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Bureau of Land Management

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **BLM and FS Consider Various Treatments in Flint Creek Drainage**

MISSOULA - The Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service are proposing various treatments on about 2,400 acres in the Flint Creek drainage between Drummond and Philipsburg, Mont.

Prescribed fire, timber harvest, and thinning would improve upland vegetation and wildlife habitat. Stream restoration on approximately one-half mile of Smart Creek would improve water quality and fisheries habitat. Mining reclamation on approximately 25 acres in the Stewart Gulch area would improve site productivity and enhance public safety.

The transportation system proposal includes about one mile of new road construction and about 1.5 miles of road reclamation, following treatment.

“These projects would improve wildlife winter range habitat, reduce the risk of insect and disease damage to forested areas, and improve stream conditions,” stated Nancy Anderson, Missoula Field Manager. The Forest Service and BLM, in consultation with state and local governments and adjacent private landowners, recommended the proposed action.

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The agencies are currently in the “scoping phase” of the project which means they want to hear any issues and concerns from the public that should be analyzed in the environmental assessment. If you would like to receive a copy of the proposed action or comment on the proposal, please contact Tom Daer with Missoula BLM at 329-3907 or Mark Giacoletto with the Forest Service in Philipsburg, 859-3211. If you want more detailed information about this proposal, BLM and the Forest Service will host an open house on March 23 at the Pintler Ranger District in Philipsburg from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. To be most useful, your comments should be submitted by April 12.

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