



Lake Roosevelt Visitor Guide

June 2006 to May 2007

Fort Spokane Living History is Back!

After a two-year absence one of the park's most popular programs is back. Living History has returned to the historic grounds of Fort Spokane. Come join us as we explore life at Fort Spokane in the 1880s when it was a military post. Discover what it was like for new recruits, seasoned soldiers and those civilians supporting life at the frontier post. Observe practice drill and firing of the mountain howitzer cannon and the 1873 Springfield "Trapdoor" rifles.

Programs are every Sunday morning, during the summer, at 11:00 a.m. in front of the Guardhouse/Visitor Center and last approximately 1 hour.

Your Fees at Work

Since the creation of Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area in 1946, a total of 27 campgrounds, 22 boat launches and courtesy docks, and an assortment of picnic areas, swim beaches, trails, and marinas have been built and are being maintained by the National Park Service.

Through the years it became difficult to get funding to maintain quality services not only at Lake Roosevelt, but in the other

nearly 400 units that make up the National Park System. In 1996, to address these needs, Congress directed Federal land management agencies to implement the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program. Previous to 1996, the majority of recreation fees collected at park entrances, campgrounds, boat launches, etc. was returned to the U. S. Treasury. ***Under the Fee Demo initiative, 100% of the fees generated at Lake Roosevelt's campgrounds and launch ramps will be used here at the park.*** Un-

der this concept, visitors will directly support services and facilities enjoyed during their visit to that specific National Park Service area.

Approximately \$381,000.00 collected from campground and launch fees was retained at Lake Roosevelt in 2005. Here are just two examples of where your fee money is being spent in Fiscal Year 2006:

Improvements at Gifford and Kamloops

Regular visitors to the Gifford campground courtesy dock area may have noticed some changes taking place. The park's maintenance crew is disassembling the three current docks and using their parts to create one larger, more stable dock. The project has two goals: to make the docks accessible at lower lake levels and to make it more user friendly.

The current courtesy docks at Gifford are accessible down to the 1283' lake level. Where it is feasible, the park intends to make all the courtesy docks accessible to the 1278' lake level. Last year they lowered the courtesy docks at Hunter's campground, but not all the park's docks will be lowered. The shoreline is the deciding factor of which docks will be lowered. A steep shoreline would mean an unacceptably steep gangway. A gradual descent to the water would make the gangway too long. For sites that have suitable shorelines the first priority is to lower docks at high use areas.

The configuration of the dock at Gifford is also changing. The previous docks were long and narrow, but the new dock will have "fingers" coming off each side. This will make the dock more stable in windy conditions and allow for the same number of boats to use the one dock that used all three old docks.

Kamloops campground looks a little different these days as well. This past fall and winter the park's maintenance crew has made some improvements for your safety and convenience. The on-lane road was

widened so drivers no longer have to pull off the road at the corners to let others pass. The entrance was also squared up to the county road to allow for better visibility.

For convenience the campsites were also widened, made more level and new fire rings were installed. Site number one was made compliant with the Americans Disability Act (ADA). The picnic table and fire ring are now wheelchair accessible. The pad was widened to 20 feet and crushed gravel was added to make the entire site more accessible.

Finger docks at Evans

2 Park Information

Where are the visitor centers? When are they open? How much does it cost to camp or launch a boat? Do I need a fishing license? Look on page 2 to get the details.

4 Safety

Going boating and need to know what's required to legally boat on Lake Roosevelt? Wondering where you can hunt in the Recreation Area? The answers are on page 4.

5 Things to Do

When and where are the ranger programs? Where do I get a Junior Ranger paper? Where can I hike in the park? Are there any special events going on in the park? Find the answers on page 5.

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