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From: McKay, Tod G -FS <tgmcay@fs.fed.us>
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Subject: News Release: Bass Creek Recreation Area and Campgrounds Closed
Attachments: Bass Creek Recreation Area - Closed.docx

Bass Creek Recreation Area & Campgrounds Closed

Hamilton, Montana (August 17, 2017) – The Stevensville Ranger District has closed the Bass Creek Recreation Area for the protection and safety of the public due to the nearby Lolo Peak fire. The recreation area is located on the west side of the Valley four miles south of Florence.

The low elevation and easily accessible area is very popular with horseback riders, hikers, campers, mountain bikers and other recreationists. The closure includes the 28-site Charles Waters Memorial Campground, Larry Creek Group Site, Picnic area, along with the non-motorized trails including the popular Larry Creek Trails. Bass Creek Trail #4 has been closed for several weeks due to the fire.

“The reason for the area closure is to provide for the protection and safety of the public,” said Stevensville Ranger Tami Sabol. “The Lolo Peak fire has grown significantly in just the last 24-hours and the weather forecast for the next few days is not looking promising. We will keep the public informed and will re-open the area as soon as it’s safe to do so.”

For the latest information about the Lolo Peak fire including updated evacuation area maps visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5375/>

For more information contact the Stevensville Ranger District at (406) 777-5461. Stay in touch with us through www.facebook.com/DiscoverBitterrootNF and www.twitter.com/BitterrootNF.

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