



United States Department of Agriculture



## CUSTER GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

# Forest Plan Revision June Assessment Community Conversations



Forest Service

Summary from June Public Meetings 2016

# Community Conversations June 14-30th



June Public Meetings took place in:

- 8 communities
- 3 additional webinar opportunities

Each meeting consisted of:

- Assessment Results to date
- Presentation
- Community Conversation & Q - A

# Purpose of the Meeting



Share some ***results to date*** of the Assessment of Existing Conditions

Share some ***early ideas*** of the Need to Change the Existing Plans

Community Conversation around what people care about and want to see for the Forest.

# Why this Format?



- We all hear each other's perspectives.
- Shared learning about the Forest.
- Start to develop relationships.
- Start to build the foundations for revising the Plan.
- The public's discussion helps us understand what people care about and want to see for their National Forest.



This power point outlines the raw information/templates we heard per community during the community conversations

- A Visual Summary  
(as a aggregation of everything we heard) &
- Written Summary Chart (per community) are available as well online for ease of viewing.

Forest Plan Revision Team





# Community Conversation



## What we heard - East



### Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

*I - Easy Pathway, Smart/Action Plan*

Master  
Date - June 14 - 30  
Location - All Public Meetings

**What is important to you about this topic?**

*Recognizing all uniqueness, each area*  
*Coordination w/all agencies (BIA, Conservation)*  
*Equal weight on all issues*

**Why?**

*ACCESS (as fire) (at maintenance, emerging)*  
*Hunting season = Recreation, Past/Pandemic = Increased riding, w/ increased riding, tree - hunting, tree*  
*Trade Commission*  
*livestock grazing = livelihood*  
*Grazing is our livelihood*  
*Impacts of ESA grazing on grazing (livelihood)*  
*Development of current + sustainability of current + aspects + production off*  
*Social NPS lands*

**Economic Contributions of this land**

*Weeds eradication*  
*Invasives*  
*begin from fuels treatments*  
*More management, thinning, the grazing, + timber harvest*

**Value & Meaning**

*protecting petroglyphs here (some)*  
*Continuation of grazing - mgmt trees, long term mgmt 20-30 yrs from now*  
*livelihood is on the forest, not just recreation*  
*Concern - 1 forest plan, how does it acknowledge uniqueness, knowledge*  
*Conifer + willow encroachment*  
*Sense of place + area here*

**Learning Edge**

*Pre-forestation, planning out, how re-planting is done + what direction*  
*Recognize differences in landscape*  
*Airsheds, understanding*  
*Grizzly Bear Education - how works + who*  
*Conflicts Wildlife + Domestic Animals*  
*Keep Branches out/water*

**Surprises**

*Elk Numbers (how many, hunting, predation)*  
*How forest has burned, Vegetation has changed*  
*used acres → increase*  
*Open to listening in this format*  
*Consider what is going right in plan, keep doing (OK east side)*  
*Native Species still here, more that uniqueness into plan, doing it right*

**Resources (Fire/Miles City)**

*Upkeep Maintenance of what time*  
*meting ed+off road use*  
*Hunter conflicts*  
*Increased Visitor Use*

**Challenges**

*Complexed jurisdictions*  
*Better coordination across regions*  
*Water Development / springs*  
*Elk + Cattle*  
*sense of place*  
*hunting, mgmt of wildlife populations*  
*Elk Depopulation*

**Takeaway**

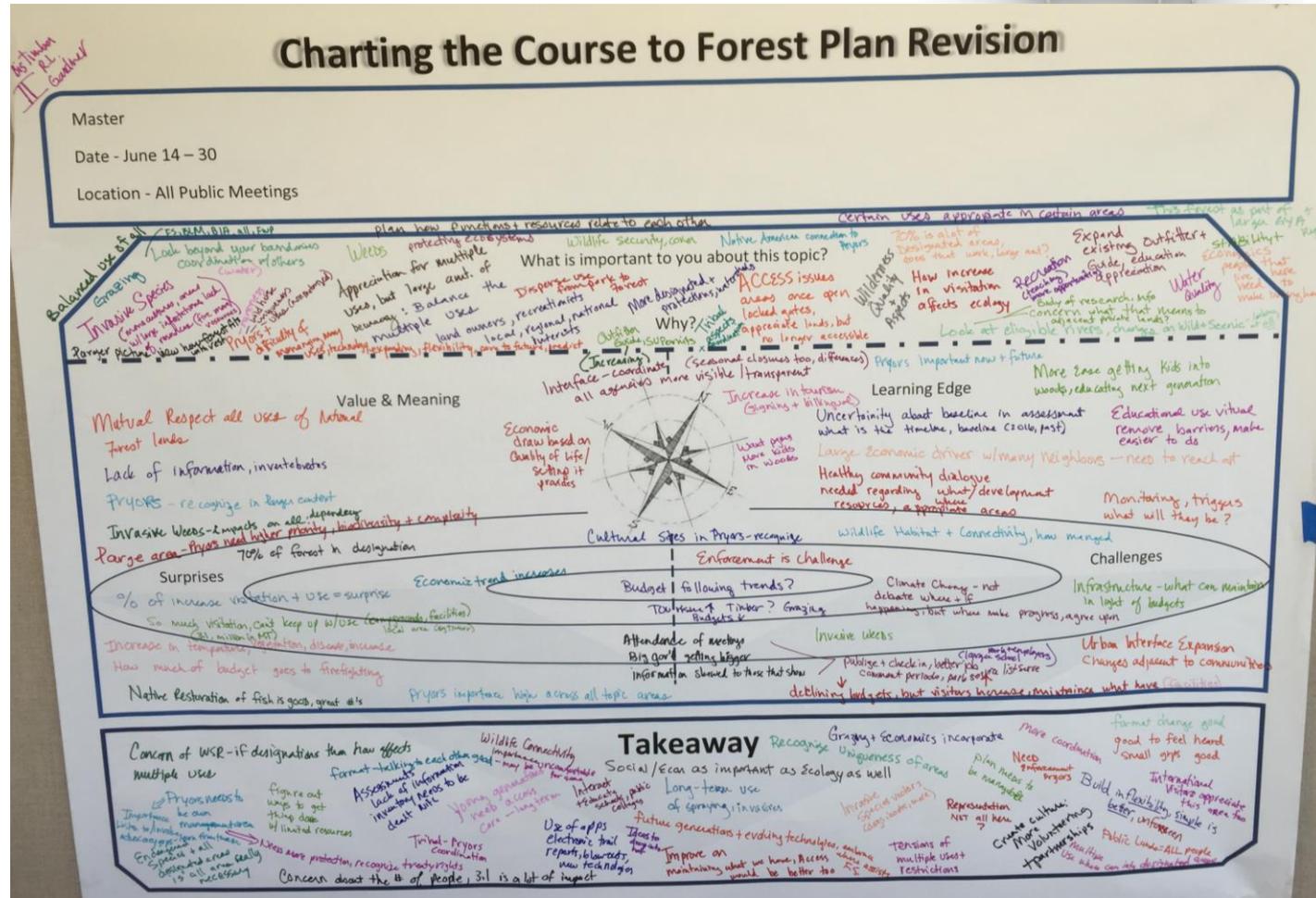
*Hear the small communities across forest*  
*Long term Vegetation mgmt of Forest*  
*Concern that \$/population influence decision more, understand ranching, importance of forest here, Recreation not strong*  
*WSR + Wildfires not necessarily relevant Ashland*  
*Listening to us*  
*Land is resilient, Nature area long term*  
*Long term grazing goals*  
*Rotation, grazing, possible?*  
*Long-term Grazing Goals*  
*Protect Grazing, Acknowledge Recreation, but cooperation needed*  
*Recognize Economic + grazing*  
*Flexibility in plan*  
*Our land units are much different, doing a 1st well*  
*Keep it local*  
*Clean up hog and trees, maintenance*  
*Weeds*  
*Coordination Elk Population Snow w/WRP*



