

Winter snows will delay summer camping at Albeni Falls

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SEATTLE –Recreation season will be changed at four campgrounds administered by Albeni Falls Dam because of persistent winter conditions, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District.

Visitors should be aware that Albeni Cove and Springy Point will be closed to the public until May 22. No new reservations will be taken for the period from May 10 to May 22. However, it is anticipated that Riley Creek and Priest River will be opened as scheduled; but Riley Creek may experience reduced camping, again, depending on snow levels and conditions of the park at the time of traditional opening.

Low elevation snow packs are well above normal this year and therefore will impact operations to the Corps' campgrounds.

Today's conditions at Albeni Cove and Springy Point are such that access will be limited until there is significant melting of the existing snow. For instance, Springy Point is currently covered over with snow at more than 85 percent of the site with depths up to two feet. In comparison, typically at this time of year, activities are underway to clean and prepare the parks for the camping season. Therefore, opening activities will be delayed.

Conditions will be monitored closely and regularly to determine if the closure will be extended or if the areas can be opened earlier. Any such changes will be advertised in a timely manner; but, until weather conditions change, the decision to delay opening activities will remain in effect.

Anyone with questions regarding camp conditions or reservations already placed should call (208) 437-3133.