

NEWS



Forest Service

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Lassen National Forest

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Campsites Are a Sure Catch in Lassen National Forest

The Lassen National Forest will soon open over 350 camping sites near prime fishing waters in support of the 2009 Fishing Season. Lassen National Forest personnel have prepared campgrounds for anglers and spring campers along Deer Creek and Hat Creek. Forest Service Officials project there will be more than enough camping sites available to meet the anticipated demand by the April 25 opening day of trout season.

Deer Creek's Alder, Elam, and Potato Patch campgrounds opened April 17th. Gurnsey Creek campground opened April 22, with limited services and reduced fees. Almanor campground is open without services such as water and garbage pickup, thus no fees will be charged at this time. Services will become available as daily temperatures increase and piped water doesn't freeze at night. Please be prepared for low night time temperatures in the high 20's and low 30's. Battle Creek and Hole in the Ground campgrounds, near Mineral, will open mid May. Higher elevation campsites may not open until June.

All Forest Service campgrounds along Hat Creek will be open by April 25. The Old Station Visitor Center will open April 25 and is located at the junction of Highway 44 and Highway 89, across the highway from Hat Creek. The center will be staffed for weekend visitors Saturday and Sunday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The center will begin a summer schedule in mid-June and be open seven days a week. The friendly staff is ready to provide the public insightful sightseeing, fishing and camping information.

The Forest Service would like to remind anglers to review the 2009 Freshwater Sport Fishing Regulations Handbook for possible restrictions. One such restriction requires the use of artificial

lures with barbless hooks be used on Deer Creek from 250 feet below Upper Deer Creek Falls downstream 31 miles. This booklet is available at many fishing supply retail outlets. It is also posted on the web at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/>

The remaining Lassen National Forest Campgrounds are projected to open for Memorial Day weekend as road conditions permit. Additionally, dispersed camping is allowed on the Lassen National Forest. Visitors are reminded to keep their vehicles on existing roadways and not travel cross country; this protects sensitive areas, resources and also prevents potential damage to your vehicles. Be sure to contact the nearest Forest Service Office for additional information and possible area closures. Campers are reminded when camping in areas away from developed campgrounds a California Campfire Permit is required. These permits are issued free of charge and can be picked up at any CAL FIRE, Bureau of Land Management, or Forest Service office.

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