KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

1) Permits

➢ All permit changes, cancellations, and new permit allocations are processed by the BLM Rogue River Permit Office only.

Definitions:
- **Reservation**: A pending trip, unpaid and unconfirmed; Party size allocated during application process, e.g., Lottery, April Give-Away
- **Permit**: A confirmed trip; all spaces (party size) have been paid for @ $10/person
- **Party Size/Space**: Total number of people on a permit/each person on a Permit

Lottery Applications:
- **The Rogue River permit lottery** available ONLY on Recreation.gov
  - Open Application period: Dec 01 – Jan 31; $6 application fee
  - Feb 15 email response: Successful/Unsuccessful notices sent via email
  - Acquire the Permit: LOTTERY AWARD: CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS

New Reservations:
- **April Give-Away**: available after the Lottery
  - Open Application period: First five (5) business days in April
  - Competitive Call-in: 8am – 3pm, Phone calls only 541-479-3735

Open Season:
- New Permit allocation: May 05 – October 15
- Competitive Call-in: 8am – 3pm, Phone calls only 541-479-3735
- Walk-in/ Waiting list: Day of Launch ONLY, based on open spaces

Additions/ Cancellations:

Add Spaces:
- Available for existing Reservation or Permit
- Available during April Give-Away or Open Season times ONLY
- Competitive Call-in: 8am – 3pm, Phone calls only 541-479-3735

Cancel a Reservation, Permit, or Spaces:
- Email Rogue River Permits anytime or May 05 – Oct 15, call 541-479-3735
- List Party Leader, Launch Date, and Party Size. An email will be returned confirming your cancellation and release of your spaces.

Cancel a Permit:
- Deadline for cancellation of entire permit: Day before launch by 3pm
- Feb 10 – May 04: Email Rogue River Permits (preferred)
- May 05 – Oct 15: Email (preferred), call 541-479-3735, fax 541-479-0535
  List Party Leader, Launch Date, and Party Size. An email will be returned confirming your cancellation and release of your spaces.

Penalties:
- **Penalty**: Failure to cancel an entire Permit (all spaces) by cancellation deadline.
  - Action: Party Leader will be recorded on the “No-Show” Penalty List. Listed Party Leader will be unable to control a permit for the remainder of the year and all of the next year, including the lottery.

No Penalty:
- Non-Confirmation/non-payment of Reservations.
- Cancelling spaces on a permit at any time.
2) Portable Toilet Systems/Human Waste Removal System (HWRS)

➢ All river groups are required to have and be prepared to use an approved Toilet System for disposal and removal of all solid human waste.

**Toilet System specifications:**
- A dedicated system used for human waste; cannot be used to store supplies.
- Reusable, washable, watertight, with a screw-on or latching gasket lid. Snap-on lids and RV toilets are NOT acceptable.
- Approved Pouch Toilet Systems: Biffy Bag, CleanWaste bags, ReStop2 bags. A watertight container must be dedicated to storing used pouches.

**Toilet System capacity:**
- Must accommodate your entire group for the entire length of your trip.
- Capacity requirements are 1 pint per person per day.
  \[(\text{Days on river}) \times (\text{People in group}) = \text{capacity needed in pints}\]
  \[\text{E.g., 5 days} \times 10 \text{ people} = 50\text{-pint capacity needed}\]

**Toilet systems must be accessible during the day on the river.**
- If a group splits during the day, each sub-group must have a Toilet System that can accommodate their sub-group size.

**Toilet systems must be set up within 30 minutes of arrival at camp.**
- It must be out of the boat, easily accessible to the group, and away from the central camp area unless a government (pit) toilet is on site.
- Disposal of human waste while on the river must be in a toilet system, pit toilet, or lodge toilet.
- Disposal of urine is acceptable in the river, in a toilet system, pit toilet, or lodge toilet. Please avoid urinating on shore or near campsites and trails.

