



File Code: 5430
Date: DEC 02 2015

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515


Dear Congressman Calvert:

As set out in the Department of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2012, Forest Service land exchanges, where the value of the Federal parcel is greater than \$500,000, are submitted to you in accordance with the notice provisions. I have reviewed and recommend moving forward with the proposed Red Lodge Mountain Land Exchange. This exchange is located on the Custer-Gallatin National Forest within Carbon County, Montana. This land adjustment involves exchange of 382.45 acres of non-Federal land for 250.23 acres of Federal land. Appraisals on the exchange have not yet been completed, but it is anticipated the value will exceed \$500,000. The Forest Service proposes to proceed with the exchange to meet the long-term resource management objectives of landscape consolidation and secure public access on three Forest System trails, increasing recreation access opportunities.

I have enclosed a map of both the Federal and non-Federal parcels and a copy of the Notice of Exchange Proposal.

Should you have any questions regarding this exchange, please have your staff contact Betty Jewett, Acting Assistant Director of Lands and Realty Management, at (202) 205-2818. A similar letter with enclosures is being sent to Congresswoman Betty McCollum and Senators Lisa Murkowski and Tom Udall.

Sincerely,


GREGORY C. SMITH
Director of Lands and Realty Management

Enclosures (2):

Legislative Map
Legal Notice



File Code: 5420

Date: DEC 02 2015

The Honorable Tom Udall
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510


Dear Senator Udall:

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Sincerely,



GREGORY C. SMITH

Director, Lands and Realty Management

Enclosures (2):

Legislative Map
Legal Notice





File Code: 5420
Date: DEC 02 2015

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman McCollum:

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GREGORY C. SMITH
Director, Lands and Realty Management

Enclosures (2):

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File Code: 5420
Date: DEC 02 2015

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairman
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510


Dear Senator Murkowski:

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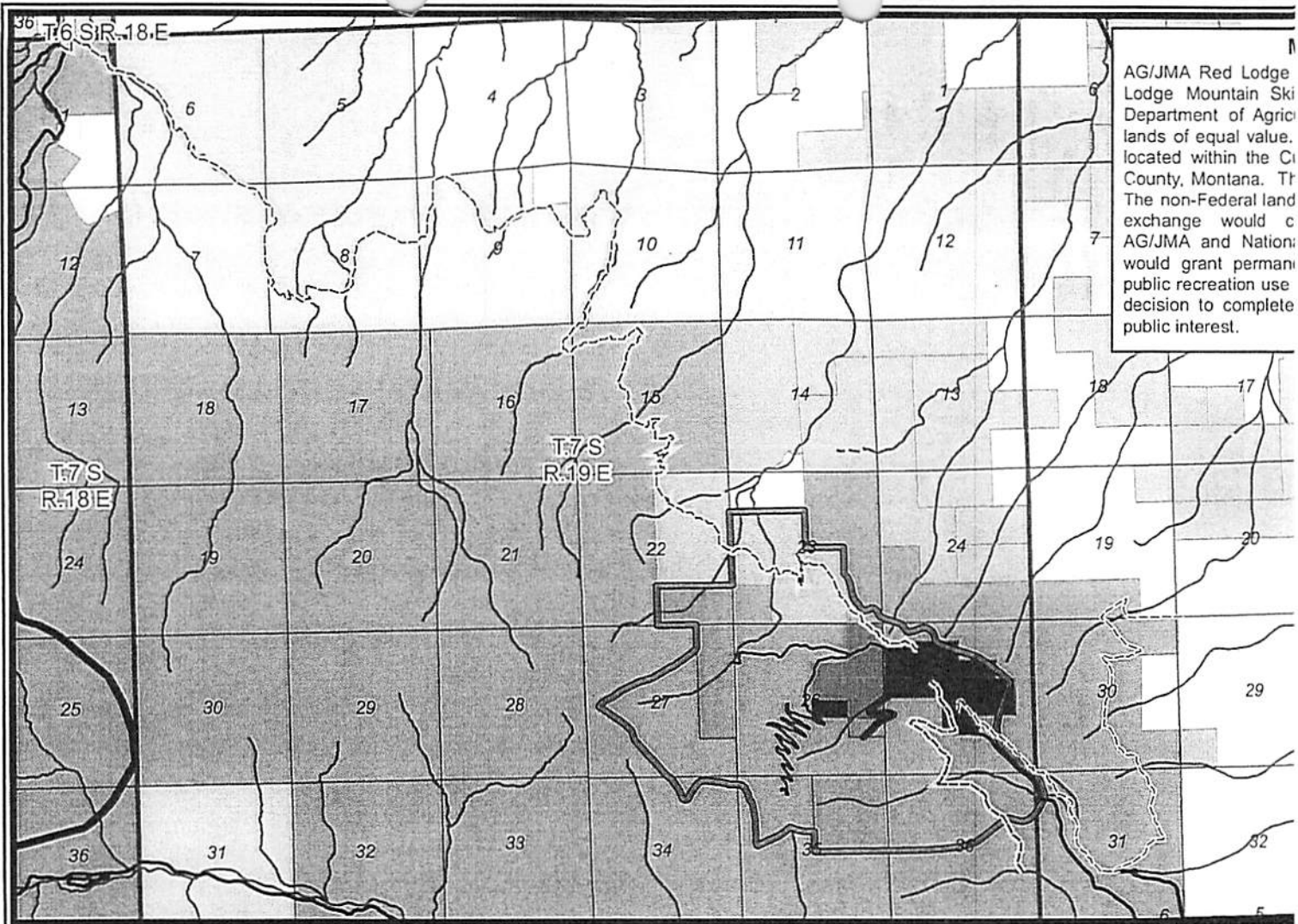
Sincerely,


