

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

BRIDGER-TETON

National Forest

AT A GLANCE

The Bridger-Teton is the only Forest entirely located within the Wyoming's state borders overlooked by the Intermountain Region of the US Forest Service.



TOTAL ACRES ON
THE BRIDGER-TETON
NATIONAL FOREST **3.4 M**

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES:

- **214** developed recreation areas that are maintained by the Forest and operates yearly
- **1.4** million acres of wilderness areas
- **1.43** million acres of roadless areas
- **315** miles (12 segments) of Wild & Scenic Rivers
- **3480** miles of trails
- **228** miles of motorized trails
- **3200** miles non-motorized trails
- **2000** miles road
- **396** total active Recreation Special Use Permits
- **211** total active Outfitter-Guide Permits

The Bridger-Teton National Forest is highly valued for its large backcountry and wilderness areas offering outstanding solitude and wildlife related opportunities; free-flowing rivers with associated recreation opportunities; and unparalleled winter recreation opportunities at both developed ski areas and in the backcountry. Destination and frontcountry areas concentrate visitor use while protecting wildland values and are key to the social and economic health and vitality of adjacent communities.

THE FOREST RECEIVES ABOUT
2.2 M VISITORS
EACH YEAR CONTRIBUTING
APPROXIMATELY **\$258 K**
TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY



The Bridger-Teton is home to world-class headwaters, wildlife, wilderness, and wildlands. Providing for year round recreation and sustainable uses, while conserving these values is our legacy.

We are inspired, passionate, and skilled professionals, collectively working to care for the land by engaging communities for the enjoyment and use of future generations.

The employees of the Bridger-Teton National Forest are dedicated to sound natural resource management. We care for the land by improving and maintaining healthy forests and rangelands, clean air and water, and diverse habitat for fish and wildlife populations. We serve the people by encouraging responsible use of the resources and habitat our Forest provides because we embrace the professional organization that was modeled by our first Chief, Gifford Pinchot.

► ECOSYSTEM

The Bridger-Teton National Forest (BTNF) is part of the largest intact ecosystem in the lower 48 states. The 3.4 million acres stretch from the southern border of Yellowstone National Park, covering the entire eastern flank of Grand Teton National Park, wrapping around Jackson Hole valley, to the sagebrush prairies of southwest-central Wyoming. The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem is a loosely defined area characterized by high elevation coniferous forests, sage/grass steppes, mountain ranges and deep valleys, large expanses of wild lands and three wilderness areas, abundant wildlife, and internationally recognized scenic and natural features.

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WILDLIFE

The Forest includes headwaters of three nationally significant rivers (Yellowstone, Snake and Green). Tributaries to these rivers are considered exceptional in trout habitat and home to native strains of cutthroat trout. Some of the largest and most diverse populations of mammals in North America exist here. This ecosystem still includes all of the major carnivores, an indication of its ecological completeness. The BTNF includes undisturbed habitat for threatened and endangered species including the grizzly bear. The Forest's wild lands are large and relatively unaltered by human activity, making them valuable for scientific study and determining baseline conditions for comparison elsewhere.

RECREATION

Recreation opportunities and scenic quality are internationally renowned. The BTNF attracts over 3.6 million visitors each year. The three wilderness areas cover over 1.3 million acres; the Bridger, the Teton and the Gros Ventre totaling more than one-third of the BTNF acreage, and containing major migration routes for wildlife. The Forest offers some of the nations best opportunities for winter sports. Two major ski resorts, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort and Snow King, are located on the Forest. The backcountry landscape contains a multitude of cross-country skiing trails and miles of trails for snowmobiling. Summer recreation contains a trail system of some 3000 miles and a network of scenic roads stretching more than 2500 miles.

The Forest also offers unique features such as the scenic and challenging Snake River Canyon, where more than 150 thousand visitors float through its whitewater each year; the Gros Ventre Slide, one of the largest natural landslides in the country; Periodic Springs on Swift Creek near Afton, which is one of the few coldwater geysers in the world; Fremont Lake, the second largest lake in the State of Wyoming, and one of the deepest in the U.S.; Kendall Warm Springs known as the only home for the Kendall Warm Springs Dace; and Gannett Peak (elev. 13,804) the highest point in Wyoming.

RESOURCES

The BTNF also has important commodity resources. Scientists believe that there are large reserves of oil and gas trapped beneath the Forest landscape. Approximately 360,000 acres are open to oil and gas leasing. Pine, spruce and fir have long supported the local logging industry. The Forest offers approximately 10 to 12 million board feet annually, of which about one third is non-commercial firewood, and post and poles for fences. The BTNF also contains some of the richest grazing lands in Wyoming, where more than 40,000 cattle, 2000 horses and 80,000 sheep graze annually.



Many large animals make their home in the thriving habitats found on the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Pictured here is a wolf in the Gros Ventre River drainage.

CONTACT

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The Bridger Teton is known for its winter recreation and Forest naturalists work with youth to show them the many benefits of National Forests.