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Chickasaw National Recreation Area News Release

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Pavilion Springs Water Being Tested

Sulphur, OK- At this time visitors will be surprised to learn they are currently advised not to drink the spring water at Pavilion Springs. In mid-January a sewer manhole overflowed in the Pavilion Springs area and effluent flowed across the parking lot and around the pavilion area settling into a depression near the pavilion. The city of Sulphur is assisting with the cleanup of effluent from the incident. Powdered lime has been used to treat the raw sewage to disinfect and reduce odor. Park staff are monitoring the situation with weekly water testing and there is no indication that Pavilion Springs is contaminated. However, as a precautionary measure, it is recommended that visitors do not drink from Pavilion Springs at this time. The main spring "Big Tom" which flows out from a stone structure placed in the center of the Pavilion Springs is routinely tested as a potable water source, since visitors commonly drink from this spring source as part of their park experience. Also a second sewer manhole near Lincoln Bridge recently overflowed and the affected area was treated with powdered lime. Both incidents are associated with the same sewer main and efforts are under way to resolve the issue.

For more information about Chickasaw National Recreation Area, visit www.nps.gov/chic or call the Travertine Nature Center at (580) 622-7234.

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About the National Park Service

More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 409 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.

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