

NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Fee Changes Coming to BLM Recreation Sites in the Yakima River Canyon Effective August 4, 2008

Spokane – Changes to the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) recreation site use fees will go into effect **Monday, August 4, 2008** at the BLM’s Umtanum, Lmuma Creek, Big Pines and Roza recreation sites in the Yakima River Canyon. **BLM will be increasing the fee charged for overnight use to \$15.00 per night.** The BLM is increasing the overnight fee to help cover increased maintenance, law enforcement and administrative costs. This overnight fee will be good until check out time at 11:00 a.m. the following day and covers one campsite with up to two vehicles. After checkout time, visitors may continue to use the overnight fee receipt to cover day use at any of the four BLM sites until 10:00 p.m. of that day.

BLM will continue to charge a ***\$5.00 per vehicle*** daily fee at the four recreation sites. The daily fee will cover approved activities at Umtanum, Lmuma Creek, Big Pines and Roza, including parking, boat launching, raft put in and take out, picnicking and other day use activities. Paying a daily fee at one of the BLM recreation sites allows a visitor to use all four BLM Yakima River Canyon charge sites for the day use hours of 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Overnight and daily fees can be paid through fee envelopes at the self-pay station at each site.

A ***\$25 per vehicle daily seasonal use permit*** can also be purchased to allow frequent visitors to save money and have the convenience of one pass to use all season long for their day use activities. The daily seasonal use permits are only useable for day use hours of 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and 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. *Daily Seasonal Use Permits purchased prior to the August 4, 2008 fee increase will continue to be honored for both daily use and overnight camping until September 15, 2008.*

Site use fees are charged from May 15 through September 15. The rest of the year, there is no charge for using BLM facilities in the Yakima River Canyon. Money collected from sales of the overnight, daily and seasonal daily 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 further information contact the BLM Wenatchee office, 915 N. Walla Walla Avenue, Wenatchee, Washington, 98801 or call (509) 665-2100.

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BLM

