

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

1103 N Fancher - Spokane Valley, Washington 99212 - www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane

For immediate release:
OR130-FY2016-02

Contact: Jeff Clark
(509) 536-1297

Partial Closure of Big Pines Recreation Site

Ellensburg, Wash. -- Effective Nov. 2, the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Big Pines recreation site within the Yakima River Canyon will be partially closed to camping. This is a seasonal closure that will be in effect each year until spring. There will still be 21 campsites available for public camping, but the remaining campsites will be closed to public use. BLM will implement this partial closure each year due to reduced off-season staffing and lower visitor use at this time of year. The closure will reduce the amount of maintenance needed at the site. Campsites at BLM's Umtanum, Lmuma Creek and Roza recreation sites will continue to remain open during the off-season.

Visitors may also notice picnic tables along the river's edge at Lmuma Creek, Big Pines and Roza have been removed and are centrally located at each site. This is to reduce the likelihood of damage to these facilities from high water and flooding in the winter and early spring. All tables will be returned to their places after spring high water. Thank you for your patience, and we hope you enjoy BLM's recreation sites during the quieter, off-season months. For more information about this partial closure, please contact the Wenatchee Field Office at (509) 665-2100.

Additional information about recreation opportunities at BLM's Yakima River Canyon recreation sites can be found at: <http://on.doi.gov/1A2XwoP>

-BLM-

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 mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2014, the BLM generated \$5.2 billion in receipts from public lands.

Come join the Oregon/Washington BLM on our Social Media sites for the latest on outdoor opportunities, videos of your public lands, spectacular photos, and a whole lot more!

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Spokane District Office

