

*This document was produced in conjunction with the USDA Forest Service National Incident Management Team, and the Lowman Ranger District, Boise National Forest. The following statements do not imply or infer a permit for the activities engaged, nor the condoning of the presence of 75 or more members of the Rainbow Family in the Bear Valley watershed. The event is a nonpermitted gathering, and all applicable Federal, State, County, and municipal laws and regulations will be enforced.*

**T**HE site of the Rainbow Family's 2001 National gathering is located in the Bear Valley watershed, which contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes.

In addition, this area provides habitat for six threatened species, including chinook salmon, steelhead, Canada lynx, bull trout, an experimental/non-essential population of gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladies' Tresses. The issues at the site have raised significant concerns from not only the Forest Service, but also a host of environmental groups, regulatory agencies such as the Fish & Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service, the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes, and members of surrounding communities.

*The threatened species and Tribal concerns make Bear Valley an inappropriate site for a gathering of this magnitude. The best possible action the Rainbow Family could take is to not gather in this area. Attending the gathering is a personal decision each potential participant should carefully consider. It remains a nonpermitted event.*

### **Where are the fish?**

Bear Valley is home to three fish species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA): spring chinook salmon, steelhead and bull trout. Sack and Cache Creeks provide vital rearing habitat for these three species. Young fish currently inhabit these streams, and adult fish are in the main streams, such as Bear Valley Creek. The steelhead spawned in March/April and their young are just emerging from the nests. Spring chinook salmon typically spawn in August, but this year the adults have returned 1 month earlier than usual and therefore are likely to spawn earlier. Spring chinook salmon spawn in Bear Valley Creek, and have spawned in Cache Creek in the past. Bull trout typically spawn in Cache Creek in August.

### **What needs to be done?**

*The best course of action is to NOT hold a gathering of this magnitude in such a fragile environment.*

Otherwise, people and dogs **MUST** stay out of the streams. Activity along the creeks and stream will stir up sediments that clog fish nests during spawning, and threaten the survival of the fish. Roaming dogs are likely to harass and injure or kill the fish.

Disturb as little vegetation as possible when setting up your camping spot. Limit soil disturbance by

sticking to the same path and refraining from digging unnecessary holes in the ground.

*Follow these restrictions to protect water quality:*

- When bathing, take a bucket of water at least 300 feet from streams. **DO NOT** use soap in the stream or bathe in the stream.
- Dispose of gray water from kitchens at least 300 feet from streams
- Camp at least 50 feet from all streams
- Collect wood at least 100 feet away from streams
- Construct latrines and waste-pits at least 300 feet away from streams.

The Rainbow Watershed Council assisted the Forest Service in flagging streamside areas to protect water quality. Please adhere to the flagging, and do not remove signs or flagging constructed to protect sensitive areas:

- **ORANGE/PINK**, flagging, with yellow and black striping, denotes the 50 feet buffer on either side of the streams—camp outside these areas, away from streams.
- **BLUE** flagging denotes "Water Access Points." Check with your neighborhood kitchen for water first. Use these **ONLY** if you have to get water. Concentrate water gathering at these sites to reduce the number of trails to the creek and the areas of disturbance in the creek.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will continue to be issued for violation of these regulations. Participants of the gathering may be cited for violating the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

*The sensitive nature of the site selected for the Rainbow Family 2001 National gathering emphasizes the need for the Rainbow Family to come to the table early in the permit process, to allow scientists and resource managers sufficient time to determine the suitability of the site selected. The Forest Service urges the Rainbow Family to engage with the agency well in advance of any future gatherings.*





# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

Sunday, June 17, 2001

Information Center Phone: To Be Announced

The location apparently selected for this year's gathering is less than ideal from a resource protection point of view.

## **BACKGROUND**

On Saturday, June 16, 2001 the Rainbow Family somewhat confirmed, through their unofficial website, the location of this year's National Gathering site. The site is located about 28 miles northeast of Lowman, Idaho on the Lowman Ranger District of

the Boise National Forest. This year's gathering may eventually spread across several square miles of forest and large open meadows in the Cache Creek and Sack Creek area. A National Incident Management Team, lead by Incident Commander [REDACTED] and funded by the Washington Office, has been assigned to assist the Boise National Forest as well as local, county and state health care organizations and law enforcement agencies. A Unified Command will be established to begin the process of collaborative planning and joint decision making to safely and efficiently manage this incident. An Incident Command Post has been established at the Lowman Ranger District. Phone lines will soon be available for people wishing to obtain more information about the status of the Rainbow Gathering. These "Daily Updates" will also be available on the Forest's web page.

## **THE CURRENT SITUATION**

Currently, it is estimated that close to 300 people and 85 vehicles are at the gathering site. This number is lower than at this time last year. Members of the Rainbow Family will continue to filter their way into Valley County, reaching a peak of possibly 20,000 on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

The location apparently selected for this year's gathering is less than ideal from a resource protection point of view. Three Threatened and Endangered fish species are present in Bear Valley

Creek, Cache Creek and Sack Creek. Low stream levels and earlier than normal migration runs have fish biologists concerned about fragile spawning beds.

Because Bear Valley is an important calving area for elk in June, there is a worry of harassment by the large number of dogs normally present at these gatherings. Wolves and Lynx, listed under the Endangered Species Act, are also found in the area. Disease transmission from dogs to wolves is also a concern.

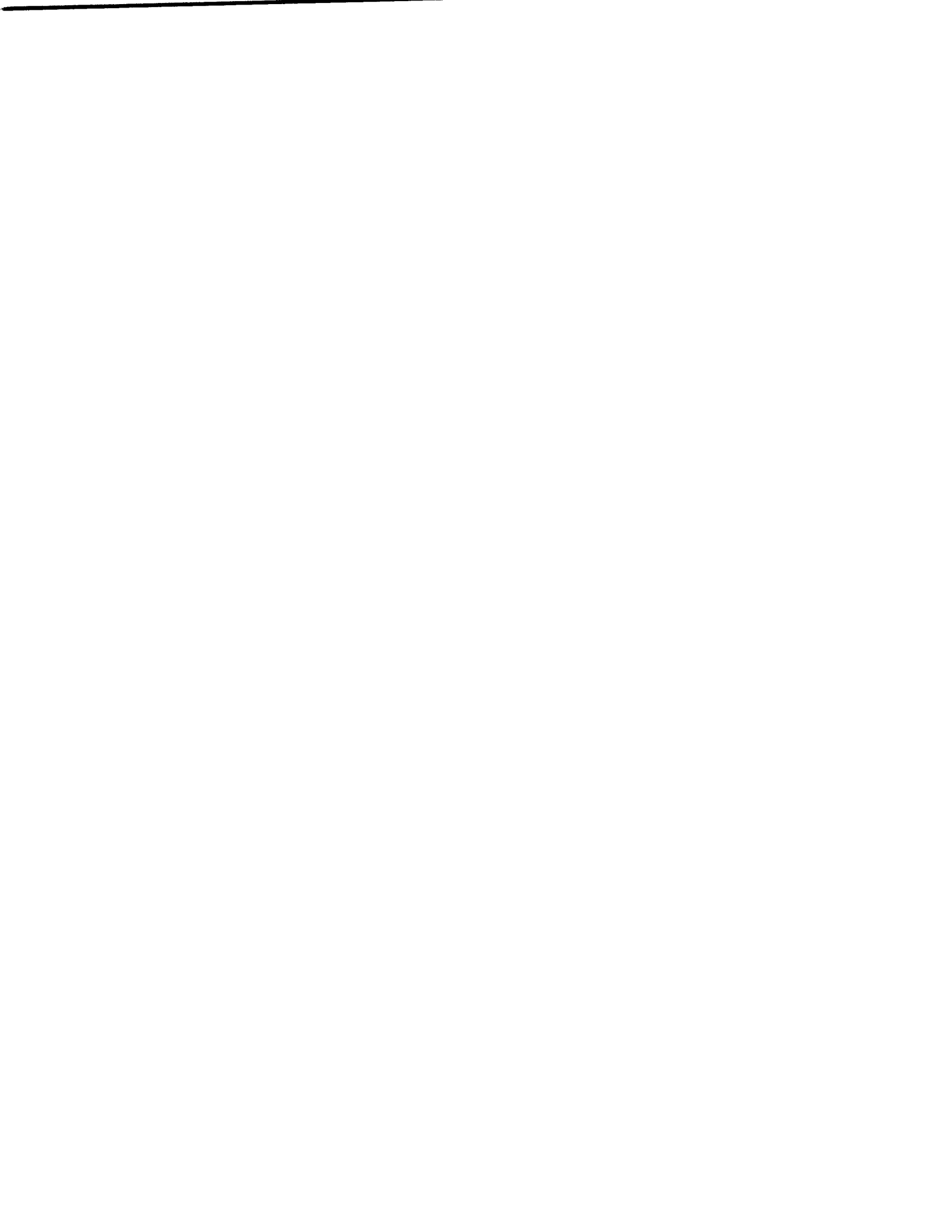
Yesterday Lowman Ranger District employees identified and signed locations where parking would be allowed and where it would be prohibited. Employees have also instructed members of the Rainbow Family to build latrines a minimum of 300 feet from any stream with running water. Firewood cutting is prohibited within 100 ft and camping is prohibited within 50 ft of streams with running water to protect critical salmon habitat.

Today, District employees will set up photo points to begin monitoring impacts to the gathering site. Law enforcement officers are signing specific roads that must be kept open and accessible.

## **OF SPECIAL NOTE**

A free noncommercial group use permit is required for every group of 75 or more that wants to hold a meeting or event on National Forest System lands. The permit contains provisions to minimize resource impacts on the National Forest, provides for the health and safety of forest visitors, and helps the permittee select a location that avoids conflicts with other permit holders and threatened or endangered species. Acting Forest Supervisor, Anne Archie, noted that the Forest will continue to enforce applicable laws and regulations, to ensure public health and safety and resource protection.

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# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

**Monday, June 18, 2001**

Information Center Phone: 1-208- 259-3371(not yet wired)

## BACKGROUND

The Rainbow Family's apparent location for this year's National Gathering's is about 28 miles northeast of Lowman, Idaho on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest. The gathering may eventually spread across several square miles of forest and large open meadows in the Cache Creek and Sack Creek area. A National Incident Management Team, lead by Incident Commander [REDACTED] has been assigned to assist the Boise National Forest as well as establish a Unified Command with local, county and state health care organizations and law enforcement agencies.

Because of the sheer number of participants involved in the illegal gathering, District Ranger Walt Rogers has been forced to implement resource protection measures in the Bear Valley watershed.

The Incident Command Post is stationed at the Lowman Ranger District. A phone number will soon be available for people wishing to obtain more information about the status of the Rainbow Gathering.

Because of the sheer number of participants involved in the illegal gathering, District Ranger Walt Rogers has been forced to implement resource protection measures in the Bear Valley watershed, holding the line in critically sensitive areas.

Forest Orders have been issued to protect critical fish habitat and prevent adverse resource damage. Rainbow Family participants have been informed of restrictions imposed for latrine construction, firewood cutting and camping. These Forest Orders will be enforced in the Mace, Sack and Cache Creek drainages.

An area closure has been enacted along Bear Valley Creek, beginning at Bearskin Bridge on FS Road #536; downstream along Forest Service road #582 and to the confluence with Elk Creek from the road edge streamside to 100 feet back on the northwest (opposite) side of Bear Valley Creek.

**Yesterday**, Incident Law Enforcement assisted Boise County Sheriff's Department with the apprehension and felony arrest of an individual suspected in an attempted robbery at a Lowman mini-market.

**Today**, Forest Service crews plan to grade roads in the vicinity of the gathering to protect road and stream resources.

## THE CURRENT SITUATION

It is estimated that 300-400 people are at the illegal gathering site. This number is lower than at this time last year. Members of the Rainbow Family continue to slowly filter their way into Valley County, reaching a peak of possibly 20,000 on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

The location selected for this year's gathering is less than ideal from a resource protection point of view. The Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened and endangered fish species. The area is also habitat for listed native wolves and lynx.

A Delegation of Authority (DOA), signed by Anne Archie, Acting Boise National Forest Supervisor, was issued to delegate of the Rainbow Family Gathering to [REDACTED] Incident Commander. This authority includes management of employee and public safety, information, community relations, resource protection, and other duties associated with the event.

