

A black and white photograph of a riverbank. The background is filled with a dense line of trees. In the foreground, a large log lies horizontally on the ground, with several thin sticks or branches protruding from it. The ground appears to be covered in leaves and twigs. The overall scene is a natural, wooded area.

Recreation Access

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Resource Objectives and Planned Actions

Access to the following public land areas will be pursued in this priority:

1. Exchanges will be sought through the land tenure program for lands adjacent to the Yellowstone, Musselshell, Boulder, Stillwater, Clarks Fork and Bighorn Rivers. With regard to the Yellowstone River, priority consideration will be given to areas near Big Timber, Springtime, Huntley and Pompeys Pillar (these locations have been recommended by the MDFWP to meet floating demand).
2. Acquire legal and physical access to the following public land areas: (A) block of public lands 7 miles west of Pompeys Pillar bordering the north bank of the Yellowstone River; (B) Young's Point, approximately 3 miles southwest of Park City; (C) Bad Canyon walk-in access, located approximately 15 miles west of Absarokee. Where vehicular access is required, travel may be restricted to designated roads or trails. These restrictions will be determined after preparation of detailed activity plans.
3. Legal public access will not be pursued to the large block of public land roughly bounded by the communities of Bridger, Belfry and Warren (Triangle Area) and the west side of Red Pryor Mountain unless access across privately-owned lands is denied.

Rationale

Expanding population pressure in the greater Billings area has created a demand for more recreation sites or more access to existing sites on public land. This action will allow BLM to pursue recreational access to key areas without making significant changes in the land ownership pattern.

Monitoring

The condition of any new or existing recreational sites will be inspected periodically for possible damage. Visitor use will be monitored using various methods including selected road and traffic counters and visitor registers.

Implementation Priorities

Refer to Recreational Access Resource Objectives and Planned Actions stated previously.

Support

Support will be needed in conducting cadastral surveys, appraisal reports, mineral reports, water right reports, cultural reports, and required EARs for land exchanges, road locations and design, and property boundary identification.

