

2018 Bighorn Canyon News

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Bighorn Canyon National
Recreation Area



BICA News

- Mike Tranel has been selected as new Bighorn Canyon/Group Superintendent. He will arrive at the park at the end of the week of June 4th. Welcome Mike!
- On May 25th, Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area will no longer charge fees. Camping Fees will be collected at Horseshoe Bend and Barry's Landing through a concession operation.

Facilities and Maintenance

- Installation of docks, comfort stations and mooring buoys will start the week of April 23rd.
- The Ok-A-Beh water system is scheduled to be operational by May 3rd.
- The Ok-A-Beh concession docks will be installed on May 14th.
- April 25th, staff will be pouring the concrete anchors for the mooring buoys.
- New courtesy docks for Ok-A-Beh will arrive by June 30th and planned to be installed the week of July 2nd.
- Barry's Landing and Horseshoe Bend will be getting new docks and should arrive by June 30th, and are planned to be installed the week of July 2nd.
- Lake maintenance operations go to 7 days a week starting Memorial Day weekend.

Interpretation and Education

- Kayak programs will start mid-June and go until the end of August. There will be at least one program each week. Programs will be announced on Facebook and press releases.
- Bird Day will be held on July 21st, with an exciting array of bird experts giving talks throughout the day. Buffalo Bill Center of the West will be bringing over live birds including an eagle, falcon, and owl.
- Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range turns 50 this year. Staff is working with BLM and the Mustang Center to celebrate this momentous occasion.
- Two night sky programs will be presented by Ivy Merriot, Night Sky Volunteer, on June 1st and 2nd.
- Bighorn Canyon will be hosting five Artists in Residence this year. The first will arrive at the end of May and the last will be done the end of September. Programs will be announced on Facebook and press releases.
- Campground programs at Horseshoe bend will be presented every Friday and every other Saturday throughout the summer season.

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- Interpretive Staff will be working with the Hardin and Lovell Libraries this summer with their summer reading programs and partnering with the Bighorn County Museum in Hardin.

Resource Management

- The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program will be staffing AIS inspection stations in both North and South Districts from Memorial Day weekend through mid-September.
- Staff continues to working with Greater Yellowstone I&M Network on long-term monitoring projects for water quality sampling and vegetation.
- In collaboration with BLM, staff continues to administer PZP fertility control on the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Herd.
- Natural Resource Staff will be spraying for exotic weeds and revegetating an area of over 400 acres at near the Mason-Lovell Ranch.
- Will complete fire fuel reduction around each of the 4 historic ranch sites.
- Staff will be completing remediation work at Ewing-Snell ranch house including debris clean-up and foundation stabilization.
- Historic Restoration Projects in 2018 include completion of the Lockhart Root Cellar and Generator Shed, and Chinking of Lockhart Blacksmith Shop.
- Annual structural maintenance, cleaning, rodent removal, mowing, orchard care, and overall cultural landscape maintenance at all four historic ranch sites.