



Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Recreation Report

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TREAD LIGHTLY
ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LAND



Editor's Note: Recreation Reports are printed every other week.
April 26, 2016

It Takes More than Just Unlacing the Gates

Its spring, which means nice weather, wildflowers, bugs, fast flowing rivers and streams, and opening of national forest campgrounds. There are 137 highly developed campgrounds, six horse camps and 16 group sites available for use in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Opening these sites after the long winter season requires a bit more effort than just unlacing a gate.

Before a campground can officially open for use the following steps need to occur:

1. Snow must be gone and campground roads need to be dry.
2. Hazard tree assessments occur. Over the winter trees may have fallen or may be leaning into other trees, or broken branches may be hanging up in limbs above camp spots. These hazards must be removed before it is safe for campers to use the campground.
3. Spring maintenance must occur. Crews have to fix anything that is broken or needs repair. That includes maintenance and repair work on gates, bathrooms/outhouses, picnic tables, barriers that need to be replaced or fixed, shelters, bulletin boards, etc.
4. Water systems need to be tested and repairs made, also water samples are sent to county health departments to be tested to ensure the water is safe for drinking.
5. Garbage dumpsters have to be delivered.
6. Once dumpsters are delivered, garbage that had been left/dumped in campgrounds over the winter needs to be removed.
7. Vault toilets have to be pumped out by a septic company.
8. Outhouses need to be cleaned and sanitized and supplies restocked.
9. Information is updated on campground bulletin boards.
10. Finally, when all this is done, the gate is unlocked and the campground is open for public use.

Camping in the national forest is a cherished pastime. It takes time and resources to open all of the fee and dispersed campgrounds located in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Please be patient while crews work to open campgrounds this spring. For more information about campground opening dates, please contact local ranger district offices.

Other Forest Related Information

OFFICE ADDRESSES and PHONE NUMBERS:

Chelan Ranger District, 428 W. Woodin Ave., Chelan, WA 98816; 509-682-4900; hours M-F 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., closed for lunch 11:30 to 12:30

Cle Elum Ranger District, 803 W. 2nd Street, Cle Elum, WA 98922; 509-852-1100; hours M-F 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; closed for lunch 12:30 to 1:15 p.m.

Entiat Ranger District, physical address 2108 Entiat Way, (P.O. Box 476), Entiat, WA 98822; 509-784-4700; hours M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Methow Valley Ranger District, 24 West Chewuch Road, Winthrop, WA 98862; 509-996-4000; hours M-F 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Naches Ranger District, 10237 Hwy. 12, Naches, WA 98937; 509-653-1401; hours 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; closed for lunch noon to 12:30 p.m.

Okanogan Valley Office, 1240 South Second Ave., Okanogan, WA 98840; 509-826-3275; hours M- F 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; closed for lunch 11 a.m. to noon

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Headquarters office, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, WA 98801; 509-664-9200; hours M-F 7:45-4:30

Tonasket Ranger District, 1 W. Winesap, Tonasket, WA 98855; 509-486-2186; hours M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; closed for lunch 12:30 to 1 p.m.

Wenatchee River Ranger District, 600 Sherbourne, Leavenworth, WA 98826; 509-548-2550; hours M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

WOODCUTTING INFORMATION:

Personal-use firewood cutting permits will be on sale at all Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest offices on **May 2**. Woodcutting permits will be sold on the Methow Valley Ranger District starting April 29 and have been sold on Tonasket Ranger District since April 1.

The minimum firewood permit is \$20 for four cords of wood. The cost for permits over the four-cord minimum is \$5 per cord. The maximum number of cords that may be purchased for personal-use is 12 cords per household per year.

Generally, woodcutters may cut wood lying on the forest floor and standing dead trees, except wildlife habitat trees. Falling snags is not permitted on the Cle Elum Ranger District. No woodcutting is allowed in congressionally designated Wilderness areas.

Things to keep in mind when woodcutting:

- Woodcutters should contact their local ranger district office for up-to-date road conditions.
- Do not drive off of roads onto wet ground to load firewood. Don't travel on roads if road surfaces are slippery and muddy, let them dry out before traveling on them. This will prevent deep ruts from developing.
- Be aware of other forest users, especially mushroom hunters, in areas burned by recent fires.
- The best time to cut firewood is in the late spring and early fall; avoid mid to late summer as woodcutting restrictions may be imposed due to severe fire danger.
- Permits must be purchased in person, no permits will be sold through the mail. Individuals purchasing woodcutting permits need to present a driver's license or other form of picture identification at the time of purchase; they will also need to supply their phone number and address.
- Woodcutters need to abide by the terms and conditions listed on their woodcutting permit. Be sure to read all conditions and requirements listed on the woodcutting permit and be familiar with the information on the map.
- A woodcutting area map is a necessity. These maps show the areas that are open and closed to woodcutting and are available free with the woodcutting permits.
- One cord of firewood measures 4 feet high x 4 feet wide x 8 feet long.
- Always be aware of the Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) on the day that woodcutting will occur. Information on the IFPL or current restrictions may be obtained by viewing the IFPL website at <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ifpl>, calling 509-884-3473 or your local ranger district office.
- Special woodcutting rules and conditions apply on the Naches Ranger District; contact their office at 509-653-1401 for specific information. Firewood cutting season on the Naches Ranger District ends on September 30 or the first Sunday in October if Sept. 30 falls on a weekday.

Firewood permits are good through December 31 in the calendar year they are purchased, with the exception of the Naches District, or until areas are no longer accessible. For more information, please contact your local ranger district office.

COMMERCIAL MUSHROOM GATHERING INFORMATION:

Commercial use mushroom harvesting permits are on sale at local ranger stations and the forest headquarters office.

- Collection or possession of more than five gallons per day or the intent to sell mushrooms requires a commercial permit. A two-day permit costs \$30, a 30-day permit is \$80 and a season permit is \$100; the season runs from April 18 through July 31.
- Permits must be in the harvester's possession when collecting mushrooms. Commercial harvesting information sheets, translated in five languages, and maps showing the general location of burned areas, closure areas, and commercial harvester camps will soon be available at local national forest offices.
- Commercial harvesting of mushrooms may occur in most areas of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest but there are some areas where commercial harvesting is prohibited. These areas include Wilderness areas, research natural areas, administrative sites, botanical areas, scenic corridors, developed recreation sites, campgrounds, and those places under area closures.
- No commercial or personal use mushroom harvesting will be permitted in portions of the Wolverine Fire near Lucerne, Domke Lake and Holden Village; also, the upper Entiat River Road is closed to all use just past Shady Pass Road. These areas remain closed to public access due to hazards from potential debris and mud flows.
- Designated camps are available for commercial mushroom harvesters planning to stay overnight on National Forest lands in the Methow Valley and Tonasket areas. Four areas have been designated as commercial mushroom harvester camps—North Summit Sno-Park and Black Canyon Sno-Park on the Methow Valley Ranger District; a dispersed campsite at Peony Camp next to the Peony Seed Orchard and Lyman Lake Campground on the Tonasket Ranger District.

PERSONAL USE MUSHROOM GATHERING INFORMATION:

Harvest of five gallons per person per day is free for personal use mushroom gathering.

- Free **Incidental Use Mushroom Gathering information** sheets must be in the mushroom collector's possession while harvesting and transporting mushrooms for personal use. These information sheets are free and can be downloaded from the forest website at <http://go.usa.gov/ct6Ej> and are also available at local national forest offices.
- For more information about commercial or personal use mushroom harvesting, please contact any Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest office during business hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, or go to the forest website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/okawen/mushroom>.
- Washington State forest product transportation requirements can be found under RCW 76.48.060 and at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=76.48>.

HAZARDS FOUND IN WILDFIRE AREAS:

Following are a variety of hazards to watch out for when traveling through areas burned in wildfires.

