

NEWS

United States
Department of
Agriculture

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BOISE NATIONAL FOREST



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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<http://www.fs.usda.gov/boise>

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Memorial Day Recreational Opportunities Update

BOISE, Idaho - Boise National Forest visitors will experience overall light snowpack conditions on Memorial Day weekend compared with previous years. Water levels in rivers and streams will be lower than normal but still very cold. Most trails, roads and campgrounds will be open within the national forest with the exception of a few at elevations above 7,000 feet.

Recreationists planning on going to higher elevations should contact Ranger District offices, or the Interagency Visitor Center to get information about higher elevation recreation facilities. Roads in these areas will likely have continuous snow, or snow drifts that will potentially be deep enough for a vehicle to become stuck.

The Forest already has responded to a few wildfires at lower elevations due to the dry conditions. Large diameter fuel, such as tree limbs and branches, are already drying due to the low and early melting snowpack.

"It is not too early in the season to be extra careful with campfires," said David Olson, Boise National Forest Public Affairs Officer. "Fully extinguishing fires with lots of water will be important as conditions are quite dry for this time of year and visitors may not truly realize the difference from the normal Memorial Day Holiday."

Specific Updates by Ranger Districts Anticipated by Memorial Weekend

Lowman Ranger District 208-259-3361

OPEN CAMPGROUNDS

- All campgrounds on Hwy 21 - South Fork Payette River are **OPEN** with full services.
- Park Creek Campground is **OPEN**.
- The road to Grandjean is **OPEN**.
- The Stanley/Landmark NFS road 579 from State Highway 21 is **OPEN** to the Elk Creek Guard station, Bear Valley, and Dagger Falls.

CLOSED CAMPGROUNDS

- Bull Trout Campground is **CLOSED** at this time.
- Deadwood Reservoir is **OPEN** with limited access via NFS 579 from Hwy 21 only.
- Scott Mountain Road (NFS road 555) is **CLOSED**.
- The Clear Creek Road National Forest System (NFS road) 582 is **CLOSED** at the 12 mile marker from Highway 21.

Emmett Ranger District 208-365-7000

Garden Valley Guard Station 208-462-3241

ALERT: May through October 2015 - State and Federal, logging and gravel hauling operations, have begun in the Scriver Creek area about six miles north of Crouch, in the Garden Valley area. Trucks started hauling around April 28, 2015 and operations are expected to continue through early fall, along National Forest System roads 693B & 693 (Scriver Creek Roads), and National Forest System Road 698 (Middle Fork Payette River Road). Some trucks will be making multiple trips daily. Warning signs have been posted in this area.

All Payette River recreation sites are open. There is a \$3.00 day-use fee for visitors who have not purchased a 2015 Payette River Pass. Passes are available at Forest offices and vendors. Visit: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/PayetteRiverPasses for more information.

OPEN CAMPGROUNDS

- All campgrounds adjacent to State Highway 55 along the North Fork Payette River between Banks and Smiths Ferry are **OPEN**.
- Campgrounds along the Middle Fork Payette River Road (NFS road 698) including Boiling Springs, Hardscrabble, Rattlesnake, Trail Creek, and Tie Creek are **OPEN**.
- Hot Springs campground is **OPEN**.
- Third Fork cabin is **OPEN**. Boiling Springs Cabin is **OPEN** and will be open during the 2015 winter season. Cabin reservations are made through: www.recreation.gov.
- National Forest System (NFS roads 671 and 698) are **OPEN** with access to the Silver Creek Plunge area. Peace Valley Group Campground is **OPEN**. Silver Creek Campground is **OPEN**. All campgrounds around Sage Hen Reservoir are **OPEN**.

CLOSED CAMPGROUNDS AND CABINS:

- **Deadwood Lookout Cabin rental is CLOSED until June 26.** Reservations can be made through: www.recreation.gov

