

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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For Immediate Release

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Umtanum Recreation Site Closed Temporarily for Paving

Wenatchee, WA – The Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Umtanum Recreation Site in the Yakima River Canyon, Kittitas County, Washington will be closed from Tuesday morning, September 13 through Thursday evening, September 15 to accommodate asphalt paving work. The other BLM recreation sites in the canyon (Lmuma Creek, Big Pines, and Roza) will remain open for use during this time.

During the closure, alternative river put-in locations include:

- BLM’s Lmuma Creek Recreation Site which is located approximately four miles south of Umtanum Recreation Site on Highway 821 (River Mile 12)
- The Bighorn private fee area which is located approximately two miles north of Umtanum Recreation Site on Highway 821 (River Mile 18)

During the closure, hunters and other recreationists can access the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) lands on the west side of the river via the Umtanum Falls Trail, which departs from Umtanum Road (Ellensburg Pass Road) just south of Ellensburg and follows Umtanum Creek downstream to the falls (approximately 1.25 miles). See http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas/wenas for more information. Parking on WDFW lands requires a WDFW access pass or Discover Pass. The bighorn sheep hunting season begins September 15 and requires a WDFW permit.

The BLM’s fee season extends through September 15. There is no charge to use the BLM’s Yakima River Canyon recreation sites from September 16 to May 14 each year.

For additional information, please contact the BLM Wenatchee Field Office at (509) 665-2100. Additional information about recreation in the BLM’s Spokane District is available online at:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/recreation/index.php>

About the BLM: The BLM manages 245 million acres of public land known as the National System of Public Lands. The lands are primarily located in 12 Western states, including 75 million acres in Alaska. With a budget of about \$1 billion, the bureau 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.

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