



U.S. Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Land Management
 Grants Pass Interagency Office
 2164 NE Spalding Avenue
 Grants Pass, OR 97526
 (541) 471-6500
www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/rogue



Smullin Visitor Center at Rand
 River Permits/Information
 14335 Galice Road
 Merlin, Oregon 97532
 Phone: (541) 479-3735
 Fax: (541) 479-0535
 Email: BLM_OR_MD_Rogue_River_Mail@blm.gov



U.S. Department of Agriculture
 U.S. Forest Service
 Gold Beach Ranger District
 29279 Ellensburg Ave
 Gold Beach, OR 97444
 (541) 247-3600
www.fs.fed.us/r6/rogue-siskiyou

2930 (ORM070)/2350(FS)

FEB 23 2016

Dear Rogue River Party Leader:

Congratulations! You have been awarded a Rogue River Noncommercial Float Permit for the 2016 regulated use season. The Rogue National Wild and Scenic River is a world-renowned river. The Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management are privileged to facilitate public access to this national treasure. To help protect the resources and the recreational experience please read this letter and the corresponding enclosures carefully.

The permit you have been awarded is for floating the Wild Section of the Rogue River. The Wild Section begins at Grave Creek and ends at Watson Creek (1.7 miles upriver from Foster Bar). The permit season begins May 15, 2016 and ends October 15, 2016. We allow a maximum of 120 people to float the Wild Section each day during the permit season.

You must confirm that you plan to use this permit in order to use it. Confirmation is required ten days or more prior to your launch date. For more details see the enclosed Permit Confirmation Sheet and Permit Confirmation Instructions. Please have your entire party review the following video before going on your Rogue River Wild Section float trip.

- [Detailed 2015 Wild Rogue River Permit Guidelines Video](#)

Most of us visit the Rogue River to leave the lights and the crowds of the city behind. We come to enjoy the quiet solitude of nature, the beauty of the river, the excitement of boating whitewater rapids and seeing wildlife in their natural surroundings. In an effort to facilitate a safe and positive experience for all river users, we ask that you thoroughly review the "Know Before You Go" enclosure. This enclosure addresses the most common issues. Please contribute to a quality experience for all by treating each other with respect and taking good care of the natural, historical, and cultural environment.

This letter and enclosures are posted at: www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/rogue/permit.php. Please complete all the required documentation as instructed. We hope you have a fun and safe trip!

If you have questions visit our website at www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/rogue, or contact the Smullin Visitor Center by phone (541) 479-3735, or email us at BLM_OR_MD_Rogue_River_Mail@blm.gov.

Sincerely,

Allen Bollschweiler
 Field Manager
 Grants Pass Field Office
 Bureau of Land Management

Tina C. Lanier
 District Ranger
 Gold Beach Ranger District
 U.S. Forest Service

Enclosure

PERMIT CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Rogue River Noncommercial Permit Confirmation Sheet is included in this packet. The confirmation deadline is ten days before, but not including, the date of your launch. You may confirm that you plan to use your permit as early as you wish. Please release spaces as soon as you know you won't be using yours, to give other people an opportunity to float the Rogue.

Your Confirmation Sheet and fee payment must arrive at the Smullin Visitor Center by 3:00 p.m. on the confirmation deadline. The postmark will not qualify for meeting the confirmation deadline. To determine your confirmation deadline, count back ten days from your permitted launch date, beginning with the day before your launch date as Day #1. For example, the confirmation deadline for a June 12 launch is June 2, at 3:00 p.m.

The Party Leader or Alternate Party Leader is responsible for submitting the confirmation sheet and total fees. If your enclosed confirmation sheet does not have an Alternate Party Leader listed, then either you did not designate an alternate at the time you applied for the permit, or the alternate you designated was not deemed valid. In either case, it is too late to designate an alternate.

On the confirmation sheet the launch date is in the upper left corner under "LD" and the party size is under "PS." Please list the legal name and street address (not Post Office boxes) of each party member up to the total party size you were awarded. Return the completed confirmation sheet and the nonrefundable permit fee of \$10.00 for each person to the Smullin Visitor Center, 14335 Galice Road, Merlin, OR 97532.

