

National Park Service Department of the Interior

Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area Obed Wild & Scenic River



Big South Fork

National River & Recreation Area

Jobs! Jobs! Jobs! Both parks will soon be accepting applications for protection rangers, park guides, and a cultural resource program manager. Check out www.usajobs.gov if you are interested. Search by state, choose Tennessee or Kentucky and see what shows up. Narrow your search by Agency and choose Department of Interior.

Photographers wanted. The entry deadline for the park's 1st annual photo contest is July 21, 2015. Up to 3 photos may be submitted in the following categories: Action/Adventure, Artistic, Cultural, Flora & Fauna, Kentucky Landscapes, Tennessee Landscapes, and Youth. Selected images will be printed for an exhibit at Bandy Creek Visitor Center. Entry information is available on our website at <http://www.nps.gov/biso/photosmultimedia/biso-photo-contest.htm>.

Comments sought for Contaminated Mine Drainage Clean-up. In conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the park is developing and Environmental Assessment for remediation of selected contaminated mine drainage sites on the Kentucky side of the park. Comments regarding this issue can be sent to the park until January 15. For more information, call Park Headquarters at 423-569-9778.

With so many activities to choose from, it's easy to resolve to spend more time with us in 2015!

- Free camping at Alum Ford, Rock Creek and in the backcountry on 1/19, 2/14-16, 4/18-19, 8/25, 9/26, & 11/11.
- Cultural Programs & Festivals— Memories of the Obed, Decoration Day at Blue Heron, Spring Planting & Storytelling Festivals
- Children's Programs — preschool story time, scavenger hunts, Junior Ranger, fishing, climbing, storytelling
- Ranger Talks — porch talks and fireside chats at Bandy Creek, and Coffee at the Obed
- Ranger-led programs and hikes
- Scenic railroad trips to Blue Heron
- Volunteering at clean-up days or with *Trail Keepers*
- Hunting, fishing, and trapping
- Recreation — hiking, rock climbing, mountain biking, horseback riding, swimming, kayaking and canoeing
- Primitive weaponry workshops
- Stargazing
- Art in the Parks — photo exhibitions, artist in residence, music

Bandy Creek Visitor Center
(423) 286-7275 or visit us at:
www.nps.gov/biso
Twitter@BigSouthForkNRR

Obed Wild and Scenic River

Get fit this year without a gym membership. The Obed begins a series of ranger-led, *Healthy Hikes* to get fit and enjoy the park at the same time. Our first hike is 3.8 miles on the Point Trail with Ranger Hall. Meet in the Lilly Overlook parking area on Saturday January 10 at 1 pm (ET). Bring plenty of water and anything else needed for the hike. Well behaved dogs on leashes are also welcome. No reservation needed. Commitment to participate in future hikes is also not required, but we sure would love for you to join us as often as you can.



Mountain bikers (pictured above at the Bandy Creek Visitor Center) ring in the new year biking the Grand Gap Loop.

Chilly nights are just right for stargazing. January's long nights make it a great month for observing the wonders of the night sky. The Milky Way can be viewed in the Obed on any clear night. Check out www.darksky.org for more information.

Next Primitive Bow Workshop is on Thursday, January 15th at 5 pm (ET) in the Obed Visitor Center. Attendees will get to help in the process of building a primitive bow and ask questions about other primitive weapons.

Obed Visitor Center
(423) 346-6294 or visit us at:
www.nps.gov/obed
Twitter@ObedWSR