

County plans rockin' time for North Fork Road

Posted April 29, 2009—In late summer or early fall, North Forkers will see some improvement in the condition of the North Fork Road, as Flathead County and U.S. Forest Service vehicles and crews spread crushed rock on the stretch between Camas Creek Road and Polebridge.

Flathead County has been granted \$96,500 in federal funds through the local Resource Advisory Committee. An RAC comprises people representing government, recreation, education, the timber industry and other entities in areas where federal cutbacks in logging have adversely affected local economies and tax revenues. This year, our RAC will decide how to distribute the Flathead's \$370,000 share of the \$477 million being distributed nationwide.

Flathead County Public Works Director Dave Prunty told us that the Flathead National Forest will provide the gravel and help with its "deployment," and a private contractor will crush it. Prunty said the county had requested \$175,000 from the RAC, which would have been enough money to gravel the entire 10-mile stretch. As it is, Prunty said, only about half that stretch will be done. Work won't begin until late summer at the earliest, Prunty said, because of other weather-sensitive projects ahead of the North Fork in the queue.