

**Libby GA Meeting in Libby, MT
Public Comments
June 19, 2003**

Topic	Number of Sticker Dots	Comments from Meetings in June 2003
Access/Rec	71	Don't close any more National Forest roads
Access/Rec	69	Provide ATV/Snowmobile loop trails
Timber	59	Legal action needs to be take against destructionists groups shutting down salvage and dead timber sales to charge them with destruction of public property
Timber	57	Salvage areas affected by insects while there is still value in the wood and before damage takes place
Water/Fish	50	Remove protection for bull trout
Access/Rec	47	More motorized access
Wildlife	46	No more grizzly bears
Timber	43	Groups appealing or litigating timber sales (large and small) should be held liable for lost
Access/Rec	40	There is adequate amount of wilderness now, no need for additional wilderness
Access/Rec	37	Forest Plan should be voted on only by those who live/work in K.N.F. area
IRA/Wild	26	Too much roadless area
Timber	26	Manage forest for the economic advantage of the area – timber, minerals
Access/Rec	21	Open more roads permanently
Wildlife	21	No wolves
Timber	19	More small sales for local community
Access/Rec	18	Don't close any more of the National Forest to snowmobile use
Fire Risk	18	More salvage to reduce wildfire
Access/Rec	17	Don't obliterate any more roads
Fire Risk	17	Harvest trees before they burn up
Access/Rec	16	Open more roads for seasonal use (i.e. hunting and fishing)
IRA/Wild	16	Allow snowmobile use in Scotchman Roadless Area/Proposed wilderness
Timber	16	Thinning-reducing fire risk-improving health
Timber	15	More timber sales
Fire Risk	12	Manage timber for healthy forests
IRA/Wild	12	We need designated wilderness in roadless areas North of the Kootenai River; there is none
IRA/Wild	12	Open Roadless areas to motorized vehicles (50/50)
Access/Rec	11	Maintain all existing trails and trailheads. Restore old trails to maps (ones that have been removed from old maps) Horse and hiking trails alike
IRA/Wild	11	Connect IRAs for wildlife movement – Linkage zones and the IRAs inherent wildness
Timber	11	Increase annual sale volume
Access/Rec	10	Roads open to access firewood
Other Issues	10	Forest Plan should protect the heritage and culture and custom of communities adjacent to
Other Issues	9	Appeals process – appellant should have to post bond or pay for processing the appeal if it is
Access/Rec	8	Would like to see more seasonally open roads to accommodate firewood cutting (windthrown)
Access/Rec	7	Provide ATV/Snowmobile loop trails and maps
Access/Rec	7	Don't recontour any more National Forest roads
Wildlife	7	Let MTFWP manage game in MT not Forest Service. Get them working together
Access/Rec	6	Provide additional motorized ATV's access (seasonal) – play areas above full pool – part

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Access/Rec	6	Create and designate motorized trails system (loops) and work in conjunction with the Lincoln County Recreation Association
Access/Rec	6	Open more National Forest roads on a seasonal basis
Fire Risk	6	Salvage bug-killed down timber, it is a fire hazard
Other Issues	6	Important to maintain socio-economic base of resource dependent communities
Other Issues	6	If Forest Plan puts local communities in jeopardy, what will be the mitigation for those communities
Timber	6	Need to use the best available science when developing prescriptions, not public opinion
Water/Fish	6	Stop removing brook trout
Wildlife	6	Lynx is B.S.- Humans don't impact
Wildlife	6	Recover grizzly populations
Wildlife	6	Road density requirements for grizzly bear and other species mitigation and habitat requirements are too often not matters of law or science, but instead the results of the unlimited litigation abilities of foundation/ACLU Funded groups whose zealots go far beyond the protection of species. Until false models and suspicious rhetoric are no longer the trump card in the litigation game, forests and forest communities will continue to suffer and decline. This need to be addressed before forest planning can be effective or meaningful.
Fire Risk	5	More (much) projects like the treasure Interface Stewardship project
IRA/Wild	5	Continue Roadless policy as it is
Timber	5	More firewood cutting areas identified that include green & dead trees (need thinning)
Vegetation	5	Thin the forest – let it breathe
Water/Fish	5	Keep water quality high and restore where impaired
Wildlife	5	Lynx shouldn't be listed around here
Access/Rec	4	The wilderness & IRAs need fire plans
Access/Rec	4	More motorized access
Access/Rec	4	Don't take out any more roads behind the gates
Fire Risk	4	Fire risk
IRA/Wild	4	Limit OHV use within Roadless Areas
Other Issues	4	Make frivolous lawsuit people pay the government lawyer fees
Other Issues	4	Create more tourist attractions (Parks instead of wilderness)
Timber	4	In this timbered area, timber production should be a high priority for the economy of the area.
Vegetation	4	Manage for more old growth, it seems to be more fire resistant
Vegetation	4	FS needs to be more aggressive with knapweed and other weeds
Wildlife	4	Increase core area for grizzly bear
Wildlife	4	Would like to manage for people before wildlife
Access/Rec	3	Improve Cabinet Wilderness trail heads & access roads
Access/Rec	3	The forest is becoming too small, too tame; we need more wilderness
Access/Rec	3	Provide/ensure aging population has adequate access across Forest for all recreational activities, i.e. huckleberry picking/ fishing, etc
Access/Rec	3	Senior citizens firewood program on closed roads