# Community Conversation



## What we heard - Central







# Ashland Community



(CPA)

Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

**Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision**

Topic - LAND USE / REC / INFRASTRUCTURE / SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS  
 Date - 6/14/16  
 Location - ASHLAND

**What is important to you about this topic?**

HUNTING - OTHER THAN LOCALS IN GENERAL RIFLE - LIMITED STREAMS, NO FISHING  
 FIRE AFTERMATH AFFECTING REC ACCESS - HORSE BACKING RIDING RECREATIONAL - WHITE TA  
 UNSAFE PUBLIC TRAVEL IN THE WOODS - LOCALS MAY USE CAMP GROUNDS  
 TREES COMING DOWN FOR DIRECTION OF THE PLAN - RECREATIONAL 4 WHEELERS ARE OUT.  
 ASHLAND IS ISOLATED FROM CAMP GROUNDS  
 ALSO LIMITED FACILITIES (SUCH AS SHOWER) MAY HAVE MORE VISITORS.

**Why?**

**Value and Meaning**  
 BECAUSE EAST IS SO DIFFERENT, WANT PLAN  
 DESIRE FOR PLAN TO CUSTOMIZE TO LOCAL AREA - VERY DIFFERENT

**Learning Edge**

**Surprises**

**Challenges**  
 Local County Road Status - not allowed  
 to use gravel source from NF, even through Roads  
 Travelling across Forest - LEADS TO HIGHER COSTS  
 Recreational use of those county roads AFFECTED

**Takeaway**  
 • Worry about public involvement being over population & money, to influence decision in the  
 plan that could offis area unfairly. Want siders - dont understand ranching. The forests  
 are used for other than recreation.  
 • Wild & Scenic River = NOT RELEVANT HERE. Don't want to see more Wilderness  
 • WILDERNESS LESS LIKELY TO BE RELEVANT HERE  
 • BUILD IN FLEXIBILITY IN THE PLAN TO ADAPT TO CHANGE IN LAND  
 • HUNTING + RIDING + TRAIL DESIGNATIONS HAVE CHANGED OVER 30 YEARS. (2) FIRES  
 • PLAN SHOULD PROTECT GRAZING  
 • RECREATION INTERACTS WITH GRAZING - (2) GATES OPEN, HEMLOCKERS COMPLAIN ABOUT Cows in forest

(VIRGINIA)

Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

**Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision**

Topic - Ecology Wildlife, Veg, Air, Soils, Drivers, Buckle, Carbon  
 Date - 6/14/16  
 Location - Ashland

**What is important to you about this topic?**

Noxious Weeds - fight them harder Different from West side of state  
 Less fire - manage fuels thru logging & grazing  
 Growth of prairie dog towns effect grasslands.  
 Manage timber better. Why?  
 Appreciate wildlife for hunting/trapping Different use of  
 Forest, different  
 Water - do more water development re manage

**Value and Meaning**

How much forest has burned  
 Conversion to grass/prairie  
 Weeds doubled in 10 years - what  
 will it be going forward  
 More management of grass/trees - help reduce fires/weeds

**Learning Edge**

**Surprises**

**Challenges**  
 Weeds are Huge  
 Veg w/ grazing better than 30-40 yrs ago  
 ACOS permit  
 More water improvements

**Takeaway**

Do More timber mgmt  
 Continual w/ livestock grazing  
 Rotation mgmt possible?  
 Coal Seam Fires -  
 is no mgmt to get them out  
 Don't let small populations  
 get lost  
 Concern for  
 bees, ant lion, etc, effects on  
 grazing





# Ashland Community



(ROW)

Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

**Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision**

Assessment/Need to Change

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#34 Topic - Socio/Econ / Mult. Use, renewable, non-renewable, Tribal, Cultural  
 Date - 4/14/16  
 Location - Ashland

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**What is important to you about this topic?**

GRASSWALL IMPACTS WERE CONSIDERED IN GRASSWALL CONDITIONS TO IMPROVE LESS DENSE  
 FORESTRY IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT RANGE CONDITIONS ARE IMPROVING COMMUNICATED

