



Flathead National Forest

650 Wolfpack Way
Kalispell, MT 59901

Web: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/flathead>

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News Release

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Timber Theft Conviction

KALISPELL, MONT. – April 9 – Charles McAlpine pleaded guilty on January 7, 2015 to one count of cutting trees on public lands and aiding and abetting the same. He was sentenced in Federal Court on March 5, 2015 to one year of probation, \$11,430.00 in restitution to the Forest Service and a \$5,000.00 fine.

This case was prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office – District of Montana and investigated by Forest Service Law Enforcement and Investigations. The investigation determined over 1,000 trees were cut and removed from National Forest System lands within the Hungry Horse Ranger District of the Flathead National Forest adjacent to McAlpine's property over the course of several years while logging operations were being conducted on his private lands. The timber was then sold as firewood.

Flathead National Forest Acting Supervisor Sharon LaBrecque says, "The Flathead National Forest takes timber theft and associated resource damage on public lands seriously. We aggressively investigate reports of timber theft".

For more information, contact the Flathead National Forest, 406-758-5200.

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