



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ozark National Scenic Riverways

P. O. Box 490
Van Buren, MO 63965
573-323-4236

Ozark National Scenic Riverways News Release

For Immediate Release

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Faye Walmsley

573-323-4844

Celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Camp Lincoln on the Current River at Ozark National Scenic Riverways

Van Buren, MO – During the fall and winter of 1862, the Union Army, consisting of 8,000 men under the command of John Davidson, left their post at Patterson, Missouri, to slowly make their way toward Northern Arkansas. Their movement was part of the Federal winter campaign to discourage Confederate raiding and bushwhacking in the Ozarks. Their first planned stop was at Van Buren, Missouri where they established a camp on the Current River which they called Camp Lincoln. The Federals camped at this location for two weeks in December of 1862.

In commemoration of the sesquicentennial of Camp Lincoln, Ozark National Scenic Riverways will be hosting a two day Civil War Living History Encampment on the grounds of the Depression era cabin at Big Spring Friday, November 2nd and Saturday, November 3rd from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm both days.

The volunteer Union re-enactment “Turner Brigade” group and National Park Service staff from Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield will be demonstrating artillery and infantry drills, engineering, woodworking, recruiting and loyalty oaths, camp cooking, women in the Civil War, and much more. Though Friday, November 2nd will be dedicated toward school groups, the public is welcome to attend. Experience first-hand and gain insights into the hardships and experiences the common Civil War soldier endured. Marching and rifle and cannon firing demonstrations will occur on both days.

For more information, call Monday through Friday (573) 323-4236 or visit the park's website at www.nps.gov/ozar.

Ozark National Scenic Riverways preserves the free-flowing Current and Jacks Fork Rivers, the surrounding natural resources, and the unique cultural heritage of the Ozark people.



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