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Forest officials announce permanent closure of Blanchard Springs Campground's Lower Loop

RUSSELLVILLE, Ark. – The Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Supervisor announced on Friday the lower campground loop at the Blanchard Springs Recreation Area will be permanently closed.

The loop was administratively closed on March 21, 2012 after heavy rains submerged the campground and damaged property. The flooding did not result in any injuries to forest visitors or staff.

“The safety of our Forest visitors is important to us,” said Terry Krasko, staff officer for Public Services. “The Lower Loop has historic and repeated problems with flooding and cannot be counted on as a safe, reliable camping location for the recreating public. The danger of flash floods is a risk to campers, staff and first responders.”

The Upper Loop of the campground will remain open to visitors.

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