- Snags and damaged trees—blackened dead trees or green trees burned through at the bottom—can fall at any time possibly striking people or property; they can block trails or roads, including your exit even though travel was unimpeded when you entered the area.
- Snags can make travel difficult if a lot of trees have fallen across the landscape.
- Stump holes and root channels can still be burning and often are hidden from sight until stepped upon.
- Steep slopes and loss of vegetation may cause rolling rocks and debris flows off hillsides at any time but the likelihood increases with rain and freeze-thaw events.
- Loss of vegetation increases the potential for erosion to occur with any rain event. Water runoff may cause flooding that impacts or clogs road culverts and storm drains; sediment may move downstream affecting lands a long distance from the burned areas.
- Even with minor precipitation, road culverts can become plugged with material and cause debris flows.

Some things to do to be prepared when traveling through burned areas:

- Don't loiter in the burned areas, travel quickly through burned areas to reach your favorite recreation sites outside of the burns
- Carrying a saw or axe with you is a good idea when traveling on forest roads

- Stay current on weather forecasts and avoid areas that have been severely burned
- Do not try to cross an active mud or debris flow
- Let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return home

For more information, please call the local national forest office or go to the forest web site at

www.fs.usda.gov/okawen .

INTERAGENCY PASS PROGRAM (America the Beautiful National Parks & Federal Recreation Lands Pass):

This pass combines the benefits of existing recreation passes from five federal agencies into one comprehensive Interagency Pass called “**America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass.**”

- The pass covers recreation opportunities on public lands managed by National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and U.S. Forest Service.
- The pass applies to those locations that currently have entrance or standard amenity fees.
- The annual pass sells for **\$80**, the lifetime senior pass is **\$10**, and the lifetime access pass and the volunteer passes are **free**.
- Passes are valid for **one full year** from the month of purchase.
- Passes provide entrance or access to the pass holder and accompanying passengers in a single, private, non-commercial vehicle at federally operated recreation sites across the country.
- Passes cover the pass holder and three (3) accompanying adults age 16 and older at sites where per person entrance fees are charged. No entry fee for children 15 and under.
- Passes are **NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-TRANSFERABLE**, and **cannot** be replaced if lost or stolen.
- This program replaces the **Golden Eagle, Golden Age, and the Golden Access Passports as well as the National Parks Pass. Existing passes will remain valid until expired, lost or stolen.**
- These passes can be used in lieu of the Northwest Forest Pass.

RECREATION PASS PURCHASE INFORMATION:

A \$5 day use fee is required at many trailheads and day use sites across the national forest. The Northwest Forest Day Pass, Northwest Forest Annual Pass, and America the Beautiful Interagency Annual Pass are honored at all Forest Service-operated recreation sites where a day use fee is required. For a complete list of recreation sites where a day use fee is required, please visit <http://go.usa.gov/2YXA> or call your local ranger station.

Passes are available at **all ranger district offices** and the **forest headquarters** office in Wenatchee. The cost is \$30 for an annual pass and \$5 for a day use pass. For information about the Northwest Forest Pass call 1-800-270-7504 or to order it online go to www.discovernw.org .

- **Wenatchee area:** Northwest Forest passes are available at Arlberg Sports Inc., Hooked on Toys, Bi-Mart, and Big 5.
- **Chelan area:** Passes are available at the Chelan Ranger District office.
- **Entiat area:** Passes are available at Cooper’s General Store and at the Entiat Ranger District office.
- **Lake Wenatchee area:** Passes are available at Midway Village Grocery, Parkside Grocery and Plain Hardware.
- **Leavenworth area:** In Leavenworth passes are available at Der Sportsman, Icicle Quik Stop 76 gas station, Sleeping Lady Mountain Retreat Gift Shop, and Pioneer Market in Cashmere.
- **Cle Elum area:** Northwest Forest Pass vendors include Cle Elum Ranger Station and
 - Sportland Mini Mart Shell Station, 4402 Bullfrog Road, Cle Elum. Located 1 mile north of the Ranger Station on Hwy 903. Their phone number is 509-649-2260.
 - Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce Cle Elum Visitor Center, 312 W 1st, Cle Elum, 509-674-6880
 - Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce, 609 N Main, Ellensburg, phone 509-925-2002.
 - Mountain High Sports, 105 E 4th Street, Ellensburg, phone 509-925-4626.
 - Bi-Mart, 608 East Mountain View, Ellensburg, phone 509-925-6973.
 - Mac A Bee Gifts of the Southwest, 1401 Airport Road, Cle Elum, phone 509-674-7055.
 - Stewart Lodge LLC, 805 W 1st St Cle Elum, phone 509-674-4548
- **Methow Valley area:** Passes are available at the **Methow Valley Ranger Station office, 24 W. Chewuch Road in Winthrop, and**
 - Winthrop Mountain Sports, 257 Riverside Avenue, Winthrop, phone 509 996-2886.
 - Methow Cycle and Sports, 19210 Hwy 20, Winthrop, phone 509 996-3645.
 - Valley Hardware/Do-It Center Hardware, 429 E. Methow Valley Hwy., Twisp, 509-997-3355.

- Mazama Country Inn, 15 Country Road, Mazama, phone 509-996-2681 (Day passes only).
- Goat Beard Mountain Supply, 50 Lost River Road in Mazama, 509-996-2515.
- Do It Center Valley Hardware, 309 Highway 20 South in Twisp, 509-997-8541.

- **Naches area:** Northwest Forest passes can be purchased at the following locations.
 - Naches Ranger District office, 10237 U. S. Hwy 12, Naches, phone 509-653-1401.
 - Slim's Market, 9951 US Hwy 12, Naches.
 - Rimrock Grocery Store, 34090 U.S. Hwy 12, Naches, phone 509-672-2251.
 - Bi-Mart stores in Yakima, Sunnyside and in Ellensburg.
 - Naches Chinook Center, 10450 Hwy 12, Naches, WA 98937, 509-653-2797

E-PASSES ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE: Northwest Forest passes can be purchased online. A day pass is \$5 and an annual pass is \$30. Go to <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/okawen/passes-permits/recreation> to purchase these permits.



CHELAN RANGER DISTRICT

Office phone number: (509) 682-4900

OFFICE HOURS: The Chelan Ranger District office is located at 428 West Woodin Avenue in Chelan with office hours of 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday **with a one hour closure for lunch from 11:30 to 12:30**. The Chelan Ranger District also serves as an information center for the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

SNOW: On April 26, there was 118 inches of snow at Lyman Lake at 5,980 feet elevation.

ECHO RIDGE: All users are urged to stay off muddy and/or soft trails. Call the Chelan Ranger District for more details on trail conditions.

LAKE LEVEL: The level of Lake Chelan is 1095.58 feet above sea level. For more information on the lake level, please visit the Chelan County Public Utility District website at <http://www.chelanpud.org/parks-and-recreation/lake-chelan-lake-levels> .

ROADS & SNOWMOBILING: Seasonal road closures on the Chelan Ranger District have been lifted. Most forest roads are open at lower elevations. However, be prepared to encounter wet and/or muddy conditions or even impassable snow. If you do encounter wet/muddy roads please turn around immediately. Carry tire chains and extra supplies for emergencies. Remember, there is limited turn around space available on most forest roads. Always travel with plenty of fuel and check on road conditions with district offices before heading out. Four-wheel-drive and high vehicle clearance is always recommended for travel on forest roads.

TRAILS: Expect to encounter snow at higher elevations on many trails in the Chelan Ranger District. Be prepared for sudden changes in weather and trail conditions. Always check current avalanche conditions prior to trekking into the backcountry.

Trail Name/Number	Status
Lakeshore Trail #1247	Snow free. The trail has been maintained from Moore Point to Flick Creek. Maintenance on the southern portion, Prince Creek to Moore Point, is underway and scheduled to be completed May 7.