## OF SPECIAL NOTE

A member of the Rainbow Family has submitted an incomplete application for a noncommercial group use permit. A free noncommercial group use permit is required for every group of 75 or more wishing to hold a meeting or event on National Forest System lands. The permit contains provisions to minimize resource impacts on the National Forest, provides for the health and safety of forest visitors, and helps the permittee select a location that avoids conflicts with other permit holders and threatened or endangered species. Acting Forest Supervisor, Anne Archie, noted that the Forest will continue to enforce applicable laws and regulations, to ensure public health and safety and resource protection.

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# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

**Tuesday, June 19, 2001**

Information Center Phone: 1-208- 259-3371(not yet wired)

## THE CURRENT SITUATION

The Rainbow Family is currently gathering in Bear Valley, about 28 miles northeast of Lowman, Idaho on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest. Although

the site remains unconfirmed by the group, signs indicate that the area will be the location for this year's national gathering.

Currently an estimated 400-500 people are gathered at the site, in violation of Federal law. The Forest Service requires any group larger than 75 to apply

**RAINBOW VOCABULARY:**  
"A" Camp - Alcohol Camp; a place where chronic alcohol drinkers and drug abusers congregate. Usually located on the perimeter of the gathering.  
C.A.L.M. - Center for Alternative Medicine; Formally known as M.A.S.H.  
Shanti Sena -Rainbow Family gathering peacemakers.

for a free Noncommercial Group Use Permit. The permit process allows land managers to work with groups to mitigate resource concerns, and provide for the safety and welfare of the public.

Traffic is steadily increasing as members of the Rainbow Family continue to filter into Valley County. The national gathering has the potential to spread across several square miles of forest and large open meadows in the Cache Creek and Sack Creek area. Numbers potentially could peak to more than 20,000 by July 4<sup>th</sup>, or about 3.5 times the size of Valley County, where the gathering is being held.

The Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened and endangered fish

species, and is also habitat for endangered native wolves and lynx.

A National Incident Management Team, lead by Incident Commander [redacted], has mobilized to assist the Boise National Forest and establish a Unified Command with local, county and state health care organizations and law enforcement agencies.

The Incident Command Post is located at the Lowman Ranger District. The phone number listed above will soon be available for people wishing to obtain more information about the status of the Rainbow gathering.

## SPECIAL NOTES

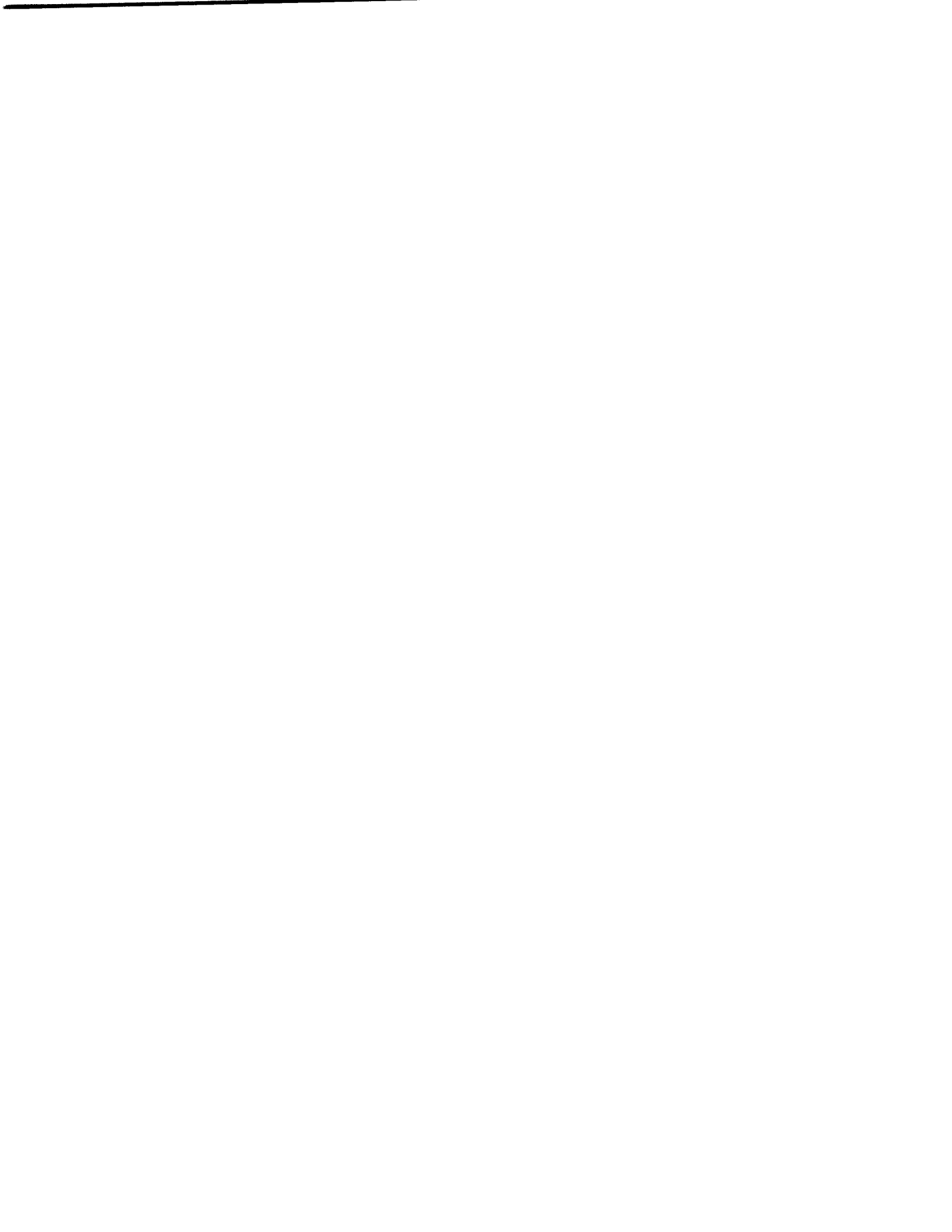
Safety is a major concern as the population increases at the gathering site. Roads in the area are narrow and winding, and potential hazards are increased because of building traffic. Dust is a problem, and the Clear Creek road is scheduled to be posted for no buses or heavy trucks.

**Yesterday:** The Town of Stanley hosted a public meeting on Monday, with about 115 members of the public attending an hour and forty-five minute information session concerning the gathering.

**Today:** An Interagency meeting is being held at the Lowman Ranger District, consisting of key members of local and state agencies that may be involved in managing the gathering.

Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers have been tied into the 911 dispatch system, and citizens with emergency law enforcement issues should utilize the 911 system, rather than contacting the Lowman Ranger District.

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# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Wednesday, June 20, 2001  
Information Center Phone: 1-208-259-3371

## THE CURRENT SITUATION

It's estimated that 1,100 members of the Rainbow Family (doubled from yesterday's 500) are now gathered in the Bear Valley area, 28 miles northeast of Lowman, Idaho. Though this site is yet to be confirmed by the group, signs indicate that Bear Valley, on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest, will be the location for this year's national gathering.

### Community Meetings: Thursday, June 21, 2001

Cascade, Idaho  
Legion Hall, 2:00 pm

McCall, ID  
Legion Hall, 5:00 pm

Traffic continues to be a safety concern as members of the Rainbow Family filter into Valley County. Access roads into the gathering are dusty, narrow, and winding.

Clear Creek (FS Road 582) is not suitable for buses or large vehicles; a breakdown could block access for emergency vehicles. The Boise Forest recommends that large vehicles use FS Road 579.

If the last three years are any indication of participation, attendance could peak near 23,000 by July 4<sup>th</sup>. The national gathering has the potential to spread across several square miles of forest and large open meadows in the Cache Creek and Sack Creek area.

This gathering is in violation of Federal law. The Forest Service requires any group larger than 75 to apply for a free Non-commercial Group Use Permit. The permit process allows land managers to work with groups to mitigate resource concerns, and provide for the safety and welfare of the public.

## BACKGROUND:

The Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened and endangered fish species, and is also habitat for endangered native wolves, wolverine and lynx. b2 b6 b7 c9 e

A National Incident Management Team, lead by Incident Commander [REDACTED], has mobilized to assist the Boise National Forest and establish a Unified Command with local, county and state health care organizations and law enforcement agencies.

The Incident Command Post is located at the Lowman Ranger District. People wishing to obtain more information about the status of the Rainbow gathering may call (208) 259-3371.

## SPECIAL NOTES

**Yesterday:** Over 50 key members of local and state law enforcement, health and safety, and government agencies attended the Unified Command meeting to discuss interagency management issues involving the gathering.

**This Week:** Local County Sheriffs are organizing several community meetings in the area to discuss local expectations and concerns.

Two meetings are scheduled for Thursday, June 21, in: Cascade's Legion Hall at 2:00 PM; and McCall's Legion Hall at 5PM. More meetings are being organized in Horseshoe Bend, Garden Valley, Lowman and Idaho City.

**Citations:** 70 citations have been issued to date for the following type of offenses: traffic violations; illegal gathering; occupancy & use; and drug violations.

Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers are now tied into the 911 dispatch system, and citizens with emergency law enforcement issues should utilize the 911 system, rather than contacting the Lowman Ranger District.



# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Thursday, June 21, 2001

Information Center Phone: 1-208- 259-3371

## Tentative Community Meetings:

**Friday, June 22**  
**Horseshoe Bend**  
**Court House, 7:00 pm**

**Saturday, June 23**  
**Garden Valley, ID**  
**School, 7:00 pm**

## Current Situation

On June 18, a representative for the Rainbow Family submitted a valid application for a Noncommercial Group Use Permit to Walt Rogers, Lowman District Ranger. "We are pleased to see a Rainbow Family member make the effort to meet the requirements for the permit," said Rogers. "We have used this process successfully for years in order to minimize the impacts of group permits on the Boise National Forest. Rogers denied the application for two primary reasons.

First, the Boise National Forest is required to consult with the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes on any action that may affect off-reservation Tribal treaty rights. The Tribes have expressed significant concerns about the potential for adverse effects in the Bear Valley Watershed.

Second, the permit was denied because under the Endangered Species Act, the Forest Service is required to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service, and Fish and Wildlife Service on any permitted activity that may effect listed species in Bear Valley. This area is habitat to a host of threatened species such as Chinook salmon, Canada lynx, bald eagles, steelhead, bull trout, Ute Ladies' Tresses, gray wolves, and a number of other sensitive species.

"The Rainbow Family has taken an important step, but it is entirely unrealistic for a gathering with the potential to reach 25,000 people, to move into one of the most ecological and culturally sensitive areas in the state and start setting up an infrastructure," said Rogers.

"If they had come forth much earlier, we may have been able to locate a suitable site. However, in this instance, they didn't ask us about the site. At the time I received the application, there were upwards of 300 people already on site," said Rogers, adding, "by the time I made my decision, over 1100 had arrived and thousands more are on the way."

As Rainbow Family members continue to gather illegally in the Bear Valley Area, Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers are directing them to dismantle structures that are larger or more elaborate than what would be built in a typical hunting camp. As well, structures in areas that have been closed due to concerns for salmon and steelhead habitat are being ordered dismantled.

## FACTS & FIGURES

**People: 1,300**

**Vehicles: 304**

**Citations Issued: 81**

For the following offences: traffic violations, illegal gathering, occupancy & use, and drug violations.

**Apparent Location:** Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened and endangered fish species. It's also habitat for endangered wolves, wolverine and lynx.

## SPECIAL NOTES

**Today:** Two community meetings are scheduled today in: **Cascade's** Legion Hall at 2:00 PM; and **McCall's** Legion Hall at 5PM.

**This Week:** Community meetings are *tentatively* scheduled in:

- **Horseshoe Bend, ID**, Friday, June 22  
Court House, 7:00 pm
- **Garden Valley, ID**, Saturday, June 23  
School, 7:00 pm
- **Lowman, ID**, Sunday, June 24  
Forest Service Warehouse
- **Idaho City, ID**, Monday, June 25  
Court House, 7:00 pm



# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Friday, June 22, 2001

Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Community Meetings:

### **Horseshoe Bend, ID**

Friday, June 22  
Court House, 7:00 pm

### **Garden Valley, ID**

Saturday, June 23  
School, 7:00 pm

### **Lowman, ID**

Sunday, June 24  
Forest Service  
Warehouse, 7:00 pm

### **Idaho City, ID**

Monday, June 25  
Court House, 7:00 pm

## Current Situation

Though the site has never been officially announced, local Forest Service, law enforcement and medical resource officials continue to draft contingency plans to manage the 30<sup>th</sup> National Rainbow Family gathering on the Boise National Forest. Natural resource protection and public

health and safety remain the focus for management and law enforcement officials.

