

# **Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon Conservation Area Visitor Regulations**

**For Pine Creek, Oxbow, Forrest, Dunstan, Red Hills, Little Sweden, and Austin Hot Springs**

**Austin Hot Springs is CLOSED to Public Access – No Exceptions. Little Sweden is CLOSED because of post-fire hazards until further notice. Access of other properties is conditioned upon visitors agreeing to comply with these regulations, liability release, and applicable Oregon and Federal laws.** Visitors will comply with any directions or instructions given to them by Tribal staff. Users failing to comply with these regulations and applicable laws are subject to exclusion from the Tribes' Conservation Areas, liable for payment of damages, and may be prosecuted under applicable law. Visitors to the Conservation Areas assume the risk inherent with the activities they undertake. By assuming this risk they agree not to make a claim against or take legal action on the Tribes or their employees for injuries or damages that they incur as a result of the inherent risks of their visit to any Conservation Area.

## **Daily Access Permits**

Individuals or groups wishing to access the properties are required to fill out an access permit, which will also serve as liability releases at designated permit kiosks at each Conservation Area, or online. At Pine Creek, due to its size and overnight use option, has both sign-in and sign-out cards. Sign-out cards are to be filled out when departing the property at kiosks, or soon, online.

## **Group Size**

Groups of 8 or more may visit by prior arrangement only. Some areas may be restricted seasonally or permanently to protect unique biological, cultural, geological, or other values.

## **Access Hours**

The properties are open to the public during daylight hours only **with the exception of Pine Creek Conservation Area**, which allows access for backcountry backpacking and campground use. Parking will be allowed on gravel pullouts or other safe suitable locations. Neighboring private lands may be used to access the conservation areas only with landowner permission.

## **Dogs**

Dogs must be kept under voice and sight control. Dogs are not to harass or run after wildlife and will not be allowed to run at large during bird breeding seasons (April 1 – July 15).

## **Collecting and Woodcutting**

Fossil, rock, antler, and other collecting are prohibited on the Conservation Areas. Researchers may submit proposals to conservation area management. Woodcutting is permitted with written permission of the Tribes under special circumstances related to natural resource management activities.

## **Dumping/Littering**

No dumping of materials or littering is allowed. Visitors will follow a "Leave No Trace" ethic.

## **Vehicular Access**

Vehicles are not permitted away from main access routes crossing or bordering the Conservation Areas. Each Conservation Area kiosk will provide a map of all accessible roads, trails, and parking areas. The general public is not allowed to operate ATVs or over-snow vehicles on the conservation areas. All other roads and access methods are by special permit only.

## **Hunting**

Hunting is allowed only by special permit on the conservation areas, and firearms may only be brought onto the properties by **permitted hunters**. Decisions concerning big game and bird hunting will be determined annually and posted on information boards and website blog posts. Varmint hunting and target shooting is not allowed. Violators will be prosecuted. **Currently, Hunting is not allowed at Red Hills, Little Sweden, or Austin Hot Springs.**

### **Fishing**

**Fishing is not allowed on Conservation Areas except at McHaley Pond at Forrest and John Day River at Pine Creek, subject to ODFW Regulations.**

### **Camping**

**Public camping will not be allowed on any Conservation Area with the exception of the Pine Creek Conservation Area. At Pine Creek, backpacking or horse-packing backcountry camping is authorized if at least one mile from the highway and Clarno county road. Camps should be out of site of the administrative road-trail system on the property. No river camping above the mean high-water mark of the John Day River. All River Camps are subject to BLM Wild and Scenic river regulations, including the use of a portable toilet.** Campers will observe a “Leave No Trace” ethic. State fire restrictions will be enforced, and additional restrictions may be imposed. Vehicle Camping is only allowed at Robinson Campground, and requires prior reservation and fee collection through the website.

### **Commercial Use**

All commercial uses – including but not limited to classes, guiding, firewood or other wood products removal, or antler collecting – are prohibited on all Conservation Areas, with exception of prescribed management purposes and where allowed under special permit.

### **Cultural Resources**

State, federal and tribal laws prohibit the disturbance or removal of cultural resources. Violators are subject to severe criminal and civil penalties. Cultural resources include but are not limited to foods, pictographs, pottery, basketry, bottles, weapons and projectiles, tools, structures, graves, human skeletal materials, or any portion of the foregoing items. Visitors are required to report suspicious activities or findings to management.

### **Research and Educational Use**

Natural sciences research and educational activities are encouraged. Researchers should contact conservation areas management prior to submitting proposals. Educational groups may visit the Conservation Areas by special permit, with restrictions applied as necessary.

### **Horses and Other Pack Animals**

Visitors are allowed the use of horses and other pack animals with group sizes limited to six animals. Please contact Tribal staff prior to visit. Hay and other livestock feed are allowed at Pine Creek only, must be certified Weed-Free, and visitors must provide documentation upon request. Management reserves the right to limit stock use during certain times of the year to avoid resource damage or disturbance.

### **Other Recreational Activities**

Recreational opportunities on the Conservation Areas are numerous. As these properties are primarily managed for fish and wildlife values, not all activities are compatible with these goals. Requests for uncommon activities will be handled on a case-by-case basis by property management.

### **Protection of Tribal Rights**

*“Fishing, hunting, gathering and Tribal cultural and religious activities on the Project according to Tribal custom and law are neither prohibited nor authorized or given additional status by this Agreement. Tribal members shall be subject to tribal regulation of wildlife harvest. All other persons will be subject to state and federal regulations.*