Holden Village area non-wilderness trails	
Ten Mile Creek Trail #1241	Closed due to Holden Mine remediation work.
Ten Mile Falls Trail #1270	Closed due to Holden Mine remediation work.
Monkey Bear Falls Trail #1273	Closed due to Holden Mine remediation work.

Lucerne area non-wilderness trails	
Domke Lake Trail #1280	Closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
Domke Mt. Lookout Trail #1280.1	Closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.

Glacier Peak Wilderness trails	
Agnes Gorge Trail #1281	Snow covered.
Company Creek Trail #1243	Snow covered.
Copper Basin Trail #1240.22	Closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
Devore Creek Trail #1244	Closed from Tenmile Pass to Hilgard Pass due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
Emerald Park Trail #1230	Closed for the season.
Hart / Lyman Lake Trail #1256	Snow covered.
Holden Lake Trail #1251	Snow covered.
Lower Railroad Creek Trail #1240	Closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
Upper Lyman Trail #1256.2	Snow covered.
Spider Gap	Snow covered.
Pacific Crest Trail #2000	Snow covered.
South Fork Agnes Trail #1239	Snow covered.
Suiattle/Cloudy Hiker Shortcut	Snow covered.

CAMPING:

Drive-To Campgrounds			
Campground	Status	Elevation	General Info/Services
Antilon Lake	Accessible	2,400 feet	Accessible. Dispersed camp sites, no services.
Grouse Mountain	Accessible	4,425 feet	Accessible. Dispersed camp sites, no services.
Handy Springs	Snow covered	6,300 feet	Snow covered. Primitive camping conditions, no services.
Junior Point	Snow covered	6,600 feet	Snow covered. No services.
Snowberry Bowl	Accessible	2,000 feet	Accessible. No fees and no services at this time.
Windy Camp	Snow covered	5,900 feet	Snow covered. Primitive camping conditions, no services.
South Navarre	Snow covered	6,475 feet	Snow covered. Primitive camping conditions, no services.

Boat-In Campgrounds	
Campground	Status/Dock Information
Corral Creek	All dock sections are out for repair.
Deer Point	Open
Domke Falls	Open
Graham Harbor	Open
Graham Harbor Creek	Open
Lucerne	The area is closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire
Mitchell Creek	Two sections of the dock have been removed for repair, leaving a portion of the dock available for use.
Moore Point	Open
Prince Creek	Open
Refrigerator Harbor	The area is closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire
Safety Harbor	Open

Expect icy and slippery dock surfaces, especially in the early mornings. Dock permits are required May 1 through October 31. Season dock permits are available at the Chelan Ranger District office, Kelly's Ace Hardware, Reed's Marine, Manson Parks and Recreation, North Cascades Lodge at Stehekin, and the Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest Headquarters in Wenatchee. Daily dock permits will also be available beginning May 1st. Dock permits will be available at the 25 Mile Creek State Park store when they open for the season the third week in May.

CLE ELUM RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is **(509) 852-1100**.

WINTER OFFICE HOURS ARE IN EFFECT: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a 45-minute closure for lunch from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m.

SPRING PRESCRIBED BURNING: Spring burning is underway on the Cle Elum Ranger District. Visitors to the forest can expect to encounter prescribed fire in the Liberty area, Lion and Cougar Gulch, Blue Creek, Iron Creek, and in the North Fork Teanaway. Signs will be posted in the vicinity of active burn operations.

The purpose of prescribed burning is to improve forest health by removing slash from thinning operation, remove surface and ladder fuels that can increase the intensity of wildfire, enhance forage for deer and elk, and reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire. Burning will continue into early June, weather conditions permitting.

Burn projects for this area call for both pile burning and underburning. Underburns can be alarming when encountered by those not familiar with prescribed fire as the forest floor is burned over a large area. Several days, if not weeks, go into preparation for an underburn. Fire crews dig fire line around the unit prior to it being burned, fuels models are closely analyzed and local weather patterns are studied. The resulting data is used in the "prescription" for the active burn.

Operations are closely monitored, and ignitions will not take place unless forecast weather is within the guidelines set forth for smoke management by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Ignitions will cease immediately if burn bosses determine that weather or smoke is outside of the predetermined acceptable range.

SNOW: Snow is melting rapidly in the low to mid elevations. Currently, snow levels on the west end of the district are at about 3,000 feet elevation. On the east side of the district, south facing slopes are snow free to near 4,800 feet, while north facing slopes have snow below 4,500 feet.

Winter recreation is still taking place at higher elevations. Remember that the threat of avalanche remains well into the late spring and early summer months. Be aware of your surroundings and watch for cornices both above and below you.

SNOQUALMIE PASS VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER is now closed after another successful winter season. It will open for the summer season on May 27.

LOGGING UPDATE: Logging operations are underway in the Stafford Creek area. Please use caution and observe all warning signs in the area. Harvest is expected to continue into the month of May, or possibly longer, in the Stafford Creek drainage. Once complete, operations will move to the North Fork Teanaway near Beverly Creek.

ROADS: Snow is melting quickly off forest roads leaving road surfaces soft and muddy in many areas. Conditions change daily. Please do not drive on soft roads as the damage you cause is costly to repair, and unhealthy for the environment.

Road Name	Road No.	Conditions as of April 25, 2016
North Fork Teanaway	FS 9737	Open. Snow free to near Beverly Campground.
Stafford Creek	FS 9703	Closed to public use due to active logging operation at the Stafford Creek Bridge adjacent to the Stafford Creek Trailhead.
Lion Gulch	FS 9712	Open. Snow free from Liberty approximately 4.5 miles where the road is washed out.
Cougar Gulch	FS 9718	Open. Snow free approximately 4 miles from Liberty.
Fish Lake	FS 4330	Open. Snow free to near China Point, approx. 1.5 miles from Salmon la Sac.
Cooper Pass	FS 4600	Open. Snow free for approximately a half mile from Salmon la Sac Hwy.
S. Cle Elum Ridge/ Peoh Point	FS 3350	Snow free
Spex Arth/Woods & Steele	FS 4510	Snow free to the second switchback.
Taneum	FS 3300	Open. Snow free to Taneum Junction. Unknown beyond.
Manastash	FS 3100	Open. Snow free to the second bridge past the end of the pavement.
Gnat Flat	FS 3330	Snowbound below Gooseberry Flat.
Reecer Creek	FS 3500	Open to wheeled vehicle on Road 3500-114.
Iron Creek	FS 9714	Open. Snow free to within a quarter mile of Iron Creek Trailhead.
Stampede Pass	FS 5400	Open. Snow free for approximately 2.5 miles from I-90.
Lost Lake	FS 5480	Open. Snow free to near Keechelus Dam.
Box Canyon Creek/ Rachel Lake Trailhead	FS 4930	Snow bound
Swauk Meadows	FS 9716	Snow free for approximately 2 miles from Blewett Pass.

MUSHROOMS: Commercial mushroom permits are on sale at the Cle Elum Ranger Station. Those wishing to harvest mushrooms for personal use, up to 5 gallons per day, are now required to have a free use fact sheet in their possession while hunting for mushrooms. These can be obtained by visiting the Okanogan Wenatchee NF web page and printing one, or by visiting the Forest Headquarters Office or any Ranger Station. They are available at the Cle Elum Ranger Station on the Visitor Kiosk in front of the Ranger Station. A few reports of Verpa, or false morels have come into the ranger station. Forest visitors have said they are finding Verpas along streams under the cottonwoods. Those looking for true morels at higher elevations have reported no success.

WILDFLOWERS: Balsamroot is in full bloom at low elevations on the east end of the district. The lower slopes of Reecer Creek and the Liberty are brilliant with these yellow flowers. Lupines are just starting to bloom. At higher elevations, just below the snowline, glacier lily and spring beauties are blooming. Check damp areas in sage brush for grass widow, and damp areas in the forest for Trillium.

