

**Emigrant Crevice Locatable Mineral Withdrawal
Environmental Assessment
USDA Forest Service
Custer Gallatin National Forest
Park County, Montana**

The Environmental Assessment and relevant project documents will be available for public review and comment in the coming days. The 30 day public comment period legal notice has not been published starting the 30 days.

Contact Sitka Pence, sitkapence@fs.fed.us, 406-587-6985, for more information, or to be added to the mailing list.

Coming Soon:

Opportunity to Comment on Emigrant Crevice Locatable Mineral Withdrawal

The Custer Gallatin National Forest is preparing an environmental assessment for the Emigrant Crevice Locatable Mineral Withdrawal project. The proposed action is to withdraw for 20 years, approximately 30,370 acres of NFS lands from location and entry under the United States mining laws, but not from leasing under mineral and geothermal laws. This would prohibit the location of new mining claims under the Mining Law. The withdrawal would not apply to valid existing rights in the area. The proposed withdrawal area consists of two parcels: Emigrant (15,795 acres of NFS lands) within the Yellowstone Ranger District and Crevice (14,575 acres of NFS lands) within the Gardiner Ranger District. The Secretary of the Interior has the authority to approve, or deny, the Forest Service's proposal to withdraw the lands from location and entry under the Mining Law, subject to valid existing rights, for up to 20 years in whole or in part.

The environmental assessment and associated project documents are available on-line at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51258>. The notice and supporting documentation is also available for review at the Custer Gallatin National Forest Office located at 10 East Babcock, Bozeman, MT 59715. Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Sitka Pence at sitkapence@fs.fed.us, or 406-587-6985.

The proposed project is an activity implementing a land management plan and not authorized under the HFRA.

How to Comment and Timeframe

Specific written comments on the proposed project will be accepted for 30 calendar days following publication of this notice in the *Bozeman Daily Chronicle*. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period.

Written comments must be submitted via mail, fax, or in person (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays) to: Mary Erickson Forest Supervisor, ATTN: Sitka Pence, PO Box 130, Bozeman, MT 59771. Electronic comments including attachments can be submitted to <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=51258>. Formats that will be accepted for electronically submitted comments are: Word, PDF, and/or Excel.

It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Names and contact information submitted with comments will become part of the public record and may be released under the Freedom of Information Act.

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