The Bear Valley watershed, where the Rainbows are currently setting up an infrastructure consistent with past national gathering sites, is a highly sensitive area with numerous environmental and cultural resource issues such as critical habitat for several threatened fish and wildlife species.

The threat of drought looms in Idaho, with snowpack at the lowest levels in decades. Concerned with the rising fire danger level, the Incident Management Team is working closely with the Boise National Forest to develop a fire management and evacuation plan for the gathering area. Although a cooling trend is predicted, recent temperatures reaching close to 100 degrees have begun to cure fine forest fuels such as grasses and brush. The lack of moisture has resulted in stream levels far below normal, and a steadily diminishing water supply for the nearly 1,500 gatherers currently situated at the site.

On June 20<sup>th</sup> the Rainbow Family was denied a noncommercial group use permit for the Bear Valley. More than 300 individuals were gathered in the area at the time the permit application was submitted, and two days later when the decision to deny the permit was made, the population had increased to approximately 1,100. The Forest Service continues to stress the

importance of the Rainbow Family entering into the permit process well before the gathering begins. Because the Rainbow Family submitted a permit application after they were already established at the site, it was impossible for the Forest Service to engage in the required consultation with local Tribes and regulatory agencies. If the potential gathering was not so large, and the permit application had been started early enough, a suitable site may have been possible to locate in southern Idaho. However, after conducting a search on the Boise National Forest, Forest Service officials were unable to determine a suitable alternate site, although there are areas which are much less fragile than the Bear Valley. The Forest Service has urged the Rainbow Family to designate an on-the-ground site representative to coordinate planning for future gatherings and to seriously consider hosting much smaller events.

## FACTS & FIGURES

**People: 1,500**

**Vehicles: 346**

**Citations Issued: 87**

For the following offences: traffic violations, illegal gathering, occupancy & use, interfering with an officer and drug violations.

**Apparent Location:** Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened and endangered fish species. It's also habitat for endangered wolves, wolverine and lynx.

## SPECIAL NOTES

**Today:** Community meetings are scheduled this week in:

- **Horseshoe Bend, ID**, Friday, June 22  
Court House, 7:00 pm
- **Garden Valley, ID**, Saturday, June 23  
School, 7:00 pm
- **Lowman, ID**, Sunday, June 24  
Forest Service Warehouse, 7:00 pm
- **Idaho City, ID**, Monday, June 25  
Court House, 7:00 pm



# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

**Saturday, June 23, 2001**

Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Community Meetings:

**Garden Valley, ID**  
Saturday, June 23  
School, 7:00 pm  
**Lowman, ID**  
Sunday, June 24  
Forest Service  
Warehouse, 7:00 pm  
**Idaho City, ID**  
Monday, June 25  
Court House, 7:00 pm

## Current Situation

Though the site has never been officially announced, local Forest Service, law enforcement and medical resource officials continue to draft contingency plans to manage the 30<sup>th</sup> National Rainbow Family gathering on the Boise National Forest.

This event remains unpermitted though Family members have expressed a willingness to cooperate with Forest Service direction.

In order to minimize adverse environmental impacts, the Forest Service will meet today with Rainbow Family members to locate sites for kitchens and latrines. Natural resource protection and public health and safety remain the focus for management and law enforcement officials. Rainbow family members have agreed to provide some portable toilets and dumpsters. The availability of potable water continues to be an issue for the Rainbow Family to resolve.

Effort and tenacity have brought the Family to the table, the Forest Service's goal from the very beginning. The Rainbow Family has promised they will work with the Forest Service next year, to ensure an event of this magnitude will not occur in such an environmentally sensitive area.

The Bear Valley watershed, where the Rainbows are currently setting up an infrastructure consistent with past national gathering sites, is a highly sensitive area. There are numerous environmental and cultural resource issues such as critical habitat for several threatened fish and wildlife species.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will continue to be issued for violation of these regulations.

## Health and Safety Concerns:

Major health and safety concerns identified for this gathering are summarized into the following six general categories:

- Safety of Incident Personnel
- Public Health – Infectious Disease
- Potable Water Quality
- Solid and Human Waste Disposal
- Food Preparation and Storage
- Environmental Factors

The Incident Management Team continues to work closely with members of local and state health & safety agencies to address these concerns in a coordinated action plan.

## FACTS & FIGURES

**People: 1,600**

**Vehicles: 390**

**Citations Issued: 109**

For the following offences: illegal gathering, occupancy & use, interfering with an officer, traffic violations and drug violations.

**Apparent Location:** Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened and endangered fish species. It's also habitat for endangered wolves, wolverine and lynx.

## SPECIAL NOTES

Community meetings are scheduled this week in:

- **Garden Valley, ID**  
Saturday, June 23, 7:00 pm at the school
- **Lowman, ID**  
Sunday, June 24, 7:00 pm at the Forest Service Warehouse,
- **Idaho City, ID**  
Monday, June 25, 7:00 pm at the Court House





# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

**Sunday, June 24, 2001**

Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Community Meetings:

**Lowman, ID**  
Sunday, June 24  
Forest Service  
Warehouse, 7:00 pm  
**Idaho City, ID**  
Monday, June 25  
Court House, 7:00 pm

## Current Situation

The Rainbow Family continues to be reluctant to announce this year's "official" site location. However, today on their web site, they wrote that the site will likely never get announced this year and the Council has

yet to reach consensus—like last year. The web site suggests that the "default location" for this year's gathering is near the Spring Council site at Cache Creek Meadow on the Boise National Forest.

A fourth application for a permit was received yesterday and is currently under review by the District Ranger.

This gathering remains an unpermitted event though Family members have expressed a willingness to cooperate with Forest Service direction.

In order to minimize adverse environmental impacts, the Forest Service is meeting with Rainbow Family members to locate specific sites where kitchens and latrines would and would not be allowed. Natural resource protection and public health and safety remain the focus for management and law enforcement officials. Rainbow Family members have agreed to provide some portable toilets and dumpsters. The availability of potable water continues to be an issue for the Rainbow Family to resolve.

Effort and tenacity have brought the Family to the table to begin to resolve long-standing issues associated with these annual gatherings. The Rainbow Family has assured the Forest Service they will be willing to work together early next year to ensure an event of this magnitude will not occur in such an environmentally and culturally sensitive area again.

The Bear Valley watershed, where the Rainbows are currently setting up an infrastructure consistent with past national gathering sites, is a highly sensitive area. There are numerous environmental and cultural

resource issues such as critical habitat for several threatened fish and wildlife species.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will continue to be issued for violation of these regulations.

Early yesterday evening an alleged leader of the Rainbow Family's security force (called the Shanti Sena) was arrested and taken to Boise. In her possession officers found more than 1 pound of marijuana, some meth, and other controlled substances. Officers also found a .22 caliber semi-automatic pistol. She will appear in Federal Court on Monday. According to the Rainbow Family "Mini Manual" the Shanti Sena responds to conflicts with non-violent methods only. The Mini Manual also contains this Rainbow pledge:

- We pledge to walk lightly on the earth
- We pledge to respect & care for each other and for all living things
- We pledge to drop all forms of violence in our dealings with each other

## FACTS & FIGURES

**People: 2,100**

**Vehicles: 485**

**Citations: 109**

For the following offences: illegal gathering, occupancy & use, interfering with an officer, traffic violations and drug violations.

**Apparent Location:** Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

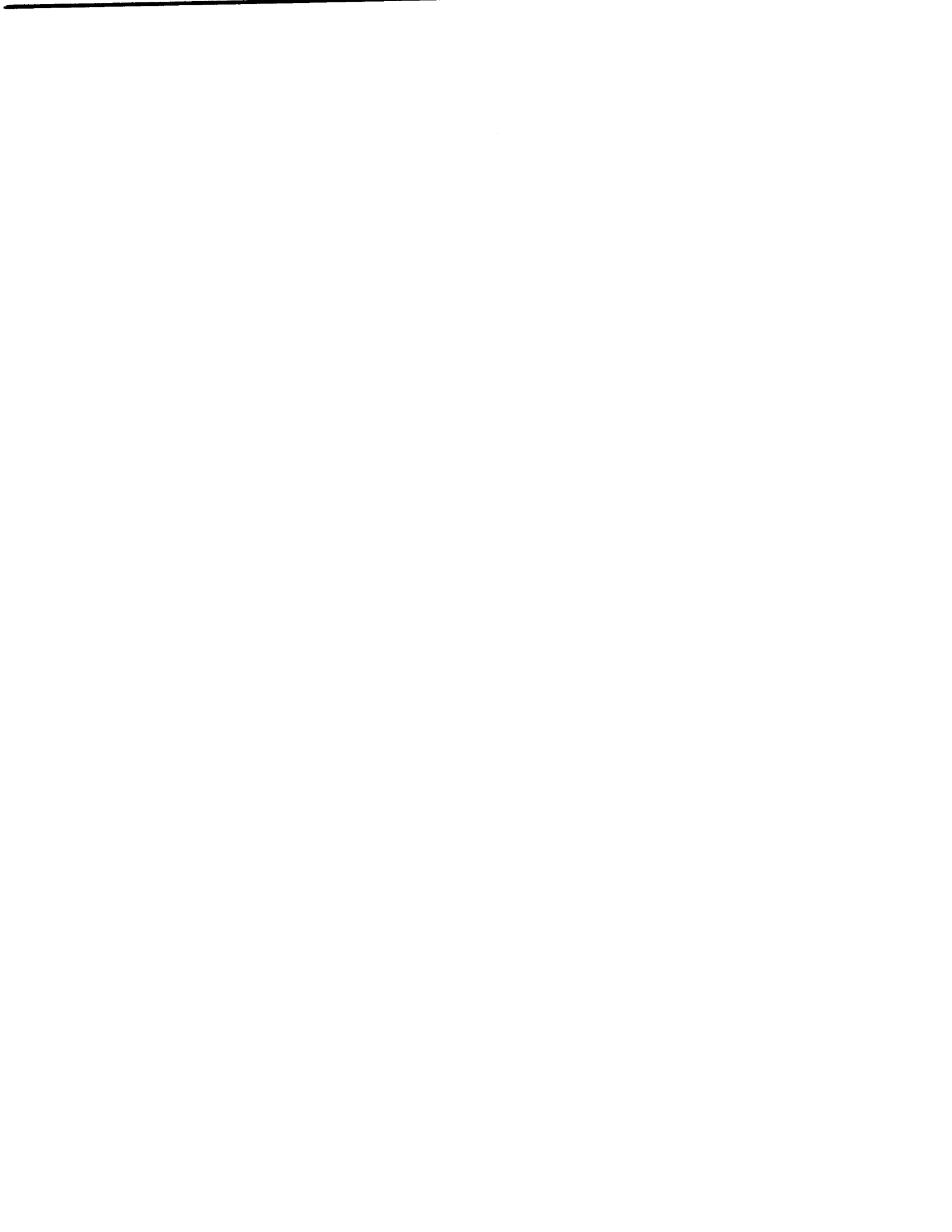
### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened and endangered fish species. It's also habitat for endangered wolves, wolverine and lynx.

## SPECIAL NOTES

Community meetings are scheduled this week in:

- **Lowman, ID**  
Sunday, June 24, 7:00 pm at the Forest Service Warehouse,
- **Idaho City, ID**  
Monday, June 25, 7:00 pm at the Court House



# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Monday, June 25, 2001

Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

Rainbow Family numbers continue to increase in the Bear Valley, with about 2,600 members currently

### **Water Safety:**

*Giardia lamblia* is a microscopic organism, prevalent in many of the natural waters in North America.

*Giardia* may or may not be present, but the Forest Service advises users to assume that all natural water sources are contaminated, and filter or boil all of their water.

Although giardiasis can be incapacitating, it is not usually life-threatening. After ingestion, giardia normally attach to the small intestine, potentially causing nausea, diarrhea, gas, loss of appetite, weight loss, abdominal cramps, and bloating.

Symptoms usually occur a few days to a few weeks after ingestion of giardia, and may last up to six weeks. Most people are unaware they have been infected, and often have returned home before the onset of symptoms.

