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(Neb.)-Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands Seeks Public Input And Comments

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 08/26/2013 10:04 AM



(CHADRON)—The Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands (NNFG) is preparing an outfitter-guide needs assessment to better determine the public's and agency's need for commercial recreation activities throughout Forests and Grasslands territory. In 2008, the Forest Service released directives in an effort to more effectively manage the outfitter-guide program. The National Forests and Grasslands team is following that policy to complete the assessment as an opportunity to improve management of the program and better meet the needs of the public.

The needs assessment will consider input from the public, outfitter-guides, user groups, and forest staff. The Forest Service will then make a determination of the need for outfitter-guide activities using information, such as national and regional recreation trend data, and other factors, such as skills needed to participate in an activity, safety and risk concerns, and economic benefit to local communities.

The NNFG seeks public input on the types of activities and locations, as well as foreseeable recreation trends, to help determine need.

According to project coordinator Mathias Wallace, "Recreationists are the eyes and ears of the Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands, and we want to know what needs you're seeing."

Comments can be submitted online at comments-Rocky-Mountain-Nebraska@fs.fed.us. Please include "Outfitter-Guide assessment" in the subject line. For those with questions, contact Mathias Wallace at 308-432-0300. Comments will be most helpful if received by September 30, 2013.

--U.S.Forest Service

