



## Flathead National Forest

## Media Release

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### Kalispell Snowmobilers Plead Guilty

Three Kalispell individuals recently pled guilty to operating snowmobiles last October on Canyon Creek Road on the Glacier View Ranger District. The road was closed to snowmobiles at that time since it was still being used by wheeled vehicles. As a safety measure, snowmobiles are not allowed on Forest Roads until snow makes them impassable to normal wheeled vehicles. One individual also pled guilty to threatening and intimidating a Forest Service law enforcement officer.

Hungry Horse - Glacier View District Ranger Jimmy DeHerrera said, "People need to be aware that violations of restrictions and closures can create safety hazards and bring negative publicity to legitimate motorized land uses." Ranger DeHerrera and Law enforcement officer Brad W. Treat agreed that informing folks of violations "might help encourage members of the public to report these kinds of incidents when they do occur or are observed."

In addition to seasonal closures; unpredictable weather, road conditions, and access requirements may cause a need for other closures. Once a road or area closure is secured or rescinded legally, for any reason, it becomes the law. Violations against area or road closures by land users are subject to prosecution. Snowmobilers are advised to call or visit local ranger stations and inquire about current area restrictions and closures.

For information about area restrictions and road closures on the Hungry Horse-Glacier View Ranger District, call (406) 387-3800.

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