
Hebgen Lake Ranger District News Release



For Immediate Release
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Forest Issues Decision for the Cache-Eldridge Grazing Plan

The Hebgen Ranger District has released the Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Cache-Eldridge Allotment Management Plan. A modified Alternative 4 is the selected alternative and details how the allotment will be managed in accordance with the Gallatin Forest Plan.

“This alternative authorizes grazing of 221 cow/calf pairs from approximately July 1 to October 15 depending on upland and riparian conditions,” said Bill Queen, Hebgen Lake District Ranger. “The decision also reduces the overall area grazed in the allotment, changes pasture configuration, adds fencing and cattleguards, and utilizes the Beaverhead Riparian Guidelines in addition to Gallatin Forest Plan standards for monitoring pastures.” The decision is intended to improve riparian conditions, wildlife habitat, livestock distribution, and allotment rotation and deferment.

The Cache-Eldridge Allotment consists of approximately 9,200 acres of national forest system lands located in the upper Taylor Fork area of the Gallatin National Forest. The original Allotment Management Plan was prepared in 1990 and was revised to meet resource needs. Since 1990 changes have occurred in land ownership and resource conditions. Some examples of these changes are identification of two water quality limited stream sections, concern for a conservation population of cutthroat trout, and gray wolf re-introduction.

Copies of the Decision and (FONSI) are available on the Internet at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin> on the Projects and Plans page. To request a hard copy of the Decision, contact Tris Hoffman at (406) 823-6961, or by letter to Attn: Tris Hoffman, Hebgen Lake Ranger District, PO Box 520, West Yellowstone, MT 59758

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