



Community & Lifestyle

Most remaining SNF sites, campgrounds reopening

At noon on June 12, the Siuslaw National Forest began its next round of reopening recreation sites throughout the forest. Implementation of these reopenings will occur incrementally, with groupings of recreation sites scheduled to open each week throughout the remainder of June.

Barring unforeseen circumstances related to community readiness, recreation site openings are scheduled as follows:

- June 12: Most remaining day use sites, including Drift Creek Falls Trailhead and recreation sites along the Horsfall and Siltcoos corridors; does not include Sand Lake recreation sites.
- June 18: Campgrounds, excluding Canal Creek, Riveredge, and Cape Perpetua group campgrounds in Lincoln County and campgrounds and sand camping at Sand Lake Recreation Area.

See SNF 2B

Tide Tables

Entrance Siuslaw River

High Tide	Low Tide
June 17	
10:53am / 4.9	4:42am / 0.4
10:17pm / 7.0	4:12pm / 2.4
June 18	
11:43am / 5.2	5:22pm / -0.1
10:53pm / 7.2	4:55pm / 2.7
June 19	
12:29am / 5.5	6:00am / -0.7
11:29pm / 7.4	5:36pm / 2.8
June 20	
1:12am / 5.7	6:38am / -1.1
8:25pm / 6.2	6:17pm / 2.9
June 21	
12:05am / 7.5	7:16am / -1.3
1:53pm / 5.8	6:58pm / 2.9
June 22	
12:43am / 7.6	7:55am / -1.5
2:35pm / 5.9	7:40pm / 2.9
June 23	
1:24am / 7.6	8:35am / -1.5
3:18pm / 6.0	8:26pm / 2.9

Collective voice



PHOTOS BY MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

The death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis, Minn., police officers on May 25 continues to inspire protests across the nation and in Florence. On Saturday, June 13, the largest group of supporters so far — nearly 100 between all four corners of Highways 101 and 126 — were on hand to protest the death of Floyd, Breonna Taylor and dozens of others, and to continue support for police reforms aimed at addressing the disproportionate number of shootings of Black Americans by law enforcement across the nation, particularly in large metro areas. Floyd's death has been labeled a homicide by the Minneapolis District Attorney and the officers involved have been removed from duty and charged with felonies. Saturday's peaceful protest rally included local supporters from the Florence LGBTQ community, who joined with other participants by holding signs calling for justice and reforms in the procedures and protocols utilized by police departments regarding the use of deadly force.



Newest park gets official sign as parks re-open

Exploding Whale Memorial Park is one of several community parks open to the public

Last year, community members were asked to help name Florence's newest park, located along the Siuslaw River along Rhododendron Drive (612 Rhododendron Dr.) with an initial 124 unique suggestions submitted by the public. That number was narrowed down to nine, which were part of a community-wide survey that included 856 total votes — with 439 of them voting for the park to be named Exploding Whale Memorial Park.

With this November being the 50th anniversary of the exploding whale incident, as well as "Blast from the Past" chosen as the theme for this past May's annual Rhododendron Days, there had been initial plans for unveiling the park's new name with a community celebration.

However, COVID-19 precautions meant making the unveiling in a different way.

On May 14, the City of Florence hosted the Siuslaw River Beach Access Park Grand Opening and, this past Saturday (June 13), an



COURTESY PHOTO

Florence Mayor Joe Henry was on hand Saturday during the unveiling of the new sign officially designating Exploding Whale Memorial Park.

official sign dedication took place.

With Lane County's approval to move into Phase 2 of the Gov. Kate Brown's reopening process, the City is following guidance from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Governor Brown's Framework for Reopening Oregon outlines phases for restarting public life and business through gradual,

incremental segments based on science and the latest data.

"The City of Florence is in regular communication with public health officials regarding COVID-19 and taking steps to limit the community's exposure to COVID-19 in accordance with state officials and public health guidance," the City said in a

See PARKS 2B

Juneteenth 'Freedom Day' march is Friday

Florence ORganizes will be sponsoring a family friendly Juneteenth (Freedom Day) Celebration this Friday, June 19, from noon to 1 p.m., at the Florence United Methodist Church (333 Kingwood St.)

The celebration will be followed by a march from 1 to 2 p.m.

The march is in support of Black Lives across the nation and also in remembrance of the official end of slavery in the U.S.

Participants will gather at noon at the church for celebrating. Bring your own chair and picnic food.

There are nearby restaurants that provide take out meals, including Los Compadres, Hukilau and Dairy Queen.

Supporters are free to bring noisemakers-rattles, tambourines, drums, etc., to add to the festivities.

There will also be recorded music and chalk for sidewalk art.

At 12:30 p.m., there will be a rally with an invocation, followed by guest speakers prior to the march at 1 p.m.

The route will begin at the church and continue along Highway 101 to Rhododendron Street, then south on 101 to City

See MARCH 2B

Campfires can fuel wildfire season

Throughout Oregon, hay and grass seed are big business. It can also be a big problem when remnants of the harvest are carried by wind into power lines.

Hay or grass caught in the components of a power line that become damp can spark a fire.

To avoid this potentially catastrophic situation, if you see hay or grass hung up in power lines, call your local utility and report it.

"Fires started by grass or hay are a big concern, but they are not the only concern," said Mike Miller, BPA Transmission Services vice president of Field Services.

During hay season, lightweight hay can be picked up by wind and blown 100 feet or more. If hay collects on power lines and then becomes wet from rain or dew it can cause lines to spark and light a fire.



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VIEW LOOP

Mostly level 0.22 AC lot on View Loop. Test hole dug, septic approved. Some great timber on the lot. Mercer Lake Heights lots come with Mercer Lake community dock and boat access privileges at otter cove. \$56,000