**Why?**

GRASSWALL - SUSTAINABILITY OF CURRENT STRATEGIES/RANGES  
 - Eco/Socio/ECONOMICAL STABILITY OF LOCAL COMMUNITY  
 - PRODUCTION (LOCAL EMPLOYERS) (Economic)  
 PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE ARE HEARD  
 RESPECT OF CULTURE  
 FOCUS ON ASHLAND RD  
 CHANGES - ECONOMIC - Cattle Ranges  
 PREVENTION - LOGGING/FUEL TREATMENTS

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**Value and Meaning**

- CONTINUATION OF FORESTWALL GRASSWALL - FR REV <sup>LOSS</sup>
- GRASSWALL/FOREST
- Big Fins - Management of Trees (LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT)
- Grazing as a tip in fire suppression
- Look @ RESEEDING OF TREES CONCENTRATE IN AREAS
- Livestock Hold - NOT CATTLE OR FEED FOREST

**Learning Edge**

- DEVELOPMENT OF WATER
- GROWTH WALK TO NEARBY PARKS

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**Surprises**

**Challenges**

- NOT FOREMAN - SENSE OF PLACE
- EXTENT
- CONFERRED BY Elk & CATTLE
- Multiple USE
- MANAGE WILDCOYD POPULATION
- RESTORATION

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**Takeaway**

- Long term grasswalle GOALS
- When remove permits/ISSUE (CHANGE HANDS) GOVT MUST BACK
- USE OF ALLOWABLE AUM'S
- When DEVELOPMENT
- When LOCATION
- CLEAN UP DOWN TREES OUTREES THAT COME DOWN
- Woods
- DIVERSIFIED CONDITION FOCUSES ON SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC/SUSTAINABILITY OF INDUSTRY
- Long term PLAN FOR FORESTED USE
- Economic IMPACT IF ANY FORM of reduce levels of grasswalle
- Powder County economic BOOST - INCREASED #34
- KEEP WORKING RECREATIONSHIP
- USE GRASSWALL FOR FIRE MANAGEMENT





# Ekalaka Community



Assessment/Need to Change: **Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision** Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

Topic - All (One group)  
Date - June 15, 2016  
Location - Ekalaka

**What is important to you about this topic?**

Continued livestock grazing. Economic Return  
Endangered Species Impact <sup>Why? (impacts in plan? Case groups)</sup> Conifers need to be thinned  
Roads, Campgrounds, Springs not maintained <sup>(scouting, thinning, management requirements)</sup> Reduce fuels  
Noxious Weeds

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**Value and Meaning** **Learning Edge**

Livestock grazing impacts <sup>to</sup> from SSA A. Pinedale - new concern, what doesn't mean?

Grizzly Bear - relocation, FS any say?  
Wilderness - process?  
Allotments and impact from wilderness recommendation

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**Surprises** **Challenges**

off road use, motorized use  
hunter conflicts + use <sup>increase</sup> rise  
Visitor use is increasing

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**Takeaway**

email address on handouts  
grazing is our #1 threat  
Feedback  
more information  
- fears of unknown - appreciate having meeting  
- appreciate FS out to hear our concerns  
- have only one or two mind & feelings about made  
- feel like listening right now  
- more feedback up and there  
- FS as life

- Continue livestock grazing
- Concern small populations are heard too
- Thin Conifers
- Maintain what Have



# Buffalo Community



Assessment/Need to Change: **Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision** June 14 - 30, 2016

Topic - *all*  
 Date - *06/16/16*  
 Location - *Buffalo*

**What is important to you about this topic?**

Grazing is livelihood.  
 Looking for whole lake plan, integrated plan.  
 Extremely diverse forest - Why? How does it come together in one?  
 Equal weight among interest groups.  
 Enforcement e.g. motorized closures  
 F.S. tie to Fish & Game - manage cow elk  
 majority of tags for private lands - elk one on forest

**Value and Meaning**      **Learning Edge**

Road maintenance  
 Pine tree encroachment / Fuels  
 Elk reproduction - Long Pines  
 Weed encroachment  
 Some areas need to burn

**Surprises**      **Challenges**

Most species still here  
 F.S. open to listening. Forest Sup come here

Don't want brush closures here  
 working w/ MT DSO - better coord. bet F.S. regions. Distance to Bozeman

**Takeaway**      **Complicated jurisdictions for fire research resources.**

Value in forest. F.S. listening. People are open minded  
 The land limits management - small, long narrow land units  
 No streams.  
 Interagency coordination (FWP, BLM, elk, sagehen)

How does spring development fit in Plan?  
 Flexibility. Big plan to local level, area specific  
 Keep it local.  
 Work w/ Fish & Game on elk



# Big Timber Community



Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - Recreation  
Date - 11/20/16  
Location - Big Timber

**What is important to you about this topic?**

Clydehurst permit holder  
- Degree/activity use for O+G (backpacking) + expand degree  
- Wanting to keep access safer + look into opening sites that once were open + are now closed to educate for the youngsters + maintain family history of open public lands  
- Controlling damage from over use - (Big Timber canyon) Why?  
- Recreation opportunities are harder on this forest. Compared to other forests/states  
- FS segments created in the past for trail maintenance may need improvement - has effects on permit holder + gear  
- Lack of management @ access points - particularly where access opens through private land.  
- Best management account for increase of use/population (the public needs)

**Value and Meaning**

what has real about assessment findings  
- Budget needs to be addressed for better maint of facilities (trails, access sites)  
- Before seeking MORE access - manage current better

**Learning Edge**

**Surprises**  
percentage of increase of use (38% since 2009)  
decrease in roads - what kind of roads -

**Challenges**  
Budget/Better maintenance needed

**Takeaway**

Wild + Scenic River/Designated (Boulder) - concerned restrictions that come w/ it. (Improvement to permit)  
13 designations - maybe narrow it down.  
→ Changing timber/mineral/recre impacts if land designated. Impacts  
- 3.1 million visitors here to recreate.  
- Concerned about mineral use  
- " " losing local offices.  
- More comfort in smaller groups (to speak)  
- Need economic input to maintain FS (grazing, others)

Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - Multiple Use, Open Forests, FS segment 2 + community  
Date - 11/20/16  
Location - Big Timber Sweetgrass H.S.