**Human Waste disposal post-trip:**
- Disposal of untreated solid human waste in landfills is illegal and a biohazard. Toilet systems may only be emptied at the SCAT machine and RV Dump stations.
- A SCAT machine is available at Foster Bar for disposing of human waste and cleaning your toilet system for $2. The SCAT machine CANNOT dispose of baby wipes, paper towels, trash, etc. as they will cause it to jam. Please store and dispose of these products separately.
- Disposal of approved Pouch Toilet Systems are legal in trash cans or dumpsters.

3) Fires & Cooking Regulations

➢ Fire Restrictions may change, updates are available by calling Smullin Visitor Center at Rand. Current fire regulations will be reviewed at permit check-in.
- Fire pans are required year-round for all campfires built within 400 feet of the river.
  - Pack-out all trash and fire debris.
  - Scavenged wood must be dead and down. Cutting wood is prohibited.
- Cooking on gas and propane stoves is allowed. Cooking on charcoal briquettes or over a wood fire in a raised fire pan may be permitted based on current fire restrictions.
- A shovel and bucket (minimum 1-gallon capacity) are required per party.
- Fireworks are prohibited.
4) **Oregon State Laws & Regulations**

- **Oregon State Marine Board** requires all individuals to comply with the following laws while conducting water-based activities on the Rogue River.

**US Coast Guard-approved PFD (Personal Floatation Device)**
- Each individual must have available at all times while on the water.
- Must be worn by all individuals in Class III or greater rapids.
- Must be worn at all times by children 12 years and younger while on or near the water.

5) **Safety**

- **The Wild Section of the Rogue is managed primarily as a primitive area and requires outdoor skills and preparation.**
  - All Party Leaders are required to watch the [Wild Rogue River Permit Guidelines Video](#) once per year. It is encouraged that all river users watch the video prior to boating the Rogue River.
  - Boat operators need Class IV skills to navigate this river. The wild section of the Rogue River has approximately three Class IV rapids and nine Class III rapids.
  - It is advisable for someone in your party to give a safety talk before launching. Explanation and demonstration of proper use of safety gear and rescue techniques are recommended, e.g., self-rescue, high siding, throw bags, and emergency procedures.
  - Parties can scout and allow passengers to walk around difficult rapids. E.g., Rainie Falls, the Fish Ladder, and Blossom Bar areas.
  - Scouting Blossom Bar Rapid, Class IV, is advised for all boaters. Boating incidents at this rapid causing boats or gear to wrap and block the channel are a common occurrence. Please be aware of this potential hazard.
  - Be aware of unexpected hazards in the river such as trees or man-made debris, and landslides or wildfires on the shoreline.
  - Be aware of the [current water level](#) - extreme low flows can be just as risky as high flows.
  - The Oregon State Marine Board recommends wearing helmets in Class III and greater rapids. It is also recommended that each boater have a whistle on their PFD.

- For info on medical emergency or boating accident assistance visit: [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

6) **Wild Section Rogue River Camping**

- **Camping on the Wild Section is on first-come, first-serve basis.**
  - Please be kind and courteous to all river and trail users when choosing campsites.
    - Quiet hours are 10pm – 6am. Please respect other parties.
  
**Be prepared to share!**
- Large sites that can accommodate groups of 10-20 people are limited.
- If you are a smaller group using a large site, please use one side of the site so you are prepared to share.
- Remain flexible in your choice of sites and try not to unnecessarily impose your group on an already occupied site when other sites may be available.

**Pit Toilets**
- Some Pit Toilets on the Wild Section are in process of being phased out and removed.
- Take advantage of sites that do not have a pit toilet. Current [Pit Toilet](#) locations.

- For more information visit [Wild Rogue River Campsite Brochure](#)
7) Outdoor Ethics & Etiquette

➢ **Leave No Trace** ethics and wilderness etiquette are essential to maintaining a respectful environment that protects the resource, wildlife, and fellow river and trail users.

**Boat Ramp Etiquette:**
- Leave boat ramps clear for vehicles and trailers to access the river quickly and easily.
- Grave Creek and Foster Bar boat ramps are for loading/unloading boats only.
- Do not park or leave vehicles or gear on or blocking the boat ramp.
- Grave Creek is day use only; overnight parking is not permitted.
- Staging areas next to the boat ramp are available for boat preparation and gear loading.