TRAILS: Folks are anxious to hit the trails on the Cle Elum Ranger District. Some early season trails are now accessible, however trail maintenance has not yet been done. Hikers can expect winter debris on all trails. Blowdown was excessive this past winter in all areas of the district. Hikers can expect to find numerous trees across all trails.

Trail crew staff at the Cle Elum Ranger District greatly appreciate early season trail reports from members of the public. Your reports can help crew members plan trail maintenance. When reporting blowdown, in addition to the number of blowdown and approximate location, include the diameter of the largest trees as this will determine what tools will be needed for removal.

Trail Name and Number	Condition
Iron Creek Trail #1351	There is snow on the road a quarter mile prior to the trailhead. The trail is snow free but there are two logs blocking the trail. Wildflowers are blooming.
Beverly Creek Trail #1391	High water, snow.
Bean Creek Trail #1391.1	High water, snow.
Stafford Creek Trail #1359	There is snow on the trail.
Davis Peak Trail #1324	Remains mostly snow bound in the timber, exposed switchbacks are snow free to near 4,400 feet elevation.



Reminder - All trails on the Cle Elum Ranger District are closed to motorized use until June 15 to prevent rutting, erosion and to protect fragile soils and water quality.

CABIN RENTALS: The **Teaway Guard Station** is once again available for public rental. This rustic one room cabin is situated along North Fork Teaway Road No. 9737 a short walk from the icy waters or the North Fork Teaway River. The cabin accommodates two people, with a set of bunk beds, a table and chairs, a wood stove for heat, and a Coleman stove for cooking. For more information or to make reservations, contact National Recreation Reservation Service at 1-877-444-6777 or online at www.recreation.gov.

ENTIAT RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is (509) 784-4700.

OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

WOLVERINE AND DUNCAN FIRE AREA CLOSURES MODIFIED: A revised Closure Order for the Entiat Ranger District went into effect on April 21, 2016. A closure order is necessary for public safety due to the post fire effects from the Duncan and Wolverine fires as there is potential for debris flows and flash flooding. It is prudent to close specific areas, trails and roads until the area is acceptable for public occupancy.

- **Trail closures:** Entiat River Trail No. 1400, Cow Creek Meadows Trail No. 1404, Myrtle Lake Trail No. 1404A, 45 Mile Drive Trail No. 1432, Wilson Creek Trail No. 1231, Larch Lakes Spur Trail No. 1430A, and Larch Lakes Trail No. 1430. For a map of the closures go to http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd498827.pdf.
- **Road closures:** It is prohibited to be on the Entiat River Valley Road No. 5100 from the gate at mile post 31 to the Cottonwood/Entiat River Trailhead and north Fork Entiat Road No. 5606.
- **Campground closures:** It is prohibited to stay overnight at Fox Creek Campground, North Fork Campground, Spruce Grove Campground, Silver Falls Campground, and Cottonwood Campground.
- **Summer home closure area:** It is prohibited to enter or be in the Pope Creek Summer Home closure area; see the detailed explanation listed in the Closure Order at http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd498786.pdf

Contact the Entiat Ranger Station for details. When there is snow on the ground the risk of debris flows and flooding is reduced. Forest users are advised to check the latest conditions as warm winter storms can cause rapid melt-off and high water events.

CAMPGROUNDS: Pine Flats Campground is now open and is snow free. Fox Creek, Lake Creek, and Silver Falls campgrounds are closed with no amenities available. Expect to encounter snow at these campgrounds. Call the Entiat Ranger Station for further information.

Campground	Location	Status	Fees	Amenities
Pine Flats	14 miles from Highway 97A, Mad River Road	Open	\$8 vehicle per night (extra vehicle \$6)	6 Campsites and 1 Group Site Water, vault toilets and garbage service
Lake Creek	28 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road	Opens April 29	\$10 vehicle per night (extra vehicle \$8)	18 Campsites Water, vault toilets and garbage service
Fox Creek	27 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road	<p style="text-align: center;">Gated closed for overnight camping. Day use, walk in & walk out, is permitted with no fees.</p> <p>No toilets, water or garbage services available. Day users need to pack out all their garbage. Please use "Leave No Trace" techniques.</p>		
Silver Falls	30 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road			
North Fork	33 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road	<p>Closed to overnight camping due to impacts resulting from wildfires.</p>		
Spruce Grove	34 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road.			
Three Creek	36 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road			
Cottonwood	38 miles from Highway 97A, Entiat River Road			

ROADS: Late winter/early spring road conditions exist. Four-wheel-drive and high vehicle clearance are always recommended for travel on forest roads. If roads are muddy and snowy and your vehicle is damaging the road surface, please turn around to prevent further road damage. Remember, there is limited turn around space available on most forest roads.

Road and trail conditions can change quickly so check for current conditions and closures before you go. The best way to be prepared is to think ahead about what you would do in a potential emergency situation and have proper equipment and supplies with you.

Road Name	Road #	Status
Entiat River Road	5100	The road is gated closed at about mile post 31 to the Cottonwood/Entiat River Trailhead. Vehicles, motorcycles, livestock, bicycles, and foot traffic are prohibited on the road.
Mills Canyon/ Entiat Ridge	5200	Open. Not passable to the Swakane side due to snow.
Dinkelman	5210	The road is unstable with a landslide and trees down. The road is blocked.
Preston Creek	5501	Open, expect to encounter late winter/early spring conditions.
Tommy Creek	5605	Open, expect to encounter late winter/early spring conditions.
North Fork Entiat Road	5606	The road is gated closed at about mile post 32. Vehicles, motorcycles, livestock, bicycles, and foot traffic are prohibited on the road.
Tyee	5700	Open, expect to encounter late winter/early spring conditions.
Tillicum Creek	5800	Open spring/winter conditions. Not drivable to Leavenworth due to a land slide and snow.
Forest Service Road/ Moe Ridge	5801	Open, expect to encounter late winter/early spring conditions.
Shady Pass & Big Hill	5900 & 112	The road is gated closed at Entiat River Road due to a seasonal closure. Presently it is not passable to the Chelan side.

TRAILS: Forest visitors will encounter snow and late winter/early spring conditions on all forest trails.

Good resources to check for recent postings and conditions from fellow hikers are www.NWHikers.net

www.WTA.org and www.Cascadeclimbers.com .

Trail Name	Trail #	Current Trail Conditions
45 Mile Sheep Drive	1432	The trail is temporarily closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
Alder Ridge	1523	The trail is open to hikers only. Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Angle Peak	1443	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Anthem Creek	1435	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Billy Creek	1416	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Billy Ridge	1413	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Blue Creek	1426	The trail is open to hikers only. Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Butte Creek	1440	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Cool Creek	1431	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Cougar Ridge	1418	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Cow Creek	1404	The trail is temporarily closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
Devils Backbone	1448	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Duncan Hill	1434	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Emerald Park	1230	The trail is temporarily closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
North Fork Entiat	1437	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Entiat River	1400	The trail is temporarily closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
Fern Lake	1436	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Four Mile	1445	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Garland Peak	1408	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Hi Yu	1403	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Hunters Trail	1417	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Ice Creek	1405	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Ice Lakes	1405.1	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Jimmy Creek	1419	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Klone Peak	1427	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Lake Creek	1443	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Larch Lakes	1430	The trail is temporarily closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.

