



**File Code:** 1950; 2760  
**Date:** February 27, 2018

Chairman Not Afraid  
Crow Nation  
P.O. Box 159  
Crow Agency, MT 59022

**REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**  
**Porcupine Ibex Trail project**

Dear Chairman Not Afraid:

The Custer Gallatin National Forest is proposing to construct a new trail along the western side of the Crazy Mountain Range. Approximately 8.0 miles of the new trail will be located primarily on National Forest System land. Where the proposed new trail crosses private lands permanent easements will be secured. The newly constructed trail will become the Porcupine Ibex Trail and will provide permanent trail access and enhanced recreational opportunities, as well as resolve a longstanding access dispute on the Porcupine Lowline trail, #267. Once completed, the trail will also provide a connection between recreation rental cabins and Forest trail heads.

Portions of the existing Porcupine Lowline trail (#267) will require closure work or rehabilitation as a component of this project. Once the new trail (Porcupine Ibex trail) is completed and easements recorded, the Forest Service will relinquish interest on the current Porcupine Lowline trail (#267) located in sections 15, 22, 27, 34, 35 and lower portions of Elk Creek trail (#195) located in section 15, located within Township 4 North and Range 10 East. Map 1 displays the new trail location in addition to these proposed changes.

You are being contacted since you may be potentially interested in or affected by this proposal, since it is located within Crow Nation aboriginal territory. We are commencing with public scoping soon and are very interested in your thoughts or concerns on this project. If you need additional information please contact Sitka Pence, NEPA Planner (406)-587-6985 or Halcyon La Point, Forest Archaeologist, (406)255-1455. Please send any specific written comments me:

Mary Erickson, Forest Supervisor  
Custer Gallatin National Forest  
10 East Babcock  
P.O. Box 130  
Bozeman, Montana 59715



We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary C Erickson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

MARY C. ERICKSON  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: William Big Day, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer; Jolene White Clay, Office Manager