If not treated, the symptoms may disappear on their own, only to recur intermittently over a period of many months. With proper diagnosis the disease is curable with medication prescribed by a physician.

*Giardia* can be readily transmitted between humans and animals. Feces (human or animal) can contain the organism and contaminate the water, continuing the chain of infection from animals to humans.

at the site. The Rainbow Family's "Unofficial" website, ([welcomehome.org](http://welcomehome.org)), reports that the gathering will "definitely" be held at the current location.

A fourth application for a permit was received Saturday, and a decision will be issued this afternoon by the Lowman District Ranger.

While the Forest Service doesn't condone this type of nonpermitted activity on National Forest Service System lands, the agency is trying to cope with the possible adverse environmental impacts, public health and safety issues, and cultural concerns arising from a gathering of this magnitude being held in such sensitive habitat.

Following this strategy of coping with the effects of the gathering, Forest Service officials have been providing guidance to Rainbow Family members

concerning the location of kitchens and latrines. To date, 31 kitchens have been located and mapped.

Rainbow Family members have agreed to provide some portable toilets and dumpsters. The availability of potable water continues to be an issue for the Rainbow Family to resolve. Unfiltered, or improperly boiled water from natural sources has the potential to contain the organism giardia, with several unconfirmed reports of individuals exhibiting illnesses with similar symptoms (see sidebar).

A public meeting was held at the Lowman Ranger District last night, with 41 members of the public attending. Boise County Sheriff Gary Brown led the discussion, providing information and statistics about the gathering, and an overview of the management of the incident. In general, the public expressed support for the Forest Service's efforts to manage the gathering.

The Forest Service is optimistic about assurances offered by the Rainbow Family to enter into the permit process early before the next gathering. Effort and tenacity have brought the Rainbow Family to the table in order to resolve long-standing issues associated with these annual gatherings. The Rainbow Family has assured the Forest Service they will be willing to work together early next year to ensure an event of this magnitude will not occur in such an environmentally and culturally sensitive area again.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will continue to be issued for violation of these regulations.

**Apparent Location:** Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened and endangered fish species. It's also habitat for endangered wolves, wolverine and lynx.

### **SPECIAL NOTES**

Community meetings are scheduled this week in:

- **Idaho City, ID**  
Monday, June 25, 7:00 pm at  
the Court House



# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*					6/25/2001	
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the USDA Forest Service)						
	6/10 to 6/25	6/26	6/27	6/28	6/29	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>						
Felony Arrests	2					2
Misdemeanor Arrests	2					2
Warrants served	0					0
Citations Issued	138					138
Warnings Issued	88					88
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>						
DUI	0					0
Alcohol Related	7					7
Drug Related	42					42
Weapons	1					1
Disorderly Conduct	13					13
Assault/Officer Interference	0					0
Traffic and Vehicle	136					136
Vehicle Accidents	2					2
Medical Emergencies	2					2
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	2					2
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	0					0
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	1					1
Loitering/Panhandling	5					5
Nudity	1					1
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	0					0
Natural Resource Damage/Fish and Game	2					2
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	179					179

HEALTH AND SAFETY (REPORTED INCIDENTS)				
	6/10-6/25	6/26	6/27	TOTALS
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>				
Natal				
Dental				
Psychiatric				
Muscular-skeletal				
Surface Wounds				
Misc (epileptic seizure, diabetic, etc.)				
Substance Abuse				
Strep Throat				
Ambulance Transports				
Hospital Visits				



# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

**Tuesday, June 26, 2001**  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

Rainbow Family numbers remained stable from yesterday, with about 2,600 currently gathered at the site in Bear Valley.

Boise County has applied to the Governor of the State of Idaho for an Emergency Declaration. This would make emergency assistance available to help the County with emergency services due to the expected increase in people from the Rainbow Family gathering.

The Forest Service has expressed concern about the condition of roads leading to the site, with several accidents reported, and many more near-misses occurring daily. The Forest Service has passed a special order limiting speed to 30 mph on the road, and signs are being posted today.

Speeds will continue to be strictly enforced on all Forest Service, state, and county roads, and the Idaho State Police will be joining with forces from the Unified Command today.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will continue to be issued for violation of these regulations.

A Unified Command meeting is being held at Lowman Ranger District today, consisting of law enforcement and disaster specialists from local, state and federal agencies.

Yesterday, the seventh in a series of public meetings was held in Idaho City, with 28 attending. Forest Service information officers continue to visit local communities, distributing copies of the Daily Update, and answering questions from the local populace.

One of last year's primary peace-keepers in the Shanti Sena, a subgroup of the Rainbow Family which acts as an internal police force at the gatherings, was arrested Sunday for being in possession of an excess of 1 pound of marijuana,

methamphetamine, other unidentified substances, and a loaded handgun.

She has been charged with two felonies in Federal Court in Boise--felony drug possession, and felony firearm possession--each of which carry a potential 5 year sentence, and \$250,000 fine. There has been no bail set, and she is to be arraigned on Thursday before the Boise Federal Magistrate.

Walt Rogers, Lowman District Ranger reached a decision on the fourth application for a Noncommercial Group Use Permit yesterday, stating that he felt compelled to deny the permit because of the threatened species and Tribal issues in the Bear Valley watershed, where the Rainbow Family is gathering. The area provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, bull trout, an experimental/non-essential population of gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladie's Tresses, all of which are threatened species. As well, the area is held as sacred fishing grounds by the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes.

In an effort to cope with the nonpermitted gathering, Forest Service officials have been providing guidance to ensure Rainbow Family members do not locate kitchens and latrines in environmentally sensitive areas. To date, 31 kitchens have been located and mapped. This effort is being undertaken in order to try to mitigate possible adverse environmental impacts, public health and safety issues, and cultural concerns arising from a gathering of this magnitude being held in such sensitive habitat.

The Rainbow Family has assured the Forest Service they will be willing to work together early next year to ensure an event of this magnitude will not occur in such an environmentally and culturally sensitive area again.

**Apparent Location:** Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened fish species. It's also habitat for wolves, wolverine and lynx.

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*						6/26/2001
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the USDA Forest Service)						
	6/10 to 6/26	6/27	6/28	6/29	6/30	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>						
Felony Arrests	1					1
Misdemeanor Arrests	1					1
Warrants served	0					0
Citations Issued	122					122
Warnings Issued	321					321
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>445</b>					<b>445</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>						
DUI	2					2
Alcohol Related	8					8
Drug Related	38					38
Weapons	1					1
Disorderly Conduct	1					1
Assault/Officer Interference	16					16
Traffic and Vehicle	146					146
Vehicle Accidents	2					2
Medical Emergencies	2					2
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	2					2
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	1					1
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	2					2
Loitering/Panhandling	5					5
Nudity	2					2
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	8					8
Natural Resource Damage/Fish and Game	75					75
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	47					47
Occupancy Use/Permit	87					87
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>445</b>					<b>445</b>



# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

**Wednesday, June 27, 2001**  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

Representatives of the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes are planning a visit to the Rainbow Family gathering today. The Tribal

### Rainbow Gathering Population (estimated):

2001, Idaho—  
June 27: 3,240

2000, Montana—  
June 27: 9,750  
final: 23,500

1999, Pennsylvania—  
June 27: 2,700  
final: 21,000

1998, Arizona—  
June 27: 7,000  
final: 25,000 +

members are expected to meet with the Rainbow Family—which takes its name from an American Indian prophecy—and express concerns about impacts to sacred Tribal fishing grounds located on National Forest System lands in the Bear Valley.

State of Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorn is expected to helicopter in near the site to assess potential impacts from the gathering. Kempthorn is considering a request from Boise County to declare a state of emergency because of the impacts to the community from the

gathering.

Members of the Idaho Rivers United (IRU), Idaho's second largest environmental organization, visited the site yesterday in an attempt to educate the Rainbow Family about the sensitive nature of the area. In cooperation with the Boise National Forest, members of the group passed out flyers at the gathering, and posted signs in critical areas. Bill Sedivy, IRU Executive Director, commended the Forest Service for their efforts to limit resource damage in the Bear Valley, acknowledging the difficult situation the agency faces.

Numbers have increased to about 3,240 at the site, and road conditions continue to worsen as traffic increases on the narrow, curvy road. The Forest Service has passed a special order limiting speed to 30 mph on the road, and signs have been posted.

Speeding laws continue to be strictly enforced on all Forest Service, State, and County roads. Travelers are encouraged to pay close attention to speed limits, and be aware of the increased law enforcement in the area.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will continue to be issued for violation of these regulations

In an effort to manage the impacts of the nonpermitted gathering, Forest Service officials continue in their attempts to direct Rainbow members on the placement of kitchens and latrines. The Lowman District Ranger informed the group that any kitchens must be pre-approved before construction, or they will be cited and ordered dismantled. This effort is being undertaken in order to mitigate possible adverse environmental impacts, public health and safety issues, and cultural concerns.

Although the group submitted two valid applications, both were denied because of the threatened species and Tribal issues in the Bear Valley watershed. The area provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, bull trout, an experimental/non-essential population of gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladie's Tresses, all of which are threatened species. As well, the area contains sacred fishing grounds of the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes.

The Rainbow Family has assured the Forest Service they will be willing to work together early next year to ensure an event of this magnitude will not occur in such an environmentally and culturally sensitive area again.

**Apparent Location:** Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened fish species. It's also habitat for wolves, wolverine and lynx.
- There have been three Rainbow-related helicopter medivacs to date.



# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

## UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT\*

6/27/2001

(\*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the USDA Forest Service)

	6/10 to 6/26	6/26	6/27	6/30	7/1	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>						
Felony Arrests	1					1
Misdemeanor Arrests	1					1
Warrants served	0					0
Citations Issued	122	43				122
Warnings Issued	321	113				434
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>				<b>601</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>						
DUI	2					2
Alcohol Related	8	4				12
Drug Related	38	3				41
Weapons	1					1
Disorderly Conduct	1					1
Assault/Officer Interference	16	5				21
Traffic and Vehicle	146	87				233
Vehicle Accidents	2					2
Medical Emergencies	2					2
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	2					2
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	1	1				2
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	2	1				2
Loitering/Panhandling	5	12				17
Nudity	2	12				14
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	8	1				9
Natural Resource Damage/Fish and Game	75	2				77
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	47	26				73
Occupancy Use/Permit	87	2				89
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>				<b>601</b>



# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Thursday, June 28, 2001  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

A plea to the Rainbow Family from the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes elicited some apologies from the group yesterday for gathering on sacred fishing grounds.

### Rainbow Gathering Population (estimated):

2001, Idaho—  
June 28: 3,500

2000, Montana—  
June 28: 10,000  
final: 23,500

1999, Pennsylvania—  
June 28: 3,500  
final: 21,000

1998, Arizona—  
June 27: 9,800  
final: 25,000 +

Members of a Tribal delegation expressed deep concern that activities at the site such as uncontrolled animals, dog fights, nudity, and noise violated the spiritual nature of their sacred ground.

Amidst sound of barking dogs and bongo drums, leaders of the tribe addressed a crowd of about 1,000 Rainbows, whose responses ranged from tears and apologies, to blaming the Forest Service for the location of the site. Despite the Rainbow Family claims from some Rainbow

Family leaders, Forest Service officials have consistently communicated concerns about the site to both the Rainbow Family, and the local community.

Although two valid applications for Noncommercial Group Use Permits have been submitted, both were denied because of threatened species habitat, and sacred Tribal lands in the Bear Valley area. The area provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, bull trout, an experimental/non-essential population of gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladie's Tresses. The first application was submitted when there were approximately 300 individuals at the site, and the second was submitted when there were about 1,100 individuals gathered. The gathering is still a nonpermitted event, and citations will continue to be issued.

The Forest Service has communicated these concerns since learning of the gathering site, and

emphasizes that these issues are precisely why the Rainbow Family needs to come to the table early in the permit process, so the appropriateness of the site can be determined by scientists and resource managers qualified to make that determination.

Governor Dirk Kempthorne issued an emergency declaration in Boise County yesterday, after visiting the Rainbow gathering. This declaration provides resources from the state to help cope with the impacts of the gathering. The county will be particularly hard hit next week, as a multitude of hikers, kayakers, and other travelers descend upon the area during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Verbal warnings have been ineffective in keeping Rainbows at least 50 ft away from Sack and Cache Creeks. In order to protect these sensitive areas, and to reduce trampling of the stream banks, resource advisors from the Lowman Ranger District will flag and sign these streamside areas to keep people out.