**River Etiquette:**
- Pass other groups in flat water, not in rapids.
- Crowding before or in rapids may create unnecessary boating mishaps.
- Be willing to wait. Areas like the Fish Ladder may have a queue to allow for boaters to clear the channel prior to the next descent.
- Be considerate of fishing parties, both on the river and shoreline. Give them a wide berth to avoid entangling fishing lines.

**Pet Regulations & Etiquette:**
- Pet feces disposal regulations are the same as those regarding human waste on the Rogue River.
- Animal feces are required to be removed, contained, and stored in a watertight container and properly disposed of in a trash receptacle at take out.
- Doggie Pot waste bags are available at Rand and trailheads.
- Bring a leash to be used when on shore. Be sure your dog is under control and invited before approaching other visitors or dogs.
- It is illegal for animals or humans to harass wildlife. For your pet's safety, keep them in sight and under control while on shore, and leashed when large wildlife are present.
- Consider equipping your dog with a PFD.

8) Bears & Wildlife

➢ Please help protect the public against safety risks by not feeding and habituating wildlife, especially bears.

**Camping & Food Storage:**
- Remove from boats all coolers, food, trash, and human/pet waste.
- Leaving attractants in boats will create an association for wildlife. Once associated, wildlife will claw, tear, and chew on boats and gear in an attempt to gain food rewards.
- Store coolers and trash in a central location away from sleeping areas.

**Storage techniques:**
- Stack and strap coolers/food containers together, thus creating bound objects that are more difficult to move. Place pots and pans on top of the stacked items to create noise when they are disturbed.
- Suspend food and garbage from a tree; minimum of 4ft. from the trunk and 10ft. above the ground.
- Use certified Bear-resistant coolers or storage devices.

“Bear-proofing”
- “**Bear-proof coolers**”, electric bear fences, or other certified Bear-resistant storage devices are the primary way to safely store food and garbage.
• The BLM installs and maintains electric bear fences, food hoists, and storage containers on the Rogue River May 15 – October 15, sites listed at [Wild Rogue River Campsite brochure](#).
• If camping in these areas, please utilize the bear fences for food and garbage storage overnight.
• **Ensure the bear fence is turned ON and CLOSED at all times, whether being used or vacant.** Only turn off the fence power for entry/exit.

➢ It is unlawful to habituate bears and other wildlife (ORS 496.731.1-2).
  Report bear sightings on the Bear Observation Form given at Permit check-in and leave the form in the drop box at Foster Bar.

9) **Shuttles**

➢ Shuttle route access will vary throughout the year with changing road and weather conditions. Always check current Shuttle Routes and road conditions prior to driving these routes.

**Shuttle Routes:** [Shuttle Routes Map](#)

• Eden Valley route is north of the river
• Coastal Route is Highway 199 and 101
• Bear Camp Coastal Route using the Peavine/ Serpentine Springs Roads
• Bear Camp Coastal Route using the Galice Access Road
  ▪ Most common/ fastest shuttle route from Grave Creek to Foster Bar
  ▪ CLOSED November 05 through May 31; due to snow/slides/rock fall

**Shuttle Services:**
• A variety of [Shuttle Services](#) are available within the area.

10) **Smullin Visitor Center at Rand**

➢ All parties floating the wild section of the Rogue River are required to obtain a permit.
  • Float permits are available year-round for the Wild section of the Rogue River.
  • Toilet systems and fire pans are required for all float trips year-round.

➢ **May 15 – Oct 15:** A lottery is used to allocate the regulated use season launches. Lottery applications for the regulated use season are accepted only through Recreation.gov annually Dec. 01 - Jan. 31. Available float spaces openings after the lottery are acquired through a competitive call-in process or Day of Launch walk-in or waiting list.

➢ **Oct 16 – May 14:** Pre- and post-regulated use season launches are obtained by filling out a self-issued permit available at Smullin Visitor Center at Rand and Grave Creek Boat Launch access.

➢ For more information on the Rogue River and surrounding areas, please visit: [Rogue River Website](#)