

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

1) PERMITS

All permit changes, cancellations, and new permit allocations are processed per the BLM.

Definitions:

Reservation or Award: A pending trip, unpaid and unconfirmed; Party size allocated during application process, e.g., Lottery, April Give-Away, Competitive call-in

Permit: A confirmed trip; all spaces (party size) have been paid for @ \$10/person

Party Size/Space: Total number of people on a permit/each person on a Permit

Lottery Applications:

The Rogue River permit lottery available ONLY on Recreation.gov

- Open Application period: Dec 01 – Jan 31; \$6 application fee
- Feb 10 auto-response: Successful/Unsuccessful notices sent via email
- Acquire the Permit: LOTTERY AWARD:CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS

New Reservations:

April Give-Away: available AFTER the Lottery

- Open Application period: First five (5) business days in April
- Competitive Call-in: 8am – 3pm, Phone calls only 541-479-3735

Open Season:

- New Permit allocation: May 05 – October 15
- Competitive Call-in: 8am – 3pm, Phone calls only 541-479-3735
- Walk-in/ Waiting list: Day of Launch ONLY, based on open spaces

Additions/ Cancellations:

Add SPACES:

- Available for existing AWARD, RESERVATION, or PERMIT
- Available during April Give-Away or Open Season times ONLY
- Competitive Call-in: 8am – 3pm, Phone calls only 541-479-3735

Cancel an AWARD, RESERVATION, or SPACES:

- Email [Rogue River mail](mailto:RogueRiverMail@blm.gov) anytime or May 05 – Oct 15, call 541-479-3735
List Party Leader, Launch Date, and Party Size. An email will be returned confirming your cancellation and release of your spaces.

Cancel a PERMIT

- Deadline for PERMIT cancellation (all spaces): Day before launch by 3pm
- Feb 10 – May 04: Email [Rogue River mail](mailto:RogueRiverMail@blm.gov) (preferred)
May 05 – Oct 15: Email (preferred), call 541-479-3735, fax 541-479-0535
List Party Leader, Launch Date, and Party Size. An email will be returned confirming your cancellation and release of your spaces.

Penalties:

Penalty:

- Failure to cancel an entire PERMIT (all spaces) by cancellation deadline.
- Action: Party Leader will be recorded on the “No-Show” Penalty List.
Listed Party Leader will be unable to control a permit for the remainder of the year and all of the next year, including the lottery.

No Penalty:

- Non-Confirmation/non-payment of Reservation or Awards.
- Cancelling spaces on a permit at any time.

2) **PORTABLE TOILET SYSTEMS/Human Waste Removal System (HWRS)**

All river groups are required to have and be prepared to use an approved Toilet System for disposal and removal of all solid human waste.

Toilet System specifications:

- A dedicated system used for human waste; cannot be used to store supplies.
- Reusable, washable, watertight, with a screw-on or latching gasket lid. Snap-on lids and RV toilets are NOT acceptable.
- Approved Pouch Toilet Systems: Biffy Bag, CleanWaste bags, ReStop2 bags. A watertight container must be dedicated to storing used pouches.

Toilet System capacity:

- Must accommodate your entire group for the entire length of your trip.
- Capacity requirements are 1 pint per person per day.
(Days on river) X (People in group) = capacity needed in pints
E.g., 5 days X 10 people = 50-pint capacity needed
<https://www.blm.gov/roqueriver>, Toilet Guide

Toilet systems must be accessible during the day on the river.

- If a group splits during the day, each sub-group must have a Toilet System that can accommodate their sub-group size.

Toilet systems must be set up within 30 minutes of arrival at camp.

- It must be out of the boat, easily accessible to the group, and away from the central camp area unless a government (pit) toilet is on site.
- Disposal of human waste while on the river must be in a toilet system, pit toilet, or lodge toilet.
- Disposal of urine is acceptable in the river, in a toilet system, pit toilet, or lodge toilet. Please avoid urinating on shore or near campsites and trails.

Human Waste disposal POST-TRIP:

- Disposal of untreated solid human waste in landfills is illegal and a biohazard. Toilet systems may only be emptied at the SCAT machine and RV Dump stations.
- A SCAT machine is available at Foster Bar for disposing of human waste and cleaning your toilet system for \$1. The SCAT machine CANNOT dispose of baby wipes, paper towels, trash, etc. as they will cause it to jam. Please store and dispose of these products separately.
- Disposal of approved Pouch Toilet Systems are legal in trash cans or dumpsters.

