



Ouachita and Ozark-St. Francis National Forests

Forest Service News Release

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Ozark-St. Francis National Forest solicits Shores Lake & White Rock Recreation Areas concessionaire

RUSSELLVILLE, Ark., September 15, 2025— Dan Olsen, Forest Supervisor of the Ozark-St. Francis National Forest announced today the solicitation of proposals for a resort Special Use Permit to provide high-quality public service in the operation and maintenance of government-owned recreation facilities located on the forests.

This offering includes facilities at Shores Lake and White Rock recreation areas within the Boston Mountain Ranger District. Shores Lake Recreation Area consists of a campground containing 25 campsites, trailhead parking area for the Shores Lake/White Rock Loop trail, boat launch, picnic pavilion, picnic area, swimming beach, and fishing areas. White Rock Recreation Area consists of a lodge that can accommodate up to 16 guests, 3 rental cabins, 8 campsites and a group campsite.

Prospective applicants can find detailed information on this business opportunity, Forest Service concession program and policies, the special use permit, and the application process by reviewing the prospectus posted on <https://sam.gov/workspace/contract/opp/80059fa565314ec9bc195cc43b28ae79/view>.

Applicants must submit the required business plan evaluation fee with their proposal. All prospective applicants are advised to read the prospectus carefully. Applicants must submit one hard copy and one electronic copy of their application package. Applications must be received by close of business (4:30 p.m. CST) on Monday, March 2, 2026.

Following the process, it is expected a permit will be issued and operations to begin by January 2027.

A site tour is scheduled for Monday, January 5, 2026, with a required RSVP by Wednesday, December 31, 2025.

For questions, comments, or concerns regarding the opportunity, or to RSVP to the site tour, please contact David Brickley at 479-667-2191 or david.brickley@usda.gov.

About the Forest Service: The USDA Forest Service has for more than 100 years brought people and communities together to answer the call of conservation. Grounded in world-class science and technology— and rooted in communities—the Forest Service connects people to nature and to each other. The Forest Service cares for shared natural resources in ways that promote lasting economic, ecological, and social vitality. The agency manages 193 million acres

of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, maintains the largest wildland fire and forestry research organizations in the world. The Forest Service also has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 900 million forested acres within the U.S., of which over 130 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live.

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