

April 1, 2007

Contact:

Denise Germann (406) 758-5252 (406) 249-1714 cell

## **Court Validates Work of Flathead National Forest**

The Flathead National Forest was recently upheld in United States District Court for the District of Montana involving litigation by plaintiffs Swan View Coalition and Friends of the Wild Swan regarding the Robert Wedge and West Side Reservoir Post-Fire Projects.

The court determined that the Flathead National Forest complied with the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as litigated otherwise by the plaintiffs.

Flathead National Forest Environmental Coordinator Joe Krueger said, "This ruling validates the planning and analysis work the forest has completed, and continues to accomplish."

Environmental impact statements for the Robert Wedge and West Side Reservoir Post-Fire Projects were completed in 2004. Both projects were in response to wildland fires of 2003 and included salvage logging.

## --END---