News Release



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Forest Service Receives Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Award

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation recently presented its 2004 Elk Country Lands Award to the Gallatin National Forest for its Greater Yellowstone—Taylor Fork Land Conservation Project. The Lands Award recognizes outstanding commitment and efforts, which result in high-priority lands being permanently conserved through acquisitions or conservation easements.

From 1993–2004, the Gallatin National Forest worked in partnership with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF), Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (MFWP), local residents, conservation and sportsman groups, the Montana Congressional delegation, and landowners to acquire and conserve over 11,000 acres of private lands in the wildlife-rich Taylor Fork of the Gallatin National Forest.

"It is a privilege and an honor for the Gallatin National Forest to receive this recognition. We want to extend our thanks and appreciation to all of our partners who helped make this project happen," stated Forest Supervisor Becki Heath.

The award was presented at the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's 21st Anniversary Elk Camp in Portland, Oregon, earlier this year. Bob Dennee (Gallatin Lands Staff), John Allen (Gallatin Deputy Forest Supervisor), Ron Erickson (FS, Northern Region, Lands Staff), and Kurt Alt (Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks) were on hand to accept the award.

Note: Photos available upon request.

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