Confirmations will be accepted by phone, fax, mail, or in person. The total fee must be received at the time of confirmation. Payments may be made by personal check, cashier's check, money order, or credit card. Make checks payable to: USDI-BLM. Do not send cash. Cash payments should only be made in-person. Please do not send credit card information by email as email is not a secure credit card payment avenue. Acceptance of foreign currency, checks and other negotiable instruments not payable in US currency is prohibited.

If you confirm fewer party members than you were awarded on your permit, the smaller number becomes your official party size and any openings created by the difference may be reallocated. Permits not confirmed by the deadline become invalid and may be reallocated. The only penalty associated with not confirming on time is the loss of your permit for that launch date. The confirmation deadline is strictly enforced. There are no exceptions.

DAY OF LAUNCH

No-Show Penalty

If the confirmed Party Leader or valid Alternate Party Leader fails to check-in and utilize their permit on the date of the launch, that person will be penalized as a “no-show” and may not be named as a Party Leader or Alternate Party Leader on a Rogue River Noncommercial Float Permit for the rest of the year, continuing through the following year’s regulated use season. The cancellation deadline is 3:00 p.m. the day before your launch. If you cancel your trip, you must contact the Smullin Visitor Center no later than 3:00 p.m. the day before your launch date to avoid the no-show penalty. You can contact the Visitor Center by calling 541-479-3735, faxing 541-479-0535, or e-mailing BLM_OR_MD_Rogue_River_Mail@blm.gov.

Picking-Up Your Noncommercial Permit

1. The permit will be issued only on the launch date at the Smullin Visitor Center.
2. The check-in deadline is 2:00 p.m. on the launch date. If you fail to check-in by 2:00 p.m., your permit may be reallocated unless you notify the Visitor Center before 2:00 p.m. that you will be there between 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. If you call and fail to pick up your permit by 3:00 p.m., you will lose your permit, you may not launch, and the Party Leader will be considered a no-show. The Visitor Center is open from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
3. Only the Party Leader or valid Alternate Party Leader may pick up the permit. If the Party Leader cannot pick up the permit and there is no valid Alternate Party Leader, the permit will be canceled. The permit is NOT transferrable to anyone else.
4. The Party Leader must be at least 18 years old by the launch date.

Four Items Are Required at Check-in

The permit will NOT be issued if you fail to present any one of these items in their entirety:

1. Picture identification (such as a valid driver’s license) must be presented by the Party Leader or valid Alternate Party Leader.
2. Party Leader or Alternate must provide the legal names and current street (home) address for each party member.
3. Party Leader or Alternate must provide all of your party’s craft information. Report a) type of craft (e.g., raft, kayak, drift boat, canoe, stand-up paddle board, inner tube, or pool toys that people float on), b) the craft colors, and c) the total number of craft. An identification tag will be issued for each craft in your party. If you are renting craft, ask the supplier the colors of craft being rented. Get the craft information from all your party members before checking-in at Smullin Visitor Center.
4. You must present your human waste removal system (HWRS) for inspection when you check in at the Visitor Center before a permit will be issued. For more information on HRWS requirements see item 6 on the “Know Before You Go” enclosure.

Split Groups

The only time a permitted group may split into two smaller groups is for the launch and during the day. When the party is split into two smaller groups, each subgroup must have an official copy of the permit and an approved HWRS in their possession. All party members of the permitted group must stay together at the same camp or lodge each night.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

As your group's party leader, you are responsible for ensuring your group has all the information needed to enjoy a pleasant and safe experience on the Rogue River. Please encourage all members of your party to review this information prior to your launch. Leave No Trace practices are designed to keep the river in its natural condition for all to enjoy and for people to be thoughtful of other users. Encourage Leave No Trace practices. Here are the main guidelines to keep in mind:

- 1) **Fire pans** are required year-round for all campfires built within 400 feet of the river. Pack-out all fire debris. Check with the visitor center for current fire restrictions before your trip. Fire pans are required to help keep campsites natural looking. When used correctly fire pans help users avoid leaving fire scars and multiple fire rings. Scavenged wood must be only dead and down.
- 2) **Bear problems** increased in 2015. There were twenty-six problems reported. Some of the problems could be attributed to campers not using bear fences even though they were at a site with a bear fence. Electric fences have been installed to help safeguard your food and garbage. Please use the bear fences. If you are camping at a site without a bear fence you should stack your coolers and dry boxes on shore. Strap the stack together and leave a small open container of ammonia on top of the stack. This will cause bears that have not been habituated to avoid your camp. Habituated bears are another story. The ammonia should be returned to the closed container the next morning. Please help protect the public against safety risks posed by wildlife that are drawn into contact with humans by not feeding wildlife, especially bears. It is unlawful to habituate bears and other wildlife (pursuant to ORS 496.731).

Keep a clean camp and take food scraps and grease with you when you leave. Leave the bear fences ON and CLOSED, especially when you are leaving the campsite. You can check-out a portable electric fence from the visitor center for your trip. The portable fences are available on a first come – first served basis. You are required to return the fence at the end of your trip. Report bear sightings on the Bear Observation Form and leave the form in the drop box at Foster Bar. For more information on living with the bears on the Rogue River go to www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/rogue/bears.php.

- 3) **Campsite Selection:** There are a limited number of large campsites in the Wild Section of the Rogue. According to the Rogue River Campsite brochure there are 7 large campsites in the first 11 miles, 7 in the middle 13 miles, and 9 in the final 11 miles.

A large group of 10 or more cannot fit into the small campsites. Therefore, it is important for groups to use campsites that are suitable for their size and leave the large sites for large groups. If you are a small group of 9 or less and feel you need to camp at a large site, please be courteous to a group that may need to share the site with you. Use one side of the site so you are prepared to share. Large groups may also need to be ready to share a site. If a group allows you to share their site, please show your appreciation for their generosity and treat each other with respect.

A "Share Campsite Information" dry erase board is located in the Smullin Visitor Center. The dry erase board provides an opportunity for groups to communicate where they hope to camp. The dry erase board is by no means a method of "reserving" a campsite.

You can also talk to other groups as you encounter them on the river and share campsite plans in a spirit of cooperation by adjusting plans as needed. Some sites are very popular; because of this it is advised that you try to secure these camps in the early afternoon, not at 4:00 or 5:00 p.m., when other options are severely reduced. These popular sites are: Whisky, Horseshoe Bend, Missouri, Mule Creek, and Tacoma. Mule Creek might be the worst bottleneck on the river for camping due to its popularity and location upriver from Mule Creek Canyon and Blossom Bar. Mule Creek is an especially poor site to expect to stop at for camping in the late afternoon. It is recommended that groups stay only one night at Mule Creek in July and August to reduce congestion and competition.

For more information about campsite selection call the Smullin Visitor Center at 541-479-3735 and talk to a River Ranger and take a look the Wild Rogue River Campsite brochure at <http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/rogue/files/WildRogueCampsites.pdf>.

- 4) **Safety:** The Wild Section of the Rogue is managed primarily as a primitive area and requires outdoor skills and preparation.
- Oregon State Law requires boaters to wear a properly fitted US Coast Guard-approved type I, III or V personal flotation device in class III or higher whitewater rapids. Children age 12 and under must wear a properly fitted and approved personal flotation device at all times while on the water.
 - The Oregon State Marine Board recommends wearing helmets in class III or higher rapids. It is also recommended that each boater have a whistle on their life jacket.
 - There are about nine class III rapids and three class IV rapids. Boat operators need the skills necessary to navigate these rapids safely.
 - Be aware of what the current water level is and know that extreme low flows can be just as risky as high flows.
 - Be on the lookout for unexpected hazards such as trees and branches in the river or landslides and wildfires on shore.
 - It is advisable for someone in your party to give a safety talk before launching. During this talk you can explain safety gear and techniques such as: self-rescue, high siding, throw bags, and spare oars.
 - Remember, you can scout rapids and allow passengers to walk around difficult rapids such as Rainie Falls and Blossom Bar.
 - Scouting Blossom Bar Rapid is advised for all boaters. This is recommended because a recent boating accident could have left boats or gear wrapped on a rock or sticking out into the channel. This has been a common occurrence the past few years. Please be aware this potential hazard.
 - For information on how to get help when there is a medical emergency or boating accident on the river see “Frequently Asked Questions” at: www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/rogue/permit.php.
- 5) **Ramp and River Etiquette:** Please be courteous to other recreationists at launch sites.
- Leave boat ramps clear for vehicles and trailers to access the river quickly and easily. The boat ramp at Foster Bar is for unloading and loading boats only. Do not park or leave vehicles unattended, on the ramp, if you are waiting for a group to come off the river. Use the parking area above the ramp.
 - Use the staging areas next to the boat ramp, not on the ramp, to pump-up and deflate boats, to load gear into boats and to unload gear from boats.

