

News Release



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge
6295 Pleasant Valley Road
Marion, Montana 59925

For Immediate Release
May 5, 2015

Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge Hosts Open House for Public to Comment on Construction and Conservation Projects

Contacts:

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MARION, Mont. — On May 13, 2015 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) will hold a public open house to obtain comments on the draft Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge Pleasant Valley Road Relocation and Stream and Wetland Restoration Project Environmental Assessment (EA) and Section 4(f) *de minimus* Determination. The project area is located approximately 20 miles northwest of the town of Marion in Flathead County, Montana.

The open house will be held between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. at Guest House Inn and Suites (formerly Outlaw Inn) in Kalispell, Montana. The public will have an opportunity to offer their comments, which will be collected and presented to the planning team for consideration in the final Environmental Assessment.

Restoration work would include removing on-stream fish barriers, reconstructing stream channels, improving fish passage conditions at roadway crossings, and restoring and enhancing riparian and floodplain functions associated with Pleasant Valley Creek. To facilitate restoration actions, a portion of Pleasant Valley Road would be relocated.

The project is being carried out in conjunction with the Federal Highways Administration, Flathead County, and Natural Resources Conservation Service. Design plans for the project have been developed and will be available for inspection at the open house. Agency representatives will be available at the open house to discuss the project and answer questions.

Copies of the EA can be obtained in three ways:

Electronically: www.fws.gov/losttrail.

In person: 58355 Bison Range Rd., Moiese, Montana 59824

By Mail: Request hard copies by mail by calling (406) 644-2211 or emailing bisonrange@fws.gov.

Persons unable to attend the open house may still provide written comments on the draft EA by letter, fax, or email. All comments must be emailed or postmarked by May 22, 2015 to be considered. Methods for submission include:

Email: bisonrange@fws.gov

Mail: Dean Vaughan, Biologist, National Bison Range Complex, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 58355 Bison Range Rd., Moiese, Montana 59824

Fax: 406-644-2661 Attn: Dean Vaughan, Biologist

For directions the open house, the public can call the refuge headquarters at (406) 858-2442.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service.

For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/>. Connect with our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/USFWSMountainPrairie>, follow our tweets at <http://twitter.com/USFWSMtnPrairie>, watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwsmtnpairie/>

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