



Bitterroot National Forest

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NEWS RELEASE

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“BITTERROOT MOONWALK”

Hamilton, Montana —The Bitterroot National Forest continues the “Walk By the Light of the Moon” series with the “Bitterroot Moon” scheduled for **Saturday, May 1st** beginning between **7:30 and 8:00 p.m.** at the **Willoughby 40 Environmental Education Area** southeast of Stevensville.

Folks throughout the valley are invited to attend an evening of informative discussions on the weird life cycle of Bitterroot plants, insects as pollinators, and the concepts and potential of environmental history and restorative ecology, with the backdrop of the Bitterroot Mountains and the accompaniment of music.

Featured topics for the “Bitterroot Moon” walk include:

- ❖ Restoration Ecology - **Dan Flores**, Professor of History at UM, Environmental Historian, and author,
- ❖ Bitterroot Plants-**Linda Pietarinen**, Botanist, Bitterroot NF,
- ❖ Insects as Pollinators- **Byron Weber**, Educator

Willoughby Environment Education Area is located 6 miles to the northeast of the Eastside Highway at Bell Crossing. Turn east off the Eastside Highway onto the Willoughby Road. Travel 1.5 miles and turn north onto South Sunset Road. Continue to travel on South Sunset Road all the way to the site. South Sunset will wind around, but **do not** go off on Pine Hollow Road where the paved and graveled roads meet. From this point continue on South Sunset Road for another 2 miles to the Willoughby Environment Education Area.

Moon walks have a staggered, flexible start and end time to allow visitors to participate at their own pace, in smaller more intimate groups. Participants may want to bring a flashlight, in case the moon does not cooperate, and anticipate the weather and dress accordingly. This walk is being held before the actual full moon to take advantage of the earlier moonrise. Participants with questions or special needs can call the Bitterroot National Forest @ (406) 363-7100.

The Bitterroot National Forest would like to thank Dan Flores and the University of Montana for his participation in this walk.

The schedule of 2004 walks is available at each of the moonwalks, at each Forest Service office on the Bitterroot National Forest, or on the web site at www.fs.fed.us/r1/bitterroot/recreation.

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