

Beaverhead National Forest Ranger Roll Call

History – The Beaverhead National Forest was established in 1908 from parts of the Bitterroot, Hellgate, and Big Hole Reserves. Over the years there have been numerous boundary adjustment with adjacent Forests. In 1931 lands were added from the Madison, which include about half of the present-day Beaverhead districts. In 1996 the Beaverhead was administratively combined with the Deerlodge. Compiled mostly from directories starting in 1920 with some years missing. Today, Beaverhead National Forest is comprised of three ranger districts: Wisdom, Dillon, and Madison.

Wisdom District – Wisdom, MT

The Wisdom Ranger District was originally composed of the Steel Creek District and the Gibbons Battlefield District. Steel Creek and Battlefield Districts were difficult to reach in the winter so they were consolidated and the headquarters were moved to Wisdom in 1929. The Jackson District consolidated in 1967. The Wise River Ranger District consolidated with the Wisdom Ranger District in 2013 and is called the Wisdom Ranger District with Wise River as a Work Center.

Big Hole District

Part of the Big Hole Reserve, then the Deerlodge when listed in the early directories and probably became part of the Beaverhead in 1931.

Ashley W. Kurtz	1920 - 1921
Albert E. Cole	1922
Murray E. Skillman	1924 - 1926
John T. Marsh	1926 - 1927
Harold G. Peterson	1929

Gibbons Battlefield District

Site of the Bighole National Battlefield.

Bert Gillis ¹	1907
William H. Utley ¹	1907 - 1912
Christian O. Hanson ²	1910 - 1910
James A. LaMarche	1911 - 1912
Arthur M. Keas ³	1912 - 1917
Marshall G. Ramsey	1917 - 1929

1 – Station at Wisdom

2 – Station at Briston

3 – First occupant on site

Steel Creek District

(Now Steel Creek Guard Station)

Bert Gillis	1907
William H. Utley	1907 - 1912
Argyle L. Rumbaugh	1912 - 1914
Philip Clack	1914 - 1917

V. C. Sheffield	1917 - 1917
Charles A. Kutzleb	1919 - 1920
A. W. Vogelsang	1912 - 1924
Albert Yochelson	1925 - 1925
A. W. Vogelsang	1926 - 1927
Chas. Olson	1927 - 1928
Philip L. Paine	1928 - 1929
Lewellyn O. Peck	1929 - 1930

Jackson District

Now a barn, warehouse and horse pasture, house torn down 2016

G. E. Martin	1907 - 1910
Charles E. Brackett	1911 - 1913
Francis T. Carroll	1913 - 1918
V. C. Sheffield	1918 - 1918
Sylvester P. Meade	1918 - 1920
John A. Ogden	1920 - 1922
Hubert D. Bushey	1922 - 1922
Charles Burdick	1923 - 1926
Camas Nelson	1926 - 1929
Ray J. Bowers	1929 - 1933
Robert Rolfe	1934
S. M. Lukens	1935
Darrell Weaver	1936 - 1936
William A. Schowe	1937 - 1941
Arden B. Gunderson	1941 - 1942
Arthur L. Olson	1941 1942
Clement L. Kalitowski	1947 1954
Billie K. Muldowney	1954 1957
John J. McDougal	1957 1967

Melrose District

Combined with Wise River District)

John W. Long	1920-1928
August A. Schroede	1929 1930

Wise River District

Sanford Shephard	1909 1920
Philip A. Clack	1920 1923
Pete Piazzola	1923 1935
Lewellyn O. Peck	1935 1943
Albert F. Muchmore	1943 1950
Alfred R. Graesser	1950 1953
Paul H. Hoskins	1954
Vernon E. Sylvester	1954 1960

Glenn Lee Boy	1960 1968
Nevin Guderian (acting)	1968 1969
Frank R. Primozic	1969 1978
Dennis L. Johnson	1979 1981
Marvin E. "Ed" Levert	1982 1996
Cynthia Tencick	1997 1999
Charlie Hester	2001 2007
Darren Olsen	2008 2009
Russell B. Riebe	2010 2013

Wisdom District

Steel Creek and Battlefield Districts combined with headquarters moved to Wisdom in 1929

Marshall G. Ramsay	1929 1940
Douglas C. Morrison	1940 1943
Earl M. Welton	1944 1947
Richard G. Gallup	1947 1950
Wesley E. Green	1950 1953
John W. Venrick	1953 1957
Horace W. Godfrey	1957 (?)
Richard J. McElfrish	1959 1965
Gene A. Kalkoski	1965 1969
Dean R. Byrne	1969 1972
Edgar V. "Ed" Brown	1972 1976
John D. Dolan	1976 1979
David D. Rittenhouse	198 1982
Richard H. Inman	1983 1984
Joseph R. Spehar	1984 1988
Dennis Havig	1988 2008
Russell Riebe	2008 2017
Molly Ryan	2017 2023
Kristen Thompson	2023 -

Wisdom District Compiled by Museum Volunteer Diane and Robert Hutton

Dillon District - Dillon, MT

Argenta District

William C. Butterfield	1909
Donald Randolph	1916 - 1917
Sylvester P. Meade	1920
C. A. Kutzleb	1921
H. B. Brown	1922 - 1925
Raymond J. Bowers	1926 - 1927
A. A. Roemer	1928 - 1929

Horse Prairie District
August A. Schroeder 1920 - 1930

Sheep Creek District (1920 - 1929)

[Renamed to Lima R.D.]

