National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area



GO BIG 2025 Lightning Challenge Spring Season: March 20 - June 19



Complete the Lightning Challenge activities and submit to one of the parks' visitor centers. Earn 25 points to receive a Spring sticker. Collect all four seasons to earn the 100-point GO BIG patch.

Spring Forth on the Trails

Points earned for miles must be completed on trails, riverways, or designated use areas at Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area, Obed Wild & Scenic River, and Manhattan Project National Historic Park during the spring season.

• 1 Point for every mile hiked, pedaled, or paddled in the spring season._____:Total miles

• **1 Point** for every mile riding equestrian at Big South Fork in the spring season._____ :Total miles

Waking Up with Nature

Camp in the parks this spring and enjoy life blooming all around you! Reservations may be made by calling 877-444-6777, or online at www.recreation.gov.

10 Points per permit: Obtain a permit and go backcountry camping at Big South Fork or Obed this spring. Permits can be obtained at Bandy Creek Visitor Center, Obed Visitor Center, or online at www.pay.gov. ______ :Total points

• **5.** 10 Points per camping trip: Go camping at one of Big South Fork's campgrounds this spring.

_____:Total points

• **5**10 Points: Go camping at Rock Creek Campground at Obed this spring. _____: Total points

Every Season Gives a Reason to Go Big in the Parks!

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Birds of a Feather Migrate Together

• 1 Point each: See how many birds you can identify while out in the parks. Give yourself one point for each species you can correctly identify visually or by its song. Each bird species is counted only once. Species: _____

: Total points for spring birding

Critters in Abundance

• **3 Points:** Spring brings increased human activity in the parks, which can disrupt bat populations. How can visitors minimize their impact on roosting and foraging bats, and why is it important to protect bat populations? Answer:

Blooming Plants

• **A Points:** Eastern hemlocks at Big South Fork and Obed bloom in spring but face infestation by invasive woolly adelgids. They are being treated to prevent spread. Locate one of these trees within the parks. Does it look like it has an infestation? Do you notice any markings that could indicate treatment?

Observation:

• **A Points:** In spring, wildflowers bloom in vibrant colors. While visiting, note their colors and any distribution patterns you see.

Safety is a Breath of Fresh Air

• **2 Points:** Big South Fork and Obed value their healthy bear population. Keep bears wild by storing food and scented items properly. Name five items that should go in a bear box, canister, or bear bag while camping. Answer: _____

• **2** Points: Take a photo of you and your "beary" clean campsite and email it to **biso_challenge@nps.gov**.



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SPRING QUEST TOTAL POINTS — **È**, means location is fully accessible.