- You are now part of the river community. Help yourself and others have a good trip by contributing to the positive atmosphere of that community.
- Be considerate of campers in close proximity by respecting “quiet hours.”
- When encountering other groups, pass in flat water, not in rapids. Crowding other craft in a rapid can create unnecessary boating mishaps.
- The Rogue is a popular place for fishing so please be considerate of fishing lines from both bank and boat anglers. Give them a wide berth if possible to avoid fishing lines.

6) Portable Toilet/Human Waste Removal System (HWRS): Visitors must carry and be prepared to use an approved HWRS for disposal of all solid human waste. Facilities may be provided at some locations.

An approved HWRS must be watertight and readily available for use or show throughout the day. HWRS must be set-up within 30 minutes of arriving at camp except for those locations described in the Portable Toilet Guide. The HWRS must be a dedicated system and cannot be used to store supplies. Disposal of solid human waste in other than an approved HWRS, government outhouse, or lodge toilet is prohibited.

Set-up means the HWRS must be out of the boat, easily accessible for everyone in the group, and away from the central camp area. The HWRS must be large enough to accommodate the entire group for the entire length of the trip, including lodge and self-support kayak trips.

Plastic bag liners are not accepted, with the exception of the following approved solid human waste pouches: Cleanwaste WAG bags, RESTOP 2 bags and Biffy Bags. Used bags must be packed-out in an approved watertight container. HWRS with snap-on lids are required to have a rubber gasket on the lid. Snap-on lids are no longer accepted with the bucket type removal systems, with some pre-approved exceptions. Buckets are accepted but must have a lid that is easy to remove and replace on the bucket, such as screw on lids. Portable RV-type toilets are not accepted.

If a group is split up during the day, each subgroup must have a HWRS with the required capacity for the number of people in that subgroup. To calculate the volume required for your group size, use one pint per person per day or for bag systems use one use per person per day. For example, a group of 10 people on a 4-day trip requires 40 uses/pints, at 8 pints per gallon; the group needs 5 gallons of storage capacity. Cleanwaste WAG bags and RESTOP 2 bags are calculated at 4 uses per bag. In the example of 10 people on a 4-day trip, the formula would be 40 uses divided by 4 uses per bag; the group needs 10 bags and 5 gallons of storage capacity to store the used bags. Biffy Bags are one use per bag, so 10 people on a 4-day trip would need 40 Biffy Bags and 5 gallons of storage capacity to store the used bags. The total HWRS capacity must be presented at the Visitor Center during check-in.

Disposal of urine is acceptable in the river, in an HWRS, or in a government or lodge toilet. Please avoid urinating on shore, especially near campsites and trails.