**What is important to you about this topic?**

Longer/More  
- Don't want to see development that hinders grazing. Community + what effects on product development in watershed  
- Study/Use  
- When it comes that negotiates any location.

Full E. Access permit  
- Ensure livestock grazing continues @ current levels & that you recognize local public grazing supports ranching/open space  
- Also public land management has added on private landowners.

Why?  
- Impacts/ balance between grazing/public use on an adjacent private lands. Ecological impacts of roads & reg.

**Value and Meaning**

Don't see an obvious solution: we need to consider past solutions  
Since 2009 → Decreased  
- Don't have anything to do with forest use or deg. - don't have about 20% more roads. That  
- Don't have more local jobs than we've assigned  
- you can't make money by buying people out of land  
- Play with the forest management board plan & forest  
- Also some forest plan boundaries mineral designations. That  
- Multiple mineral permits to leasing so how do these communities play into plans?  
- challenged by timber/ Minerals

**Learning Edge**

30 - Exploration, influence of plan, shared success factors are not top ecological factors. Making minerals an important resource in riparian areas decline at certain sites  
- Plan needs to address  
- Get bright on domestic coal plant  
- Make it flexible  
- Simple is better.  
- Center MAs  
- What is being obtained  
- What's the right thing?

**Surprises**

**Challenges**

**Takeaway**





# Big Timber Community

Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - *Foxtail*  
Date - 6/20/16  
Location - *Big Timber*

**What is important to you about this topic?**

*word control*     *white bark pine*     *fire funding more than weeds*

**Why?**

*utilize multiple means not just spraying*     *big problem*     *water needs to control weeds on forest*     *what effect will climate change effect white bark pine*     *wonders people are concerned about weeds as they're about fire*

**Value and Meaning**     **Learning Edge**

*more fuels reduction + fire promotion*     *Position + resources*

**Surprises**     **Challenges**

*70% increase in traffic some degradation*     *Changes in landscape*  
*↑ traffic*     *↑ recreation*     *↑ invasive weeds*  
*↑ increase in fuel climate forest*     *↑ loss of compounds*  
*↑ increase in change to landscape*     *loss of VI contact*     *Keep it!*  
*rethinking of native fish (+) - good to see*

**Takeaway**

- Use of pesticides for invasion species and how long term effects
- good about "fairy heard"
- EoT species should get their own area to thrive
- public access being reduced not helping truth future generations
- change in demographics affecting ecology negatively
- volunteerism should be explored more to help facilitate needs of the Foresters (friends groups)

Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - *DESIGNATED AREAS (DAs)*  
Date - *JUNE 20, 2016*  
Location - *Big Timber, MT*

**What is important to you about this topic?**

*Public open to study from public meetings... Can we have the... still quantity... of...  
 • surrounding...  
 • and...  
 • ...*

**Why?**

**Value and Meaning**     **Learning Edge**

*fire budget diverting funds from forest needs*  
*no room for rec sites*  
*no bids to build more sites*  
*loss of district off locally*

**Surprises**     **Challenges**

**Takeaway**

*THE THREE LEVELS OF WTS - Concerns, particularly due to WTS, of main Boulder Road. Through first plan revision, can we take the system... it's improvement impacts will happen. Looking at 7-10 miles more of road improvement if eligible.*

- Concern about grazing, mineral, timber production if a river is found along side.







# Red Lodge Community



Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2018

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - **Ecology**  
Date - **6/21/16**  
Location - **Beartooth RD / Red Lodge**

**What do you still want to learn about?**  
How - Coordination of Fed Agencies "More Visible" - "transparent" road planning, wildlife, etc. (Agency Collaboration)

**What is important to you about this topic?**  
- why do you care about this topic?  
- increase st of specialist (at least)  
- **Water Sources, Needs** pipes, climate change  
- **Active restoration** - security of habitat  
- **Why?** - impact vulnerability by human encroachment  
- **Botanist/Protection/Monitoring** - rare vegetative communities  
- **WUI mgmt.** - favored conditions in 30 yrs than now effects all resources  
- **Protected in local languages**  
- **Fuels mgmt.** in Urban Interface

**Value and Meaning**  
- Convergence of Basins creating diversity in habitat, new habitat (Great Lakes)  
- Vertebrate nonvertebrate inventories entomologist, mammalogist  
- beetle invasions, need management  
- water resources - mgmt techniques (veg / habitat veg)

**Learning Edge**  
- **Loss of unique plants & wildlife (resilience)**  
- **potterheads** - protection is being forgotten  
- **papers** seem to be lacking info (actual assessment)

**Surprises**  
- Lack of research, restoration, protection in Payers  
- low priority should be highest.

**Challenges**  
- **Building a management area** - criteria will be different for each  
- **ability complex**  
- **FS Plan** - diversity in Payers  
- **Interfacing** / connection with All agencies

**Takeaway**  
- **Make the Plan Manageable!** (even tho many roads to actually monitor)  
- **Concern with the "Non-Predictable" Future** how do you manage for that?  
- **Don't forget the Beartooth!**  
- **\* mention the Payers - The people/public does!**  
- possible separate Mngt Area  
- super important area for everyone  
- **not enough research has been done to go towards a Plan**  
- **Lack of "biology" is frightening**

**History** has not been well told (lean to the past)  
- **Big Picture** - Long term  
- **Flexibility** to deal with the unforeseen  
- **Coordination** - great possibilities

Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2018

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - **Recreation**  
Date - **6/21**  
Location - **Red Lodge**

**What is important to you about this topic?**  
- **UNIQUE** Ecology in the Payers offering for teaching - local Payers  
- **Impacts** FS tends to be reactive, often due to lack of Resources  
- **Can be difficult to predict** - Why? sometimes obvious  
- **Preservation** of existing non-motorized recreation  
- **SCARC** characters - Set of control dispersed recreation fire rings spreading  
- **Produce** easy access for both motorized/non-motorized, including boundary pos  
- **Payers** - accessed by various motorized vehicles - they don't stop to observe - place of awe  
- **WUI mgmt.** - **Urban Interface**

**Value and Meaning**  
- Increased tourism use from other Countries / increased signs other languages  
- **How** determine if determine the threshold of human intrusion to ecological value  
- **When** is it determined - clarity of use & where that are going  
- **Monitoring** in / triggers - massive group of people  
- **Special** future conditions need people to decompose those goods  
- **Private** have road carter's  
- **Places** other than Pycroas  
- **Can** demand more attention from FS  
- **tourism** - see canyon

**Learning Edge**  
- **Need** to better take into consideration by what means  
- **to** many roads leading to important cultural sites

**Surprises**  
- **Recreation** is secondary after protection  
- **Match** EX.M.F.S plan's in road  
- **Closure** timing  
- **FS** - snowmobile allowed on the 2 roads - no cross-country in that. Cautions in night travel  
- **Commercial** permits  
- **Scientific** research is also public  
- **Use** of the Forest  
- **Signs** unbalanced - that are revealed by the  
- **Scenic** Sage Crack Canyon - Big Ox Ranch  
- **App** not mandated by the community

**Challenges**  
- **Interfacing** / connection with All agencies  
- **Criteria** will be different for each  
- **ability complex**  
- **FS Plan** - diversity in Payers  
- **Interfacing** / connection with All agencies

**Takeaway**  
- **Make the Plan Manageable!** (even tho many roads to actually monitor)  
- **Concern with the "Non-Predictable" Future** how do you manage for that?  
- **Don't forget the Beartooth!**  
- **\* mention the Payers - The people/public does!**  
- possible separate Mngt Area  
- super important area for everyone  
- **not enough research has been done to go towards a Plan**  
- **Lack of "biology" is frightening**





Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

**Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision**

Assessment/Need to Change  
 Topic - ALL  
 Date - 6/22/16  
 Location - Gardiner

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What is important to you about this topic?

wilderness, habitat, connectivity, open space  
 Multiple Use, Recreation, water quality for  
 Preservation, Ecology, grazing, communities  
 Why?  
 Special Use Permits - new ones for outfitter/guides  
 Economies - people need to make a living.  
 Provide a stable foundation for business.

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Value and Meaning

CGNF part of GYA & Northern Rockies. Include Tr. for  
 sustainability of adjacent uses (eg. VNP) Consider adjacent lands, used <sup>with</sup> ~~with~~ <sup>all</sup> ~~like~~ <sup>near</sup> ~~near~~ <sup>past</sup>

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Learning Edge

Homes adjacent to forest effect on budget/firesuppress  
 Invasives - impacts on grazing, fire, etc.  
 Public land belongs to all

Surprises

economic trends

CGNF can take pressure off VNP. Is CGNF ready?

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Challenges

Budgets related to each  
 Economic value of Forest - people move here for forest  
 FS - habitat management  
 FWP - ~~see~~ animal management  
 Big government getting bigger, People paid to attend. not hearing from many.

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Takeaway

Maintain biking, OHV, snowmobiling

Nice to be able to talk.  
 Liked the discussion  
 People may not want to speak in opposition to another  
 Appreciate the format.  
 might have been deeper, & more fruitful if discussion by topic.



# Gardiner Community



# West Yellowstone Community



Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - Multiple Uses / Cultural, historical + social uses  
Date - 6/18/16  
Location - W.Y.

*Conservation + the amount of public use is influenced by public use/needs*

### What is important to you about this topic?

WY realizes the importance of and the reliance on the use of the Natural Forest. Important to be open to all users. Share the forest.

*Topic - Multiple Uses - not important compared to the recreation - but economy.*

**Why?** Multiple uses → balance uses. - Show we can look at many different things. - Can we try to do more designations of seemingly non-compatible uses within the same mgmt. area? (that naturally alternate uses). - Sometimes. Don't feel that there is balance when it comes to natural use (natural design). Need to get back to a balance the multiple uses. - Trial conditions + designations for use.

- Has to be a much better way than "my way or the highway."

**Value and Meaning**

- W Yellowstone and its economic future needs to be reexamined + supported in this next F.P.
- On multiple use poster, future + history not represented on need to change.
- F.S. retain flexibility in how plan versus very specific hard standards in old plan.

**Learning Edge**

- F.S. can do more to stabilize + enhance this community.
- several + more of a year-round workforce.
- F.S. recognize/obligation to rural communities.

**Surprises**

- Decline in active mgmt. of the forest.
- Habitat connectivity is a issue - now what?
- This may recommend areas there are that have not been designated by Congress.
- Increasing pressure/loss of the forest (recreation), yet declining budgets.

**Challenges**

- The challenge is finding a balance with the multiple-use concept.
- Challenge of being free to use the forest and not be like the park, but also not run it.

**Takeaway**

- Thinking about what restrictions in the F.P. mean to the economic well-being of that town, county, school, etc. Learn from what other forests have done.
- Two way street. Partnership. The forest recognizes + supports local communities, and in the local communities are invested in the forests.
- Budget. Divergency between increased usage + decreased budget. Lack of funding.
- F.S. has done better job ~~recently~~ in communicating, sharing their data, working with in community.

Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - Multiple Uses / Cultural, historical + social uses  
Date - June 20, 2016  
Location - West Yellowstone

### What is important to you about this topic?

Forest Plan with site specificity but also elasticity. Forest Health. - Focus species.

**Why?**

- Minimize lawsuits minimize management.

**Value and Meaning**

**Learning Edge**

**Surprises**

- Annual recreation - habitat connectivity.

**Challenges**

- require negotiation consider for multiple land-use conflict with.

**Takeaway**

communication important. review different perspectives diverse forest + public. Blend with public. Land, land for more use of forest, not compatible usage/demand. Multiple uses still unmet. Formula of making a market.





