

# NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

1103 N. Fancher • Spokane Valley, WA 99212 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane>

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Spokane District Office  
BLM

## Big Pines Recreation Site Open Memorial Day Weekend

**Yakima, WA** – The Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Big Pines Recreation Site will be re-opened to the public on May 26, just in time for Memorial Day weekend. Big Pines is located about 12 miles north of Yakima, along the Yakima River and Highway 821. The site has been in federal ownership for seven years and is managed by the BLM Wenatchee Field Office. An estimated 30,000 people visited Big Pines last year.

For the past 3 months, the site has been closed while recreation improvements to accommodate the site’s increasing use and to protect riparian and river habitats in the area were being made. The BLM has developed 41 campsites, two parking areas, improved roads, trails, and sanitation facilities at the site. The boat access work will be completed in the fall, when lower water occurs.

From May 15 through September 15, a \$5.00 per vehicle/ per day **Daily** Standard Amenity fee (daily fee) is charged at Big Pines and other developed BLM recreation sites along the Yakima River. The rest of the year, there is no charge. Paying a daily fee at one of BLM’s Yakima River sites (Big Pines, Umtanum, Lmuma Creek, or Roza) covers approved activities at any of the other sites, from parking, boat launching, raft put in and take out, picnicking and other day use activities, to camping at designated sites at each area on a first come, first served basis. Visitors who are camping pay \$5.00 per vehicle for each day they spend at the sites.

A \$25 **Daily Seasonal Use Permit** is also available, which allows frequent daily visitors to save money and have the convenience of one pass to use all season long for their activities. The Daily Seasonal Use permits can be purchased at the BLM Wenatchee office, 915 N. Walla Walla Avenue in Wenatchee; the Chambers of Commerce in Ellensburg and Yakima and Red’s Fly Shop in Ellensburg.

Money collected from sales of the Overnight, Daily and Daily Seasonal Use Permits helps to fund garbage collection, facility cleaning, additional law enforcement, seasonal workers, future site improvements, and administrative costs at the four BLM sites.

For more information, please contact the Wenatchee BLM office, 915 Walla Walla Avenue, Wenatchee, Washington 98801, (509) 665-2100.

- BLM -

The BLM manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, and cultural resources on the public lands.

