



Flathead National Forest

Media Release

March 10, 2009

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Recreationists Reminded about Winter Conditions

Skiers, snowmobilers and other winter recreationists are advised that winter avalanche conditions remain in the mountains of Northwest Montana. All recreationists are reminded to be prepared for the backcountry, and always stay current with the local weather conditions and avalanche danger.

- Plan and prepare for conditions – Know before you head out!
- Have the proper equipment and know how to use it, including an appropriate map,
- Communicate where you plan to go and when you plan to return.

The Flathead National Forest issues avalanche advisories for Northwest Montana twice a week this time of year. Advisories include information about snowpack conditions, weather forecasts, and hazard evaluations. Visit www.glacieravalanche.org or call 406-257-8402 for these advisories. Anyone traveling in the backcountry will always need to make their own time and site specific avalanche hazard evaluations.

Backcountry skiers, snowmobilers and others can test and practice their avalanche beacon search skills at the 'Beacon Park', located on the summit of Big Mountain at the Whitefish Mountain Resort. To use the park, bring your avalanche beacon and probe pole. Simple instructions to operate the unit are located near the central control panel. For assistance, users can contact the Whitefish Mountain Resort Ski Patrol at the summit patrol cabin.

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