

**Glenda Wiles**

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**From:** McKay, Tod G -FS [tgmckay@fs.fed.us]  
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**To:** Undisclosed recipients  
**Subject:** News Release: Boulder Creek Trail - now open  
**Attachments:** Boulder Creek Trail - now open.docx



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### ***Bitterroot National Forest***

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United States  
Department of Agriculture  
Bitterroot National Forest  
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Hamilton, Montana 59840

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Tod McKay (406) 363-7122**

October 19, 2012

### **BOULDER CREEK TRAIL - NOW OPEN**

Hamilton, MT. – The West Fork Ranger District on the Bitterroot National Forest has announced that the Boulder Creek Trail #617 is now open – just in time to access the backcountry for hunting season. The popular trail which begins at the Sam Billings Campground has been closed for several months due to an active logging operation to remove beetle killed hazard trees.

Sam Billings Campground remains closed at this time due to the active logging operation. Camping is available at both Rombo and Alta Campgrounds on the West Fork Ranger District.

Forest officials want to remind the public that cutting dead trees or removing wood from log decks for firewood is prohibited as it has been marked as part of the timber sale.

Sam Billings is the latest campground on the Forest to have beetle killed or infested trees removed. Hazard trees were removed earlier this year at 11 campgrounds and recreation sites on the Bitterroot National Forest. Removing the dead trees is necessary because they present hazards to the public, and if not removed, may result in longer closures of campgrounds or other areas.

The work is being done by C & L Tree Management of Darby with 400,000 board feet of timber (90 truckloads) being salvaged for use in Montana sawmills.

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