

Ravalli County Commissioners Office

From: McKay, Tod G -FS <tgmkay@fs.fed.us>
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Subject: News Release: Forest Installing New Culvert on West Fork
Attachments: Culvert - Little Blue Joint Creek.docx

Forest Installing New Culvert on West Fork

Hamilton, Montana (June 1, 2015) – The Bitterroot National Forest is planning to install a new culvert on the West Fork Ranger District’s Little Blue Joint Creek east of Painted Rocks Reservoir. The work is scheduled to begin today and continue for approximately three weeks. Heavy equipment from the project will be parked on Forest Road #5658 at mile post 0.1, making the road impassable. Forest officials recommend using Road #5660 from the Coal Creek side as an alternate route around the construction.

Signs will be posted in the area alerting drivers to the road work and suggested detour.

The forest is replacing the culvert at this location along with doing road repairs and other improvements. The current culvert is not sufficient in size and during high runoff may pose potential risks to the road. Besides increasing stream flows, the new bottomless arch will also help improve the passage of fish and other aquatic organisms.

For more information contact the West Fork Ranger District at (406) 821-3269. Stay in touch with us through www.facebook.com/DiscoverTheBitterroot and www.twitter.com/BitterrootNF.

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Tod McKay
Public Affairs Officer

Forest Service
Bitterroot National Forest

p: 406-363-7122
c: 406-531-1130
tgmkay@fs.fed.us

1801 N. First
Hamilton, MT 59840
www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot



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