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# Gallatin National Forest News Release



For Immediate Release  
Date: February 29, 2008

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## Food Storage Order Becomes Effective March 1

The Gallatin National Forest reminds forest users that the Forest's expanded food storage order goes into effect March 1. The expanded order applies to all of the Gallatin National Forest and is designed to reduce adverse human-wildlife interactions, thereby promoting human safety and the protection of bears and other wildlife species. The forest-wide order is in the second year of implementation.

Mary Erickson, Gallatin Forest Supervisor states "The order will be in effect from March 1 through December 1 on an annual basis. The order requires that unattended food, refuse, and attractants be stored in hard-sided vehicles or bear-resistant containers (or hung above the ground out of the reach of wildlife)." The order defines appropriate methods for acceptably storing and possessing food, refuse and other attractants, including animal carcasses (i.e., hard-sided vehicles, hanging from a tree, use of bear-resistant containers, and appropriate methods for burning garbage). Individuals who do not comply with the new food storage order can be fined.

Portions of the Gallatin National Forest, primarily the Hebgen Lake and Gardiner Ranger Districts on the southern end of the Forest, were covered by a food storage order that was implemented in 1990. The Gallatin National Forest is one of six National Forests in the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA) that has a food storage order in place (the other GYA Forests are the Custer, Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Shoshone, Caribou-Targhee, and Bridger-Teton National Forests).

For further information about the food storage order please contact the Gallatin National Forest, 10 E. Babcock, P.O. Box 130, Bozeman, MT 59771, 406-587-6701. Information can also be found on the Forest's website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin>.

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