Public Meetings - (Round 5) June 14 - 30, 2016

### Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - **Land Status: Ownership; Use & Access** Land Status  
 Date - 6/15/16  
 Location - West Yellowstone

**What is important to you about this topic?**

Plan & Manage - **access for recreation**  
 Recreational taking of products  
 Public values & something  
 Why? - **it is our forest**  
 Public access & maintain multiple use  
 - increase rancher access  
 - ability to maintain safety for sheep

**Value and Meaning**

- Need for more volunteer opportunities
- Why not sooner to make new plan
- Forest swaying toward closing & restrictions
- New technology
- Members of new users & population

**Surprises**

- the increase of recreation
- economy of communities - importance

**Education about**  
 Learning Edge  
 30 community forums

**Challenges**

- limiting because of budgets & politics
- maintaining ecosystem
- How to accommodate increase of recreation
- Creating a plan that can be flexible under changing budgets

**Takeaway**

- Wildlife Corridors
  - one is the US going to listen to my concerns from tonight on
  - worried about loss of motorized use
  - amount of recreation has increased & will continue
  - dealing with new technology
  - struck by challenge of budgets, politics, climate change etc
- adaptive mgmt so when something new happens can then be changed
- politics
- continue landscape to decrease checker board w/ private land
- keep access open!
- responsibility on corridor on old roads & bid - need new budget
- valuable areas that would more likely be used
- minimizing damage with motor use

**Other notes:**

- Concern about motorized forest & keep improve & open
- multi-use, compartmentalized, private, public
- multi-use & private
- motor - respond to motor use don't just left behind



# West Yellowstone Community





Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

Assessment/Need to Change **Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision**

Topic - DESIGNATED AREAS - PAM  
 Date - 6-28-16  
 Location - WEST YELLOWSTONE

What is important to you about this topic? *Wilderness for permanent decision*

INTERESTED TO LEARN WHAT THE PLAN  
 Co-OWNER OF A LOCAL STORE - SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR WINTER SPORTS, DESIGNATION AREAS  
 AS APPLIES TO BUSINESS + ~~PERSONAL~~ PERSONAL RECREATION  
 WORKS FOR WILDERNESS ORGANIZATION - LOOKING AT CHANGES IN LAST 30 YEARS, LOOKING  
 OUT 20 YEARS NOW, NEED FOR WHY? BE IN DESIGNATION - GOOD OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
 GROWING -  
 VERY IMPORTANT PERSONAL + RELIGIOUS REASONS TO PRESERVE WILDERNESS WITHOUT  
 HUMAN IMPACT  
 DESIGNATION FOR LION HEAD TO LOOK TO OTHER THAN WILDERNESS, FOR EXAMPLE  
 CABIN CREC REC MGMT. TO ALLOW MECH/MOTORIZED USE - WHAT EVER HAPPENS  
 - ~~STOOD COORDINATE WITH TRAIL SEE LABEL NO. 1F~~ - Areas open aren't being  
 harvested, fire before harvest  
 Value and Meaning *What stimulates your mind*  
 ROUND TWO  
 - SEE CONT SHEETS -

Learning Edge  
 Lot of interest in  
 current mgmt. of  
 Lionhead,  
 Not designated, can it be  
 "unrecommended" than  
 Congressional designation eliminates  
 flexibility

Learn about mix-use in wilderness  
 work regarding local RR Trail + Astoria's  
 (cut biking)  
 may be trails w/ shared use

Surprises  
 LESS opportunities  
 for motorized use  
 more kids in woods, but less  
 areas for use of motorized sports

Challenges

Business OWNER - ~~takeaway~~ *use* - They would support - *difficult*  
 Lion HEAD, would rather give up the Mtn Bike riding opportunity, (but not  
 for everyone) - IF THE DESIGNATION WOULD TAKE AWAY moto/mech BUT Skiing allowed  
 - DOO LOVE Mtn BIKING ON LION HEAD - WHY DO HORSES GO EVERYWHERE -  
 - DEBATE ABOUT HORSES VS Mtn BIKES IN WILDERNESS -  
 - NOT VERY WELL INFORMED YET ABOUT DESIGNATED AREAS, BUT FROM  
 WHAT HE HEARD TONIGHT HE IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT LOSS OF  
 Motorized USE. NOT GETTING SAME CHANCE TO VISIT AREAS IN  
 THE NATIONAL FOREST  
 - NOT A MOTORIZED USER, PERSONAL LEVEL IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW  
 THAT WILDERNESS EXISTS - SEEKING BALANCE / COMPROMISE  
 TO HAVE BOTH -  
 - Rotate thru areas open/closed  
 Enforcement + lack of understanding closures  
 NEED more conversations among user groups

(SEE CONT)



# West Yellowstone Community



# Bozeman Community



Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - Ecology  
Date - 6/27/16  
Location - BOZEMAN

**What is important to you about this topic?**

AREA IS KEYSTONE → NEED TO PROTECT  
CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS ON RESOURCES  
Landscape level project is critical  
Ecotone connection TO MATRIX - MEAN FOR REFUGE  
Why? Science being done is critical  
SOME OF LAST REMAINING WATER RESOURCES  
VALUE OF SILENCE INCREASE IN # PEOPLE  
AND FOREST SHOULD BE INTEGRATED IN CYC  
CONNECTIVITY CRITICAL IN LAND  
INVASIVE SPECIES = HUMANS  
CONCERN IN INCREASING POPULATION STRESSORS ON ECOSYSTEM

**Value and Meaning**  
SILVAGE + EMOTIONAL CONNECTION TO ECOSYSTEM SERVICES  
FLEXIBILITY w/ NO CHANGE

**Learning Edge**  
DIFFICULTY OF TRADEOFFS  
USE MSU TO HELP FILL INFORMATION GAPS

**Surprises**  
Lack of Public Involvement  
What about timber production?

**Challenges**  
CLEAR THAT CLIMATE CHANGE IS CONTRIBUTING UP FRONT DROP IN FUNDS  
INFORMATION GAPS  
DIFFICULTY OF TRADEOFFS  
NEEDS TO KEEP SOME TREES SAFE + VIB

