SAWTOOTH NATIONAL RECREATION AREA



Recreation Report

July 30, 2015

"You are in Bear Country"

The black bears on the Sawtooth National Recreation Area usually pose no threat to people. Unfortunately, carelessness with food, garbage and livestock feed turns bears into "problems." When bears become accustomed to finding food in camps, they become a nuisance and sometimes aggressive. Often, this results in a need to kill the bear. Hence the slogan, "A fed bear is a dead bear." Below are a few precautions that can prevent this cycle:

- Keep a clean camp. Bears have a keen sense of smell.
 Store food, beverages and garbage in airtight containers.
 Keeping these in vehicles may minimize food odors.
- Never cook or store food in your tent.
- Deposit garbage in bear-proof containers where available.
- Supervise children and pets carefully.
- DO NOT APPROACH BEARS

The following items should NOT be left outside or in tents at any time, day or night, unless they are in immediate use: Food, trash, drink cans and bottles, dishes and utensils, wash basins and cleaning supplies, coolers, toiletries, water bottles, stoves and grills, pet food and bowls. Store all food, coolers and toiletries in vehicles or hard-sided campers. You CAN make a difference in a bear's life!



Bear Proof Trash Cans

If you see a bear proof trash can at a campground., ranger station or recreational facility, please make sure you close the lid all the way so that it "clicks." Bears are smart and can easily open these trash cans if they are not properly secured. This very heavy bear proof trash can was thrown to the ground and dragged several feet, but the bear was unsuccessful at getting in because the lid was securely fastened.





A truck after a Black Bear saw /smelled food inside

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Road Conditions

Forest roads are clear to the trailheads; however, you may encounter trees across them at any time. Please report blocked roads at to the nearest Ranger Station or Visitor Center.

Trails Conditions north of Galena Summit:

- Cabin Creek Trail: Two downed trees, mostly clear to end of trail. (7/25)
- Baron Creek Jct to Little Baron Lake: Ten trees over trail. (7/22)
- Sawtooth Lake to Baron Creek: Nearly 20 trees down over trail. Major rock fall south of Sawtooth Lake. (7/22).
- McGown Lakes to Sawtooth Lake: Fifteen trees down, trail washed out in places. Not recommended for stock. (7/22).
- Stanley Lake to McGown Lake: At least ten trees down over trail. Difficult for stock. (7/22)
- **Joe Daley**: Trail is washed out in several spots, making the trail hard to find. Two logs across wash blocking trail, rock cairns to follow. (7/22).
- Leggit Trail: Trail clear to first creek crossing after junction.
- Little Queens: Trail clear to Scott Creek. Queens: Trail clear to Nanny Creek. (7/22)
- Atlanta Powerplant to Rock Creek: Trail clear of trees to Leggit Junction, Leggit Junction to Rock/Timpa Creek Junction (25 trees down) not recommended for stock! (7/19)
- Alice Lake to Pettit Lake: Trail is clear. (7/16). Snowyside Pass to Alice Lk: Clear.
- Yellowbelly Lake to Toxaway Lake: Trail is clear and passable to stock. (7/16).
- Fourth of July and Washington Lake: Trail clear and maintained. (7/8).
- **Grand Mogul:** Maintained half way from inlet (3.5 miles) (7/11).
- Windy Devil/Upper Little Boulder Chain Lakes: Free of snow. Little Boulder Ck to Little Boulder Lakes: One tree down (passable to stock) (7/14).



Most of the trails are snow free and it's a great time to get out of the warmer temperatures in the valley below and enjoy the scenery.

Trail Conditions south of Galena Summit

- Harriman Trail: Clear to Galena
- Boulder Creek: Rough road passable 2 miles by vehicle. ATV's are recommended.
- •Prairie/Miner Lakes: Loop is open.
- Galena Trails: New trails are open at Galena and are accessible to horses, hikers and mountain bikers.
- Titus Lake: Trail from Hwy and Galena is open and full of wildflowers.



