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From: McKay, Tod G -FS <tgmkay@fs.fed.us>
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Installation to Begin on New Water System at Lake Como

Hamilton, Montana (June 16, 2017) – The Darby/Sula Ranger District has announced that it will begin installing a new water system at the Lake Como Recreation Area next week to provide potable water to the areas numerous campgrounds, beach and picnic areas and boat launch. Construction is scheduled to begin this Monday, June 19th and last several weeks with the goal of having the new system operational by the July 4th holiday weekend.

Crews will be installing a small, fabricated building near the Lower Como Campground to house the new systems equipment. Campers at the Lower Campground may experience some occasional noise and slight traffic delays associated with the project. Construction will only occur during weekdays between 8am and 6pm. Several campsites near the project area (sites #1-3) will be closed during construction.

Potable water has not been available at Lake Como since 2015, when the areas water tested positive for the presence of coliform bacteria. Forest officials believe the new chlorination system will be a big improvement for visitors for years to come. Como's old water system dates back to the 1970's.

The project is being funded by day-use fees paid by Lake Como users along with funds from the Ravalli County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC). 95% of the fees collected at Como contribute to future improvements at the site. Lake Como is the most utilized recreation area in the entire Northern Region of the Forest Service. It is extremely popular with boaters, campers, horseback riders, mountain bikers, hikers, day users, fisherman, and x-country skiers. It is visited by more than 200,000 people annually.

For more information, contact the Darby/Sula Ranger District at (406) 821-3913. Stay in touch with us through www.facebook.com/DiscoverBitterrootNF and www.twitter.com/BitterrootNF.

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