

Commissioners

From: McKay, Tod G -FS <tgmkay@fs.fed.us>
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Subject: News Release: Dog sled races happening this weekend
Attachments: Darby Dog Derby - sled race 2014.docx



NEWS RELEASE

Bitterroot National Forest

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Department of Agriculture
Bitterroot National Forest
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tod McKay (406) 363-7122

January 15, 2014

DOG SLED RACES HAPPENING THIS WEEKEND

Hamilton, MT. – The Bitterroot and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests will host the 7th Annual Bitterroot Musher's 'Darby Dog Derby' this weekend, January 18-19th. The event is open to the public and provides a great opportunity to see mushers and their well-trained dogs up close and in competition. The races take place on Gibbons Pass Road across Highway 93 from the Lost Trail Powder Mountain Ski Area.

Skiers and recreationists should be prepared for additional traffic this weekend associated with this event. Snowmobilers are asked to avoid the race route if possible. If that is not possible, snowmobilers are asked to be considerate, travel slowly, and pull off the road as the dogs and drivers travel through.

Races begin at 9:30am on Saturday at the Gibbons Pass snowmobile parking lot. Teams will compete in multiple competitions during the two-day event including sprint, skijor and long distance races. There is also a 'Pee Wee' race for ages 4-12, scheduled Saturday afternoon (around 1pm) when the other races conclude. Parking may be limited so come early to find a spot.

For a complete race schedule and event information visit www.bitterrootmushers.org or contact Casey Worth at the Sula Ranger District at (406) 821-3201.

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