3) **FIRES & COOKING REGULATIONS**

Fire Restrictions may change, updates are available by calling Smullin Visitor Center at Rand. Current fire regulations will be reviewed at permit check-in.

- Fire pans are required year-round for all campfires built within 400 feet of the river.
 - Pack-out all trash and fire debris.
 - Scavenged wood must be dead and down. Cutting wood is prohibited.
- Cooking on gas and propane stoves is allowed. Cooking on charcoal briquettes or over a wood fire in a raised fire pan may be permitted based on current fire restrictions.
- A shovel and bucket (minimum 1 gallon capacity) are required per party.
- Fireworks are prohibited.

4) **Oregon State LAWS & REGULATIONS**

Oregon State Marine Board requires all individuals to comply with the following laws while conducting water based activities on the Rogue River.

US Coast Guard-approved Type I, III, or V PFD (Personal Floatation Device)

- Each individual must have available at all times while on the water.
- Must be worn by all individuals in Class III or greater rapids.
- Must be worn at all times by children 12 years and younger while on or near the water.

Aquatic Invasive Species Permit:

- Oregon State Law requires an Aquatic Invasive Species Permit for all non-motorized boats ten feet long or longer.
 - These permits are NOT available at Smullin Visitor Center at Rand.
 - They are available online at [Oregon State Marine Board](#) and at businesses that sell Oregon hunting and fishing licenses.

5) **SAFETY**

The Wild Section of the Rogue is managed primarily as a primitive area and requires outdoor skills and preparation.

- All Party Leaders are required to watch the [Wild Rogue River Permit Guidelines Video](#) once per year. It is encouraged that all river users watch the video prior to boating the Rogue River.
- Boat operators need Class IV skills to navigate this river. The wild section of the Rogue River has approximately three Class IV rapids and nine Class III rapids.
- It is advisable for someone in your party to give a safety talk before launching. Explanation and demonstration of proper use of safety gear and rescue techniques are recommended, e.g., self-rescue, high siding, throw bags, and emergency procedures.
- Parties can scout and allow passengers to walk around difficult rapids. E.g., Rainie Falls, the Fish Ladder, and Blossom Bar areas.
- Scouting Blossom Bar Rapid, Class IV, is advised for all boaters. Boating incidents at this rapid causing boats or gear to wrap and block the channel are a common occurrence. Please be aware of this potential hazard.
- Be aware of unexpected hazards in the river such as trees or man-made debris, and landslides or wildfires on the shoreline.
- Be aware of the current water level - extreme low flows can be just as risky as high flows.
- The Oregon State Marine Board recommends wearing helmets in Class III and greater rapids. It is also recommended that each boater have a whistle on their PFD.

For information on medical emergencies or boating accidents assistance visit:

<https://www.blm.gov/rogueriver>, [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

6) **Wild Section ROGUE RIVER CAMPING**

Camping on the Wild Section is on first-come, first-serve basis.

Please be kind and courteous to all river and trail users when choosing campsites.

- Quiet hours are 10pm – 6am. Please respect other parties.

Be prepared to share!

- Large sites that can accommodate groups of 10-20 people are limited.
- If you are a smaller group using a large site, please use one side of the site so you are prepared to share.
- Remain flexible in your choice of sites, and try not to unnecessarily impose your group on an already occupied site when other sites may be available.

Pit Toilets

- Some Pit Toilets on the Wild Section are in process of being phased out and removed.
- Take advantage of sites that do not have a pit toilet. Current [Pit Toilet](#) locations.

For more information visit <https://www.blm.gov/rogueriver>, Wild Rogue River Campsite Brochure

7) **OUTDOOR ETHICS & ETIQUETTE**

[Leave No Trace](#) ethics and wilderness etiquette are essential to maintaining a respectful environment that protects the resource, wildlife, and fellow river and trail users.

Boat Ramp Etiquette:

Leave boat ramps clear for vehicles and trailers to access the river quickly and easily.

- Grave Creek and Foster Bar boat ramps are for loading/unloading boats only.
- Do not park or leave vehicles or gear on or blocking the boat ramp.
- Grave Creek is day use only, overnight parking is not permitted.

Staging areas next to the boat ramp are available for boat preparation and gear loading.

River Etiquette:

Pass other groups in flat water, not in rapids.

- Crowding before or in rapids may create unnecessary boating mishaps.
- Be willing to wait. Areas like the Fish Ladder may have a queue to allow for boaters to clear the channel prior to the next descent.

