



**Deschutes County Sheriff's Office**  
**63333 Highway 20 West**  
**Bend, Oregon 97701**  
**(541) 388-6655**

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Cascade High Lakes Access Information For Memorial Day Weekend

Road and lake conditions are **gradually** improving as Memorial Day weekend approaches. In general, conditions that are normally seen for opening day in April are occurring one month later. The following information is current as of **Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**; conditions may improve somewhat as the weekend approaches:

#### LAKE ACCESS:

- a. **Wickiup Reservoir:** Completely ice free, no access problems, most area campsites accessible, Twin Lakes Resort open for business.
- b. **Crane Prairie Reservoir:** Completely ice free, no access problems, most area campsites accessible, Crane Prairie Resort open for business.
- c. **Cultus Lake:** Ice free, ramp access open, some camping sites available, Cultus Lake Resort open for business.
- d. **Little Cultus Lake:** Inaccessible due to snow.
- e. **Lava Lake:** Still de-icing, but some open water; ramp access at Lava Lake; may have limited parking. Lava Lake Resort open for business, RV park open; most Forest Service campsites accessible.
- f. **Little Lava Lake:** Ice free, accessible by road, ramp access open, may have limited parking.
- d. **East Lake:** Still de-icing, but some open water. Ramp access available depending on where wind moves ice on the lake. May be limited camping sites. East Lake Resort opens for business Friday.
- g. **Paulina Lake:** Ice free, ramp access at Paulina and Little Crater campgrounds, may be limited parking. Some campsites available. Snow gate on Paulina Lake Road above 10-Mile snow park opens Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon. Bridge work on road into Paulina Lake Resort is done. Paulina Lake Resort will be open for business.
- h. **Big Deschutes River:** Should be generally accessible from Wickiup Dam downstream. Opens for fishing on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. **Levels will be high because of run-off...use caution around any swifter water areas and be aware of any new hazards.**

**Additional Cascade Lakes such as Elk, Devils, Todd, Three Creeks, etc. are still not accessible.**

### ROAD ACCESS:

- a. **Cascade Lakes Highway:** Open from its south end in Klamath County to Lava Lake. The snow gate at Deschutes Bridge will be opened at noon on Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. No road access north of Lava Lake. The snow gate at Mt. Bachelor remains closed. **The Cascade Lakes Highway will not be open for drive-through traffic from Mt. Bachelor to Lava Lake for Memorial Day weekend.**
- b. **Forest Service Road 40:** Open; some width limitations from Wake Butte to FS Road 4270. Side roads may still be blocked by snow. Drive carefully!
- c. **Forest Service Road 42:** Open all the way to the Cascade Lakes Highway
- d. **Forest Service Road 21:** The snow gate above 10-Mile snow park on Paulina Lake Road will be opened at noon on Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, allowing access to Paulina and East Lakes. Side roads may still be blocked by snow.
- e. **Forest Service Road 4270:** Open from FS Road 42 to FS Road 40, with access to Crane Prairie Resort. Side roads may still be blocked by snow.

Boaters need to remember that the water in these local water bodies is still **extremely** cold. Although adults are not required to wear life jackets when underway or recreating, if some one were to fall off a boat in these conditions, there is a good possibility they might drown. Please remember than any child 12 and under (i.e., one day less than 13) on any powered or non-powered boat (canoe, kayak, raft, etc.) is required to wear a life jacket.