



File Code: 2720

Date: July 8, 2013

Dear Permit Holder:

Welcome to or back to Priest Lake for the summer/spring/fall 2013! As the new District Ranger for Priest Lake, I welcome many of you back to your cabins to start preparing for the summer season. Hopefully you will have a chance to relax and enjoy the time at your cabin this season and as you do, there are a few items I would like to remind you of as follows:

- **Wildlife:** In October 2011, the Idaho Panhandle National Forests implemented a Food Storage Closure Order. This order is for all National Forest lands within the Priest Lake and Bonners Ferry Ranger Districts and portions of the Sandpoint Ranger District. Visitors and all permit holders will be required to comply with the order. As a permit holder, you already have restrictions in place for protection of wildlife species. As outlined in your permit, the following are **prohibited**:
 - a) Outside storage of food, recycling and garbage,
 - b) Storing garbage outside (except in an approved bear resistant garbage can),
 - c) Bird or other animal feeding, including seed suet and nectar (Includes hummingbird feeders).

Thank you for your efforts to comply with these requirements as they were implemented in 2004. Field inspections will be made this summer to ensure that all holders are continuing to follow the closure order and permit requirements. Copies of the closure order are available at any of the above listed Ranger District Offices, the Forest Supervisor's Office in Coeur d' Alene, or may be obtained online at: www.fs.usda.gov/ipnf.

- **Permit and Operating Plan (Standards and Guidelines):** This is a good time to review your permit and Recreation Residence Standards and Guidelines to make sure you are familiar with the requirements and responsibilities of having a cabin on public land. Additional copies of the Recreation Residence Standards and Guidelines are available from the website listed above.
- **Fireworks:** I would like to emphasize that the storage, possession and use of fireworks on National Forest lands is strictly prohibited any time of year.
- **Burn Permits:** Starting this year, there is a new self-service online burn permit system. Burn permits can still be obtained in person at Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) offices; however, we will no longer issue burn permits from Forest Service offices. To obtain a burn permit, go to: <http://www.burnpermits.idaho.gov>, or contact the IDL office in Cavanaugh Bay at 208-443-2516.



- **Construction, Modifications and Proposals where there is Ground Disturbance**
 - **Heritage and Archaeology:** Please remember, although an initial heritage and archaeological assessment was made of your cabin and lot, this step was completed as a requirement that allowed us to issue you a new term recreation residence permit to you. All properties (cabins, outbuildings, etc.) **MUST** be treated as historic unless proven otherwise. You need to be aware that we will take this seriously and approval must be obtained prior to any modifications including repairs, replacements, additions, or projects requiring ground disturbance. Failure to follow the approval process could result in a citation at the least or revocation of your permit in a worst case scenario. Please take this seriously and do not attempt to make any changes without approval.
 - **Applications for Construction & Modifications:** The next “Open Season” for submitting requests for modifications to your permitted cabin or lot starts on September 15th. Unless you have a serious health and safety issue with your cabin or lot, we will not consider proposals for any modifications to your permitted cabin or lot prior to that time.

The enclosure with this letter includes information and phone numbers that you may want to post at your cabin. It contains useful information for you as the permit holder, as well as for family members and guests. Our office hours are to 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (closed holidays).

If you have any questions regarding your permit, please contact your Permit Administrator, Debbie Butler, at (208) 443-6822. You can also e-mail her at: dabutler@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,



MATTHEW A. DAVIS
District Ranger

Enclosure

Cc: Debbie Butler
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