May 28, 2004 Contact: Craig Flentie, 406-538-1943

Lewistown, MT----The Bureau of Land Management's Lewistown Field Office would like to remind motorized boat enthusiasts that the seasonal upstream travel restrictions on the wild and scenic segments of the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River will begin on Saturday, May 29 this year.

The wild and scenic segments include those areas between Pilot Rick (river mile 52) and Deadman's Rapids (river mile 84.5) and from Holmes Council Island (river mile 92.5) to the Fred Robinson Bridge (at river mile 149).

In these segments, extended upstream travel by motorized water craft is limited to administrative, emergency or law enforcement water craft only. Downstream travel by motorized craft is allowed, but cannot exceed a speed that creates white water in the wake.

These seasonal restrictions will remain in place until September 12, 2004.

The recreational segments of the Upper Missouri remain open to motorized water craft use. These segments include the first 52 river miles from Fort Benton downstream to Pilot Rick and an 8-mile segment from Deadman's Rapids to Holmes Council Island.

"These seasonal restrictions have been in place since the first management plan was written for the Wild and Scenic Missouri (over 25 years ago) and balance the interests of motorized and non-motorized recreationists. These seasonal restrictions are authorized under 43 CFR 8351.2-1; Special Rules," offered Jon Edwards, a BLM law enforcement ranger stationed in Lewistown.

If you have questions about these seasonal restrictions or to report a violation, please contact Jon Edwards at (406) 538-1939.