



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Hungry Horse-Glacier View
Ranger District

10 Hungry Horse Drive
PO Box 190340
Hungry Horse, MT 59919
(406) 387-3800
Fax (406) 387-3889

File Code: 1950

Date: March 15, 2021

Dear Interested Party,

We are requesting your input on the proposed expansion of the existing Whale Gravel Pit (T33N, R20W, Section 4) located adjacent to the Whale Creek Road, National Forest System Road 318, two miles west of the North Fork Road. This gravel pit is located on National Forest System lands and has a 200 ft National Forest System road with a gate (Road 5399) that provides access from Road 318 to the gravel pit. The purpose of this proposal is to provide a source of material for maintenance of National Forest System roads and County Roads in the surrounding area. A location map is enclosed.

The proposed actions include the removal of material within the already disturbed footprint of the gravel pit and an expanded area to the west. The total contiguous area of disturbance would be less than 5 acres. The removal would occur with heavy equipment such as excavators, front end loaders, and dozers. Material excavated will be stored and then crushed on site. Crushed material will be hauled off site mostly within the same field season for use on road projects in the upper North Fork area. A small stockpile of material would remain on site for future projects. Rehabilitation after excavation would include reducing slope angles, seeding with native seed mixes, and weed spraying.

I have made a preliminary determination that this proposal falls within a category of actions listed in the Forest Service National Environmental Policy Act Handbook that are excluded from documentation in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement. So that your input may be considered during our analysis, please provide comments addressing the proposed action by April 1, 2021.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public review. Please address your questions to Project Leader Jennifer Brady, 406-758-5210, or jennifer.brady@usda.gov. Electronic comments may be submitted to: comments-northern-flathead-hungry-horse-glacier-view@usda.gov. Please include the project name (Whale Gravel Pit Expansion) in the subject line. The responsible official for this project is Hungry Horse-Glacier View District Ranger Robert Davies.

Sincerely,

ROBERT DAVIES
District Ranger

Enclosure



Whale Gravel Pit Expansion Project Vicinity Map