Larch Lakes Spur	1430A	The trail is temporarily closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
Lost Lake	1421	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Mad River Lower	1409	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Mad River Upper	1409.1	The trail is open to hikers only. Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris
Middle Tommy	1424	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Miners Ridge	1411	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Myrtle Lake	1401	The trail is temporarily closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
Myrtle Lake Spur	1404A	The trail is temporarily closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.
North Tommy	1425	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Pomas Creek	1453	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Pond Camp Tie	1409.2	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Pugh Ridge	1438	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Pyramid Mtn.	1433	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Pyramid Creek	1439	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Pyramid Viewpoint	1441	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Shetipo	1429	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Silver Falls National Recreation Trail	1442	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris. Bridges are out due to the Duncan Fire.
Silver Falls Riverside Interpretive Trail	1462	The trail is closed due to hazardous trees.
South Tommy	1423	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Steliko Ridge	1454	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Tyee Ridge	1415	Late winter/early spring conditions exist and the trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Upper Chikamin	1561	The trail is open to hikers only. The trail has not been cleared of winter debris.
Wilson Creek	1231.1	The trail is temporarily closed due to hazards resulting from the Wolverine Fire.

METHOW VALLEY RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is **(509) 996-4003**.

OFFICE HOURS: Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

WEATHER: A local weather forecast is available at <http://go.usa.gov/f4y>.

SNOW: On April 25, there was 85 inches of snow at Hart's Pass at 6,500 feet elevation. Rainy Pass at 4,800 feet had 77 inches of snow, and Washington Pass, at 5500 feet elevation, had 81 inches of snow. There is no snow in Winthrop or Mazama.

NORTH CASCADES HIGHWAY 20: Highway 20 opened for this season on April 22. Snow has not melted out of the trailhead parking lots and they are not plowed.

ROADS: Although district roads are now open to wheeled vehicles, many district roads are still snow covered. Winter road conditions still exist. Four-wheel-drive and high vehicle clearance are always recommended for travel on forest roads.

Spring conditions leave roads highly susceptible to rutting and erosion. Road maintenance is costly, budgets are tight, and the damage that you prevent by not driving on a muddy road can save dollars for other critical maintenance and repairs. If roads are muddy and snowy and your vehicle is damaging the road surface, please turn around to prevent further road damage.

Remember, there is limited turn around space available on most forest roads. Check for current conditions and closures before you go. The best way to be prepared is to think ahead about what you would do in a potential emergency situation and have proper equipment and supplies with you

The district roads not listed below are not plowed and are still blocked by winter snow accumulation. For the most current road information go online to

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/okawen/alerts-notice/?cid=stelprd3820244> .

Road Name and Number	Conditions	Updated
Bear Creek 9137-100	Snow free to opened gate	4/18/16
Black Canyon 4010	Snow free to the sno-park. The remaining road is CLOSED due to a large road wash-out. The road will reopen when repaired.	4/26/16
Black Canyon 4010-050	CLOSED to all vehicles due to a road wash-out. The road will reopen when repaired.	4/26/16
Black Canyon 4010-100	CLOSED to all vehicles due to a road wash-out. The road will reopen when repaired.	4/26/16
Beaver Mtn. 4235-100	The area is CLOSED from the intersection with forest road #4235 (T34N, R23E, Sec 13) to the intersection with forest road #4235 (T34, 23E, Sec 3) due to hazards remaining from 2015 wildfires.	4/22/16
Boulder Creek 3700	Snow free to the Road 3700-800 (Bromas Creek Road) junction.	4/26/16
Buck Lake 5130-100	The road is snow covered before Buck Lake.	4/22/16
Cedar Creek Trailhead Hwy 20-200	Snow free to the trailhead parking area.	4/22/16
Eightmile Creek 5130	Snow covered before Flat Camp.	4/15/16
Falls Creek 5140	The gate is closed until the snow melts and the road firms up.	4/18/16
Finley Mountain 1590-4100-300	Closed to motorized vehicles.	4/22/16
Finley Canyon 1590-4100-370	Closed to motorized vehicles.	4/22/16
Little Bridge Creek 4415	Closed	4/22/16
Gold Creek Road 4340	Snow free to Foggy Dew Campground.	4/26/16
Hart's Pass Road 5400	The road will not be plowed for snowmobile parking as too much snow has melted and snowmobilers would have to drive across too much rock and gravel from the parking area to the snow. This road will remain closed at the gate just past Ballard Campground until the rockslide is removed from Deadhorse Point area and the road is repaired.	4/22/16
Jack Creek Highway 20-103	The gate is open but the snow level is unknown.	4/18/16
Klipchuck Hwy 20-300	Snow patches and down trees block the road.	4/22/16
Lester Road 1637 (county road)	Closed from county Bear Creek Road 9137 to Campbell Lake junction due to wash-outs. Drivers can access Campbell Lake Road on Lester Road 1637 from the east via county Beaver Creek Road 1637.	4/18/16
Long Creek 5200-500	CLOSED. The road is washed out.	4/22/16
North Summit 42	The road is CLOSED to all methods of travel from Buck Pass in the southeast quarter of section 17, T35N, R24E, to the junction with Road 4200-300 in T35N, R24E, Sec. 22.	4/18/16
Coal/Rader Creek 4410-000	The road is closed from the forest boundary (T34N, R21E, Section 7) to its junction with Little Bridge Creek Road #4415 (T33N, R21E, Section 12).	4/22/16
Ramsey Creek Road 9137-200	The road is snow free past Sullivan's Pond and the gate is open.	4/18/16
Ramsey Creek Road 9137-300	The road is snow free past Sullivan's Pond and the gate is open.	4/18/16
Ramsey Creek Road 9137-400	The road is snow free past Sullivan's Pond; the gate remains closed.	4/18/16
South Fork Gold Creek 4330	The road is closed due to a wash-out about 2 miles past the South Fork Gold Creek Sno-Park.	4/18/16
Twisp River Road 4400	Snow free to War Creek Campground and to the end of the pavement near Mystery Bridge.	4/18/16
Washington Pass Overlook	Snow covered and gate is locked.	4/22/16
West Chewuch 5100	The road is snow free to Andrews Creek.	4/22/16
West Fork Buttermilk 4300-550	CLOSED --The bridge is condemned and unsafe. The road is damaged near the bridge from a 2011 washout. The road is snow covered.	3/25/16
West Fork Buttermilk 4300-560	CLOSED --The bridge is condemned and unsafe. The access road is damaged near the bridge from a 2011 washout. The road is snow covered.	3/25/16
Yockey Creek 4150-200	The road is closed to all motorized vehicles.	4/22/16

WOODCUTTING: Firewood permits will be available for purchase on April 29.

CAMPGROUNDS: Expect to encounter snow at all district campgrounds except those listed below. No amenities are provided, so remember to bring drinking water and toilet paper and pack out all garbage.

For current campground information go online to <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/okawen/alerts-notice/?cid=stelprdb5308308>.

Campground Name	Conditions	Updated
Black Canyon Sno-Park	Free campsites available. Designated camping for commercial mushroom harvesters planning to stay overnight on National Forest lands in the Methow Valley. From Twisp, drive 2 miles south on Highway 20, then drive south on Highway 153, to Black Canyon Road, between milepost 7 and milepost 6. Turn right onto Black Canyon Road 4010 and drive about 1.5 miles to the Black Canyon Sno-Park. The road beyond is closed to traffic due to a large wash-out. Commercial harvesters are required to use these designated camps. Commercial harvesters shall not camp within 200 feet of streams, lakes, riparian areas and other wet areas such as wetlands and meadows, at trailheads, or trailhead parking areas, or in other high use recreation or special use areas. Mushroom permits allow the permittee to camp in designated areas only.	4/18/16
Chewuch	Snow free sites are available. Located 15 miles north of Winthrop on the west side of the Chewuch River on forest road 5100.	4/18/16
Camp Four	Snow free sites are available. Located 18 miles north of Winthrop on the west side of the Chewuch River on forest road 5100.	4/18/16
Early Winters	Snow free sites are available. Located 18 miles west of Winthrop on Highway 20 (about 3 miles from Mazama).	4/18/16
Falls Creek	Snow free sites are available. Located 11 miles north of Winthrop on the west side of the Chewuch River on forest road 5100.	4/18/16
Flat Camp	Has some snow free sites available.	4/25/16
Foggy Dew	Snow free sites are available. Located 20 miles south of Twisp. Take Highway 153 to the turnoff for Okanogan County road 1029 (Gold Creek Loop Road). Turn west onto Okanogan County road 1034 (Gold Creek Road). Travel 1 mile until road turns into forest road 4340 (North Fork Gold Creek Road).	4/18/16
North Summit Sno-Park	Free campsites available. Designated camping for commercial mushroom harvesters planning to stay overnight on National Forest lands in the Methow Valley. Located on Loup Loup Pass. From Twisp, drive 12 miles east of Twisp on Highway 20, turn left onto forest road 4200, travel ½ mile, and turn right into the Sno-Park area. Commercial harvesters are required to use these designated camps. Commercial harvesters shall not camp within 200 feet of streams, lakes, riparian areas and other wet areas such as wetlands and meadows, at trailheads, or trailhead parking areas, or in other high use recreation or special use areas. Mushroom permits allow the permittee to camp in designated areas only.	4/18/16
War Creek	Snow free sites are available. Located 14.4 miles west of Twisp along the Twisp River on forest road 4400.	4/18/16