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Fire Risk	3	Use slash, dead and down fuels as alternative energy sources to produce forest products. This will be a return on investment.
Fire Risk	3	Reduce fuels build up near communities
Fire Risk	3	Address the fuel build-up in the new plan
Fire Risk	3	Do not use fire as justification for logging under the euphemisms of salvage & restoration
Fire Risk	3	More salvage to reduce fire hazard (dead & down) also to supply raw materials to mills
Fire Risk	3	Firewood in slash piles
Other Issues	3	Beginning of the Forest Plan Policy stating that the Forest is being managed for multiple use and public access
Timber	3	Clearcuts are a good cultural tool
Timber	3	Increase small sales for timber output
Timber	3	Appeals and litigation groups should be held liable
Timber	3	Open up harvest areas to recreation
Vegetation	3	Allow firewood cutting in designated old growth
Vegetation	3	Get more aggressive with weed control
Vegetation	3	Get more aggressive with weeds behind road closures
Vegetation	3	Want both orange and yellow hawkweed dead and out – get a grip on it now while we can
Water/Fish	3	Be concerned with water quality
Water/Fish	3	Maintain healthy riparian and improve damaged riparian
Wildlife	3	More predator management-cougar
Access/Rec	2	We don't have enough wilderness
Access/Rec	2	Keep harvest of mushrooms and huckleberries local
Access/Rec	2	Want recreation maps to display the routes and areas that are specifically available for motorized or non-motorized designated routes
Access/Rec	2	Produce a tri-color forest road map where open, closed, and seasonal are displayed
Access/Rec	2	STOP Tearing Out (Recontouring Roads Quit Spending Taxpayer Money twice!)
Access/Rec	2	FS roads need to be brought up to BMP standards
Access/Rec	2	Local managers need flexibility to prescribe treatments for specific areas – one size does not fit all
Access/Rec	2	Miners need clear & concise & predictable & consistently enforced regulations
Access/Rec	2	Miners need open roads
Access/Rec	2	Would like our maps to show where handicap accessibility exist
Access/Rec	2	Access for disabled fishing – like disabled hunting
Fire Risk	2	Open the roads so you can get in and clean out the dead trees underbrush
Fire Risk	2	Get rid of Jack-strawed trees (Lodge Pole) for wildlife & hazard in general-Harvest bug kill, benefit industry, firewood for elderly
Fire Risk	2	Open up for private fuel use
Fire Risk	2	Clearcuts do not mimic wildfire
IRA/Wild	2	Protect heritage/customs and culture – talking about access to Forest – concern about additional road obliteration – NO MORE
IRA/Wild	2	Close additional roads to add/encourage wildlife habitat and add to Roadless Areas

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IRA/Wild	2	Roadless areas provide valuable wildlife diversity – including trophy animals – need more wilderness
Other Issues	2	Have completely different alternatives for each forest
Other Issues	2	End the 30-year war on the Kootenai by bringing polarized groups to the table to find common ground
Other Issues	2	Miners need respect for them under 1872 Mining Law and any other law
Other Issues	2	Have a meeting where questions are answered
Timber	2	Guaranteed annual supply
Timber	2	No diameter limit
Timber	2	Need clearcuts for wildlife management
Timber	2	Forest Plan should contain an aggressive selective thinning program to pre-empt and solve moderate to high fire risk stands in order to keep watersheds from receiving ashen erosion.
Timber	2	No clearcuts
Timber	2	Leave large trees
Timber	2	Harvest should meet/equal the mortality rate on forest
Timber	2	Manage overstocked forests harvesting ≤ 17 dbh
Vegetation	2	More RNAs & special interest areas
Vegetation	2	We need local control from the local GA on weed problem
Vegetation	2	Control weeds after prescribed burning – seed with native vegetation right away
Vegetation	2	Address adequate funding for forest monitoring & restoration
Vegetation	2	Need to utilize “Best Science” for vegetation management – Not public opinion
Water/Fish	2	Focus on watershed analysis and make appropriate restorations
Water/Fish	2	Manage watershed with watershed analysis and planning based on restoration which includes extraction when appropriate
Water/Fish	2	More stocking, increased limits
Water/Fish	2	Let Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks manage fisheries
Water/Fish	2	We need science-based standards to guide future management actions
Wildlife	2	Management for griz not needed – they can take care of themselves
Wildlife	2	Would like to see public involved in road access for disabled
Wildlife	2	More common sense – Forest Service more authority
Access/Rec	1	Protect Scotchman Peaks proposed wilderness
Access/Rec	1	Restrictive policies, regulations, rules have created a de facto spaghetti wilderness
Access/Rec	1	Keep Little Spar & Buckhorn Ridge areas available for snowmobile use. Designate the use areas by mode (i.e. snowmobile, skiing)
Access/Rec	1	Consider designating some exclusive use for skiing (to eliminate user conflict) preserve ski conditions i.e. not ruts
Access/Rec	1	Keep all hiking trails clean
Access/Rec	1	Keep historical horse use in KNF
Access/Rec	1	No Wild and Scenic River designation for the Kootenai River (because it would restrict public use & private property use ex. Acquisition)
Access/Rec	1	On trail signs, tell public the distance to destinations.
Access/Rec	1	Keep access open to Chicago Peak regardless of what happens with the Rock Creek Mine

