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**(S.D.)-Two Hikes Planned At New State Park Blood Run Nature Area**



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 10/12/2012 10:22 AM

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - Blood Run, a national historic landmark set to become South Dakota's first new state park in more than 50 years, is hosting two self-guided hikes this month.

The picturesque acreage along the Big Sioux River was used by thousands of Oneota Indians into the early 1700s, and its diverse landscape boasts a large oak forest, rolling hills, flood plains and riverside bluffs.

The walks are scheduled for Oct. 20 and 27. A campfire and hot cider will be available after the walk.

Park naturalist Edward Raventon says visitors should plan to arrive by 6 p.m. and expect to spend an hour on the trail. The walk is free and registration is not required.

The entire Blood Run site could eventually encompass some 1,400 acres in South Dakota and Iowa.