TRAILS: Most district roads have winter snow accumulation blocking access to forest trails. Snow is melting quickly so be careful with creek crossings as creeks are very high. For current trail information go online to <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/okawen/alerts-notice/?cid=stelprdb5308308>.

Trail Name and Number	Conditions	Updated
Andrews Creek 504	Snow free to the 3 mile point with 38 down trees on the trail.	4/25/16
Cutthroat Creek 483	The road to the trailhead is snow-covered. There is two feet of snow at the trailhead, and 6 feet of snow on the bridges below the lake. There is a half-acre of open water at the lake's outlet. The trail is difficult to follow on the uneven snow surface on the last mile to the lake (there are ski tracks all over the place). There are 5 down trees across the trail with the largest 16 inches in diameter. There is heavy run off under the snow in more places than usual, and the largest creek in the big avalanche clearing may soon present a water obstacle for skiers. All bridges and the foot log over to the lake survived, but are tricky to cross because of the steep melt patterns.	4/25/16

Driveway Butte 481	Limited parking available on Highway 20 at the junction with Klipchuck Campground Road 300. You will need to hike in 1 mile, on snow, on forest road 300 to get to the trailhead. This steep south-facing trail is snow free for about 2 miles giving access to some great mountain views.	4/18/16
Falls Creek Falls 518A	Snow free to the waterfalls.	4/18/16
Monument Creek 484	Access for snowmobilers and hikers via Forest Road 5400 is blocked by winter snow accumulation with limited parking available at the end of the paved Lost River Road. The trailhead is snow covered. The first half mile of the trail is snow free to the overlook. Snow starts just past the overlook; there is extensive blowdown. Many beautiful wildflowers--Glacier Lilies are blooming by the road, spring beauties are everywhere, and yellow bells are in many patches along the trail. The Old bridge, at the 4 mile point, across Eureka Creek is washed out. The trail north of the bridge site at Eureka Creek has not been maintained for 30 years. The non-maintained trail has many, many down trees and has areas with trail wash-outs making the trail impassable to stock and very difficult for hikers to follow.	4/18/16
Wolf Creek 527	Snow free to North Fork Wolf Creek with 33 down trees on the trail.	4/25/16

NACHES RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is (509) 653-1401.

OFFICE HOURS: The Naches Ranger Station foyer is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week with handouts and forest information available to the public during non-office hours. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office is closed daily for lunch from 12:00 to 12:30. No permit sales after 4 p.m.

WILDFLOWERS: Arrowleaf balsamroot are popping out all over the lower elevation hillsides. White phlox are also dotting the hillsides. It's looking like springtime in the mountains.

WOODCUTTING: Woodcutting season will open on May 2, 2016.

CLOSED -- BOULDER CAVE, BOULDER CAVE DAY USE SITE and TRAIL: Boulder Cave, Boulder Cave Day Use Site, and Trial No. 962 leading to Boulder Cave are closed until further notice to protect the Pacific Western Big-Eared bats that live in the cave. **People will be ticketed entering or using these sites.**

The earliest date Boulder Cave will be **open** to the public is **May 27** depending upon weather, trail conditions and maintenance work at the site.

This highly beneficial species is in rapid decline due to disturbance during hibernation. The big-eared bat is extremely intolerant to human disturbance. Bats must survive the winter months on a limited supply of stored fat; any disturbance that may awaken bats will deplete this food supply resulting in their death. Humans within sight or sound of the bats create sufficient disturbance to awaken them. These bats eat a large amount of mosquitoes which is very beneficial.

Boulder Cave is home to the only known population of Pacific Western Big-Eared bats in this part of Washington State. A small population of 50 bats use Boulder Cave as a winter roosting area. In the 1920s and 1930s, the Boulder Cave bat population numbered in the thousands.

MOTORIZED TRAILS: Due to soft, wet, muddy, snow conditions, motorized use trails are closed until June 15. Trying to reduce resource damage to the trails and surrounding vegetation plus there is a safety factor involved as well. Passenger cars/truck vehicles are allowed on Forest Service roads only, use of ATVs, UTVs or any other off road vehicle is prohibited on Forest Service roads.

Before leaving home, always leave a detailed written trip itinerary with a responsible family member or friend. Washington Trails Association web site (www.wta.org) is also an excellent site for obtaining updates on current trail conditions.

WILDERNESS TRAILS: The snow level is approximately 4,500 feet elevation making access to and hiking on some wilderness trails difficult. Be prepared for winter conditions while visiting any area of the forest. Crow Lake Way Trail is closed until further notice due to extensive flood damage.

CLEAR LAKE DAY USE SITE and trails are closed at this time. The earliest opening date for Clear Lake Day Use to the public is **May 27** depending upon weather, trail conditions and maintenance work at the site.

CAMPGROUNDS: All Naches Ranger District campgrounds are closed at this time. Soda Springs Campground is closed to all public access. Soda Springs Campground has over 70 trees that fell across campground facilities during a fall wind storm. Major damage has occurred to the shelter and campsites.

Campgrounds that accept reservations are now taking reservations for the summer season on www.recreation.gov . Campers may reserve sites up to six months before their planned stay date.

CAMPGROUND HOSTS NEEDED: The Naches Ranger District is seeking campground hosts to work in local campgrounds during the 2016 camping season, usually May through September. To apply, please contact Kevin Hill at the Naches Ranger District office; his phone number is 509-653-1436 and his email is kehill@fs.fed.us .

GROUP RESERVATION SITES: American Ridge Lodge and American River Guard Station group reservation sites are open year-round; there is no access by motorized vehicles to American Ridge Lodge during the winter season due to unsafe road conditions for vehicles. The other group sites have closed for the season. Reservations for group camp sites need to be made through the National Recreation Reservation Service by calling their toll free number 877-444-6777 or by going online to their web site at www.recreation.gov .

Area	Group Reservation Sites	Daily Fee	Registration Fee
Chinook Pass State Route 410	American Ridge Lodge - Open	\$100	\$10
	American River Guard Station - Open	\$ 50	\$10

SNOW: The snow level is approximately 4,500 feet. There are still patches of snow and ice with 1 to 1½ feet or more of snow at the higher elevation areas. Forest Service roads are open for passenger car/truck vehicles and you will see an occasional snowmobiler because of the deep snow. Be aware there is still snow on the roads making them impassable to passenger car/truck vehicles especially on the north facing higher elevation areas of the forest.