A SCAT Machine is available at Foster Bar for cleaning your HWRS. The cost is \$1.00 per cleaning. If your toilet is not the correct size or dimension for SCAT Machine use, you will need the required parts to legally dump at an RV dump station. Please use toilet paper ONLY in your HWRS. Do not put trash, baby wipes, paper towels, diapers, feminine hygiene

products, or solid human waste pouches into the SCAT Machine. They cause the SCAT Machine to break down. It is illegal to dispose of human waste in landfills, so please don't put human waste into the trash, except for the Cleanwaste WAG bags, RESTOP 2 bags, and the Biffy Bags. For more details go to:

www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/rogue/portable-toilets.php

- 7) **Doggies Downstream:** Many of us love our dogs and want to take them on vacation with us! Please help reduce their impact to the wild character of the river and keep them safe too.
- Bring a leash to be used when around unfamiliar people and wildlife. Be sure your dog is invited before it approaches other visitors or dogs. Don't let your dog harass wildlife
 - Treat dog feces as you do human feces – pack it out. Dogi Pot litter bags are located in front of the Smullin Visitor Center.
 - Equip your dog with a Personal Flotation Device.
- 8) **Invasive Species Permit:** Oregon State Law requires an Invasive Species Permit for all non-motorized boats ten feet long or longer. These permits are NOT available at the Smullin Visitor Center. You can purchase them online or at businesses that sell Oregon hunting and fishing licenses. To purchase online go to: <http://www.oregon.gov/osmb/Pages/index.aspx>. For more information see: http://www.oregon.gov/OSMB/Clean/Pages/AISPP_Main_New.aspx.
- 9) **Shuttles:** There are four shuttle routes:
- The Eden Valley route is north of the river,
 - The Coastal Route is Highway 199 and 101,
 - The Bear Camp Coastal Route with the Peavine/ Serpentine Springs Roads, and
 - The Bear Camp Coastal Route with the Galice Access Road.

The Bear Camp Coastal Route with the Galice Access Road is the popular shuttle route between Galice and Foster Bar. Bear Camp Coastal Route may be closed due to snow and/or road damage. Check with the Smullin Visitor Center at (541) 479-3735, before driving this route. For more details go to:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/rogue/shuttle-routes.php>. The Galice Access Road, a section of the Bear Camp Coastal Route, is closed November 5 through May 31 due to a recurring landslide near milepost 5 west of Galice. Information on shuttle services may be found at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/rogue/shuttle-rentals.php>

- 10) **Water Level for the Wild Section of the Rogue River:** There are two gauges you can check on the USGS site: <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/or/nwis/current/?type=flow>. One gage is at Grants Pass, which is 30 miles upstream from the Grave Creek Boat Ramp and the second gauge is at Agness, a few miles downstream from the Foster Bar Boat Ramp.
- 11) **The Smullin Visitor Center** is open for phone calls the first five business days in April. Phone hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is the first opportunity after the Lottery for people to pick-up float spaces. The Visitor Center doors open on May 5th and stay open through October 15th, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., seven days a week. Phone Access Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., seven days a week, from May 5th through October 15th.

If you have more questions take a look at the Rogue River “Frequently Asked Questions” at <http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/rogue/permit.php>.

NONCOMMERCIAL PERMIT CONDITIONS OF USE

The following "Conditions of Use" are listed on the back of the noncommercial float permit. This permit is issued on the launch day at the Smullin Visitor Center. These conditions must be followed by all party members and the party leader signs the permit agreeing to conduct their trip in compliance with these conditions. Updates to the 2016 conditions are printed in **bold type**.

1. Your signature as party leader affirms that the following conditions for a noncommercial permit have been met:
 - a) There is a bona fide sharing of expenses.
 - b) There are no fees collected in excess of the actual cost of the trip.
 - c) There is no financial gain by any member of the group.
 - d) No salary is directed from shared trip expenses.
 - e) No charge is collected for use of the equipment.
2. Party leader must: a) accompany the float craft on the entire river trip, b) carry this permit and display upon request of any authorized official, and c) camp with the entire permitted group and have their float craft docked at the same campsite or lodge at night on the entire river trip.
3. When campfires are allowed, all open fires within 400 feet of the river must be contained in a fire pan. All garbage and fire residue (ashes, charcoal) must be hauled out. A fire ring may not be used. Scavenged wood must be both dead and down.
4. Use of motors for propelling boats is not allowed between Grave Creek and Blossom Bar. Use of motors for propelling boats between the holding pool at the bottom of Blossom Bar rapid and Watson Creek requires a separate "U.S. Forest Service Private Motorboat Permit," which can be obtained by **contacting the Gold Beach Ranger District at 541-247-3600 or visiting their office at 29279 Ellensburg Ave., Gold Beach, OR 97444.**
5. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices (PFDs) must be properly fitted and be readily accessible for each party member. Children 12 years and under must wear PFDs at all times. PFDs must be worn in class III rapids or greater by each person, regardless of age.
6. The current use permit identification number (craft tag) must be visibly displayed on the bow. All other boat tags must be removed or placed four feet or more away from the bow.
7. This permit is valid only for the permitted launch date listed on the front. The permitted group must have all float craft and party members below Grave Creek Falls by midnight on the permitted launch date. A trip may not exceed 7 days, including the permitted launch date. Permitted launches or ingress will be at Grave Creek Boat Ramp or above, and departures or egress will be at Foster Bar Boat Ramp or below.
8. Campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Small parties should use small sites and leave large sites available for large parties. If you are a small party camping at a large site, you are expected to share the site with another party when asked.
9. Each permitted group or subgroup must have an approved Human Waste Removal System (HWRS). The HWRS must be watertight and readily available for use or show throughout the day. The HWRS must be set-up within 30 minutes of arriving at camp except for those locations described in the Portable Toilet Guide. The HWRS must be a dedicated system and cannot be used to store supplies. Disposal of solid human waste in other than an approved HWRS or government outhouse is prohibited.
10. Possessing, discharging, or using any kind of firework or other pyrotechnic device is prohibited.
11. Disturbing, removing, or damaging any natural or historical feature or artifact is prohibited.
12. The following is prohibited: Discharging a firearm or any other implement capable of taking human life, causing injury, or damaging property (1) from June 1 to September 15 from the land or waters between Grave Creek and the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest boundary at Marial, or (2) at any time within 150 yards of a residence, building, developed or undeveloped recreation site, or occupied area, or (3) at any time across or on any body of water whereby any person or property is exposed to injury or damages as a result of such discharge.
13. Abandoning personal property is prohibited.
14. It is unlawful to habituate bears and other wildlife.
15. If a party is found in noncompliance with any of the "Conditions of Use," the party leader will not be allowed to control a permit for the rest of this year, continuing through the following year's regulated use season.

Note: In addition to the Prohibited Acts (pursuant to Title 43 CFR 8351.2-1 [Vol. 57, No. 110, Monday, June 8, 1992, OR-110-6310-11-257A: G2-268], Title 43 CFR 8365, Title 36 CFR 261.50 sub part B, Title 36 CFR 261.4, 261.9, 261.10 (d)(e), 261.11(b)(c), and ORS 496.731) individuals must comply with all federal, state and local laws, ordinances, regulations, orders, postings or written requirements applicable to the area.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY – Permit Information Box								
CBS #	LD	Party Leader	PS	ADD +	CAN -	NU	CBS Total	Cal Total =
CBS #	CHANGES: Name of Person / Caller		Date	ADD +	CAN -		CBS Total	\$ Paid
								\$
								\$
								\$

Rogue River Noncommercial Permit Confirmation Sheet

Type or print complete legal names and street (home) addresses of all party members. Changes to party members (not Party Leader) may be made at check-in. Enclose a **nonrefundable \$10.00 processing fee** for each party member. **Make checks payable to USDI-BLM. Do not send cash. This confirmation sheet and fee must arrive at the Smullin Visitor Center by 3:00 p.m. no later than ten days before your permitted launch date or your permit will be canceled.**

Party Leader

1. _____

11. _____

Alternate Party Leader

2. _____

12. _____

3. _____

13. _____

4. _____

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15. _____

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18. _____

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19. _____

10. _____

20. _____

Physical / Street Addresses Only. No PO Box's

For Credit Card Payment Only:

Visa/MasterCard/Amer.Express/Discover # _____ Amount _____

Cardholder's Name _____ Exp. Date _____

Billing Address _____ Phone _____