



File Code: 1950

Date: October 14, 2003

Dear Interested Party:

The Helena National Forest has completed preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the forest-wide **Noxious Weed Treatment Project**. A copy of the document is enclosed for your review and comment.

Please remember that this is a *draft* document. The Final EIS will be prepared this winter, following receipt and analysis of public comments on this DEIS. We will be accepting comments on this DEIS until December 1, 2003. Notification of the availability of the DEIS is expected to appear in the Federal Register on or before October 17, 2003. This will begin the 45-day comment period, which would then end on December 1, 2003.

Open Houses to present the alternatives and analysis and take comments from interested parties have been scheduled for the week of November 3rd. The Open House schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, November 4 th	Helena Helena National Forest, Supervisor's Office 2880 Skyway Drive 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 5 th	Townsend Townsend School Library Community Room 210 N. Spruce 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 6 th	Lincoln Lincoln Community Hall Highway 200 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

You may also send your comments via e-mail or written form. Our e-mail address is comments-northern-helena@fs.fed.us. Written comments may be mailed to: Attn. Dea Nelson, Helena National Forest, Townsend Ranger District, 415 South Front, Townsend, MT, 59644.

This document is also available on our website (www.fs.fed.us/r1/helena/) and at the public libraries in Boulder, Helena, Lincoln and Townsend as well as at all Helena National Forest offices. You may request additional copies or further information by calling Dea Nelson at (406) 266-3425 or Jay Winfield at (406) 449-5490.



Thank you very much for your interest in the Noxious Weed Treatment Project and resource management on the Helena National Forest.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. CLIFFORD
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure: Noxious Weed Treatment Project DEIS

Cc: Townsend Ranger District
Helena Ranger District
Lincoln Ranger District