Numbers have increased to about 3,500 at the site, and road conditions continue to worsen as traffic increases on the narrow, curvy road. A special order issued by the Forest Service has limited speed to 30 mph on roads accessing the gathering, and signs have been posted. Speeding laws will be strictly enforced on all Forest Service, State, and County roads.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will continue to be issued for violation of these regulations. As well, any member of the public in the gathering site has the potential to be cited for violating the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

**Apparent Location:** Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened fish species. It's also habitat for wolves, wolverine and lynx.
- There have been four Rainbow-related helicopter medivacs to date, at an average cost of approximately \$3,500 each.

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*					6/28/2001	
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the USDA Forest Service)						
	6/10 to 6/26	6/26	6/27	6/30	7/1	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>						
Felony Arrests	1					1
Misdemeanor Arrests	1					1
Warrants served	0					0
Citations Issued	122	43	50			215
Warnings Issued	321	113	61			495
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>111</b>			<b>712</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>						
DUI	2					2
Alcohol Related	8	4				12
Drug Related	38	3	2			43
Weapons	1					1
Disorderly Conduct	1		3			4
Assault/Officer Interference	16	5				21
Traffic and Vehicle	146	87	64			297
Vehicle Accidents	2					2
Medical Emergencies	2					2
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	2		2			4
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	1	1				2
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	2	1				3
Loitering/Panhandling	5	12	14			31
Nudity	2	12	12			26
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	8	1				9
Natural Resource Damage/Fish and Game	75	2				77
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	47	26	14			87
Occupancy Use/Permit	87	2				89
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>111</b>			<b>712</b>

# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Friday, June 29, 2001  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

Another Rainbow-related felony arrest occurred yesterday, when officers from the Unified Command took a man into custody for possession of an illegal sawed-off shotgun, illegal drugs—including methamphetamine—drug-paraphernalia, and providing false information to a police officer.

A self-described "sheriff" in the Rainbow Family's internal police, was denied bail yesterday, after she was arraigned in federal court on charges of felony drug possession, and felony firearm possession. She was arrested on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, for being in possession of more than a pound of marijuana, methamphetamine, other unidentified substances, and a loaded handgun. She faces 5-years, and a \$250,000 fine for each charge.

Eight members of the Rainbow Family were cited for public nudity at the Bonneville Hot Springs. Regulations pertaining to swimming and bathing on the Boise National Forest will be strictly enforced.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will continue to be issued for violation of these regulations. Anyone not on official business at the gathering may be cited for violating the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

Verbal warnings have been ineffective in keeping Rainbows at least 50 ft away from Sack and Cache Creeks. To reduce impacts in these areas, resource specialists from the Lowman Ranger District directed volunteers from the Rainbow Family in the placement of signs and flagging in order to protect those sensitive areas, and to reduce damage to the stream banks. Law enforcement efforts have been effective in keeping Rainbows out of the Bear Valley Creek riparian area, and citations are being issued to anyone entering this closed area.

Indications in late May and early June pointed to the Spokane-area as the likely site for the 2001 national gathering. There was significant scouting activity by the Rainbow Family in northern Idaho and eastern Washington, and The National Incident Management Team initially staged in Spokane on

June 8th. However, on June 12, the team moved operations to the Lowman Ranger District to monitor activity in the Bear Valley watershed, where the Rainbow's "Spring Council" was being held. The Spring Council leads the group's decision on selecting a site for the national gathering.

Forest Service officials made a concerted effort to communicate concerns about the site to both the Rainbow Family, and the local community. The area provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, bull trout, an experimental/non-essential population of gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladie's Tresses. As well, the Bear Valley contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes. The gathering continues to be a nonpermitted event, and participants are subject to citation.

The sensitive nature of the site selective for the Rainbow Family 2001 National Gathering emphasizes the need for the group to come to the table early in the permit process, to allow scientists and resource managers sufficient time to determine the suitability of the site selected.

Numbers have increased to about 4,350, and road conditions continue to worsen as traffic increases on gravel roads leading to the Bear Valley location. A special order issued by the Forest Service has limited speed to 30 mph on roads accessing the gathering, and signs have been posted. Speeding laws will be strictly enforced on all Forest Service, State, and County roads.

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**Apparent Location:** Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- Bear Valley Watershed is critical habitat for three threatened fish species. It's also habitat for wolves, wolverine and lynx.
- There have been four Rainbow-related helicopter medivacs to date, at an average cost of approximately \$3,500 each.

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*					6/29/2001	
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the USDA Forest Service)						
	6/10 to 6/26	6/27	6/28	6/29	6/30	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>						
Felony Arrests	1			2		3
Misdemeanor Arrests	1			4		5
Warrants served	0			3		3
Citations Issued	122	43	50	68		283
Warnings Issued	321	113	61	87		582
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>164</b>		<b>876</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>						
DUI	2					2
Alcohol Related	8	4		8		20
Drug Related	38	3	2	6		49
Weapons	1			1		2
Disorderly Conduct	1		3	4		8
Assault/Officer Interference	16	5				21
Traffic and Vehicle	146	87	64	109		406
Vehicle Accidents	2					2
Medical Emergencies	2					2
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	2		2			4
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	1	1				2
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	2	1				3
Loitering/Panhandling	5	12	14			31
Nudity	2	12	12	12		38
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	8	1				9
Natural Resource Damage/Fish and Game	75	2				77
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	47	26	14	21		108
Occupancy Use/Permit	87	2		3		92
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>164</b>		<b>876</b>



# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

**Saturday, June 30, 2001**  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

**T**HE peak of the Rainbow 2001 National gathering will occur on Wednesday, July 4, when members of the group will form a prayer-circle. Typically, numbers at the site decrease drastically following the event, with thousands departing the site within a few

### **Rainbow Family Population trends at Past Gatherings (est.):**

Montana, 2000:  
July 4—23,500  
July 7—5,300

Pennsylvania, 1999:  
July 4—22,000  
July 7—10,500

Arizona, 1998:  
July 4—25,000+  
July 7—5,400

days. Local residents and travelers in the area should expect increased traffic congestion on roads leading from the site, including main routes through Stanley, Garden Valley, and Lowman.

Currently, there are an estimated 5,650 gathering participants at the site, about 10,000 less than last year. Numbers at the gathering are growing more slowly than historically, leading Forest Service officials to speculate that the 2001 national gathering may be smaller than past years.

Factors affecting numbers this year include the sensitivity of the site, internal rifts in the organization of the Rainbow Family, and discontent over the distance of the gathering site from the East Coast. Typically, the Rainbows alternate between the East and West Coasts in order to spread traveling costs equitably between members on both coasts.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will be issued for violation of these regulations. Anyone participating in the gathering may be cited for violating the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

The Forest Service continues to communicate concerns about the site to both the Rainbow Family, and the local community. The area provides habitat

for Chinook salmon, steelhead, bull trout, an experimental/non-essential population of gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladie's Tresses. The Bear Valley also contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes. The gathering is a nonpermitted event, and participants are subject to citation.

In response to Forest Service concerns about the sensitivity of the Bear Valley, some members of the Rainbow Family have brought forth the issue of grazing permits, contending that the gathering will have less impacts than cattle in the area.

The impacts of the Rainbow gathering have yet to be assessed, however, prior to the Rainbow's presence in the Bear Valley, riparian and stream channel conditions had consistently improved in the area for the last 10 years. This habitat improvement is a direct result of the cooperation between permittees and the Forest Service in the management of grazing in the area. Since 1980, grazing has been reduced by 74 percent in the Bear Valley Basin.

The permittees in the Bear Valley allotment have been very willing to come to the table and work with the Forest Service to improve habitat conditions for threatened salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. Within the last ten years, the impacts of livestock grazing have been reduced to the point that conditions have consistently improved in the Bear Valley. In the last two years, the permittee has not grazed livestock in meadows where the gathering is being held for resource protection.

Livestock grazing does not occur in sensitive areas until the Chinook salmon have completed their spawning, and the eggs have hatched. Livestock grazing at this site has been regulated to the point that it doesn't affect the fish habitat. Further, the permittees work with the Forest Service through a process which brings regulatory agencies such as the National Marine Fisheries Service to the table in order to oversee and analyze any possible affects.

The issues that have arisen from the 2001 Rainbow gathering make it clear that the group needs to come to the table early in the permit process, and allow scientists and resource managers sufficient time to determine the suitability of the site selected.

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*					6/30/2001	
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the USDA Forest Service)						
	6/10 to 6/26	6/27	6/28	6/29	6/30	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>						
Felony Arrests	1			2	1	4
Misdemeanor Arrests	1			4	1	6
Warrants served	0			3	16	19
Citations Issued	122	43	50	68	77	360
Warnings Issued	321	113	61	87	101	683
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>1072</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>						
DUI	2					2
Alcohol Related	8	4		8	4	24
Drug Related	38	3	2	6	19	68
Weapons	1			1		2
Disorderly Conduct	1		3	4	3	11
Assault/Officer Interference	16	5			2	23
Traffic and Vehicle	146	87	64	109	90	496
Vehicle Accidents	2				1	3
Medical Emergencies	2					2
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	2		2			4
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	1	1			1	3
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	2	1				3
Loitering/Panhandling	5	12	14		16	47
Nudity	2	12	12	12	12	50
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	8	1				9
Natural Resource Damage/Department of Fish and Game incidents	75	2				77
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	47	26	14	21	38	146
Occupancy Use/Permit	87	2		3	10	102
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>1072</b>

# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Sunday, July 1, 2001

Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

**N**EARLY 4,500 more Rainbows moved in to Bear Valley yesterday, bringing the illegal event to approximately 10,000 people. Forest Service concerns about the sensitivity continue to mount, as the size of the gathering increases. The

### Rainbow Family Population trends (estimated):

Idaho, 2001:  
July 1—10,000

Montana, 2000:  
July 1—18,000

Pennsylvania, 1999:  
July 1—15,000

Arizona, 1998:  
July 1—16,500

Bear Valley contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes, and provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, bull trout, gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladie's Tresses. The gathering is a nonpermitted event, and participants are subject to citation.

Despite assurances to both the Tribes and the District Ranger, escalating numbers of Rainbows have caused a variety of resource damages at

the site. Green lodgepole has been cut and stripped for use as teepee poles, and massive firepits have been ordered filled, and the builders ticketed. A spring, previously approved by the District Ranger, was discovered to have been expanded significantly. Rainbows dug out the area in an attempt to extract more water from the source, carving out trenches, which resulted in damage to the fragile riparian ecosystem. These actions were taken without the District Ranger's knowledge, despite pledges from the Rainbows to consult with resource managers before altering registered structures. Citations were issued for resource damage.

There were 46 juveniles recovered from last year's gathering near Dillon, Montana. Rainbow gatherings offer a haven for runaways, fugitives,

and individuals without means, who wish to remain anonymous. The mother of a teenager traveled to the gathering from out of state, hoping to find her runaway daughter. The girl was recovered yesterday, and returned to her grateful mother.

A felony arrest was made Saturday, of a man traveling to the Rainbow Gathering. He was taken to the Bosie County jail at about 10 p.m. and charged with domestic battery, and attempted murder of his spouse.

A second ambulance has been posted to cover emergency medical needs resulting from the gathering. This relieves the Valley County ambulance to provide critical service to area residents during the typically busy 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.

Officers continue to cite individuals for public nudity. It is illegal to be publicly nude on the Boise National Forest, including hot springs, streams, and rivers.

The current fire danger level on the Lowman Ranger District is HIGH. As the 4<sup>th</sup> of July approaches, visitors are reminded that it is illegal to **possess** fireworks on National Forests. In a special effort to eliminate the illegal use of fireworks, there will be additional law enforcement personnel patrolling the area.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will be issued for violation of these regulations. Anyone participating in the gathering may be cited for violating the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

**Location:** Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### Concerns:

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- There have been four Rainbow-related helicopter medivacs to date, at an average cost of approximately \$3,500 each.

