



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ozark National Scenic Riverways

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Ozark National Scenic Riverways News Release

For Immediate Release

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Lower Current River Below Flood Stage and Open to Floaters Many Big Spring Areas Now Open for Public Access after Flooding

Van Buren, MO – Ozark National Scenic Riverways announces that water levels on the Lower Current River have dropped below flood stage and this section of river is now open to floaters. However, these Big Spring areas and accesses remain **CLOSED**:

- Campground Loops 300 -600
- Group Camp Site #2
- Big Spring Concrete River Access #2
- Big Tree
- Cedar Spring
- Grubb
- Gooseneck
- Hickory
- Clubhouse
- Cataract
- Panther Spring

The park's Lower Current River District bore the brunt of the flooding that began April 24. The damaged roadways were the main hindrance into the Big Spring area. The flooding especially damaged the roadway culvert leading into the Big Spring Campground.



Big Spring Roadway Culvert Damaged

“Before any park areas are open, we want to insure all areas are safe for the visiting public,” stated Superintendent Reed Detring. With the river levels dropping and the saturated ground drying out, the park staff has made tremendous progress over the last seven days especially on the roadways. Due to their efforts, numerous areas are now **OPEN**:

- Visitor Contact Station in Van Buren (Open daily 8:00 – 4:30)
- Big Spring Cabins and the Big Spring Lodge
- Big Spring Day Use Area: Big Spring, parking lot, pavilion, walkway, restrooms, and trail
- Big Spring River Access #1
- Chubb Hollow
- Peavine Pavilion
- Big Spring Campground Loops 100 - 200
- Big Spring Group Camp Site #1
- Pin Oak
- Chilton Creek River Access
- Raft Yard
- Waymeyer

All of the Upper Current River District areas are **OPEN** between Baptist and Jerktail.

Many of the Jacks Fork River District areas to Two Rivers, **INCLUDING THE ALLEY SPRING FLOATER ACCESS** are **OPEN, EXCEPT**:

- Alley Spring Campground Concrete River Access
- Paint Rock
- Roberts Field

Due to the road conditions to the park’s outlying river accesses, the public is advised to drive carefully and use high clearance vehicles. River accesses are very soft and floaters are advised to use caution when launching.

For more information, phone (573) 323-4236 during daily business hours 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, or visit the park’s website at www.nps.gov/ozar. Ozark National Scenic Riverways preserves the free-flowing Current and Jacks Fork Rivers, the surrounding natural resources, and the unique cultural heritage of the Ozark people.

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