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Access/Rec	1	Make an effort to keep any road open that leads to a trailhead
Access/Rec	1	A major road into each major area for fire control and sportsman access
Access/Rec	1	Inventory with public comments all RS 2477 roads – open those already chosen
Access/Rec	1	Roads that are closed at the bottom of drainage limit access even to non-motorized uses. Easier for horsemen but not foot traffic (hunting access)
Access/Rec	1	Access is not defined by rubber tires and snowmobiles (i.e. mode of access)
Access/Rec	1	Instead of administrative access w/trucks, consider using horses
Access/Rec	1	Decommission more roads
Access/Rec	1	Do not obliterate/reconstruct roads that are already vegetated over
Access/Rec	1	Tired of controlling people by obliteration of roads and promoting sediment to streams
Access/Rec	1	What the problem is the public isn't involved in road closure decisions. Let's include the public in these decisions
Access/Rec	1	Address concerns with people who are non-local because it is their land too
Access/Rec	1	Design plans to allow local managers to be more flexible and site specific
Access/Rec	1	More flexibility in management guidelines
Access/Rec	1	Need to separate local from outside opinions. Different color badge?
Access/Rec	1	Miners need open roads
Access/Rec	1	Set up designated areas for specific use, i.e. OHV's vs. Horse/Mountain Bike/Foot/Hiking
Access/Rec	1	Concern with road closures affecting ability for fire access
Access/Rec	1	How about a road through the Cabinets & Katka Face (Wilderness) for those who can't see
Access/Rec	1	Wasn't the purpose of logging roads to get the timber out? What will pay for all these backlogged maintenance
Access/Rec	1	Wants road signs w/names instead of numbers so you know where you are
Access/Rec	1	Do not include griz road management FEIS in revision without reassessing its conclusions
Access/Rec	1	Think of the disabled!
Access/Rec	1	Handicap/disabled recreational fishing access to remote, roaded sites
Fire Risk	1	Urban Interface – aggressively handle fire risk
Fire Risk	1	Controlled burns affect health of susceptible individuals in the community
Fire Risk	1	Use fire models with the field maps “gauge” worst-case scenario fires for the various areas
Fire Risk	1	Use fire as a management tool
Fire Risk	1	Prevent forest fires like 2000-02
Fire Risk	1	Wildland Urban Interface more aggressive fuel management in the new plan
Fire Risk	1	Reduce the fuels build up to prevent catastrophic wildfire
Fire Risk	1	Get the forest back in balance to reduce fire risk
Fire Risk	1	More snags for wildlife (17" +)
Fire Risk	1	The six “P” prior planning prevents piss poor performance – Increase logging – decrease fire danger
Fire Risk	1	Do more harvesting followed by prescribed fire vs. just prescribed fire
Fire Risk	1	97 mm in mortality annually, growth 42 mm. Annually harvest only 50-60 mmbf. 191 truck
Fire Risk	1	Increased media coverage for planned burns

