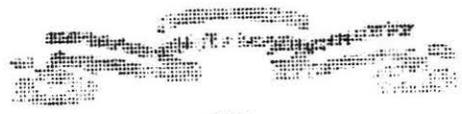


WILDERNESS ON MAP
Should be entitled
"STRAWBERRY MOUNTAIN
WILDERNESS"

LAKE CREEK RECREATION AREA

LAKE
CREEK
RECREATION ASS'N
INC



It's
History
and it's
Future

1968

HISTORY

The Lake Creek Recreation Area, involving 8,000 acres, is located in mile-high Logan Valley in the Malheur National Forest. It is a glaciated deposit four miles wide and seven miles long. The Piute Indians from Nevada made this their summer-long encampment. Here in the Valley they hunted game, fished for spawning salmon and dug camas roots for their winter provisions. This accounts for the many arrowheads found in the Valley.

White men started moving domestic stock into the Valley in the late 1860's. The number of livestock continued to increase until 1912. Then the Miller and Lux Pacific Livestock Company dominated the area. In 1921, the Logan District Ranger wrote an inquiry to his neighboring ranger: "The permitted 8,000 head of cattle for the whole area are in Logan Valley. The permit here is for 5,000 head. There are no fences for control; what are we going to do about the other 3,000 head?"

The Valley has since been rehabilitated from a low of 33 acres per AUM to approximately one acre per AUM through range reseeding and a system of spreader ditches.

RECREATION AND RESOURCES

There is a world of opportunity in the area from a recreational standpoint and for resource studies.

Several geological phenomena exist within hiking distance. The Valley itself is a big glacier deposit. This glacier originated on Strawberry Mountain at the head of Lake Creek. Before this glacier formation, Strawberry Mountain was some 3,000 feet higher than it is now. After the mountain erupted out of the side, the mountain fell into the hole left by the lava flow.

The double pinnacles known as Rabbit Ears are of vent breccias that consists mostly of welded blocks of scoriaceous basalt, but also contain volcanic bombs which were blown out as blobs of fluid lava. Huge blocks of breccia have fallen to a gentle bare slope west of Little Strawberry Lake. These are only a few of the geological formations that are available for study in the area.

Dominating the scenery to the north of the camp is Strawberry Mountain, elevation 9,044 feet. Around this mountain lies a 33,000 acre wilderness which is truly a scenic wonderland. It's seven glacial lakes, the thousands of acres of alpine and sub-alpine flora can all be enjoyed by hiking over the network of Forest Service maintained trails that lead into and through the area.

A multitude of beautiful wild flowers and bushes can be found throughout the summer months and into early September.

Nature trails are being constructed in the immediate area to the camp. The plants along these trails will be labeled in order to assist campers in learning how to further enjoy the out of doors.

A number of resource development projects have been accomplished in the Valley and others are underway that can be of great value in teaching resource values.

This new recreation area is located on the original site of the Lake Creek Guard Station, operated by the U. S. Forest Service, 20 miles east of Seneca and about two miles off a well graveled road. This two mile stretch of road is to be reconstructed into a year around road in the near future.

The beautiful surroundings are ideal for a group to relax, play, camp, study conservation and wildlife, and participate in wholesome outdoor life.

This 19 acre plot is under a special use permit from the U. S. Forest Service. It is surrounded by thousands of acres of U. S. Forest Service land with unlimited recreational possibilities and resource conservation projects.

There are a number of beautiful mountain streams in the immediate area that have many favorite fishing spots.

The development of these facilities has been brought about through the Lake Creek Recreation Association, Inc., a non-profit corporation. An annual meeting is held every year during the month of February. These meetings are rotated between the three county area. Members present at these meetings constitute a quorum for transaction of business.

The annual business and planning is handled through an eleven man Board of Directors made up of representatives from the following interests but elected at the annual meeting:

1. Grant County 4-H Leaders' Association
2. Grant County Ministerial Association
3. Strawberry District Boy Scouts
4. Harney County 4-H Leaders' Association
5. Harney County Ministerial Association
6. Girl Scouts of Harney County
7. Girl Scouts of Grant County
8. Malheur County 4-H Leaders' Association
- 9., 10., 11., Three Directors elected at large, one from each county

All activities are governed by a set of by-laws that may be amended by the membership at the annual meeting.

The area is available for use by any interested group. It must be scheduled through the Secretary of the Association. Groups that have been using the facilities have first priority on dates. Users pay for each person in the camp according to the rates set up by the Board of Directors.

The Association has the following facilities available:

1. Assembly hall and kitchen with a small meeting room and fireplace to one side of the assembly or dining hall.
2. The kitchen has adequate storage space and a walk-in cooler and freezer. There is a room and bathroom facilities for the cook.
3. Gas heat is used.
4. Two good sized wash rooms are available with hot water. These are close to the sleeping areas.
5. Three A Frame shelters are available for use now. Seven more are under construction and will be put in place in the spring of 1968.
6. The old mess hall will be available for use as a crafts area. The upstairs of this building has been used as a sleeping area for cooks and instructors.
7. Another building has been used as a shelter for sleeping or crafts with one end for storage of athletic and other equipment. This building is to be moved to another location and made available for crafts or other general use.
8. Running water is available for use in the kitchen and washrooms. A new well is planned for the near future in order to make more water available.

9. Gas generators furnish electricity for all the buildings. It is planned to winterize all of the buildings in the near future for winter use.
10. Several play areas are being smoothed and planted down to sod. This includes a ball diamond.
11. A campfire circle is available. Log benches are to be added in 1968.
12. Several miles of trails adjoin the property.
13. Inspected hot swimming pools are available 15 miles away at the Blue Mt. Hot Springs & J-L Guest Ranch.
14. Fire wood will be made available in the area but will have to be moved to the fire circle or fireplace by the campers.
15. Garbage will be removed daily by the caretaker.
16. The caretaker will assist in keeping facilities operating.

The camping group must agree to:

1. Pay a deposit of 25% of the estimated camping fee when the contract for use of the facilities is signed.
2. Be responsible that the camp property and facilities are left in as clean and operable condition as they were when the camp was occupied, and to pay by means of the above deposit or such additional charges as may be necessary for any damage (other than ordinary wear and tear), or loss or clean up. Charges will be based upon the cost of clean up, repair or replacement.

3. To comply with the rules posted on the premises or available from the caretaker, including such additional rules as may be found necessary to preserve the beauty and the utilities of the camp and the safety of its campers.
4. Furnish own staff. It may be possible to contract for cooks, if desired.
5. Furnish own medical supplies, sports equipment and craft supplies and own bedding as needed.
6. Furnish health and accident insurance.
7. Take all due caution with fires, matches and smoking and work in close harmony with the Association and the caretaker in suppression of any fires on the camp property.
8. Furnish the caretaker with a list of campers by the day.

The caretaker in residence is the official representative of Lake Creek Recreation Association, Inc., and has full authority for the enforcement of the above mentioned rules.