Be considerate of fishing parties, both on the river and shoreline. Give them a wide berth to avoid entangling fishing lines.

Pet Regulations & Etiquette:

- Pet feces disposal regulations are the same as those regarding human waste on the Rogue River.
 - Animal feces are required to be removed, contained, and stored in a watertight container and properly disposed of in a trash receptacle at take out.
 - Doggie Pot waste bags are available at Rand and trailheads.
- Bring a leash to be used when on shore. Be sure your dog is under control and invited before approaching other visitors or dogs.
- It is illegal for animals or humans to harass wildlife. For your pet's safety, keep them in sight and under control while on shore, and leashed when large wildlife are present.
- Consider equipping your dog with a PFD.

8) **BEARS & WILDLIFE**

Please help protect the public against safety risks by not feeding and habituating wildlife, especially bears.

Camping & Food Storage:

Remove from boats all coolers, food, trash, and human/pet waste.

- Leaving attractants in boats will create an association for wildlife. Once associated, wildlife will claw, tear, and chew on boats and gear in an attempt to gain food rewards.

Store coolers and trash in a central location away from sleeping areas.

Storage techniques

- Stack and strap coolers/food containers together, thus creating bound objects that are more difficult to move. Place pots and pans on top of the stacked items to create noise when they are disturbed.
- Suspend food and garbage from a tree; minimum of 4ft. from the trunk and 10ft. above the ground.
- Use certified Bear-resistant coolers or storage devices.

“Bear-proofing”

- “[Bear-proof coolers](#)”, electric bear fences, or other certified Bear-resistant storage devices are the primary way to safely store food and garbage.
- The BLM installs and maintains electric bear fences, food hoists, and storage containers on the Rogue River May 15 – October 15, sites listed at <https://www.blm.gov/rogueriver> [Wild Rogue River Campsite brochure](#).
 - If camping in these areas, please utilize the bear fences for food and garbage storage overnight.
- **Ensure the bear fence is turned ON and CLOSED at all times, whether being used or vacant.** Only turn off the fence power for entry/exit.

It is unlawful to habituate bears and other wildlife (ORS 496.731.1-2).

Report bear sightings on the Bear Observation Form given at Permit check-in and leave the form in the drop box at Foster Bar.

9) **SHUTTLES**

Shuttle route access will vary throughout the year with changing road and weather conditions.

Always check current Shuttle Routes and road conditions prior to driving these routes.

Shuttle Routes: <https://www.blm.gov/rogueriver>, [Shuttle Routes map](#)

- Eden Valley route is north of the river
- Coastal Route is Highway 199 and 101
- Bear Camp Coastal Route using the Peavine/ Serpentine Springs Roads
- Bear Camp Coastal Route using the Galice Access Road
 - Most common/ fastest shuttle route from Grave Creek to Foster Bar
 - CLOSED November 5 through May 31; due to snow/slides/rock fall

Shuttle Services:

A variety of Shuttle Services are available within the area.

10) SMULLIN VISITOR CENTER at Rand

All parties floating the wild section of the Rogue River are required to obtain a permit.

- Float permits are available year-round for the Wild section of the Rogue River.
- Toilet systems and fire pans are required for all float trips year-round.

May 15 – Oct 15: A lottery is used to allocate the regulated use season launches. Lottery applications for the regulated use season are accepted only through Recreation.gov annually Dec. 01 - Jan. 31. Available float spaces openings after the lottery are acquired through a competitive call-in process or Day of Launch walk-in or waiting list.

Oct 16 – May 14: Pre- and post- regulated use season launches are obtained by filling out a self-issued permit available at Smullin Visitor Center at Rand and Grave Creek Boat Launch access.

Smullin Visitor Center at Rand
14335 Galice Road
Merlin, OR 97532

Office hours:
May 05 – Oct 15 7am – 3pm Daily
Oct 16 – May 04 Closed

Phone hours:
April 03 - 07 , **2017** 8am – 3pm Daily
May 05 - Oct 15 8am – 3pm Daily

Permits Office 541-479-3735
Permits FAX 541-479-0535
Email [BLM OR MD Rogue River Mail@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_OR_MD_Rogue_River_Mail@blm.gov)
*Email and faxes are received year-round.
They are responded to Monday-Friday, year- round.

For more information on the Rogue River and surrounding areas, please visit:

<https://www.blm.gov/rogueriver>