



Flathead National Forest

Media Release

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Contact: Denise Germann
406-758-5252
406-249-1714

Firefighter Environmental Assessment Completed, Public Comments Solicited

The Hungry Horse District of the Flathead National Forest has completed an environmental assessment for the Firefighter Project and is soliciting public comment on the document. The project was developed to identify opportunities to improve elk habitat, improve wildlife security and enhance forest productivity and species diversity. The project area is located on National Forest System lands near Firefighter Mountain, generally between the Eastside Hungry Horse Reservoir Road and the Hungry Horse Reservoir.

After receiving public comment in early spring of 2008, Forest Service natural resource specialists developed an alternative to the initial proposal. The environmental assessment includes three alternatives, including a no-action alternative, and details potential effects from each alternative.

Proposed activities include up to approximately 750 acres of regeneration harvest and thinning, as well as prescribed burning and planting within the harvest units. Decommissioning or berming of 28.7 miles of roads currently closed to wheeled motorized vehicles and gating of an additional 1.3 miles of road are also proposed.

Comments on the assessment should be provided to the Hungry Horse District by June 8. The assessment is available at www.fs.fed.us/r1/flathead or by calling 387-3800. For more information please contact Project Leader Michele Draggoo at 387-3800.

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