Mountain Home Ranger District 208-587-7961

- **CLOSED DUE TO SNOW:** Campgrounds in the Trinity Recreation area (normally open July 15) are **CLOSED** including: Big Trinity, Little Trinity, Big Roaring, and Little Roaring Campgrounds.
- Shafer Butte Campground is **CLOSED**, it normally opens June 15. Call the District for updates.
- **FIRE AREA CLOSURE REMAINS IN EFFECT** – Dog Creek, Castle Creek, Evans Creek and Tailwater Campgrounds, and Green Creek Trail #270. The area closure for the Elk/Pony Complex Fire is still in effect and the affected area description can be viewed on the Boise National Forest See the [Alerts and Notices](#).
- The Danskin and Wilson OHV and ATV trail systems remain **CLOSED**. Repairs continue and Forest Managers are hoping to have Danskin area open by early summer.
- The area along the South Fork Boise River from Danskin Bridge to Castle Creek Campground is **day-use only**.
- **Road Closure** - From the junction of the National Forest System road 268 (Middle Fork Boise River Road) and the NFS road 255 (Roaring River Road) up to the Lower Roaring River Trailhead is closed due to washouts and road damage.
- **Trail Closure** – The National Forest System Trail 045 (Roaring River Trail) and National Forest System Trail 122 (William Pogue Trail) have a trail closure. See the [Alerts and Notices](#) - Boise NF website.
- Repairs have been completed in Evans Creek Campground and the Boat Ramp at Tailwaters Campground. At this time, these areas are still restricted to **day use only**.

OPEN CAMPGROUNDS

- The Mountain Home Ranger District plans to have all lower elevation campgrounds **OPEN** by Memorial Weekend.
- Fee collections and all services will be in place May 15 at Pine, Curlew, and Elks Flat Campgrounds. Reservations can be made at: www.recreation.gov.
- Anderson Ranch reservoir is looking good, there are concrete ramps available. Current reservoir water elevation is at 4172.39 ft. Elk Creek Ramp needs repaired, however the ramp is usable.

Mountain Home Ranger District 208-587-7961 (continued)

- View image and more information about reservoir water levels at:
<http://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/ramps/anderson/anderson.html>
- Water levels in the Anderson Ranch Reservoir are controlled by the Bureau of Reclamation. Call the Bureau of Reclamation at **208-334-9134** for the current river and reservoir water levels.
- Call the Elmore County Highway District for current updates on county roads. Their number is: **208-587-3211**.

Cascade Ranger District 208-382-7400

OPEN

- **All campgrounds and trails are anticipated to OPEN by May 22 with the exception of those above snow levels of 7000 feet.** Call the District for updates.
- Campgrounds along the west side of Cascade Lake are scheduled to **OPEN** by the Memorial weekend.
- Shoreline Campground, Picnic Point Campground and Warm Lake Campground scheduled to be **OPEN**.
- The Stolle Rental Cabin is **OPEN** and access NFS road 474.
- Summit Lake Campground and Pen Basin are **OPEN**.
- South Fork Salmon River NFS road 474 is **OPEN** to Yellow Pine.

CLOSED

- The Johnson Creek Corridor Campgrounds are **OPEN from Yellowpine route only**.
- **Update: 5-18-2015** - The road from Warm Lake to Landmark and down Johnson Creek is **OPEN**.
- **The only access to Deadwood Reservoir is via NFS road 579 from State Highway 21. All other access routes are CLOSED.**
- Snowbank Mountain Road NFS road 446 is gated and seasonally **CLOSED** until May 31.

- Johnson Guard Station Cabin is **CLOSED until June 19.**

Idaho City Ranger District 208-392-6681

- **ALERT:** The Barber Flat Bridge is open only to motorcycles and ATV's less than 50 inches. The bridge is closed to all other motorized travel due to structural and weight bearing concerns.

OPEN CAMPGROUNDS

All campgrounds within the Idaho Ranger District are anticipated to open by Memorial Day weekend with the exception of those near Atlanta, Idaho.

- **Campgrounds OPEN** - May 19 – Edna Creek, Ten Mile, Willow Creek, Whoop-em-up, Grayback Gulch and Beaver Creek and Deer Park Cabins, Bad Bear, Black Rock, Hayfork and Barber Flats Cabin.
- Idaho City Cabins will be **open** with the exception of Beaver Creek and Graham Cabin. They will open on June 1.
- Cabins are available for reservation through the Web site: www.recreation.gov . For more updates on snow levels, call the Idaho City District office.

CLOSED

- The campgrounds near Atlanta are **Open May 22** including Queens River, Atlanta, Power Plant, and Riverside.
- The road to the Graham Guard Station Cabin providing access to the Graham is currently **CLOSED** due to snow.

For camping reservations and cabin rentals on all the Districts, contact the **National Recreation Reservation System** by calling toll free **1-877-444-6777** or via the Internet at www.recreation.gov. Camping can be a great experience, and good planning will ensure that you have a campsite once you arrive in the area. Determine in advance the campground that you would like and make a reservation. Most campgrounds provide some sites for non-reservation use and are available on a first-come-first-served basis. For more information on recreational opportunities in the Boise National Forest, visit the Natural Resource Visitor Center at 1387 S. Vinnell Way in Boise, or call 208-373-4007, or visit the Web site: <http://fs.usda.gov/boise>.

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