

	News Release US Bureau of Land Management 1300 Airport Lane North Bend, OR 97459 http://www.blm.gov/or	OR120-06-21 Date: August 16, 2006 Contact: Megan Harper (541) 751-4353
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North Spit Boat Launch Damaged and Under Repair

North Bend, OR – Visitors to the North Spit boat launch and docks may see an unusual set-up this summer.

The boat launch and docks, operated by the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Coos Bay District, were heavily damaged due to water action and debris accumulation. This summer, only a couple of the docks were placed back in the water after being stored for the winter because the hinges and pins on the remaining docks were beyond repair and unsafe.

According to BLM recreation staff, new docks will be manufactured over the winter and installed at the boat launch in Spring 2007, pending appropriate funding.

"We are working to come up with a newer and better dock design that will withstand this environment and last a lot longer," said Nancy Zepf, Recreation Planner for the BLM.

In the meantime, visitors to the North Spit boat launch and docks only have access to a couple of the docks and should wait for high tides before launching a boat.

"We know this causes an inconvenience for people and we appreciate boater's patience," said Elaine Raper, Umpqua Field Manager. "We put public safety first and foremost and some of the docks were too damaged to be safe."

"If people want to launch a boat, we recommend that they launch at high tide. Most small boats have been able to successfully launch then," added Raper.

For additional information, please contact the Bureau of Land Management at (541) 756-0100.

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