Final public review, open houses scheduled for Hemingway-Boulders/White Clouds and Jim McClure-Jerry Peak wilderness management plans

Southeast Idaho – The Salmon-Challis National Forest (SCNF), Sawtooth National Forest (SNF) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Idaho Falls District (IFD) are providing another opportunity for the public to review and comment on the refined wilderness management plans (WMPs) and environmental analysis associated with the Hemingway-Boulders, White Clouds and Jim McClure-Jerry Peak wilderness areas. Comments received from previous meetings have been analyzed and/or incorporated into the alternatives now available for public review.

Public meetings for these planning efforts will be held in November at the following locations:

- Nov. 1, 2017 from 12-2 p.m. in Mackay, Idaho, at the American Legion Hall (406 S. Main Street)
- Nov. 1, 2017 from 5-7 p.m. in Challis, Idaho, at the Challis-Yankee Fork/Middle Fork Ranger District Office (311 N. US HWY 93)
- Nov. 13, 2017 from 5-7 p.m. in Ketchum, Idaho, at the American Legion Hall (220 Cottonwood Street)
- Nov. 14, 2017 from 12-2 p.m. in Stanley, Idaho, at the Community Center (on Idaho Highway 21)

Hemingway-Boulders/White Clouds:

The SNF and the BLM IFD are soliciting comments on the proposed Hemingway-Boulders and White Clouds WMP, environmental analysis, and associated Forest Plan amendment. The proposed action seeks to preserve wilderness character by identifying conditions and opportunities that agencies will manage within the Wilderness, and will identify objectives and actions agencies can take to preserve wilderness characteristics. The associated amendment would modify the Sawtooth Forest Plan by incorporating the WMP in a new management area and management direction.

The proposed wilderness management plan, environmental analysis, and amendment are available for review on the FS project webpage at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49647.

Jim McClure-Jerry Peak:

The SCNF and the BLM IFD are also soliciting comments on the proposed WMP for the Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness. The proposed action is similar to the Hemingway-Boulders/White Clouds, as the agencies seek to maintain the wilderness characteristics of the landscape and identify future actions and objectives they can take to preserve these qualities.

The proposed wilderness management plan, and environmental analysis are available for review on the FS project webpage at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=50223.

For More Information:

Additional information on either of these plans can be obtained from Emily Simpson, Project Leader, at (208) 630-3507 or emilysimpson@fs.fed.us.

It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Written, fax, hand-delivered, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of this legal notice in the paper of record. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this analysis. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period.

Please provide your comments as early as possible to help finalize the plan and environmental assessment.

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