Cherry Creek near Galena

Summer Campgrounds

The following campgrounds can be reserved at least four days in advance:

- Wood River Campgrounds: North Fork, Wood River Group, and Easley.
- Alturas: Inlet Campground, Alturas Picnic Area and Chemeketan Group Campground.
- Redfish: Sunny Gulch Campground, Sunny Gulch Picnic Area, Glacier View, Outlet, Point and North Shore Picnic Area.
- **Hwy 21 Campgrounds:** Stanley Lake, Elk Creek, Sheep Trail, and Trap Ck.

The following campgrounds are first come, first served:

- Wood River Campgrounds: Wood River, Murdock and Caribou.
- Alturas Lake/Pettit Lake: North Shore, Smokey Bear, Pettit Lake and Pettit Day Use Area.
- Redfish: Chinook Bay, Mountain View, Mt. Heyburn and Sockeye.
- Stanley Lake and Hwy 21: Lake View, Stanley Lake Inlet, Iron Creek, and Grandjean.
- **Salmon River:** All eight campgrounds are first come, first served.

Individual camping sites can be reserved as early as 180 days in advance and group sites 360 days, including picnic sites. To make reservations, call 877-444-6777 or online: www.recreation.gov. There are 36 developed campgrounds within the Sawtooth NRA. Approximately 27% of the campsites can be reserved. The remainder are on a first come, first served basis.

Keep it clean to avoid bear encounters

Bears often develop a strong liking for human and pet foods. Store food in hard sided vehicles or bear-proof containers; keep sleeping areas, tents and sleeping bags free from food and food odors; and wash up, change clothes and remove all scented articles nearby before going to bed.

"A Fed Bear is a Dead Bear."

Wild bears avoid people, but bears conditioned to human food can be aggressive and may be



Upcoming events and openings:

Stanley Museum: Open from 11-5 p.m., June 13 through September 7.

<u>Sawtooth Forum and Lecture Series:</u> July 31st at the Stanley Museum at 5 p.m. Join Mary Toews, Ruth Merrill and Kitty Aarons for a lecture on-"Lookouts are Fire Watchers!" Or, "What do you do all day in a glass house on a mountain top?"

<u>Sawtooth Forum and Lecture Series:</u> August 7th, Stanley Museum, 5 p.m. Join Gary Gadwa and Zac Sedimayr for a program on: "Then and Now: The Life of an Idaho Game Warden."

<u>Smokey Bear Birthday:</u> Join us on August 8th at 1 p.m. when we celebrate Smokey's Birthday with kids games, puppet show and birthday cake at Redfish Center Amphitheater.

<u>SIHA Ice Cream Social:</u> Join us August 9th for free ice cream and a book sale and raffle at the Stanley Museum.



Sawtooth National Recreation Area Contact Information

Sawtooth NRA Headquarters:

M-F, 8:30-5:00 p.m. 208-727-5000

Stanley Ranger Station:

M-F, 8:30-5:00 p.m. 208-774-3000

Redfish Visitor Center

Daily from 9:30-5:00 p.m. through September 13

www.fs.usda.gov/sawtooth



Sawtooth National Recreation Area Private Lands Program

The 756,000-acre Sawtooth National Recreation Area includes more than 20,000 acres of privately owned land, primarily in the Sawtooth Valley and Stanley Basin, and along the Salmon River for approximately 25 miles downstream from Stanley, Idaho. When the U.S, Congress established the Sawtooth NRA in 1972, it sought to preserve and protect the Area's "natural, scenic, historic, pastoral, and fish and wildlife values and to provide for the enhancement of the recreation values associated therewith." (Public Law 92-400). Our management goals and commitment for conservation of the landscape are governed by this law.

Educational Programs Offered

We are pleased to offer a variety of educational activities, programs and services to local schools and youth groups. Several traveling "Ed-venture" trunks are available for loan to educators or group leaders. For more information, please call Susan Kranz at 727-5018.



Firewood Permits:

Firewood permits are on sale until November 30th and may be purchased with a credit card, cash or check. We will be open M -F 8:30-5 PM. The minimum purchase is two cords at \$25.00, each additional cord is \$12.50, for up to 10 cords per household. There will be no free firewood areas this year. For more information, contact the front desk at 727-5000.