

# NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Spokane District Office

BLM

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## **Yakima Canyon Big Pines Site Construction Closure**

**Yakima, WA** – The Bureau of Land Management is making improvements to the Big Pines Recreation Site. Due to construction, the site will be closed to the public from February 25, 2008 until the end of May 2008. The 20-acre Big Pines site is located about 12 miles north of Yakima, WA along the Yakima River.

According to Don Washco, Acting Field Manager of the Wenatchee BLM office, the improvements are needed to facilitate the site's increasing use and to protect riparian and river habitats. The popular recreation site had an estimated 30,000 visitors last year. The BLM plans to develop 41 campsites and two parking areas. In addition there will be improvements to roads, trails, boat access, and sanitation facilities.

“Developing the Big Pines Recreation Site will be a great addition to the three other BLM recreation sites in the Yakima Canyon—Roza, Lmuma, and Umtanum. It's a super spot to spend a hot summer weekend,” Washco said.

Information regarding the site improvements is available at the Wenatchee BLM office, 915 Walla Walla Avenue, Wenatchee, Washington 98801, ((509)665-2100) and at the Spokane BLM District office, 1103 North Fancher Road, Spokane Valley, Washington 99212 ((509)536-1200).

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