The only trail open at this time for hikers is Bear Canyon trail off of U.S. Highway 12, located on Washington State Department of Natural Resource land which requires a Discover Pass.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRAILS: The season is over. Travel alert for motorists, the road closure on State Route 410 has been moved back to mile post 74.5, at Morse Creek. Washington State Department of Transportation started snow removal on State Route 410, on April 4. They are striving to have Chinook Pass open by Memorial Day weekend.

ROADS: U.S. Highway 12 is open, Washington State Department of Transportation has a traffic light that is directing traffic through a single lane near the repaired areas both east and west of White Pass. Drivers can expect delays at the signals.

Please check with the Washington State Department of Transportation for more up to date information on mountain pass roads. The most current updates on mountain pass conditions are available at <http://www.Wsdot.com/traffic/passes> .

BE AWARE -- DAMAGED ROADS THAT REMAIN CLOSED:

Road Name and Number	Damaged Roads that are CLOSED
South Fork Tieton Road No. 1000	The road is damaged about 1½ to 2 miles before Conrad Meadows.
FS Road No. 1040 (Bear Creek area)	The road is damage due to a washout.
Wildcat Road No. 1306	Closed to all motorized traffic because of a 30 foot slump in the road and a large culvert that is eroded and damaged.
Indian Creek Road No. 1308	Closed due to flood waters and large debris that washed out and blocked the last portion of the road to the trailhead.
Little Rattlesnake Road No. 1501	The road has been decommissioned 5.1 miles from the junction of Forest Road 1500/1501 to the junction of Forest Road 1501/1503.
McDaniel Road No. 1502	Closed to all traffic due to bridge damage and road washout.
Gold Creek Road No. 1703	The road has been decommissioned from Milepost 2.0 to 2.1. Areas below the decommissioned area can be accessed via Forest Road 1703. Areas above the decommissioned area can be accessed via Forest Road No. 1705. The road is open to trail users and snowmobiles.

TRAVEL ESSENTIALS: Always be prepared for any kind of weather and/or road conditions. Bring extra clothes, food and water, map, compass and/or GPS, matches, fire starter, pocketknife, first aid kit, sunglasses, flashlight, and extra batteries. Please have extra blankets, a shovel, flares, tire chains, basic tools, and toilet paper in your vehicle.

TONASKET RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is (509) 486-2186.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a 30-minute closure for lunch from 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m.

SNOW: On April 26, 2016 there was 13 inches of snow at Salmon Meadows at 4,460 feet elevation and 17 inches at Muckamuck snotel site located at 4,470 feet elevation. Although snow has been melting at a rapid rate in Tonasket Valley, please be prepared for mud and soft road conditions as snow continues to melt in higher elevations.

SNO- PARKS are closed, since the season has now ended. Roads and trails will no longer be groomed.

SPRING SIGHTINGS: We've received reports of buttercups starting to appear in the forest on south-facing slopes. Watch for flowers blooming as you drive to the forest. At lower elevations look for balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza sagittaria*). This large yellow flower blooms in dry open slopes, primarily on south facing exposures. The woodland stars (*Lithophragma parviflorum*) are starting to bloom in the valley, and should soon start to appear at higher elevations in dry habitat.

CAMPGROUNDS: Sugarloaf, Crawfish, Bonaparte, Lost Lake, Beth Lake, Beaver Lake, Oriolle, Kerr, and Cottonwood campgrounds are now open! All other district campgrounds remain closed because they are snow covered or impassable due to heavy snow on roads. No amenities are provided, so remember to bring drinking water and toilet paper and pack out all garbage. Please do not park vehicles in front of the locked gates at campground entrances. Also, be aware that area closures with a physical barrier and lock are there for your own safety, please do not break the locks or force barriers open.

The group site at Lost Lake Campground is closed until May 14. Reservations may still be made for dates after that time. This site is generally booked far in advance. Please make your reservations early. Go online at www.recreation.gov or call 877-444-6777 to reserve the Lost Lake group campsite. All other campsites on the Tonasket District are available on a first-come, first-serve basis with no reservation needed.

ROAD CLOSURES: Two road closures are in effect due to hazards resulting from the North Star Fire and the Okanogan Complex Fires. Go to the forest interactive closure map at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/okawen/alerts-notice/?aid=30418> for closure locations. Please call 509-486-2186 for more information or visit our website <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/okawen/home>.

ROADS: Use caution when traveling on narrow forest roads. Most forest roads are still covered in snow and or ice. Please exercise caution on wet or muddy forest roads. As snow continues to melt it could pose a great danger when exiting the area resulting in your vehicle becoming stuck. Most areas marked open have

also been marked as *vehicle travel not recommended and proceed with caution*. If you feel unsure about road conditions, please call the Tonasket Ranger District office for additional information or visit Washington State Department of Transportation's website www.wsdot.wa.gov.

Be sure to look at the free Okanogan National Forest Travel Plan Map for more information (available at national forest offices or online at <http://go.usa.gov/64Kk>). Some closures are year round and this Travel Plan can help you know where you can go.

Road Number and Name	Condition
3200 Bonaparte Lake to Beaver Lake	Open
3200-050 Strawberry Mountain	Open
3230 Henderson Creek/Mill Creek	Open
3235 Phoebe Mountain (Burge Mtn.)	Open
3300 Meyers Creek and 3300-100 Spur Mountain Road to Lost Lake	Open from Havilla to Lost Lake. Expect icy conditions so drive carefully.
34 Four Corners to Chesaw	Open
30 Aeneas/Crawfish	Open. Snow Covered.
3000	Open. Snow covered, vehicle travel is not recommended; proceed with caution.
3000-200 Aeneas Valley to Tunk Mtn.	Open. Snow covered, vehicle travel is not recommended; proceed with caution.
3000-285	Open. Snow covered, vehicle travel is not recommended; proceed with caution.
3000-290	Open. Snow covered, vehicle travel is not recommended; proceed with caution.
3000-100 Dugout Mountain Road	Open. Snow covered, vehicle travel is not recommended; proceed with caution.
3000-100 Barnell Meadow	Closed until June 15.
3115-100 West Fork Sanpoil Road	Closed from the end of Aeneas Valley Road to the Colville Indian Reservation on the east side of the ranger district.
3120 Coco Mt Road	Open. Snow covered.
3125 Gardner Creek Road	Open
3575-120 Cow Camp Road	Open
37 Middle Salmon to Boulder Creek to 3700 West Fork	Closed due to a sinkhole in the road.
3800 North Fork Salmon Creek	Open. Snow covered.
3800-025 Ray Road/Muckamuck	Open. Snow covered. Proceed with caution.
3810	Open. Snow covered. Proceed with caution.
3820 Lone Frank Pass	Open. Snow covered. Proceed with caution.
39 Toats Coulee to Long Swamp	Open. Snow covered. Proceed with caution.
3900-100 14 Mile	Open. Snow covered. Impassable.
3900-500 Iron Gate	Open. Snow covered. Impassable.
4200 southwest of Conconully	Closed . South Fork Salmon Creek is closed due to a washout.

WOODCUTTING PERMITS: Permits are available for purchase at the Tonasket Ranger District office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. They are also available at The Tonasket Junction and North 40 in Omak, during normal business hours and on weekends. **These permits may only be used for cutting firewood on the Tonasket Ranger District.** Wood cutting permits are non-refundable. Please review the updated Firewood Removal Guide Map, for more information.

TRAILS: Whistler Canyon Trail No. 100, Schalow Mountain Trail No. 361, Beth Lake Trail No. 361, and Beaver Lake Trail are now open. Snow continues to cover all district trails. With predicted sunshine and warmer weather, we anticipate more trails will be ready to open by, early May. A portion of the Pacific Northwest Trail No. 340 is closed until further notice due to Newby Lake Fire damage. This trail is in the extreme northeast corner of the Pasayten Wilderness. Please call 509-486-2186 for more information. Go to the forest website at <http://go.usa.gov/8fKA> for a complete list of trails and directions.

