

June 2, 2019

Gallatin National Forest  
10 East Babcock  
Bozeman, MT 59715

Subject: Comments on Draft Forest Plan.

Dear Person:

My interest is in the historic former Ranger Station, CC camp site, and historic bridge at the Shenango site (formerly Squaw Creek). The Draft plan lists this site as an inventoried historic site but gives no direction, that I could find, as to its priority for submittal for historic site designation. The site presents an outstanding opportunity for interpretation with the buildings relatively intact and the bridge still in use plus pictures of the CC camp available for additional visual presentations. I worked on the Gallatin National Forest for 9 years and know the Forest fairly well. I firmly believe that the Shenango historic site is the number one (1) priority on the Gallatin National Forest for submittal as a National Historic Place.

The Shenango historic site was evaluated in 1990 by J. Bolton and Ann Huber, Research Assistants for Historic Research Associates, Inc. Their assessment concluded that the historic Ranger Station, CC camp site and historic bridge met the requirements for registration as a National Historic Place. Beginning in the early 2000's, my daughter and I began advocating that the Shenango site be submitted for designation on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2014, I stepped up my advocacy by signing a volunteer agreement with the Bozeman Ranger District to research the Shenango site. I submitted a list of 18 references which contained pertinent information which could be included in the final application. I also volunteered to prepare the application but was denied on the basis that the Forest needed to decide what sites from their list had priority. Since then my follow-up questions were answered the same. The Forest needed to decide which sites had priority. I had hoped that the Forest Plan would identify that priority but as far as I can tell from the documents I have received, only a total list of sites is in the background information.



So I recommend the following:

That the Forest identify a high priority list of historic sites (perhaps ten) worthy of study for submittal as historic sites and that the Forest Plan prescribe that at least two per year be studied. The Shenango Historic Site should be the first on that list.

In the Draft Forest Plan.

Page 74. Objectives 01. I favor Alternative D & E.

Objective 02. I favor Alternative D. Historic assets should as a minimum be assessed and remedial action accomplished at least every four years.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Cron

PII

personally identifiable  
info hide

