FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 6, 2022

Loon Lake Opens for Weekend Day Use

North Bend, Ore. – The Bureau of Land Management is pleased to announce the opening of weekend day use at Loon Lake Recreation Site. The day use area will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays starting on July 8, 2022.

There is no potable water available onsite. Visitors should bring all the water they will need for their visit, including drinking water. Non-potable water will operate the flush toilets in the day use restrooms. In addition, the beach and swimming area, picnic tables, charcoal grills, boat ramp, and waterfall trail will be open. The entry fee is $5 per vehicle per day.

The water wells and holding tanks are now generating and storing enough non-potable water to operate basic facilities, which allows for a limited opening while the water treatment system is brought online. The BLM is awaiting specialized parts that are necessary to get the system fully operational, and their delivery is delayed due to limited supply. The BLM expects to open for full-week day use and camping in subsequent phases once the system successfully handles increased use and the water passes quality tests.

Overnight camping remains closed. Entering the campground is prohibited to protect public safety while work continues on the water treatment and distribution system.

The BLM will update visitors when additional day use and camping become available, and give as much prior notice as possible for the public to reserve campsites. The BLM does not yet have a projected date when camping will reopen this summer. The BLM will post regular updates at blm.gov/office/coos-bay-district-office and recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/234076

Nearby East Shore Campground is open on the shore of Loon Lake, with six campsites available on a first come, first served basis. A valid East Shore camping permit also allows entry for one vehicle to Loon Lake Recreation Site for day use.

Weekend day use marks the first phase of reopening Loon Lake Recreation site since its closure in 2019. Heavy snow that year toppled trees around the site, destroying the potable water treatment system, a restroom in the day use area, and the maintenance shop. The repairs at the site are being partially funded through the Great American Outdoors Act.

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The BLM manages approximately 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The agency’s mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America’s public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.
Loon Lake Recreation Site Reopening
Updated July 6, 2022

What is opening at Loon Lake Recreation Site?
Weekend day use is reopening at Loon Lake Recreation Site. The day use area will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays starting July 8.

Is there water available?
There is no potable water available onsite. Visitors should bring all the water they will need for their visit, including drinking water. Non-potable water will operate the flush toilets in the day use restrooms.

What other facilities are open?
The beach and swimming area, picnic tables, charcoal grills, boat ramp, and waterfall trail will be open.

When will full-week day use and camping reopen?
The BLM plans to complete a phased reopening of Loon Lake Recreation Site. Once the wells and water distribution system are supporting increased use, the BLM will increase day use opportunities and reopen camping as part of subsequent phases.

Non-potable water will operate limited facilities (toilets) onsite until the water treatment system is brought online.

When can I make a camping reservation?
Visitors will be notified as soon as it is possible to reserve campsites. Camping reservations are made at recreation.gov, and the website will show which campsites and dates are available for reservation. The BLM will provide as much advanced notice as possible for people to make reservations prior to the campground opening. The BLM does not yet have a projected date when camping and reservations will reopen this summer.

Are there other areas I can go to camp at and access Loon Lake? Are there other places to camp in the area?
Yes. Nearby East Shore Campground is open on the shore of Loon Lake, with six campsites available on a first come, first served basis. A valid East Shore camping permit allows entry for one vehicle to Loon Lake Recreation Site for day use.

What is preventing the site from fully reopening now?
The primary well on site is not yet producing useable water, due to heavy sediment loads. While this is being addressed, a smaller secondary well is being utilized to fill on-site holding tanks to
ensure that enough water will be available for visitor use. The water treatment system must also be brought online. The BLM is awaiting certain parts that are necessary to get the system fully operational, and their delivery is delayed due to limited supply. The BLM plans to gradually reopen facilities at the lake to ensure the water system can effectively handle the increased use.

**Why can’t I go into the campground?**

The campground remains closed to protect public safety while work continues on the water distribution and treatment system. Water flushing and other activities may occur at different times, and the BLM wants to keep people out of the campground to prevent accidental exposure to treatment chemicals or have unregulated access to non-potable water.

**Where can I find updates?**

The BLM will post regular updates at [blm.gov/office/coos-bay-district-office](http://blm.gov/office/coos-bay-district-office) and [recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/234076](http://recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/234076). Information will also be distributed to local media.