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**INTERAGENCY NEWS RELEASE**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
National Elk Refuge  
675 E. Broadway, PO Box 510  
Jackson, Wyoming 83001  
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USDA Forest Service  
Bridger-Teton National Forest  
PO Box 1888  
Jackson, Wyoming 83001  
307 / 739 5564

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 21, 2008

**CRITICAL WINTER RANGE WILDLIFE CLOSURES TO BE LIFTED MAY 1**

National Elk Refuge Manager Steve Kallin and Bridger-Teton National Forest Supervisor Kniffy Hamilton announce the spring opening of the Curtis Canyon and Flat Creek Roads and the removal of special Forest winter travel restrictions. Starting Thursday, May 1 at 8:00 AM, the Refuge Road will be open to public travel beyond the county-maintained line, allowing access to the Curtis Canyon and Flat Creek Roads and the adjoining National Forest. These roads, along with critical winter range areas on the Forest, are closed from December 1 through April 30 to protect wintering wildlife.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife personnel remind area visitors and residents that access through the Refuge is restricted to public roads only; all off-road travel is prohibited, including hiking, biking or other recreational activities. Additionally, it is illegal to remove antlers from the National Elk Refuge. Persons accessing the National Forest after the May 1 opening to look for elk antlers are responsible for knowing and respecting the boundaries to avoid violating Federal regulations.

Travel plan maps for the Bridger-Teton National Forest are available for the public at the following locations:

- Bridger-Teton National Forest Supervisor's office, 340 N. Cache Street, Jackson
- Bridger-Teton National Forest District offices in Pinedale, Moran, Big Piney, and Afton
- Confluence Visitor Center, Alpine
- Jackson Hole & Greater Yellowstone Visitor Center, 532 N. Cache Street, Jackson

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