



## Forest Service News Release

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### Darby/Sula District Ranger Announced

**Hamilton, MT, December 4** — The Bitterroot National Forest (BNF) is pleased to announce that Steve Brown has accepted the District Ranger position for the Darby/Sula Ranger District. Brown will replace Abbie Jossie who is retiring at the end of the year, following a 37-year career with the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

Brown has been the District Ranger for the Stevensville Ranger District on the BNF since 2019 and has worked for the Forest Service for more than 20 years.

“Steve has done an excellent job leading the Stevensville District over the last four years,” said Matt Anderson, Bitterroot Forest Supervisor. “He has a strong passion for public lands and knows the Darby/Sula District very well from years of hunting and fishing up the East Fork, skiing at Lost Trail, and riding horses in the Anaconda-Pintler and Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Areas. He now gets to work on some new opportunities while staying involved with projects he started in Stevensville including the Eastside Forest and Bitterroot Front Projects.”

Before becoming Stevensville District Ranger, Brown was the Program Manager for the Forest Service’s Regional Geospatial Group, working across Montana and Idaho conducting vegetation surveys. He also served as Incident Commander for the Regional Post-Fire Incident Management Team charged with coordinating the response to the historic fire season of 2017.

“I have really enjoyed the past 4 years as the District Ranger in Stevensville,” said Brown. “I’ve had the opportunity to work with some of the best people in the agency while serving a community that I have called home for more than 20 years. But the opportunity to serve as the Darby/Sula District Ranger is just too great to pass up. I really want to make a lasting difference on the landscape and believe that this is the best opportunity to do that. I’m excited to work with the District in caring for these lands and serving the Darby and Sula communities.”

Brown graduated from the University of Montana with a Bachelor’s Degree in Resource Conservation and Master’s Degree in Forestry. He and his wife raise lowline cattle and custom cut hay on a small Bitterroot farm. When not busy working on the farm they can generally be found either riding horses in the rugged canyons or pursuing elk high up in the Sapphires.

For more information about the Darby/Sula Ranger District call 406-821-3913 or visit [www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot](http://www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot).

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