News Release



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Reminder - Change in Travel Access Resulting from Travel Plan

Bozeman, MT... With spring approaching, the Gallatin National Forest reminds recreationists about the new travel management decision in effect. The Oversnow Vehicle Use Map depicts the winter portion of the Travel Management Plan and shows over-snow recreational opportunities for motorized and non-motorized users across the Forest. The Motor Vehicle Use Map displays summer motorized opportunities across the Forest. Forest officials encourage visitors to pick up these maps at any Gallatin National Forest office.

"The Travel Management Plan went into effect October 8, 2007. The Forest spent this fall and winter educating and informing people about the new travel regulations," said Mary Erickson, Gallatin National Forest Supervisor. "We intend to spend this summer doing more of the same – trying to ensure the Forest and visitors are both successful in implementing and following the new travel plan direction."

There are a few areas where confusion exists on what types of recreation is allowed. In the Bridger Canyon area, there is no longer snowmobile access at Brackett Creek. The new access point is located below Battle Ridge campground and the parking lot is now plowed and maintained. People recreating by Fairy Lake, also in the Bridger Canyon area, are asked to park at the gate at the 1.5 mile marker. In the Taylor's Fork area, located in the Gallatin Canyon south of Big Sky, snowmobilers are required to stay on the trail leaving the Wapiti trailhead to the first fence as there is an area closure in effect around the trail. Finally, please remember that snowmobiling is not allowed on plowed roads.

The Forest intends to re-publish the Motor Vehicle Use Map early this summer. It will include some updated information as well as the trail configuration for the timeshare trails close to Bozeman.

Please contact a Gallatin National Forest office or our website at http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin/ for additional information.

