

For Immediate Release
Contact: Kathy van Hook
(406) 444-4457

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Public Invited to Advise Bureau of Land Management

DILLON - Beaverhead and Madison Counties are hosting a series of public workshops in nine communities to seek continued input on the development of the Dillon Resource Management Plan (RMP). The information from the meetings will be used by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to develop planning alternatives to address management of natural resources including riparian areas, upland vegetation, forests, areas of critical environmental concern, noxious weeds, threatened, endangered and sensitive species, wild and scenic rivers, commercial uses, and recreation use. The workshops will be facilitated by the Montana Consensus Council and Beaverhead and Madison County representatives. A light dinner will be provided.

Butte – February 4	6:30 PM	Holiday Inn Express, meeting room under Denny's
Dillon – February 6	5:30 PM	4-H Building, Fairgrounds
Ennis – February 11	6:30 PM	Madison Valley Fire Hall
Jackson – February 12	5:30 PM	Jackson School
Lima – February 13	5:30 PM	Lima City Hall
Bozeman – February 19	6:30 PM	Bozeman Public Library
Twin Bridges – February 25	6:30 PM	Fire Hall upstairs meeting room
Missoula – February 26	6:30 PM	Ruby's Inn & Convention Center
Harrison – February 27	6:30 PM	Harrison School

To guide workshop discussions, the BLM has provided focus questions at the RMP website, www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/rmp. The website also includes information on the RMP Planning process. **Copies of the RMP Digest containing baseline information will be available after January 21, 2003 and mailed to those currently on the Dillon RMP Mailing List.** Copies will also be available at each workshop or from the BLM Dillon Field Office by calling (406) 683-2337.

The BLM encourages citizens to participate in the planning process and help shape the decisions that are of interest to them. The next public comment period on the Draft RMP and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is scheduled for spring of 2004 after the release of the Draft Management Plan.

For more information on the workshops, please contact Kathy van Hook, Montana Consensus Council at (406) 444-4457, kavanhook@state.mt.us, or Rob Van Deren, Resource Planning Coordinator at (406) 683-9510, rmp@beaverheadriver.com.

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