
Hebgen Lake Ranger District News Release



For Immediate Release

Contact: Marianne Baumberger (406) 587-6703

Date: April 23, 2008

Gallatin National Forest Receives Tourism Award Along With West Yellowstone Winter Trails Project Partners

West Yellowstone, MT..... This year Montana's Tourism Partnership Award was presented to the West Yellowstone Winter Trails Project Partners, which include: the Gallatin National Forest; MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks; the town of West Yellowstone; the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce Cross Country Ski Committee and their Snowmobile Trails Committee; and also the Trail Trash Recovery and Recycling Program. This collective group has come together to develop and maintain over 100 miles of groomed snowmobile trails and cross country ski trails at the world renowned Rendezvous Ski Area, all on public lands managed by the Gallatin National Forest.

According to Mary Sue Costello, Director of the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce, "The trails that these diverse hard working partners have created and maintained an object of great pride and are a vital economic engine for our community and the state as a whole."

The Gallatin National Forest, Hebgen Lake Ranger District works along side of their partners by providing permission to use the trails along with consultation, signage, hazard reduction, contouring, weed control and funding for ski and snowmobile trail maintenance. The Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Trails Program provides expertise and invaluable grant money while the Trail and Trash Recovery and Recycling Project spends endless hours cleaning litter from the trails. This past winter the "Fair Share" local West Yellowstone business funding program helped fund the project by contributing \$55,000 and the Chamber Cross Country Ski and Snowmobile Committees have volunteered countless hours of their time.

The awards ceremony was held the week of April 14, 2008 at the Governors Conference for Tourism in West Yellowstone, MT. For more information on the Rendezvous Ski Area or the snowmobile trail system, contact the Hebgen Lake Ranger District at (406) 823-6990 or on the web at www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin.

- FS -



Highway 191, PO Box 520, West Yellowstone, MT 59758
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin>



Highway 191, PO Box 520, West Yellowstone, MT 59758
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin>