Loon Lake Opening for Limited Operations During Summer 2014

Coos Bay, Ore. – Loon Lake Campground will be open this summer, but for fewer days and with reduced services due to a persistent lack of potable water at the site.

The Bureau of Land Management plans to open the popular campground for Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day weekends, as well as non-holiday weekends (Friday through Sunday) from July 11 to September 28. The day-use area will be open seven days a week between Memorial Day weekend and September 30 from 8 am to 8 pm. Visitors can start making reservations to camp during these dates on February 16, 2014.

Extremely dry weather last year forced the early closure of Loon Lake Campground in 2013. The unseasonably dry fall and winter thus far this year has not brought enough rain to replenish the two wells at the site, and they are not producing enough potable water to maintain full campground operations.

“Our efforts to produce more water for the campground this winter haven’t proved very successful,” said Todd Buchholz, Umpqua Field Manager. “Unfortunately, we’re not expecting a huge influx of water, so we have to plan accordingly.”

Visitors should plan to bring enough water to drink, wash hands, clean dishes, put out campfires, cook meals, etc. The flush toilets in the campground and day-use area will be open, but the showers and sinks will remain closed.

“Eventually, our plan is to provide camping seven days a week in a campground that is less dependent on the historic level of water availability. In the meantime, we need our visitors’ help to conserve water and we ask for their patience as we make changes this summer,” continued Buchholz.

For additional information about summer 2014 at Loon Lake Recreation site, including answers to frequently asked questions, please visit www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay or www.recreation.gov. Visitors can also call the BLM’s Coos Bay District Office at 541-756-0100.

- BLM –

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