



## Flathead National Forest

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## Media Release

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### **Environmental Assessment Is Available for Public Review and Comment Regarding Soldier Addition II Project**

The Spotted Bear Ranger District has completed the Soldier Addition II Environmental Assessment and is requesting public comment by August 15.

The purpose of the project includes:

- Maintain or increase timber productivity and forest resilience and health,
- Sustain the role of fire in the ecosystem,
- Help restore whitebark pine viability - essential to wildlife habitat, watershed protection and a natural ecosystem in the project area,
- Promote recreation values and increase visitor safety, and
- Protect Stony Hill Electronic Site from damage by potential wildfires.

The project area is located on the Spotted Bear Ranger District, with the area bounded on the east by the Hungry Horse Reservoir and the South Fork Flathead River, on the north by Sullivan Creek, on the south by Bunker Creek, and on the west by Bruce Ridge.

The environmental assessment details the potential effects on four alternatives. These alternatives include a no-action alternative and the proposed action as well as two alternatives developed by Forest Service Specialists after receiving public feedback to the proposal.

Public comments should be forwarded to the Spotted Bear Ranger District by Monday, August 15. A copy of the assessment is available at Flathead National Forest Service Offices in Hungry Horse and Kalispell or at [www.fs.usda.gov/goto/flathead/projects](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/flathead/projects). For more information, please contact District Ranger Deb Mucklow at 406/758-5376.

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