**Takeaway**  
USFS MORE TRANSPARENCY  
↑ population ↓ resources  
How do you take this into account?  
NEED TO COMMUNICATE PROCESS PROCESS BEST - HOW IS THIS DIFFERENT FROM 82 RULES OF REGULAR PROJECT PLANNING  
SO MUCH INFORMATION - A LOT ON TABLE, HOW DO WE MANAGE ALL THIS?  
BUILD MORE PARTNERSHIPS  
TOO MUCH INFO

Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - Ecology  
Date - 6/27/16  
Location - BOZEMAN

**What is important to you about this topic?**

CLIMATE CHANGE + CONSERVATION  
Landscape level project is critical  
Ecotone connection TO MATRIX - MEAN FOR REFUGE  
Why? Science being done is critical  
SOME OF LAST REMAINING WATER RESOURCES  
VALUE OF SILENCE INCREASE IN # PEOPLE  
AND FOREST SHOULD BE INTEGRATED IN CYC  
CONNECTIVITY CRITICAL IN LAND  
INVASIVE SPECIES = HUMANS  
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# Bozeman Community



Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - Multiple uses, energy, social & economic conditions  
Date - 4/24/16  
Location - Bozeman

What is important to you about this topic?

Managing for multiple uses, recreation currently dominates, needs more balance  
This topic table - affects the character of the Forest  
Flexibility in Plan Why? Climate change affects all priority - grazing  
Domestic livestock - open range doesn't charge enough  
Yes historic use, but also encounters while  
recreating  
Grazing hurts watersheds, damages roads  
Historic uses should take precedence  
Consider economic impacts of mining  
recreationists may not want to go there anymore  
Value and Meaning Learning Edge

Needs to provide jobs  
mining  
logging  
MJ & lower home  
wage scale

Surprises Challenges

The breadth of this  
Forest + balancing it all

Improvements in Bridges, more to go where more population

Takeaway

Many of the same concerns, we came from different interests, but similar concerns  
Maintain balance  
Health of ecosystem over "my interests" → 50 yrs from now, what you want to look like, then work backward  
Population growth, respect all, flexible + work together  
Impressed by community being able to listen to one another  
Look at solar, geothermal, wind energy on Forest

Assessment/Need to Change Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - Multi Use / Social / Econ  
Date - 4/27  
Location - Bozeman

What is important to you about this topic?

process (check) - check what  
Economic Impact  
Maintain Bozeman Community  
Community Benefits / Natural Attributes as  
Concern on Integration of Companies  
Learning Edge

Why? Benefits to remember - not just  
the  
Economic & social  
Preservation of wild areas & riparian  
areas  
to still provide for the  
wildlife  
distinct ecog  
where do the benefits come from?  
balancing the change framework  
with the original needs

Value and Meaning Learning Edge

Really stick out on surprises  
value - more  
more ways to create value  
more ways to spend it and  
more ways to spend it and  
what do you spend it on?

Surprises Challenges

Keeping flexibility in order to be adaptive  
to the needs - things change that happen  
Jobs are important (needs) while change  
keeping in mind the diverse of wild areas / the  
Forest Service thinking about climate change  
Size of forest / diversity / management challenges  
Consider how to do you manage that?

Takeaway + Worthwhile

multiple  
Competing uses - sustainability - long run  
Health of the forest should trump everybody's wants/needs/expectation  
Need adaptability / flexibility -  
changing use / areas only shifts it to other areas - lighter footprint over greater area in light of  
Do we have the tools available to even debate change over anything? Good debate a marketing  
Changes need to be incremental also things that need to stay the same  
what a tough balance when you really think about all the competing uses  
Why come to it this just occasion





# Bozeman Community

Assessment/Need to Change: Public Meetings - Round II | June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic: Loc 7 Special Designations  
Date: June 29, 2016  
Location: Bozeman

**What is important to you about this topic?**

**Longterm HPPH**

- Been studied for 29 years. Would like to see some type of advancement
- Rec managers are super skeptical - it's expensive & too much
- Rec has not managed area wilderness - respect - would like to see more decommissioning as wilderness
- Rec plan removes the needs of hikers as hikers
- None of the HPPH is designated
- Sustainability of existing population & how we're going to better manage it. So do not impact rec resources
- Create boundaries - like to see some strong actions taken to conserve resources in crazy times. Making it difficult to manage & provide opp - Need more public awareness

**ACCESS**

**Value and Meaning**

- Think about what these places are for? because points of view are based on values it's hard to say who/what is right. Determining what lands can sustain will be difficult
- PP considers connectivity for wildlife. Maintain & protect wildlife
- Protect watersheds - main sources of water for county & surrounding areas - improving native fisheries
- Think about how increased rec is an economic driver for places like Bozeman but rec beyond FS boundaries to develop new opps/trails. Lesser used trails have value. develop new opps/trails. Lesser used trails have value.
- Think about greater need of areas the area is unintended consequences to other areas if some areas are shut down

**Surprises**

Budgets declining

**Challenges**

- Rec budget is going to decrease. Is going to need to be more sustainable & consistent
- Rec budget is used on opps to maintain things but have to be used
- Rec has to be more important than the travel plan. Value more than do FPR.
- Feel a little overwhelmed by other interests

**Consider tradeoffs or unintended consequences**

**Learning Edge**

- Identify new that is sustainable given financial limitations. Identify new partnerships that can help address the needs
- Use them to help manage
- Some rec uses can displace other uses, recognize that
- Climate change is important to consider. We know changes are occurring & account for them

**Balance of all - look beyond FS boundaries**

- wildlife
- fish
- community water

**Takeaway**

- Everyone loves the land and we all care about it
- Meeting style - great meeting style where we can have a conversation. Forum worked really well. A lot of common going on
- Great to hear folks say w/ growing pop need to focus on more access, more trails to spread impacts out
- More & more people doing whatever activity need new opps to spread impacts. Avoid level to death
- How restricting taking away access can affect communities. Places you love - if you can't get to them affect community well-being
- Perspective - taking other people's perspective and trying to understand. Helps people get along and compromise
- Great thing that so many people love our public lands. Need to think about how to involve/engage youth in our natural resources
- Funding is a big hurdle - start thinking creatively about how to fund maintenance & cost is less - reach out to partners
- Importance of maintaining ecological integrity w/ all the rec. uses. Rec. is primary use of the Forest in this area & how do we sustain like types of uses w/ ecological integrity
- WSA - the integrity of these wild lands become more important as use increases. Maintain opps for solitude, clean water & wildlife
- Budgets vs rec - great opp for volunteers to tap into these resource
- dispersed rec. - there is a periphery of these areas that are loved to death (about 3 miles). Think about how we can spread impact of those three miles