Charles Brackett 1920 - 1921
C. W. Griffith 1922
Albert Yochelson 1923 - 1924
R. J. Smith 1925
J. O. Thompson 1926 - 1927
R. J. Bowers 1928 - 1929

Lima District (1931 - 1970)

Camas Nelson 1931 - 1941
Ben P. Martin 1942 - 1946
Roy M. Mart 1947 - 1951
Robert R. Milodragovich 1952 - 1953
Alfred R. Graesser 1954
Frederick R. Cornell 1958
Robert S. Gibson 1960 - 1963
Hubert R. Humes 1964 - 1967
Harold W. Simpson 1968
Dean R. Byrne 1970

Dillon District (1931 - Present)

A. A. Schroeder 1931 - 1946
Edwin W. Stein 1948 - 1950
Albert F. Muchmore 1951 - 1954
Chester L. Hagedorn 1958 - 1962
Marvin A. Amundson 1963 - 1973
Deen Boe 1973 - 1974
John H. Lowell 1975 - 1984
Barry Hicks 1985 - 1997
Vacant 1997 - 1999
David Fallis 1999 - 2002
Thomas "Tom" Osen 2003 - 2010
Cornelia "Cornie" Hudson 2011 - 2013
Scot Shuler 2013 - 2019
Jamie Tripp 2019 - Present

Wise River District - Wise River, MT

Melrose District

[Absorbed by Wise River R.D.]

John W. Long 1920 - 1929

Wise River District (1909 - Present)

Sanford Shephard 1909 - 1920

Philip A. Clack	1920 - 1923
Pete Piazzola	1920 - 1934
Lewellyn O. Peck	1935 - 1942
Albert F. Muchmore	1943 - 1950
Alfred R. Grasser	1951 - 1953
Paul H. Hoskins	1954 - ?
Vernon E. Sylvester	1954 - 1961
Glen Lee Boy	1962 - 1968
Frank R. Primozić	1970 - 1978
Dennis L. Johnson	1979 - 1981
Marvin E. "Ed" Levert	1982 - 1996
Cindy Tericick	1997 - 1999
Charlie Hester	2001 - 2007
Darren Olsen	2008 - 2009
Russell Riebe	2010 - 2013

Wise River and Wisdom Districts consolidated in 2013 and office moved to Wisdom

Madison District - Ennis, MT

Bear Creek District

[Part of the Madison and Gallatin Forests before combining with the Beaverhead N.F.]

Frank Ayres	pre-1920
Homer C. Bosworth	1920 - 1923
L.A. Merrifield	? - 1926

Pony District

[Originally part of Madison Forest]

Harvey B. Rust	1920 - 1921
Claget Sanders	1921 - 1927

Lyon District

[Originally part of Madison Forest]

Arthur T. Smith	1920 - 1923
Charles A. Joy	1924 - 1930

Wall Creek District (1921 - 1932)

[Becomes part of the Ennis R.D. in 1932]

Frank D. Riggle	1921 - 1925
V.T. Linthacum	1926 - 1928
Arthur Jacobson	1929
Charles A. Joy	1931

Ruby District (1920 - 1940)

[Part of Madison Forest until 1931, combined with the Sheridan R.D. in the 1940s. Some years both the Ruby and Sheridan Districts were listed, but some years only one of them. Headquarters were on the upper Ruby drainage until the 1930s.]

Ben P. Martin	1920 - 1925
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W. E. Fry	1926 - 1929
H. E. Schwan	1932 - 1934
R. J. Bowers	1935
S. M. Lukens	1936 - 1939
C. W. Jackson	1940

Sheridan District (1920 - 1990)

[Part of Madison Forest until 1931, absorbs Ruby District about 1940, and combined with Madison District in about 1990. Currently used as a work center.]

Claget Sanders	1920 - 1921
Harvey B. Rust	1922 - 1929
H.E. Schwan	1931
C. W. Jackson	1941
William A. Schowe	1942 - 1954
John Venrick	1958 - 1960
Theodore I. Rieger	1961 - 1965
Leonard Hendzel	1966 - 1968
Daniel Chisholm	1970 - 1973
John R. Hook	1974 - 1977
Neil O. Peterson	1978 - 1984
Ron Stellingwerf	1985 - 1990

Madison District (1925 - Present)

[Part of Madison Forest until 1931, Gallatin Forest until 1946, then absorbed by Beaverhead Forest. Ennis R.D. until 1970 when it was consolidated with Madison R.D.]
On December 16, 1931, the Madison National Madison was divided between Beaverhead, Gallatin and Deerlodge and the name was discontinued.

Ennis District Madison National Forest, Ennis Ranger District

E. H. Billsborough	1925 - ?
L. A. Merrifield	1928 - 1929
Vacant	1931
W. E. Fry	1931 - 1935
Verne J. Edwards	1936 - 1938
Merlin R. Stock	1939 - 1944
Alban A. Roemer	1945
Edward W. Stein	1946
Royal J. Turley	1947 - 1951
William H. MacKenzie	1952 - 1954
Vern L. Thompson	1958 - 1959
Blaine C. Tennis	1960 - 1967

Madison District (1925 - Present)

Carl F. Ulhorn	1932 - 1934
F. C. Curtis	1932 - 1937
Ben P. Martin	1938 - 1940
Edwin W. Stein	1941 - 1942

Burt L. Hurwitz	1943 - 1944
<i>Vacant</i>	1945
Walter H. Sundell	1946 - 1951
Ronald R. Schulz	1952 - 1954
Neil J. Howarth	1959 - 1966
Vergil Lindsey	1967 - 1988
Mark Petroni	1989 - 2009
Sue Heald	2009 - 2011
Ken Harris	2011 - 2014
Dale Olson	2014 - Present