

## **Wildlife**

Our field areas in southwestern Montana are the natural home of many forms of wildlife including deer, elk, mountain sheep, bald eagles, sand hill cranes, black bear, raccoons, and skunks. On rare occasions, a grizzly bear may be released in the area by the Park Service. At lower elevations rattlesnakes are encountered but only rarely. We will respect all these animals and their natural habitat at all times and avoid all direct contact with them. The Forest Service Station in Wise River has many useful guides about wildlife in the Pioneer Mountains which are part of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in which we will work.

## **Fly Fishing**

The Big Hole River and Wise River nearby are blue ribbon trout streams. It is imperative to protect their watersheds and ecosystems. If you fly fish on your day off, a sport many of you may enjoy, you must have a Montana fishing license and know where the catch and release only segments of the rivers are located. No bait fishing is allowed in many reaches of the Big Hole River. Fishing licenses can be purchased at the Mercantile Store in Wise River or sporting good stores in Butte.