

**Glenda Wiles**

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**Sent:** Wednesday, January 11, 2012 9:31 AM  
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**Subject:** News Release: Dog sled races happening this weekend  
**Attachments:** Darby Dog Derby - sled race 2012.docx



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### *Bitterroot National Forest*

[www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot](http://www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot)

United States  
Department of Agriculture  
Bitterroot National Forest  
1801 N First St  
Hamilton, Montana 59840

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Tod McKay (406) 363-7122**

January 11, 2012

### **DOG SLED RACES HAPPENING THIS WEEKEND**

Hamilton, MT. – The Bitterroot and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests will host the annual Bitterroot Mushers 'Darby Dog Derby' this Saturday and Sunday, January 14th and 15th. 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 race will take place on Gibbons Pass Road across Highway 93 from the Lost Trail Powder Mountain Ski Area. The location was changed from Nez Perce Road due to poor snow conditions.

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 at noon on Sunday. Parking may be limited so come early to find a spot.

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

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