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT									7/1/2001
REPORT*									
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the USDA Forest Service)									
	6/10 to 6/26	6/27	6/28	6/29	6/30	7/1	7/2	7/3	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>									
Felony Arrests	1			2	1	1			5
Misdemeanor Arrests	1			4	1	7			13
Warrants served	0			3	16	2			21
Citations Issued	122	43	50	68	77	103			463
Warnings Issued	321	113	61	87	101	169			852
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>282</b>			<b>1354</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>									
DUI	2					2			4
Alcohol Related	8	4		8	4	10			34
Drug Related	38	3	2	6	19	22			90
Weapons	1			1					2
Disorderly Conduct	1		3	4	3	3			14
Assault/Officer Interference	16	5			2				23
Traffic and Vehicle	146	87	64	109	90	125			621
Vehicle Accidents	2				1				3
Medical Emergencies	2					1			3
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	2		2			2			6
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	1	1			1				3
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	2	1							3
Loitering/Panhandling	5	12	14		16	11			58
Nudity	2	12	12	12	12	2			52
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	8	1							9
Natural Resource Damage/Department of Fish and Game incidents	75	2							77
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	47	26	14	21	38	104			250
Occupancy Use/Permit	87	2		3	10				102
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>282</b>			<b>1354</b>

# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Monday, July 2, 2001  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

**N**UMBERS at the Rainbow Family gathering grew to about 12,400 yesterday afternoon, and traffic continued to stream into Bear Valley through the night. Law Enforcement Officers from the Unified Command continue to patrol the

### **Rainbow Family Population trends (estimated):**

Idaho, 2001:  
July 2—12,400

Montana, 2000:  
July 2—23,000

Pennsylvania, 1999:  
July 2—16,000

Arizona, 1998:  
July 2—23,000

gathering site, public roads, and campsites around the Lowman Ranger District.

There have been seven emergency calls related to the gathering, and a total of 11 ambulance responses, some of which were dual calls (i.e. an air ambulance, and ground ambulance both responded). Of those seven incidents, five were transported to Boise hospitals, and two patients refused service.

The current fire danger level on the Lowman Ranger District is HIGH. As the 4<sup>th</sup> of July approaches, visitors are reminded that it is illegal to **possess** fireworks on National Forests. In an effort to eliminate the illegal use of fireworks, there will be additional law enforcement personnel patrolling the area.

Impacts to the land increase proportionately, as the population balloons at the gathering. To date, Health and Sanitation officials estimate that, approximately 35 tons of human waste has been deposited by the Rainbows at the gathering site.

Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers continue 24-hour patrols in the area to protect the sensitive habitat adjacent to Bear Valley Creek. Yesterday, there were incidents of gathering participants using soap to bathe in local creeks, and seven citations were issued. The Forest

Service is making every effort to protect public health & safety, natural resources, and bring the Rainbow Family into compliance with Noncommercial Group Use regulations.

The local community can expect numbers at the gathering to begin decreasing rapidly after Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>. Typically, the population drops to less than 5,000 within three or four days following the culmination of the gathering, on Independence Day. Traffic continues to be a concern in the area, and all local, state, and federal traffic laws are being strictly enforced.

Forest Service efforts have had effects on organizers of the gathering, and members have given assurances that they will engage in the permit process early next year in order to address resource concerns, and impacts to local communities that result from the national gatherings.

The presence of such a large group in the Bear Valley emphasizes the need for the Rainbows to consult with the Forest Service prior to gatherings. The Bear Valley contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes, and provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, Canada lynx, bull trout, gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladies' Tresses.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will be issued for violation of these regulations. Anyone participating in the gathering may be cited for violating the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

### **Location:**

Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- There have been six Rainbow-related helicopter medivacs to date, at an average cost of approximately \$3,500 each.

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*									7/2/2001
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the USDA Forest Service)									
	6/10 to 6/26	6/27	6/28	6/29	6/30	7/1	7/2	7/3	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>									
Felony Arrests	1			2	1	1			5
Misdemeanor Arrests	1			4	1	7	1		14
Warrants served	0			3	16	2	2		23
Citations Issued	122	43	50	68	77	103	102		565
Warnings Issued	321	113	61	87	101	169	99		951
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>		<b>1558</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>									
DUI	2					2	1		5
Alcohol Related	8	4		8	4	10	17		51
Drug Related	38	3	2	6	19	22	16		106
Weapons	1			1					2
Disorderly Conduct	1		3	4	3	3			14
Assault/Officer Interference	16	5			2				23
Traffic and Vehicle	146	87	64	109	90	125	125		746
Vehicle Accidents	2				1		2		5
Medical Emergencies	2					1	2		5
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	2		2			2	2		8
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	1	1			1		1		4
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	2	1							3
Loitering/Panhandling	5	12	14		16	11	6		64
Nudity	2	12	12	12	12	2	2		54
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	8	1					5		14
Natural Resource Damage/Department of Fish and Game incidents	75	2					4		81
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	47	26	14	21	38	104	18		268
Occupancy Use/Permit	87	2		3	10		3		105
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>		<b>1558</b>

# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Tuesday, July 3, 2001  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

THE culmination of the Rainbow Family gathering occurs tomorrow, on Independence Day, when thousands of the group will join hands and form a prayer-circle. Out of the estimated 22,000 who gathered last year near Dillon, Montana, only about

7,000 actually participated in the ceremony.

Numbers continue to increase at the Bear Valley site, with about 13,200 there as of yesterday afternoon.

Law Enforcement Officers from the Unified Command will be patrolling public roads, and campsites around the Lowman Ranger District to ensure public safety.

There have been nine emergency calls related to the Rainbow gathering, and a total of 14 ambulance responses, some of which were dual calls (i.e. an air ambulance, and ground ambulance

National Forests. In an effort to eliminate the illegal use of fireworks, there will be additional law enforcement personnel patrolling the area.

Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers continue 24-hour patrols in the area to protect the sensitive habitat adjacent to Bear Valley Creek. Yesterday, there were incidents of gathering participants using soap to bathe in local creeks, and seven citations were issued. The Forest Service is making every effort to protect public health & safety, natural resources, and bring the Rainbow Family into compliance with Noncommercial Group Use regulations.

Numbers typically begin decreasing rapidly after July 4<sup>th</sup>. Typically, the population drops to less than 5,000 within three or four days following the culmination of the gathering, on Independence Day. Traffic continues to be a concern in the area, and all local, state, and federal traffic laws are being strictly enforced. As of yesterday, the Custer County jail had one open bed left out of a total of eight, with the others occupied by Rainbow gathering participants.

The presence of such a large group in the Bear Valley emphasizes the need for the Rainbows to consult with the Forest Service prior to gatherings. The Bear Valley contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes, and provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, Canada lynx, bull trout, gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladies' Tresses.

### Rainbow Family Population trends (estimated):

Idaho, 2001:  
July 3—13,200

Montana, 2000:  
July 3—22,500

Pennsylvania, 1999:  
July 3—20,000

Arizona, 1998:  
July 3—25,000+

both responded). Of those nine incidents, three patients refused service.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will be issued for violation of these regulations. Anyone participating in the gathering may be cited for violating the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

Counties are using emergency funds to place dumpsters at strategic spots to deal with the amount of trash traditionally deposited in nearby communities by departing Rainbows.

The current fire danger level on the Lowman Ranger District is HIGH. Dry lightning is forecast for the area this afternoon. As the 4<sup>th</sup> of July approaches, visitors are reminded that it is illegal to **possess** fireworks on

### **Location:**

Bear Valley, approximately 28 miles northeast of Lowman, ID on the Lowman Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

### **Concerns:**

- Increased traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- There have been seven Rainbow-related helicopter ambulance dispatches to date, at an average cost of approximately \$3,500 each.

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*									7/3/2001
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the USDA Forest Service)									
	6/10 to 6/30	7/1	7/2	7/3	7/4	7/5	7/6	7/7	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>									
Felony Arrests	4	1		1					6
Misdemeanor Arrests	6	7	1	6					20
Warrants served	19	2	2	1					24
Citations Issued	360	103	102	90					655
Warnings Issued	683	169	99	45					996
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>					<b>1701</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>									
DUI	2	2	1	2					7
Alcohol Related	24	10	17	3					54
Drug Related	68	22	16	13					119
Weapons	2			1					3
Disorderly Conduct	11	3							14
Assault/Officer Interference	23			1					24
Traffic and Vehicle	496	125	125	70					816
Vehicle Accidents	3		2						5
Medical Emergencies	2	1	2						5
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	4	2	2						8
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	3		1						4
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	3								3
Loitering/Panhandling	47	11	6						64
Nudity	50	2	2	5					59
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	9		5						14
Natural Resource Damage/Department of Fish and Game incidents	77		4	3					84
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	146	104	18	23					291
Occupancy Use/Permit	102		3	22					127
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>					<b>1701</b>



# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Wednesday, July 4, 2001  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

THE Rainbow Family gathering culminates this afternoon. Approximately 18,000 people are now estimated to be at this year's gathering in the Sack Creek Meadow area of the Lowman Ranger District. The population is expected to decrease rapidly at the

site over the next several days. Traffic will be a concern in the area, as throngs of Rainbows exit the Bear Valley and mix with traditionally heavy Independence Day traffic. Local, state, and federal traffic laws will be strictly enforced.

The current fire danger level on the Lowman Ranger District is VERY HIGH. Extremely hot and dry weather has contributed to critical conditions, and visitors are reminded that it is illegal to **possess** fireworks on National Forests.

Law Enforcement Officers from the Unified Command will be patrolling public roads,

and campsites around the Lowman Ranger District to ensure public safety, provide responsiveness to incidents, and enforce fireworks restrictions on the Boise National Forest.

There have been nine emergency calls related to the Rainbow gathering, and a total of 14 ambulance responses, some of which were dual calls (i.e. an air ambulance, and ground ambulance both responded). Of those nine incidents, three patients refused service.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations continue to be issued for violation of these regulations. Until numbers at the site fall below 75

individuals, anyone participating in the gathering may be cited for violation of the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

Local counties have placed dumpsters at strategic spots to deal with the amount of trash expected to be deposited in nearby communities by Rainbows as they leave the site.

As members of the Rainbow gathering stream out of the Bear Valley, the Forest Service will assess damage to the land, and begin the process of rehabilitation. A clean-up crew from the Rainbow Family will stay at the site through July to work on cleaning up the area, and repairing resource impacts. Cache Creek meadow may have soil compaction problems due to the 4,000 thousand vehicles parked there.

The Forest Service continues to make every effort to protect public health & safety, natural resources, and bring the Rainbow Family into compliance with Noncommercial Group Use regulations.

The presence of such a large group in this environmentally and culturally sensitive setting emphasizes the need for the Rainbows to consult with the Forest Service prior to gatherings. The Bear Valley contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes, and provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, Canada lynx, bull trout, gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladies' Tresses.

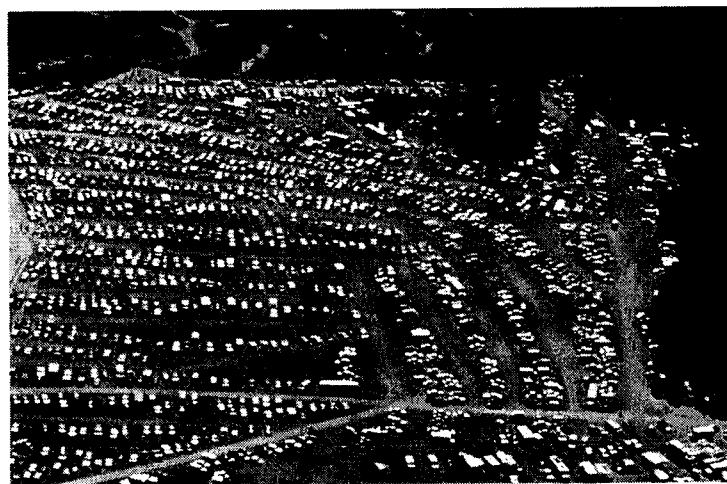
### Rainbow Family Population trends (estimated):

Idaho, 2001:  
July 4—18,000

Montana, 2000:  
July 4—22,500  
July 10—less than  
2,000

Pennsylvania, 1999:  
July 4—20,000  
July 10—300

Arizona, 1998:  
July 4—25,000+  
July 10—300



Rainbow parking area, Cache Creek Meadow, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2001

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*									7/4/2001
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the USDA Forest Service)									
	6/10 to 6/30	7/1	7/2	7/3	7/4	7/5	7/6	7/7	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>									
Felony Arrests	4	1		1	1				7
Misdemeanor Arrests	6	7	1	6					20
Warrants served	19	2	2	1					24
Citations Issued	360	103	102	90	215				870
Warnings Issued	683	169	99	45	66				1062
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>				<b>1983</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>									
DUI	2	2	1	2	1				8
Alcohol Related	24	10	17	3	11				65
Drug Related	68	22	16	13	30				149
Weapons	2			1	1				4
Disorderly Conduct	11	3			4				18
Assault/Officer Interference	23			1	10				34
Traffic and Vehicle	496	125	125	70	138				954
Vehicle Accidents	3		2						5
Medical Emergencies	2	1	2						5
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	4	2	2						8
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	3		1						4
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	3								3
Loitering/Panhandling	47	11	6						64
Nudity	50	2	2	5	4				63
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	9		5		3				17
Natural Resource Damage/Department of Fish and Game incidents	77		4	3	10				94
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	146	104	18	23	28				319
Occupancy Use/Permit	102		3	22	42				169
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>				<b>1983</b>

# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Thursday, July 5, 2001  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

PEOPLE continued to arrive throughout the day yesterday, eventually swelling the estimated population to about 19,500 participants in this year's Rainbow Family gathering. July 4<sup>th</sup> is the high point of the gathering, where thousands join hands in a large circle to pray for world peace. This year's circle in Sack Creek Meadow had between 6,000 and 7,000 participants. The Rainbow population is expected to decrease rapidly at the site over the next several days. Traffic will be a concern in the area, as thousands of Rainbows exit the Bear Valley and mix with traditionally heavy Independence Day weekend traffic. Local, state, and federal traffic laws will be strictly enforced.