Assessment/Need to Change: Public Meetings - Round II | June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic: Multiple Uses, Social/Cultural/Economic, Renewable/Non-Renewable Resources  
Date: 6/29/16  
Location: Bozeman

**What is important to you about this topic?**

**Sustainable use**

- Base recreation analysis for people in all areas of Forest, even lower yield
- Understanding historical uses why? Permitting process, you're not dead, doled
- Have appreciation for wild. want better access

**Economic of Recreation**

- This experience providing for forest industry
- Explore locations for renewable energy sources

**Sustainable grazing**

- Use most of the lands

**Value and Meaning**

People really care about this forest

More trails & opportunities as population grows

**Learning Edge**

Use emerging technologies where can help

**Surprises**

Not driven by production plan. Is driven by sustainability cultural tier

15 tribes - historic user/land loss

**Challenges**

Accept to Crozies

Education

Balance SA many interests

**Takeaway**

- Biology/habitat, resources 1st before adding uses & people
- # of organizations, interests, be flexible & come together
- No body wants to degrade resource, find the community in peoples interests
- Consider your limited resources
- finite resources, can't do everything everywhere
- All groups should talk with each other & do better job solving problems
- Budgets are not adequate, pay? for people





# Bozeman Community



Assessment/Need to Change: Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - REC & DESIGNATED  
Date - 6/29  
Location - BOZEMAN

**① What is important to you about this topic?**

GET OUT A DO A LOT, FLOATING, CAMPING etc. Population increase is CAUSING COMPETITION FOR RESOURCES AND DEGRADATION IS HAPPENING. NEED MORE & PRESERVE WHAT WE HAVE. INTEREST IN INCREASING REC IS DRIVER OF OUR ECONOMY. TECHNOLOGY IS ALLOWING FURTHER & HIGHER ACCESS LARGEST IN PROTECTION LAND NEXT TO YELLOWSTONE. WILDERNESS IS ONE RESOURCE. INTERESTED IN CLEAN COLD, CONNECTED WATERWAYS. WARMER TEMPS COMING. GOING SLOWER. INTERESTED IN INCREASING QUITE REC - WINTER WATERWAYS TOO. GOING SLOWER. BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMAN CLUB'S ACCESS FOR TRADITIONAL ACCESS - ALTHOUGH A FEEL WITH MULTIPLE USERS. ACCESS - WANT TO KEEP LOCAL TRAILS OPEN + VOLUNTARY EFFORTS. BCH MEMBER ACCESS FOR HORSES + EQUINE - HAVE FRIENDS THAT DOMESTICATED. FOCUS ON EDUCATION AND SHARING INFO. TRAIL COMPETE, NOT DEGRADE. SHARE-ALONG BUSINESS TRAILS. BCH IS LARGEST GROUP CLEANING TRAILS.

**Why?**

**Value and Meaning**

INTERESTED IN BCH (EQUESTRIAN USE)

HPPH - Highlight would prefer wilderness  
Concern is running into motorcycle or mtn bikes - hard to share trail  
Focus on Education of Bikers in what their responses should be when encountering horses.

**Learning Edge**

ALL GROUPS SEEM INTERESTED IN THE HEALTH OF THE FOREST - NO ONE LOOKING TO SELL FOREST TO STATE

- WE'S DESIGNATION - Post  
Understand why anyone would be against it.

**Surprises**

NEVER HAD TO SHARE TRAILS WITH MTN BIKERS AS A HIKER - DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE NEED TO STAY AWAY ALL THE TIME  
PEOPLE WANT STOPPING TO SEE SMALL BEAUTY - MORE ABOUT DISTANCE.

**Challenges**

Lack of maintenance  
Increase in Emerald Trail - ENFORCEMENT + EDUCATION ON SHARING TRAIL - THREE FORK  
CONCERN ABOUT LOCAL OUTFITTERS CREATING THEIR OWN TRAILS WHICH ARE ROUTED + DAMAGED. W.S.A.

**Takeaway**

Winter snow bikes on X-C gran. Takeaway is bad - Track set + skating Lane Bozeman CK + West Yellowstone

Interact in Rosebud Creek Designated w/strivers

User groups need to explore ways to share rotation? - Not everyone can share at same time

Assessment/Need to Change: Public Meetings - (Round II) June 14 - 30, 2016

## Charting the Course to Forest Plan Revision

Topic - REC DESIGNATED  
Date - 6/29  
Location - BOZEMAN

**What is important to you about this topic?**

TRAIL USE + CONFLICT USE INCREASING...  
Education / Equine use  
WANT THE NEEDS FOR CHANGING POPULATION USES, DEMOGRAPHICS

**Why?**

with ecosystem not finite resource  
50-100% habitat  
Value and Meaning  
Loss of Opportunity  
creation of All lands - not in violation, beyond jurisdiction, boundaries, partnerships - work with

**Learning Edge**

Recreation - condition or opportunity available  
Expand opportunities for motor access  
Share specific  
Learning Edge impacts when looking  
- Impact  
- Legislation History  
- This is really complex

More people involved = better solutions but is messy  
F2 Face when possible  
Challenges  
variety of users changing a way  
EQUINE  
- Growing population  
- Changing demographics  
- Difficult base levels of knowledge each meeting / people

**Surprises**

Need Education  
Need Education

**Takeaway**

Focus on what's existing  
Setting + access not reflected, show if in consideration  
Remove barriers for non-profits  
Grants, underutilized

Common Themes in Rosebud Creek  
Sustainability  
Climate Change  
Population  
Increasing pressure  
More in WSA



