



Flathead National Forest

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Media Release

Flathead NF Withdraws Permit Decision, Will Seek Public Comments

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Kalispell, Mt. – The Flathead National Forest Supervisor is withdrawing his earlier decision on the Knights of Columbus Special Use Permit for the commemorative marker on Big Mountain, near Whitefish, Mont., to consider new information, Forest officials announced today.

Based upon information that developed after his August 24th Decision letter, Forest Supervisor Chip Weber notified the Regional Forester that he is withdrawing his earlier decision to formally seek public comment on the proposed action for reissuing the permit in the next few weeks.

“Information that developed after my August 24th decision is a significant factor driving this withdrawal and reconsideration,” Weber explained. He added, “It has always been clear to us that there are strongly held values associated with this monument and that it is important to the community.”

The new information comes to the Forest from the Montana State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO), which determined that the site in question is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. In their response to the Forest, the SHPO states that the monument, “...is a local landmark that skiers recognize, and it is a historic part of the resort.”

Details about the public comment period for this proposed action will be released sometime next week as details are finalized, the Forest Service said.

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