### Rainbow Family Population trends (estimated):

Idaho, 2001:  
July 4—19,500

Montana, 2000:  
July 4—22,500  
July 10—less than 2,000

Pennsylvania, 1999:  
July 4—20,000  
July 10—300

Arizona, 1998:  
July 4—25,000+  
July 10—300

All visitors are reminded that it is illegal to **possess** fireworks on National Forests.

### Law Enforcement

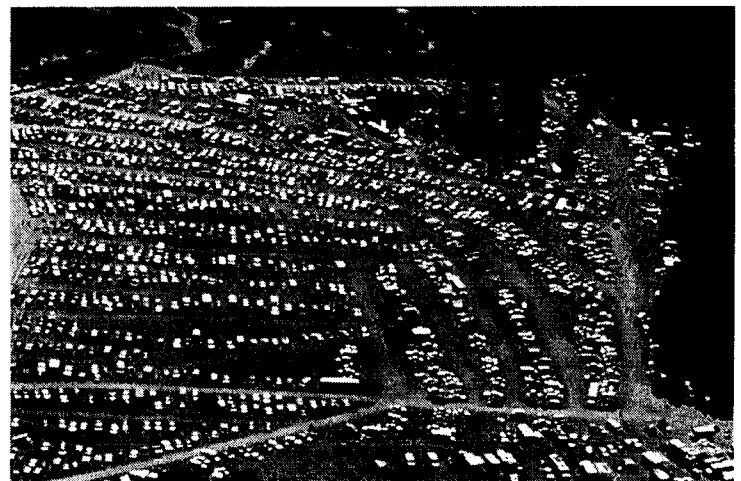
Officers from the Unified Command will continue to patrol public roads, campsites and hot springs around the Lowman Ranger District to ensure public safety, provide responsiveness to incidents, and enforce fireworks restrictions on the Boise National Forest.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations continue to be issued for violation of these regulations. Until numbers at the site fall below 75 individuals, anyone participating in the gathering may be cited for violation of the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

Local counties have placed three dumpsters in the Cache Meadow area in an attempt to gather the growing mountain of trash before it is deposited in nearby communities by Rainbow's as they leave the gathering.

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, District Ranger Walt Rogers presented a resource rehabilitation plan to the Rainbow Family. The plan covers areas impacted by this year's gathering in Cache and Sack Creek Meadows. Although some site specific work was included in the plan, most of the specific rehabilitation needs will be identified by the Forest Service after participants have left, and actual site impacts can be determined. A clean-up crew from the Rainbow Family will stay at the site through July to work on cleaning up the area. Cache Creek meadow may have soil compaction problems due to the 4,400 vehicles parked there.

The Forest Service continues to make every effort to protect public health & safety, natural resources, and bring the Rainbow Family into compliance with Noncommercial Group Use regulations. The presence of such a large group in this environmentally and culturally sensitive setting emphasizes the need for the Rainbows to consult with the Forest Service prior to gatherings. The Bear Valley contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes, and provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, Canada lynx, bull trout, gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladies' Tresses.



Rainbow parking area, Cache Creek Meadow, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2001

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*									7/5/2001
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the USDA Forest Service)									
	6/10 to 6/30	7/1	7/2	7/3	7/4	7/5	7/6	7/7	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>									
Felony Arrests	4	1		1	1				7
Misdemeanor Arrests	6	7	1	6		8			28
Warrants served	19	2	2	1					24
Citations Issued	360	103	102	90	215	110			980
Warnings Issued	683	169	99	45	66	79			1141
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>197</b>			<b>2180</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>									
DUI	2	2	1	2	1	1			9
Alcohol Related	24	10	17	3	11	4			69
Drug Related	68	22	16	13	30	15			164
Weapons	2			1	1				4
Disorderly Conduct	11	3			4				18
Assault/Officer Interference	23			1	10	1			35
Traffic and Vehicle	496	125	125	70	138	111			1065
Vehicle Accidents	3		2			1			5
Medical Emergencies	2	1	2						5
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	4	2	2						8
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	3		1						4
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	3								3
Loitering/Panhandling	47	11	6			18			82
Nudity	50	2	2	5	4	5			68
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	9		5		3				17
Natural Resource Damage/Department of Fish and Game incidents	77		4	3	10				94
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	146	104	18	23	28	23			342
Occupancy Use/Permit	102		3	22	42	18			187
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>197</b>			<b>2180</b>

# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Friday, July 6, 2001

Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

People associated with the Rainbow Gathering are beginning to leave their 2001 Bear Valley gathering site. Between July 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, approximately 6,000 participants left, leaving an estimated 13,400 at the site in the morning of July 6. The Rainbow

### **Rainbow Family Population trends (estimated):**

Idaho, 2001:  
July 6—13,400

Montana, 2000:  
July 6—10,000  
July 10—less than  
2,000

Pennsylvania, 1999:  
July 6—20,000  
July 10—300

Arizona, 1998:  
July 6—13,000  
July 10—300

Gathering population is expected to decrease rapidly at the site over the next several days. Traffic will be a concern in the area, as thousands of Rainbows exit the Bear Valley and mix with traditionally heavy Independence Day weekend traffic. Local, state, and federal traffic laws will be strictly enforced. Safety concerns are increased by the dusty and washboard condition of gravel roads exiting the site.

Law Enforcement Officers from the Unified Command will continue to patrol public roads, campsites and hot springs around the

Lowman Ranger District to ensure public safety, provide responsiveness to incidents, and enforce fireworks restrictions on the Boise National Forest.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations continue to be issued for violation of these regulations. Until numbers at the site fall below 75 individuals, anyone participating in the gathering may be cited for violation of the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

Local counties have placed dumpsters in the Cache Meadow area and at area road junctions for use by Rainbow Family members. Local counties and

communities hope the Rainbow Family will use these dumpsters as they leave, rather than depositing trash in the surrounding communities or at area public campgrounds. To date, Family members have **not** been using these dumpsters well before leaving the site. Use of them will minimize the number of times trash is handled and will reduce costs before it is deposited in authorized landfills.

Effects of the approximately 60 tons of human excrement participants have deposited on the gathering site, is a topic of concern to some. Most of this fecal matter is concentrated in slit-trench latrines the Family has dug. These latrines will be covered over by members who stay another month to clean up and rehabilitate the gathering area. District Ranger Walt Rogers and his staff have worked with Rainbow participants to locate these latrines at least 300 feet from live water in an attempt to minimize potential effects to water quality. The consequences of this large amount of fecal matter concentrated in the Cache Creek and Sack Creek drainages is unknown. It will be an element for future water quality monitoring to consider. Past water quality monitoring has indicated area streams are well within state water quality standards in spite of historic cattle, human recreation and wildlife use.

Cache Creek Meadow may have soil compaction problems due to the 4,400 vehicles parked there. Use of Cache Meadows for parking has worn out much of the vegetation, which was already suffering from a serious drought year. Annual precipitation in the area has been less than 60% of average.

The Forest Service continues to make every effort to protect public health & safety, natural resources, and bring the Rainbow Family into compliance with Noncommercial Group Use regulations. The presence of such a large group in this environmentally and culturally sensitive setting emphasizes the need for the Rainbows to consult with the Forest Service prior to gatherings. The Bear Valley contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes, and provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, Canada lynx, bull trout, gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladies' Tresses.

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*									7/6/2001
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the USDA Forest Service)									
	6/10 to 6/30	7/1	7/2	7/3	7/4	7/5	7/6	7/7	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>									
Felony Arrests	4	1		1	1				7
Misdemeanor Arrests	6	7	1	6		8	2		30
Warrants served	19	2	2	1					24
Citations Issued	360	103	102	90	215	110	53		1033
Warnings Issued	683	169	99	45	66	79	57		1198
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>112</b>		<b>2292</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>									
DUI	2	2	1	2	1	1	1		10
Alcohol Related	24	10	17	3	11	4	9		78
Drug Related	68	22	16	13	30	15	4		168
Weapons	2			1	1				4
Disorderly Conduct	11	3			4				18
Assault/Officer Interference	23			1	10	1	1		36
Traffic and Vehicle	496	125	125	70	138	111	56		1121
Vehicle Accidents	3		2			1			5
Medical Emergencies	2	1	2				4		9
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	4	2	2						8
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	3		1						4
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	3								3
Loitering/Panhandling	47	11	6			18	4		86
Nudity	50	2	2	5	4	5			68
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	9		5		3		1		18
Natural Resource Damage/Department of Fish and Game incidents	77		4	3	10				94
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	146	104	18	23	28	23	31		373
Occupancy Use/Permit	102		3	22	42	18	1		188
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>112</b>		<b>2292</b>

# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

**Saturday, July 7, 2001**  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

Another 6,000 participants of this year's Rainbow Family Gathering filed out of the Boise National Forest yesterday, leaving approximately 6,700 still in the Bear Valley area. At the height of the gathering, on July 4<sup>th</sup> there were an estimated 19,500 people

### **Rainbow Family Population trends (estimated):**

Idaho, 2001:  
July 7—6,700  
July 10—??

Montana, 2000:  
July 7—6,500  
July 10—less than  
2,000

Pennsylvania, 1999:  
July 7—12,000  
July 10—300

Arizona, 1998:  
July 7—6,500  
July 10—300

to incidents, and enforce fireworks restrictions on the Boise National Forest.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations continue to be issued for violation of these regulations. Until numbers at the site fall below 75 individuals, anyone participating in the gathering may be cited for violation of the Noncommercial Group Use Permit regulation.

Local counties have placed dumpsters in the Cache Meadow area and at prominent road junctions in the area for use by Rainbow Family members. Local counties and communities hope the Rainbow Family

camping in Sack and Cache Creek meadows. Since that time the population at the gathering has decreased rapidly at the site. Traffic will be a concern in the area, as thousands of Rainbows exit the Bear Valley and mix with traditionally heavy Independence Day weekend traffic. Local, state, and federal traffic laws have been strictly enforced.

Law Enforcement Officers from the Unified Command will continue to patrol public roads, campsites and hot springs around the Lowman Ranger District to ensure public safety, provide responsiveness

will use these dumpsters as they leave, rather than depositing trash in the surrounding communities or at surrounding public campgrounds. Family members had been reluctant to use these dumpsters fearing they would be charged for dumping there. However by yesterday afternoon some trash was beginning to find its way into the dumpsters. Local officials have noted that use of these dumpsters will minimize the number of times trash is handled and will reduce costs before it is deposited in authorized landfills.

Effects of the estimated 60 tons, or more, of human excrement deposited on the gathering site, is a topic of concern to some. Most of this fecal matter is concentrated in slit-trench latrines the Family has dug. These latrines will be covered over by members who stay another month to clean up and rehabilitate the gathering area. District Ranger Walt Rogers and his staff have worked with Rainbow participants to locate these latrines at least 300 feet from live water in an attempt to minimize potential effects to water quality. The consequences of this large amount of fecal matter concentrated in the Cache Creek and Sack Creek drainages is unknown. It will be an element for future water quality monitoring to consider. Past water quality monitoring has indicated area streams are well within state water quality standards in spite of historic cattle, recreation and wildlife use.

