

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 to make handouts and forest information available to the public during non-office hours. Winter office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **The office is closed daily for lunch from noon to 1 p.m.** No permit sales after 4 p.m.

TRAILS: Many district trails remain snow covered especially at higher elevations.

- **Sand Ridge Trail No. 1104** is snow free and cleared for 3 miles then snow patches increasing to a continuous snow 4 feet deep starting at mile point 3.5.
- **Shellrock Trail No. 1142** has extended patches of snow increasing to 3 feet deep from the junction with Sand Ridge then continuous snow over 5 feet deep.
- **McAllister Trail No. 1109** has over 5 feet of snow from Sand Ridge junction to the junction with Indian Creek Trail.

Other locations for those wanting to hike now include Cowiche Canyon in the Yakima area and Ellensburg Canyon. Many of the trails at lower elevations on or bordering the national forest are muddy due to melting snow and recent rains. Please refrain from using these trails until they have dried out.

MOTORIZED TRAILS: Motorized trails on the Naches Ranger District remain closed. The primary objectives of the closure are to minimize trail and resource damage and to reduce annual maintenance needs stemming from use during the wet season. The decision applies to all trails with any type of motorized designation on the Naches Ranger District.

Selected closure dates are based on weather information and existing trail conditions. Sections that have melted out remain extremely wet. Depending on weather and drying conditions, trails in different areas may open earlier or later than June 15th.

Officially sponsored volunteer groups are doing trail maintenance during the closure period. This will help ensure trails are ready to ride when they open. These volunteers will also help the ranger district know when trails are ready to open.

Information will be made available through signing on major roads, through news releases, radio announcements, and web site notices. These same communication methods will be used to inform the public as trails open.

The Naches Ranger Station will continue to assess the effectiveness of the spring motorized trail closure with regard to the intent of protecting trails and reducing annual maintenance needs. The district will also look for methods to improve and standardize volunteer and public trail condition reports in order to make efficient and effective decisions regarding trail openings.

WATCH OUT FOR... Ticks, there are loads of them out this spring! Rivers and streams are running high with the quickly melting snowpack; please stay away from river banks. Also, keep children away from swollen rivers and streams.

BUMPING ROAD: Bumping River Road No. 1800 is now open to street legal motorized vehicles. However, the road is still covered by snow so expect to encounter snowshoers and skiers on the roadway—PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY and RESPONSIBLY.

Deep Creek Road No. 1808 remains closed to all motorized use at the rock pit, approximately three quarters of a mile past the new bridge. The road will be re-opening to vehicle traffic once repairs are completed in late spring or early summer.

2012 FLOOD REPAIR PROJECTS: In May 2011, the Naches and Cle Elum Ranger Districts experienced major flood events impacting 40 roads, multiple campgrounds, and other recreational areas. The flood damage was so extensive the Forest Service general funds were not sufficient to repair the damaged areas.

In June 2011, the forest received grant funds from Federal Lands Highway Department to help repair flood damage. Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads (ERFO) is making it possible for the Naches and Cle Elum Districts to begin to plan and implement flood repair projects. The intent of the ERFO program is to defray unusually heavy expenses associated with the repair of federally owned roads damaged by natural disaster or catastrophic failure.

The Naches and Cle Elum Districts have created an ERFO Team, consisting of specialists and planners, to work on the 10 most heavily damaged road sites on both districts. The team plans to work on five projects this year and five more in 2013.

The five 2012 ERFO flood repair sites were picked based on the extent of damage and the urgency to address vehicular access. Following is a list of these sites and their locations.

- Forest Service Road No. 1808 at mile post 4.2 on the Naches District (located at T15N, R12E, Section 16). Plans are to begin repairs on Deep Creek Road No. 1808 once weather conditions allow.
- Forest Service Road No. 1601 at mile post 0.3 on the Naches District (located at T16N, R15E, Section 30).
- Forest Service Road No. 3120 at mile post 4.0 on the Cle Elum District (located at T18N, R15E, Section 10).
- 3100 Road System including mile post 0.9, 1.0, 1.1, 1.6, and 2.2 on the Cle Elum District (located at T17N, R16E, Section 14 and Section 10).
- Forest Service Road No. 3100 at mile post 10.4 on the Cle Elum District (located at T18N, R15E, Section 22).

For a more detailed overview of repairs go to www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/okawen and click on Naches or Cle Elum “Find an Area,” then click on the 2012 Flood Repair Projects.

DAY USE SITES ARE OPEN: Clear Lake and Boulder Cave Day Use sites are open for the season. Both sites are fee areas and require a \$5 per vehicle fee. Northwest Forest Pass, Interagency Senior, Access, Annual, and Military Passes can be used in lieu of paying a fee. For those visiting Boulder Cave please use the trail and when in the cave stay on the trail, keep noise to a whisper and shine lights on the trail and not on the walls or ceiling of the cave.

CAMPGROUNDS: Campgrounds on the district are currently open.

Open Concessionaire operated campgrounds:

- Hause Creek, Indian Creek, Willows, Windy Point, Cottonwood – Hoodoo.com
- American Forks, Upper and Lower Bumping, Cedar Springs, Little Naches, Pleasant Valley, Sawmill Flat, Soda Springs – Hoodoo.com
- Lodepole, Pleasant Valley and Hells Crossing have not been cleared – Hoodoo.com

Open Forest Service operated campgrounds:

- Peninsula, South Fork Bay, Tieton Pond, Clear Lake North, Clear Lake South, Indian Creek Dispersed, South Fork Tieton (Jay Hawk, Lower Bake Oven, Upper Bake Oven, Minnie Meadows, Bumping Lake Boat Launch, Crow Creek, Halfway Flat, Halfway Flat Dispersed, Kaner Flat, Long Meadow, Longmire, Ponderosa – Naches Ranger District
- Dog Lake will open on **June 7**
- Leech Lake at White Pass will open on **June 14**

FOREST MAPS: Naches Ranger District Fire Maps and Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest (Central Cascades) maps may be purchased at Grumpy’s Outdoor Store, 2318 South First Street, in Yakima.

GROUP RESERVATION SITES: All Group Reservation sites are managed by the Forest Service and require a reservation through the www.recreation.gov website. There are NO discounts on group sites.

Area	Group Reservation Sites	Daily Fee	Registration Fee
State Route 410 Chinook Pass	American Ridge Lodge is open	\$100	\$10
Chinook Pass	Indian Flat -- open	\$100	\$10
Chinook Pass	Pine Needle -- open	\$50	\$10
Chinook Pass	American River Guard Station is open	\$50	\$10
Chinook Pass	Salmon Cove -- open	\$50	\$10
Chinook Pass	Kaner Flat -- open	\$60	\$10
Highway 12 White Pass	South Fork Tieton -- open	\$60	\$10
White Pass	Clear Lake North -- open	\$60	\$10