:30 weekdays

Comments must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service, e-mailed, faxed or otherwise submitted by 11:59 p.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> calendar day following publication of the legal ad in the Kalispell Daily Interlake. Hand delivered comments must be time and date imprinted at one of the above listed offices by the close of business on the 30<sup>th</sup> calendar day following publication of the legal ad in the Kalispell Daily Interlake. Oral comments must be provided at one of the above listed offices during normal business hours via telephone or in person.

Electronic comments may be submitted to [comments-northern-flathead-hungry-horse-glacier-view@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-northern-flathead-hungry-horse-glacier-view@fs.fed.us). The subject line must contain the name of this project. Acceptable formats are MS Word, Word Perfect, or RTF. For electronically mailed comments, the sender should normally receive an automated electronic acknowledgement from the agency as confirmation of receipt. If the sender does not receive an automated acknowledgement of the receipt of comments, it is the sender's responsibility to ensure timely receipt by other means.

Following this public comment period, the Regional Forester expects to make her decision in December 2004. At that time we will prepare a Decision Notice. If the proposed action is selected, implementation would likely begin in 2005.

If you have questions or wish to discuss any aspects of this proposal, you may contact Linda Smith at (406) 758-5369 (email at [lsmith@fs.fed.us](mailto:lsmith@fs.fed.us)), Debbie Olsen at (406) 758-5321 (email at [drolsen@fs.fed.us](mailto:drolsen@fs.fed.us)), or David Ondov, project leader, at (406) 758-5364 (email at [dondov@fs.fed.us](mailto:dondov@fs.fed.us)). All are located at the Flathead National Forest Supervisor's Office, 1935 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901. You may also write to me at the address on this letter.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Jimmy DeHerrera*

JIMMY DEHERRERA  
District Ranger

Enclosure