

Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area | Spring 2023

Wranglers Campground Update & Planned Projects

USDA Forest Service leadership and recreation staff at Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area are aware of maintenance needs at Wranglers Campground and are working diligently to improve and repair the facilities that our campers and equestrian users all love and enjoy. Below are projects and updates that are currently underway or planned for Wranglers Campground:

- 1. **New fence**: Quotes are being compiled to replace the split rail fence that surrounds the campground. We are considering purchasing a vinyl fence for its longevity and durability. This project is funded through the Wranglers Capital Improvement and Deferred Maintenance fund, which includes revenue dollars.
- 2. **Creek project in C loop:** Multiple flash floods have recently occurred in C loop, causing campsites and roadways to wash away. While fixing the erosion may seem like a simple solution, it's quite complex. Sediment upstream is at a higher elevation than the campsites, causing large volumes of water to overflow the creek banks and into the campground. Removal of this sediment material requires surveying, testing, sampling, and potential acquisition of special permits. Please be advised that we are in this phase of the project and have been for some time.
- 3. **Culvert replacement on Forest Service Road 165 by trail 1 trailhead and C loop:** The existing culverts are too small to support the volume of water and debris washed downstream each time it rains. This debris clogs the culverts and contributes to damming, which results in additional flooding in C loop. Forest Service engineers have submitted project proposals to regional and national agency offices and the Federal Highway Administration in an effort to secure funding through the Great American Outdoors Act. Solutions may include replacing the existing infrastructure with larger culverts or possibly a bridge. This is a multimillion-dollar project that is not currently in the Land Between the Lakes budget. Adding to the complexity and financial constraints is that cleaning of the existing culverts does not fall within the scope of work for the grounds maintenance contract at Wranglers, nor is it within the administrative boundary. In other words, this project does not fall under Wranglers Campground's program of work.
- 4. **Tethering areas:** We understand there are many tethering areas that are muddy and in need of repair. Please understand that significant amounts of rainfall have recently occurred, causing work delays and deteriorating conditions. Five tethering areas have been rehabilitated and five more are planned as soon as soil conditions allow. Forest Service recreation staff will identify additional sites that need rehabilitation. This work will be completed using grant funding Land Between the Lakes received from the Kentucky Recreation Trails Program.
- 5. **Staffing update:** There are three vacant positions in the recreation department that would normally be responsible for the management of Wranglers Campground. We thank our visitors for their patience as we work with our human resources specialists to advertise and fill these extremely important positions. We are fortunate to have other recreation personnel volunteer to assist with the above projects as well as the daily operations and management of Wranglers Campground.

Wranglers Campground at Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area

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