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IRA/Wild	1	Wants to leave Bull River and Vermillion alone – no congressional designation needed
IRA/Wild	1	Want reduction of # of IRAs so that available for use w/snowmobiles and ATVs
IRA/Wild	1	Don't support IRAs, manage the IRAs with road access
IRA/Wild	1	How will wildfires be managed in IRAs? Concerned about poor roaded access to fight fires
IRA/Wild	1	Roadless maps don't appear accurate-looks like there are roads in IRA boundaries
IRA/Wild	1	Proposed wilderness should be downgraded to IRA (Inventoried Roadless Area)
IRA/Wild	1	More varied habitat types represented in the wilderness system
IRA/Wild	1	Roadless areas are too fragmented, need to be kept connected
IRA/Wild	1	Protect trails in roadless areas
IRA/Wild	1	Manage areas around IRAs to promote habitat connectivity between areas
IRA/Wild	1	Reduce IRAs – but do need some
Other Issues	1	Planning process should be single forest only so as not to dilute local concern
Other Issues	1	Does Forest Service insure that paid protesters are meeting labor requirements: insurance, soc.sec., etc
Other Issues	1	What is the need for a Forest Service Regional Office
Other Issues	1	Would like State control rather than WO control over the Forests
Other Issues	1	State control of USFS; more local control
Other Issues	1	Wants a regulatory attitude of the National Forest to support miners
Other Issues	1	Eliminate frivolous enforcement of regulations
Other Issues	1	Collaborate model at the appeals level as a means to prevent litigation
Other Issues	1	Protect NEPA process with emphasis on appeals
Other Issues	1	Send invitations to local officials, public interest groups, academic institutions, (within the
Other Issues	1	Public wants to know forest supervisor's views on everything/all issues
Other Issues	1	Consider letters submitted by groups as individual comments from each member
Other Issues	1	Accommodate traditional panning and prospecting activities
Timber	1	Would like to see management of timber resources by watershed basis
Timber	1	More to help local communities, timber, etc
Timber	1	Clearcuts should not be square (different shapes, more visually appealing) like in the shape of a rabbit, etc
Timber	1	Need to have some clearcuts
Timber	1	Manage forest for economic advantage
Timber	1	Need to use local forest surveys/stand exams to determine outputs. Not public opinion
Timber	1	Look into providing wood fiber for biomass – provides income to Forest Service & cleans up
Timber	1	Timber sale administrator should be on the planning team
Timber	1	Trail reconstruction requirements written into Timber Harvest unit plans
Timber	1	Reconstruct trails to designated levels prior to harvest
Vegetation	1	Use logging/other tools to eliminate danger of fire to aquatic resources
Vegetation	1	Less management in designated old growth
Vegetation	1	Increase weed management requirements (2 to 5 yrs after harvest)
Vegetation	1	Wash stations for out-of-state vehicles working on KNF
Vegetation	1	Close roads to help control weeds

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Vegetation	1	Need a biological inventory for the Kootenai
Vegetation	1	Need good stand management to get all ages back
Vegetation	1	We need a forest plan that provides sustainability within the designated GA while maintaining sound, practical scientifically based forest management practices
Vegetation	1	Snags in the wilderness and utilize merchantable snags along roads
Vegetation	1	Get a healthy forest, then worry about recreation, etc.
Vegetation	1	Forest health, growth = mortality
Vegetation	1	Get forest to historic or healthy state, other resources such as wildlife will fall into place. Get system into place
Vegetation	1	Actively manage the forest
Water/Fish	1	Base WQLS info on quality information
Water/Fish	1	Need to build inventory of streams that are open to mining, panning, dredging, etc. There
Water/Fish	1	Focus on watershed analysis and active restoration
Water/Fish	1	Find a way to manage watersheds without closing roads
Water/Fish	1	Remove bullheads from Kilbrennan
Water/Fish	1	Restore connectivity over Lake Cr. Dam
Water/Fish	1	Manage for aquatic species connectivity
Water/Fish	1	Want forest to use BPA funds to guide a fish ladder over Lake Cr. dam
Water/Fish	1	Tear out dams – build nuclear power plant in Noxon
Water/Fish	1	FS must allow Montana to exercise Constitutional and statutory right to manage resident species of wildlife, including fish, by managing FS habitat in a manner compatible with Montana's right to manage fisheries
Water/Fish	1	Let FS manage fisheries rather than USFWS
Water/Fish	1	Have a season on herons (fish eaters)
Water/Fish	1	Permits for bull trout harvest
Water/Fish	1	Protect the bull trout and habitat
Wildlife	1	More management big game winter range fire timber harvest
Wildlife	1	Increase griz core areas
Wildlife	1	Reduce fuel accumulations to protect T & E
Wildlife	1	Educate public about grizzlies and leave the bears alone-no research
Wildlife	1	People back east want bears and wolves, let's give them some
Wildlife	1	Follow plan for elk management (current elk management guidelines)
Wildlife	1	More gateless areas – less roadless areas
Wildlife	1	Impact of road closures on wildlife-concentrates hunters on open roads
Wildlife	1	Restrict # of wildlife researchers on National Forests, how many bears vs. 1987
Wildlife	1	No collars on animals
Wildlife	1	Want forest to use holistic approach to managing wildlife

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