WENATCHEE RIVER RANGER DISTRICT

The office phone number is (509) 548-2550.

SPRING OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. **Starting May 16,** the Leavenworth office will be open 7:45 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Saturday for the Enchantment permitting season.

NO THROUGH ACCESS ALLOWED AT LEAVENWORTH COMPOUND: There is no public access through the ranger station compound, all gates are locked because of safety issues and vandalism.

SNOW: Snow is melting at lower elevations. As you increase in elevation snow continues to get deeper. Be prepared for snow covered roads and bring appropriate tools for vehicles that get stuck. Remember, if you get stuck in the snow you will need to call a tow truck, the forest service cannot tow private vehicles.

Most forest roads are still snow covered and as they melt out become soft, muddy and easily damaged. Please tread lightly and avoid traveling on muddy and snow covered roads to help prevent long term damage to the road surface.

WEATHER: Go to www.NOAA.gov for current weather conditions; use zip code **98826** for conditions in the Leavenworth and Lake Wenatchee areas. Remember, weather conditions change rapidly.

CAMPGROUNDS: All campgrounds along Icicle Road are closed with the exception of Eightmile and Bridge Creek campgrounds which are now open. Little Wenatchee River and White River campgrounds, plus most campgrounds in the Chiwawa River area, are closed until May 1. Although these campgrounds are closed, visitors are still able to camp in the campgrounds but no services are provided. Remember to bring drinking water, toilet paper and pack out all garbage.

- Please do not park vehicles in front of locked gates at campground entrances.
- Check road conditions before traveling, some roads leading to these sites suffered storm damage.

Campground Name	Status
Tumwater	CLOSED indefinitely due to flood hazard potential. No camping permitted.
Nason Creek	OPENING on Friday, April 29
Goose Creek	CLOSED for the winter season, no camping permitted.
Meadow Creek	CLOSED for the winter season, no camping permitted.
Grouse Creek Group Camp	CLOSED for the winter season, no camping permitted.

CAMPGROUND RESERVATION SITES: To reserve one of the large group sites at Eightmile, Bridge Creek, Chatter Creek, and Grouse Creek Campgrounds, or campsites at Eightmile Campground, please call the National Reservation line at 1-877-444-6777 or via the Internet at www.recreation.gov . Reservations may be made up to one year in advance but cannot be made less than seven days from the stay date.

TRAILS & ROADS: It is still winter in the high country. Forest visitors will encounter snow and winter conditions on all forest trails and roads. Good resources to check for recent postings and conditions from fellow hikers are www.NWHikers.net, www.WTA.org and www.Cascadeclimbers.com.

The gate on the road at Bridge Creek, which leads to the Eightmile and Colchuck/Stuart Lake trailheads, is locked for the spring and will remain locked until the snow has melted and conditions are good enough to allow motor vehicle use without causing damage to the road. Be prepared to hike 3.5 miles to the trailhead until further notice.

Trail Name	Trail No.	Status
Rock Mountain	1587	Not maintained. Expect winter conditions.
Ingalls Creek	1215	Not maintained, snow free for approximately 6 miles.
Mission Ridge	1201	The lower trailhead is accessible, the upper trailhead is still under snow.
Devils Gulch	1220	Not maintained. Upper Devil's Gulch Trailhead is open.
Little Wenatchee	1525	Little Wenatchee Road No. 6500 is gated closed at the quarry.
Nason Ridge	1583	Not maintained. Nason Trailhead is open.
Heather Lake	1526	Little Wenatchee Road No. 6500 is gated closed.
Top Lake	1506	Inaccessible due to snow, not maintained, expect winter conditions.
Minotaur Lake	1517	Inaccessible due to snow, not maintained, expect winter conditions.
Chiwaukum	1571	Open, no dispersed camping in the trailhead area, not maintained, expect winter conditions.
Fourth of July	1579	The trailhead is accessible, not maintained, expect winter conditions.
Hatchery Creek	1557	Closed due to safety concerns resulting from the 2014 Chiwaukum Fire.
Phelps Creek	1511	Inaccessible due to snow, not maintained, expect winter conditions.
Eightmile	1552	Eightmile Road No. 7601 is gated closed until May 15, not maintained, expect winter conditions.
Stuart & Colchuck	1599/1599A	Eightmile Road No. 7601 is gated closed until May 15, not maintained, expect winter conditions.
Snow Lakes	1553	The trailhead is accessible, not maintained, expect winter conditions near Snow Lake.
Icicle Creek		Not maintained, expect winter conditions.

Road Name	Road No.	Status
Beehive	9712	The gate is open.
No. 2 Canyon		The gate remains closed until May 15; wildlife closure.
Mission Creek Rd	7100	The gate on Peavine Road is closed.
Tronson Meadow	7240	There is snow on the road on the upper reaches.
Icicle Road	7600	The gate is closed to vehicles at Bridge Creek junction leading to the Enchantments. Icicle road is open to Rock Island Campground (approx. 17 miles).
Derby Canyon	7400-7401	The gate is closed at Derby Canyon Road No. 7400. Road No. 7401 will remain open approximately 1.5 miles.
Chiwawa Road System	6200	The roadway is open 3 miles up from Meadow Creek junction, then snowed in.
	6208-200	Snowed in at the junction of Road 6208.
	6208	Snowed in 1 mile up.
	6209	Snowed in before the Road 111 junction.
	6300	Meadow Creek Road is open to the junction with Road 6306.
Little Wenatchee	6500	The gate at the quarry is locked.
White River	6400	The road is closed by snow beyond Tall Timbers.

Note: Please do not park vehicles in front of any gates whether they are open or closed!

ENCHANTMENT PERMITS: NEW! To protect the Enchantments area from overuse, the Wenatchee River Ranger District has expanded its limited entry overnight permit season for the entire Enchantment Permit Area within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Permits for overnight stays will be required from **May 15 through October 31**. The gate at Bridge Creek junction will open May 15 for vehicles traveling up to the Eightmile and Stewart trailheads.

Remember when purchasing permits online you must list your alternate group leaders, **this will be your only opportunity to do so.**

Four parking passes are provided with each awarded overnight permit. Wilderness party size is limited to eight and no overnight camping in excess of 14 days is allowed. Permits can be printed from your computer two weeks prior to your hike, no changes to existing permit can be made once permits are printed.

For more information please go to the [Enchantments Permits webpage](#).

Wilderness self-registration day hiking permits are still required and available at Alpine Lakes Wilderness trailheads. A Northwest Forest Pass for your vehicle is required at trailheads accessing the Enchantments; these passes are available at Enchantment trailheads, at many businesses in Leavenworth, and at the Wenatchee River Ranger Station. **Be prepared for all types of weather conditions.**

RECREATION PASSES are required at the following trailheads on the Wenatchee River Ranger District.

This list includes only the trailhead names and does not show each individual trail.

Basalt Ridge	Hidden Lake	Red Hill
Buck Creek (Trinity)	Ingalls Creek	Rock Creek
Blackpine	Icicle Creek	Round Mountain
Chiwaukum Creek	Icicle Gorge	Snow Lakes
Devil's Gulch (Lower)	Jack/Trout	Stuart Lake
Dirtyface	Little Wenatchee	Twin Lakes
Eightmile	Lower Chiwawa	White River
Estes Butte	Nason Ridge	

Recreation day use passes cost \$5 per vehicle per day or \$30 for an annual **Northwest Forest Pass**. Passes are available locally at the Wenatchee River Ranger District office, Dan's Market, Leavenworth 76 gas stations on Highway 2 and at Icicle Junction, Der Sportsman, Sleeping Lady Gift Shop, and Pioneer Market in Cashmere. In the Lake Wenatchee area, passes are available at Midway Village, Parkside Grocery and Plain Hardware. **Interagency Passes** are also honored at trailheads and are available for purchase at all ranger district offices.

