

# National Park Service Department of the Interior

Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area  
Obed Wild & Scenic River



December 2015

## Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area

**Enjoy Old Fashioned Appalachian Christmas Carols** at the Crossville-Cumberland County Gateway to the Big South Fork Visitor Center on Saturday, December 12th at 1:30 pm (CT). The Jenkins Family will be playing a variety of traditional Appalachian stringed instruments and specialize in bluegrass music.

**DYK?** Big South Fork visitation increased 9 percent this past year.

**Learn about Birds of Prey on Saturday, December 19th** at the Crossville-Cumberland County Gateway to the Big South Fork Visitor Center at 11 am CT. Join National Park and Tennessee State Park Rangers to learn more about birds of prey, their habitats, and why they are an important part in the wildlife diversity here on the Cumberland Plateau.

### Blaze Orange is the New Black.

Don't forget to wear safety vests out in the woods these days. It is legal to hunt deer, wild hog, and small game all through the month at both parks. For more info on hunting, including links to KY and TN hunting licensing, game check-in, etc., go to <http://www.nps.gov/biso/planyourvisit/hunting.htm>

**There is Nothing New Under the Sun.** Before there was "Visa" or "MasterCard" there were "flickers", "clackers" or "bingles". Learn more about scrip, a coal miner's historical form of credit card at <http://www.nps.gov/biso/learn/historyculture/scrip.htm>

**Manhattan Project National Historical Park**, the nation's newest National Park just opened south of Big South Fork and Obed in Oak Ridge, TN. Information on the park is available at [www.nps.gov/mapr](http://www.nps.gov/mapr).

**Bandy Creek Visitor Center**  
**(423) 286-7275 or visit us at:**

[www.nps.gov/biso](http://www.nps.gov/biso)  
[Twitter@BigSouthForkNRR](https://twitter.com/BigSouthForkNRR)  
[www.facebook.com/BigSouthForkNRRRA](https://www.facebook.com/BigSouthForkNRRRA)

## Obed Wild and Scenic River

**Next Coffee and Climb with a Ranger is Saturday, December 5th at Lilly Bridge.** Bring any questions you may have and join Rangers for a cup of coffee at 10 am ET. After that, rain or shine, Rangers will be leading another Climb with a Ranger Program. From 11 to noon will be a kids only (12 and under) climbing session and after that all ages are welcome. All necessary gear is provided.

**Every Friday Morning Join Us at 10:30 am (ET) for the Pre-school Kids Program.** Each week Rangers focus on different themes and read stories and have activities for little ones.

**DYK?** Cumberlandian cobble bars are unique plant communities endemic to the Cumberland Plateau of TN and KY. Obed and Big South Fork protect 89% of all the remaining populations left in the world. They are vulnerable to extinction throughout their range,

they exist on open, flood-scoured exposures of bedrock, cobble or gravel along large rivers. Want to learn more? Go to [http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/aphn/monitor/cobble\\_bars.cfm](http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/aphn/monitor/cobble_bars.cfm)

**Celebrate the Upcoming Winter Solstice with a Hike on Saturday the 19th.** Meet at the Lilly Bluff Overlook Parking Lot at 1 pm (ET) and hike with a Ranger along the Point Trail. Well behaved dogs on leash are always welcome.



Long time Ranger Howard Duncan retires this month.

**Obed Visitor Center**  
**(423) 346-6294 or visit us at:**

[www.nps.gov/obed](http://www.nps.gov/obed)  
[Twitter@ObedWSR](https://twitter.com/ObedWSR)  
[www.facebook.com/ObedWSR](https://www.facebook.com/ObedWSR)