

Ravalli County Commissioners Office

From: McKay, Tod G -FS <tgmkay@fs.fed.us>
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NEWS RELEASE
Bitterroot National Forest

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

www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tod McKay (406) 363-7122

May 6, 2014

MILL CREEK FOOT BRIDGE UNSAFE

Hamilton, MT. – Bitterroot National Forest trail crews are removing the log foot bridge on the Mill Creek Trail today as it is no longer safe to cross. This winter’s snow loads on the bridge likely contributed to its current instability. The log is twisted and leaning towards the creek, so much so, that anyone trying to cross it may end up in the fast-moving water below. Due to our record snowpack, Mill Creek and all forest streams are currently running high and fast. The bridge was more than 15-years old and several sections of the 49-foot log were rotten.

The Mill Creek Trail west of Corvallis is popular with hikers and horseback riders. The bridge was located approximately one mile from the trailhead. Until the bridge is replaced later this summer, forest officials are recommending the Cow Creek Trail near Pinesdale as an alternative access to the Mill Creek Trail. They advise the public to park at the gate and walk up the road to access the trail. For more information, contact the Stevensville Ranger District at (406) 777-5461.

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