



March 13, 2015

To: Resource Agency Distribution

Subject: Bridger Canyon Corridor Planning Study

The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Gallatin and Park Counties, has conducted a corridor planning study to identify issues, constraints, and potential opportunities for improvements within the Bridger Canyon corridor. The study area includes the portion of MT 86 beginning at Reference Post (RP) 1.95 at the intersection of Story Mill Road and ending at the junction with United States Route 89 (US 89) at RP 37.50.

The Bridger Canyon Corridor Planning Study is a planning-level assessment of the study area occurring before project-level environmental compliance activities under the National and Montana Environmental Policy Acts (NEPA/MEPA). The planning study process is designed to facilitate a smooth and efficient transition from transportation planning to project-level environmental review and future project development.

Resource agencies are asked to review and offer their comments on the draft corridor planning study report. An electronic version of this document is provided on the enclosed CD.

Please provide written comments on the enclosed report by **April 17, 2015**, to Katie Potts at the address indicated on the letterhead or by email at kpotts@mt.gov. Additional information about the study is available at the study website (<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/bridger/>).

Thank you in advance for your agency's input.

Sincerely,



Tom Martin
MDT Environmental Services Bureau Chief

Enclosure

David Fronczak, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mike McGrath, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Todd Tillinger, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers