



**Flathead Audubon Society**

**PO Box 9173  
Kalispell, MT 59904**

To: Bryan Donner  
Project Leader  
Tally Lake Ranger District  
1335 Highway 93 West  
Whitefish, MT 59917

April 22, 2007

**Comments on Proposed Sanko Creek Fish Passage Project from Flathead  
Audubon Society**

The Flathead Audubon Society is a local, active group of people interested in sound stewardship and management of natural resources. We have reviewed your March 26, 2007 letter describing the proposed project.

We support the proposed fish habitat improvement project. Removing migration barriers caused by culverts and restoring the ability of native fish to utilize all portions of a stream system formerly available to them is a worthwhile endeavor. Recontouring the stream to original shape is much better for fish than installing a new culvert even if the culvert was more "fish friendly" than the existing one.

In our telephone conversation on April 9, 2007, you explained that the earth berms were being designed to allow passage of foot, horse, and motorcycle traffic but preclude wider vehicles. Flathead Audubon Society encourages the Forest Service to come up with an effective design that will remain effective over time with minimal maintenance required.

Thank you for your careful consideration of our comments.

Lewis Young  
Conservation Chair  
Flathead Audubon Society  
50 Garrison Dr  
Eureka, MT 59917