Recreation Fees Waived During Veterans Day Weekend

PORTLAND, Ore. – (Oct. 24, 2013) The U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) are waiving fees at most day-use recreation sites over Veterans Day weekend, Nov. 9-11, in honor of U.S. veterans and members of the U.S. armed forces.

Concessionaires operating day-use facilities have the option of waiving fees. Fees are not waived at campgrounds or for recreation rentals.

People who might not normally visit our beautiful public lands are encouraged to get out and enjoy the wide range of recreational and educational benefits our lands offer. These include improved physical and mental health, emotional well-being, developing a concern for nature, and a conservation ethic.

The fee waiver is a small, but special way to express our gratitude and appreciation for U.S. veterans, members of the U.S. armed forces and their families. It also supports the goals of President Obama’s America’s Great Outdoors and First Lady Michelle Obama’s “Let’s Move Outside” initiatives.

The waiver of entrance and/or standard amenity fees applies to public recreation lands under the management of the BLM and U.S. Forest Service, along with the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Additional information about recreation sites in the region is available online at:

http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/search/

http://www.recreation.gov/

http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/visitors/visitors.cfm

The mission of the US Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. Recreational activities on our lands contribute $14.5 billion annually to the U.S. economy. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world.

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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