

Glenda Wiles

From: McKay, Tod G -FS <tgmkay@fs.fed.us>
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Open House Planned for Gold Butterfly Project

Hamilton, Montana (May 12, 2017) – The Bitterroot National Forest is inviting the public to an open house to collaborate and gather input on the development of the Gold Butterfly project located in the Sapphire Mountains east of Corvallis. The meeting will take place this Wednesday, May 17th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Bitterroot River Inn located at 139 Bitterroot Plaza Drive in Hamilton.

The forest is in the early stages of planning the project located between Burnt Fork and St. Clair Creek on the east side of the Valley. The primary purposes of the proposed project are to reduce the risk and extent of insect and disease infestation of the landscape and to reduce the risk of wildfire.

Potential treatments include timber harvests and prescribed fire to improve forest health and watershed resilience.

Forest Service personnel will be available at the open house to answer questions and would also like to hear from the public regarding their use, favorite activities, and future desires for the project area. There will also be numerous maps available for viewing.

A map of the project area is also posted on the Forest website at www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot, click on Land Management Projects and scroll down to Gold Butterfly.

The collaborative project is proposed under the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) as amended by the Agriculture Act of 2014 (Farm Bill).

For more information on the Gold Butterfly project or the upcoming open house, please contact Marilyn Wildey, Team Leader, at mwildey@fs.fed.us or 406-363-7101.

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