Cache Creek Meadow could have some soil compaction problems due to the 4,400 vehicles that parked there. Use of Cache Meadows for parking has worn out much of the vegetation, which was already suffering from a serious drought year. Precipitation is estimated to be less than 60% of average.

The Forest Service continues to make every effort to protect public health & safety, natural resources, and bring the Rainbow Family into compliance with Noncommercial Group Use regulations. The presence of such a large group in this environmentally and culturally sensitive setting emphasizes the need for the Rainbows to consult with the Forest Service prior to gatherings. The Bear Valley contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes, and provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, Canada lynx, bull trout, gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladies' Tresses.

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*									7/7/2001 Saturday
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the USDA Forest Service)									
	6/10 to 6/30	7/1	7/2	7/3	7/4	7/5	7/6	7/7	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>									
Felony Arrests	4	1		1	1				7
Misdemeanor Arrests	6	7	1	6		8	2	3	33
Warrants served	19	2	2	1				4	28
Citations Issued	360	103	102	90	215	110	53	51	1084
Warnings Issued	683	169	99	45	66	79	57	73	1271
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>2423</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>									
DUI	2	2	1	2	1	1	1		10
Alcohol Related	24	10	17	3	11	4	9		78
Drug Related	68	22	16	13	30	15	4		168
Weapons	2			1	1			1	5
Disorderly Conduct	11	3			4			2	20
Assault/Officer Interference	23			1	10	1	1	5	41
Traffic and Vehicle	496	125	125	70	138	111	56	63	1184
Vehicle Accidents	3		2			1			6
Medical Emergencies	2	1	2				4		9
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	4	2	2					2	10
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	3		1						4
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	3								3
Loitering/Panhandling	47	11	6			18	4	17	103
Nudity	50	2	2	5	4	5			68
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	9		5		3		1	1	19
Natural Resource Damage/Department of Fish and Game incidents	77		4	3	10				94
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	146	104	18	23	28	23	31	42	415
Occupancy Use/Permit	102		3	22	42	18	1		188
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>2423</b>



# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

Sunday, July 8, 2001  
Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

The population at the gathering again dropped by half, leaving approximately 3,200 people in Sack and Cache Creek meadows. At the height of the gathering, on July 4<sup>th</sup> there were an estimated 19,500 people camping in these two high elevation meadows.

### Rainbow Family Population trends (estimated):

Idaho, 2001:  
July 8—3,200  
July 10—??

Montana, 2000:  
July 8—about 3,500  
July 10—less than 2,000

Pennsylvania, 1999:  
July 8—6,500  
July 10—300

Arizona, 1998:  
July 8—3,500  
July 10—300

geographic region of the country they have agreed upon for next years gathering site. It is at this time that the Rainbow Family of Living Light **should** send their scouts out to locate several potential sites, then bring these sites forward to the appropriate Forest Service Regional Office, thus beginning the process of locating an acceptable site. By working together with the Forest Service, an appropriate site can be located that will comply with state, local and federal laws; comply with Forest Plan direction; and will consider other existing permitted uses, public health and safety concerns, and will limit impacts to natural, cultural and community resources.

Since that time the population at the gathering has decreased rapidly at the site, with nearly 6,000 leaving on both Thursday and Friday, and 3,000 on Saturday.

Yesterday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, the Rainbows called together "vision council" to begin their site selection process for next years gathering. Traditionally any Rainbow member can attend the vision council to suggest and lobby for an area of the country they feel would be best suited for next years gathering. Generally after two or three days the vision council reaches some consensus and announces which

## LAST DAILY UPDATE WILL BE MONDAY JULY 9<sup>TH</sup>

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, remain in effect. Citations will continue to be issued for violation of these regulations. These regulations have been necessary to mitigate potentially serious impacts on the wild salmon runs in the Bear Valley watershed. To help get the word out, the Rainbow Family came to a member of the Incident Management Team offering a page in their *Rainbow Express Bulletin*. The page explained how participants could mitigate some of the impacts of 19,500 people, and thousands of dogs, to this fragile environment. The Rainbow's watershed council assisted Forest Service employees in marking riparian areas so participants would know where not to camp. Also, the Rainbow Family appeared to take to heart the requests of the Tribes on June 27<sup>th</sup> when they were asked to please take special care for the salmon and streams, and keep the dogs leashed and out of the water.

Local counties have placed dumpsters in the Cache Meadow area and at prominent road junctions in the area for use by Rainbow Family members. The counties and communities hope the Rainbow Family will use these dumpsters as they leave, rather than depositing trash in the surrounding communities or at surrounding public campgrounds. Use of these dumpsters will minimize the number of times trash is handled thus reducing costs to the counties before it is deposited in authorized landfills.

The Forest Service continues to make every effort to protect public health & safety, natural resources, and bring the Rainbow Family into compliance with Noncommercial Group Use regulations. The presence of such a large group in this environmentally and culturally sensitive setting emphasizes the need for the Rainbows to consult with the Forest Service prior to gatherings. The Bear Valley contains lands sacred to the Shoshone Bannock and Shoshone Paiute Tribes, and provides habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, Canada lynx, bull trout, gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladies' Tresses.

# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*								7/8/2001 Sunday LAST DAY FOR OFFICIAL FIGURES		
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the USDA Forest Service)										
	6/10 to 6/30	7/1	7/2	7/3	7/4	7/5	7/6	7/7	7/8	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>										
Felony Arrests	4	1		1	1					7
Misdemeanor Arrests	6	7	1	6		8	2	3	2	35
Warrants served	19	2	2	1				4	1	29
Citations Issued	360	103	102	90	215	110	53	51	24	1108
Warnings Issued	683	169	99	45	66	79	57	73	66	1337
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2516</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>										
DUI	2	2	1	2	1	1	1			10
Alcohol Related	24	10	17	3	11	4	9		4	82
Drug Related	68	22	16	13	30	15	4		13	181
Weapons	2			1	1			1		5
Disorderly Conduct	11	3			4			2	1	21
Assault/Officer Interference	23			1	10	1	1	5		41
Traffic and Vehicle	496	125	125	70	138	111	56	63	45	1229
Vehicle Accidents	3		2			1				6
Medical Emergencies	2	1	2				4			9
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	4	2	2					2	2	12
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	3		1							4
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	3									3
Loitering/Panhandling	47	11	6			18	4	17		103
Nudity	50	2	2	5	4	5			1	69
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	9		5		3		1	1		19
Natural Resource Damage/Department of Fish and Game incidents	77		4	3	10					94
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	146	104	18	23	28	23	31	42	27	442
Occupancy Use/Permit	102		3	22	42	18	1			188
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2516</b>

# 2001 Rainbow Family Gathering DAILY UPDATE

[www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise)

**FINAL EDITION !!**

**Monday, July 9, 2001**

Information Center Phone: 208- 259-3371

## Current Situation

The population at the gathering **again** dropped by half, leaving approximately 1,600 people in Sack and Cache Creek meadows. At the height of the gathering, on July 4<sup>th</sup> there were an estimated 19,500 people camping in these two high elevation meadows.

### **Rainbow Family Population trends (estimated):**

Idaho, 2001:

July 9—1,600

July 10—est. 400

Montana, 2000:

July —about 2,000

July 10—less than  
2,000

Pennsylvania, 1999:

July 9—1,300

July 10—300

Arizona, 1998:

July 9—1,300

July 10—300

In the five days since the peak of the gathering, about 18,000 people have left the site.

Members of the Rainbow's clean-up crew have begun to tear down some kitchens in an effort to force everyone except those on clean-up/rehab duty to leave the site.

They are reportedly planning to start clean-up today, which normally takes them two to three weeks to complete. The Forest Service will inspect the area after they leave to determine any additional rehabilitation work needed for this year.

Yesterday patrol officers drove through Cache Meadow informing those still there that it is time to

clean up the area and move out. A large caravan of old busses and vans left about 10 pm.

## Next Year's Site:

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, the Rainbows called together "vision council" to begin their site selection process for next years gathering. Traditionally any Rainbow member can attend the vision council to suggest and lobby for an area of the country they feel would be best suited for next years gathering. Generally after two or three days the vision council reaches some consensus and announces which geographic region of the country they have agreed upon for next years gathering site.

A decision has not yet been made, but after a decision is reached, **this** is when the Rainbow Family of Living Light **should** send their scouts out to locate

several potential sites, then bring these sites forward to the appropriate Forest Service Regional Office, thus beginning the process of locating an acceptable site. By working together with the Forest Service, an appropriate site can be located that will comply with state, local and federal laws; comply with Forest Plan direction; and will consider other existing permitted uses, public health and safety concerns, and will limit impacts to natural, cultural and community resources. This is not only the proper and legal thing to do, it is also the right thing to do to reduce impacts to the environment, the communities, the taxpayers and the Rainbow participants themselves.

## Continuing Issues:

Local counties have placed dumpsters in the Cache Meadow area with hopes that Rainbow Family members will fill them as they leave, rather than depositing trash in the surrounding communities or at surrounding public campgrounds, as was commonly done in past years. Use of these dumpsters will minimize the number of times trash is handled thus reducing costs to the counties before it is deposited in authorized landfills. Members of the Rainbow's clean up crew have been seen sorting through the trash to dig out recyclable items.

Forest Orders and Area Closures, issued to protect critical fish habitat and natural resources in the Mace, Cache and Sack Creek drainages, will remain in effect for now. The District Ranger will review the continued need for these orders later this month. These regulations have been necessary to help limit potentially serious impacts on the wild salmon runs in the Bear Valley watershed. The Rainbow's watershed council assisted Forest Service employees in marking riparian areas so participants would know where not to camp.

The Forest Service continues to make every effort to protect public health & safety, natural resources, and bring the Rainbow Family into compliance with Noncommercial Group Use regulations. The presence of such a large group in this environmentally and culturally sensitive setting emphasizes the need for the Rainbows to consult with the Forest Service well in advance of the gatherings. Bear Valley contains lands sacred to local Tribes, and provides habitat for Chinook Salmon, steelhead, Canada lynx, bull trout, gray wolves, bald eagles, and Ute Ladies' Tresses.



# RAINBOW 2001-INCIDENT STATISTICS

UNIFIED INCIDENT COMMAND LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT*									7/8/2001 Sunday LAST DAY FOR OFFICIAL FIGURES	
(*includes Boise, Custer, and Valley County Sheriff's Departments, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the USDA Forest Service)										
	6/10 to 6/30	7/1	7/2	7/3	7/4	7/5	7/6	7/7	7/8	TOTALS
<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>										
Felony Arrests	4	1		1	1					7
Misdemeanor Arrests	6	7	1	6		8	2	3	2	35
Warrants served	19	2	2	1				4	1	29
Citations Issued	360	103	102	90	215	110	53	51	24	1108
Warnings Issued	683	169	99	45	66	79	57	73	66	1337
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2516</b>
<b>TYPE OF INCIDENTS:</b>										
DUI	2	2	1	2	1	1	1			10
Alcohol Related	24	10	17	3	11	4	9		4	82
Drug Related	68	22	16	13	30	15	4		13	181
Weapons	2			1	1			1		5
Disorderly Conduct	11	3			4			2	1	21
Assault/Officer Interference	23			1	10	1	1	5		41
Traffic and Vehicle	496	125	125	70	138	111	56	63	45	1229
Vehicle Accidents	3		2			1				6
Medical Emergencies	2	1	2				4			9
Juveniles Recovered/Assisted	4	2	2					2	2	12
Stolen/Missing Vehicle Recovered	3		1							4
Stolen/Missing Private Property/Shoplifting	3									3
Loitering/Panhandling	47	11	6			18	4	17		103
Nudity	50	2	2	5	4	5			1	69
Stolen/Damaged Public Property	9		5		3		1	1		19
Natural Resource Damage/Department of Fish and Game incidents	77		4	3	10					94
Public Assists and Other Incidents (e.g. abandoned campfires, dogs, Agency assists, etc.)	146	104	18	23	28	23	31	42	27	442
Occupancy Use/Permit	102		3	22	42	18	1			188
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2516</b>

