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Date: Thu Feb 12, 2009 2:02:23 PM US/Mountain

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Subject: From MWF for Immediate Release 2/112/09: MWF Board Supports Scotchman Peaks

For Immediate Release - February 12, 2009

Contact: Larry Copenhaver, lcopenhaver@mtwf.org, 406-517-7256 ext 104

MWF Board Supports Wilderness Protection for Scotchman Peaks

Helena: Montana Wildlife Federation's Board of Directors voted to support wilderness designation for the Scotchman Peaks area south of Troy after hearing a presentation on its merits from Libby area representative of the Friends of the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, Don Clark.

MWF affiliate club, Libby Rod and Gun Club - with whom Clark serves as president - had several meetings to analyze the proposal and recently completed their process then voted to support wilderness protection for the Scotchman Peaks, two-thirds of the area lies in Montana. Given the diverse membership of Libby Rod and Gun Club and their endorsement, MWF Board agreed with Clark that the lofty landscape home to an endemic herd of mountain goats epitomizes a landscape where wilderness protection is certainly deserved. The Scotchman Peaks designation presents few competing interests within the mining and timber industries and was approved by Congress and included in the 1988 Wilderness Bill; unfortunately that bill was vetoed by the president.

Montana Wildlife Federation, with more than 7,000 members, is the largest and oldest statewide nonprofit wildlife conservation organization of hunters and anglers who work to protect Montana's wildlife, lands, waters and its hunting and fishing heritage. For more information please visit www.montanawildlife.org.

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This message brought to you by Montana's largest statewide wildlife organization of nearly 7,000 conservation minded hunters and anglers with a common mission 'To protect and enhance Montana's public wildlife, lands, waters and fair chase hunting and fishing heritage'.