Forest Service plans public meeting on fee hikes

The U.S. Forest Service released more details Thursday on its proposed fee increases at recreation sites and the addition of new fee sites in the Sawtooth and Boise national forests.

A public meeting on the fees is planned for 10 a.m. Feb. 5 at the Boise District BLM Office, 3948 S. Development Way, Boise. The agency is proposing nine new fee recreation sites in the Sawtooth National Forest and one in the Boise National Forest. The proposal also calls for increasing fees at six recreation sites in the Sawtooth National Forest.

NEW FEE SITES

The following areas are in the Fairfield Ranger District:
- Baumgartner Group-Use Campground (Kelley Creek): $125 per night for groups up to 100 people.
- Willow Creek Transfer Camp: $6 per night for single-family units.
- Bear Creek Transfer Camp: $6 per night for single-family units.
- In the Cascade area of the Boise National Forest:
  - Campbell Creek boat launch on Lake Cascade: $5 to launch a boat.
- In the Mindoka area:
  - Schipper Campground: $5 per night for single-family units.
  - Steer Basin Campground: $5 per night for single-family units.
  - Sublett Campground: $5 per night for single-family units.
  - Diamondfield Jack: $8 per night for single-family units.
- In the Sawtooth National Recreation Area:
  - Redfish Lake Cabin: $50 per night. (Available from Oct. 1 to April 30 each year. It is a work center in summer months.)
  - Sawtooth Valley Work Center Cabin: $65 per night. (Available from October 1 to April 30.

INCREASES IN FEES

In the Fairfield Ranger District near Featherville (all prices are for single-family units):
- Abbott Campground: from $2 to $6 per night.
- Bird Creek Campground: from $2 to $6 per night.
- Chaparral Campground: from $2 to $6 per night.
- Willow Creek Campground: from $2 to $6 per night.
- Bowns Campground: from $4 to $6 per night.
- Canyon Campground: from $2 to $6 per night.