

NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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For release: March 15, 2014

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Molalla River Recreation Sites Open May 15

Salem, Ore--The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Salem District will be opening two campgrounds along the Molalla River on May 15, 2014. These facilities first opened to the public last summer after nearly five years of collaborative work with stakeholders in the Molalla area.

Three Bears Recreation Site will be available for first-come, first-served tent camping between May 15 and September 15. Situated on a scenic stretch of the river 4 miles south of Glen Avon Bridge, Three Bears will offer 15 campsites each equipped with a tent pad, metal fire ring, BBQ grill, and picnic table. The campground will also offer an on-site volunteer host, potable water, restrooms, and access to a beautiful cobble beach and swimming hole. A donation of \$10 per night/per campsite will be requested. All funds will be directed towards maintenance and operation of the Molalla River Recreation Area.

Cedar Grove Recreation Site will be available for group overnight camping between May 15 and September 15. The site is in a picturesque grove of western red cedar at milepost 6 on the Molalla Forest Road. Amenities include potable water, restrooms, and 11 tent camping sites each equipped with a tent pad, metal fire ring, BBQ grill, and picnic table. The entire recreation site will be available through a permitted reservation system for groups of up to 40 people. A 10-day notice is required for a reservation. Permit fees are \$5 per person. The total can range from \$100 per night (for a group of 10) to \$200 per night (for a group of 20). Interested parties should contact the Salem District Office at (503) 375-5646.

Starting in 2014, overnight camping at dispersed sites along the Molalla River between the Glen Avon Bridge and Middle Fork Road will no longer be allowed. These former campsites will be closed and rehabilitated to improve riparian conditions and water quality.

Development of these facilities is the central component of the *Molalla River-Table Rock Recreation Area Management Plan* released by the BLM in 2011. The Molalla River corridor receives 60,000 to 70,000 visitors each year.

For more information on the Molalla River Recreation Area, including directions and a map, go to <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/salem/index.php>.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2012, activities on public lands generated \$4.6 billion in revenue, much of which was shared with the States where the activities occurred. In addition, public lands contributed more than \$112 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support more than 500,000 jobs.

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