

North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release, Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2011

For more information, contact Little Missouri State Park, 701-764-5256.

Little Missouri State Park celebrates 40 years

Little Missouri State Park, featured on the North Dakota Parks and Recreation annual pass, celebrates its 40th Anniversary on Saturday, Sept. 3, with a free barbecue and a variety of entertainment and activities throughout the day.

The celebration begins at noon (all times are Mountain Time) with the barbecue with plenty of hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and beverages for park visitors.

From 1 to 2 p.m. the park's past, present and future will be addressed by manager Eric Lang and other members of the park staff.

Singer, songwriter and storyteller T.J. Casey will perform starting at 2 p.m. Casey is pure cowboy through and through and his "Cowboy from the Soul" performance is a sure crowd pleaser. Casey will close out the evening with a sunset performance starting at 7 p.m., around a campfire at the bluff in the park overlooking the badlands.

At 3 p.m. a variety of activities, including games and crafts, are planned for the kids.

Little Missouri State Park is a huge park, consisting of over 4,500 acres located 17 miles north of Killdeer in the heart of the ruggedly beautiful Badlands. Within the park, visitors can see mule deer, coyotes, fox, bobcats, golden eagles and the prairie rattlesnakes. The state owns approximately 1,000 acres of Little Missouri State Park with the rest leased from nearby landowners. There are about 50 miles of trails available to the public which are particularly appealing to horseback riders and hikers wanting to explore the area.

Visitors to the park may want to check road conditions before heading to the park. There is road work on Highway 22 south and north of the park. Nearly 13 miles are under construction between Killdeer and Little Missouri State Park and there are several detours to contend with. The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) has travel information available on their website at <http://www.dot.nd.gov/>.

Daily park admission is free to the public on Sept. 3. Information about Little Missouri State Park can be found on the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department website at www.parkrec.nd.gov.