GREGORY O. SMITH
Director, Lands and Realty Management

Enclosures (2):

Legislative Map
Legal Notice





AG/JMA Red Lodge Lodge Mountain Ski Department of Agriculture lands of equal value, located within the Custer County, Montana. The non-Federal land exchange would be completed by AG/JMA and National Forest System would grant permanent public recreation use decision to complete public interest.

Vicinity Map



References
 Exchange parcels, PLSS and County boundary data from R1 Automated Lands Program (ALP). Transportation and land ownership data from USFS Custer Gallatin NF GIS Data. Hydrography data from National Hydrological Dataset (NHD).

Disclaimer
 The USDA Forest Service makes no warranty, expressed or implied regarding the data displayed on this map, and reserves the right to correct, update, modify, or replace this information without notification.

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Map Creation Date - 19 November 2015
 Map Revision Date - 19 November 2015, Rev. 1

- Legend**
- Proposed Old Ranger Trail 107
 - Proposed RLM Uphill Trail 108
 - Proposed Nichols Trail 110
 - ▨ Non-Federal Lands for Exchange
 - ▨ Federal Lands for Exchange
 - ▭ Red Lodge Ski Area Boundary
 - Road
 - - - Trail
 - ▭ Wilderness Boundary
 - ▨ Other National Forest System lands
 - ▨ State Trust (DNRC) lands
 - ▨ BLM lands
 - ▨ Other AG/JMA Red Lodge Realty Holdings LLC lands
 - ▨ Palisades Livestock LLC lands
 - ▨ Red Lodge Ski Area Base Area

Sheet 1 of 1

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
Land Exchange Notice
Proposed Red Lodge Mountain Land Exchange

AG/JMA Red Lodge Realty Holdings, L.L.C., owners of Red Lodge Mountain Ski Resort, and the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, are considering an exchange of lands of approximately equal value under authority of the Act of March 20, 1922 (42 Stat. 465, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 485, 486); the Act of October 21, 1976 (90 Stat. 2743; 43 U.S.C. 1715-1717) and the Act of August 20, 1988 (102 Stat. 1086; 43 U.S.C. 1716 (note), 751 (note)).

The lands considered for exchange are located within the Custer Gallatin National Forest in Carbon County, Montana. The Federal lands are described as: P.M.M., T.7 S., R. 19 E., Section 26: N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; Section 25: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, consisting of 250.23 total acres, more or less. The Non-federal lands are described as: P.M.M., T. 7 S., R.19 E., Section 22: S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; Section 26: S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; Section 27: E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; and Section 35: NE $\frac{1}{4}$, consisting of 382.45 total acres, more or less.

The proposed exchange would consolidate ownership of intermingled AG/JMA and national forest system lands. Also, AG/JMA would grant permanent easements to the U.S. to enhance public recreation use on three national forest system trails. The Forest Service is analyzing this proposal under applicable laws, regulations and policies. A decision to complete the exchange will be based on overall public interest.

The Federal lands have been segregated from appropriation under the mineral laws and public land laws. In the exchange, the U.S. would acquire approximately 7.2 acres of floodplain/wetland area and convey approximately 11.4 acres of floodplain/wetland area.

Persons claiming any right, title or interest in the Federal lands or Non-federal lands; those having objections to the exchange; those wishing to submit written comments; or those wishing to obtain more information about this exchange proposal should contact: Traute Parrie, Beartooth Ranger District, 6811 Hwy 212 South, Red Lodge, MT 59068.

Written comments must be received at the above address no later than forty-five (45) days following the initial date of publication. Publication dates: February 6, February 13, February 20 and February 27, 2015.