



# Bridger-Teton National Forest VISITOR GUIDE



*Wildlands, Wildlife, and Wide Vistas*



*W*elcome! People come to the Bridger-Teton National Forest for many reasons—chief among them are the wildlife, scenery, recreation, backcountry, and wild river experiences. They are rarely disappointed. The Bridger-Teton National Forest contains some of the most pristine areas within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. This wild expanse provides habitat for grizzly bears and wolves, along with moose, elk, deer, antelope, and eagles.

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## Fast Forest Facts

**Total Acres:** 3.4 million

**Highest Peak:** Gannett Peak (13,804'/4,207m); also the highest point in Wyoming

**Trails:** Over 2,500 miles, including 200 miles of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail

**Grizzlies!** The forest hosts one of the few remaining grizzly bear populations in the lower 48 states

*T*he Forest includes the headwaters of three nationally significant rivers with outstanding native trout fisheries—the Yellowstone, Snake, and Green. Clear, clean air and remoteness contribute to an unusually brilliant night sky.

*Come see for yourself!*



*This Visitor Guide provides the information you need to make the most of your Bridger-Teton National Forest experience.*

# Get to Know Us

## Special Places

What's in a name? The Bridger-Teton National Forest owes its moniker, in part, to Jim Bridger, a famous mountain man, trapper, and guide. In 1850, looking for an alternate overland route to the South Pass, he found what would eventually be known as Bridger's Pass, which shortened the Oregon Trail by 61 miles. Bridger Pass would later be the chosen route for both the Union Pacific Railroad and later Interstate 80.

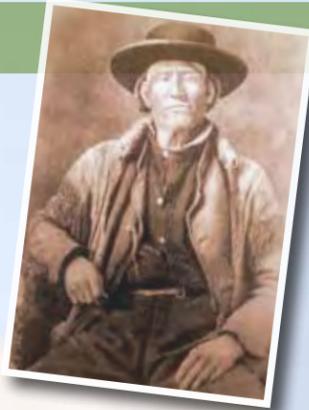
The other half of the forest's nomenclature (Teton) is more obscure. It may be a Lakota Sioux name, used to refer to them by non-Lakota Sioux groups. Or it may be a French-Canadian description of the mountains themselves, named by an expedition of the North West Company.

But today, Bridger-Teton means "wild lands, wildlife, and wide vistas." A third of the forest is in classified Wilderness or Wilderness Study Areas; another forty percent is undesignated backcountry that is every bit as wild. Access to these wildlands is provided largely by a well-developed trail system (over 2,500 miles) that reflects a rich, western heritage steeped in the spirit of adventure.

The Wyoming Centennial Scenic Byway winds its way through some of the most spectacular scenery accessible by car, as do numerous other scenic drives throughout the forest. Some are gateways to the nearby national parks.



*Whatever your particular interest, you are bound to leave the Bridger-Teton National Forest with a keener sense of the earth's wild wonders and your place among them.*



Jim Bridger, 1804-1881

### Continental Divide

The spine of North America twists and turns along the mountains on the east side of the forest. You can cross the Continental Divide at Togwotee Pass (east of Grand Teton National Park) and the Sweetwater River near South Pass (south end of the Wind River Range), as well as along many backcountry trails.



### Snake River Canyon

The corridor between Alpine and Hoback Junction (Hwy. 89) is the most-used travel corridor on the forest. Several campgrounds and boat launches can be found in this corridor, which is a national and regional attraction for trout fishing and whitewater floating. It is also considered the most productive nesting area for bald eagles in the Greater Yellowstone area. Numerous trails into the Palisades Wilderness Study Area start from the Snake River Canyon. The river itself was designated a National Recreational River in 2009.



Eagle (© Art Mackey)

### Skyline Drive

Close to Pinedale and U.S. 191, the Skyline Drive is a paved road from Pinedale to Elkhart Park in the Wind River Range. Stunning views up Pine Creek and into the heart of the mountains describe the scenery. It is a major recreation corridor, providing access to Fremont and Halfmoon Lakes, where camping and boating are available. There are resorts nearby, and the White Pine ski area and trails into the Bridger Wilderness are also adjacent to this drive.



## Special Places

### Greys River

One of the most popular forest roads, Greys River Road runs for 60 miles south of Alpine to the Tri-basin Divide. In addition to being a destination of its own, the Greys River corridor gives access to trails in the Wyoming and Salt River Ranges. There are campgrounds, but dispersed camping is allowed as well. Above Forest Park Campground (33 miles above Alpine), there are no developed sites and the road becomes more narrow and primitive.



### The Gros Ventre Slide

On June 23, 1925, one of the largest fast-moving landslides in generations occurred near the village of Kelly, Wyoming. In just three minutes, a mile-wide slide carried 50 million cubic yards of debris down the mountain and up the opposite slope, blocking the Gros Ventre River, and forming the five-mile long Lower Slide Lake. The slide is about one mile long, 2,000 feet wide and several hundred feet deep in places.

For almost two years this earth dam held. But on May 18, 1927, part of the dam gave way and a wall of water, mud and rock flowed down the canyon, taking with it homes, the town of Kelly, and six lives.

The slide and Lower Slide Lake are 7 miles north of Jackson on U.S. Highway 89. Turn right and travel 11 miles on the Gros Ventre Road. Turn right up the Gros Ventre River Road.



### Buffalo Valley

As you travel east from Moran Junction (the east gate of Grand Teton National Park) you will enter a scenic, pastoral setting, exemplifying Jackson Hole. Private resorts, summer homes, and campgrounds are scattered throughout, and numerous trailheads provide access to the Teton Wilderness. The Buffalo Fork is a National Scenic River and is the central feature of a valley of great importance to native wildlife.



### Granite Creek

Popular year-round, the Granite Creek corridor has a plethora of outdoor recreation opportunities. The ten-mile gravel road ends at the outdoor Granite Hot Springs, open in both the summer and winter (via over-snow transportation under 100 pounds). Along the way, you can soak in views of the peaceful creek valley and magnificent peaks on either side. Campers will find numerous campgrounds, and hikers can access the Gros Ventre Wilderness and the dramatic Granite Falls. Granite Creek is a National Scenic River.



### Wyoming Centennial Scenic Byway

From Dubois to Pinedale, this route is a spectacular drive. Grand Teton National Park, Jackson Hole, Hoback Canyon, and the upper Green River are seen along the way. More stunning vistas include Togwotee Pass and the nearby Breccia Cliffs, Mt. Leidy, and Sheep Mountain (the Sleeping Indian).



# Get to Know Us

## Special Places

### Wilderness

**Wilderness** is an area of federal land that is free from modern human control, is undeveloped, and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive type of recreation. The Bridger-Teton National Forest has three congressionally designated Wildernesses.



Bonney Pass, Ticom Basin

#### Quick Facts

**Acres:** 428,087  
**Miles of Trails:** 600  
**Highlights:** More than 2,300 lakes, large glaciers, and the highest peak in Wyoming (Gannett Peak at 13,804')

### Bridger Wilderness

This rugged piece of the Wind River Range extends for 80 miles along the western slope of the Continental Divide. Here, the headwaters for the mighty Green River cascade out of glacier-carved valleys. Gannett Peak towers above a vast array of stark granite summits. You may spot yellow-bellied marmots whistling from sun-washed rocks, little round-eared squeaking pikas (diminutive members of the rabbit family), and beavers working busily in the streams. Wildflowers are spectacular in the alpine basins, and lakes are abundant.

#### Quick Facts

**Acres:** 317,874  
**Miles of Trails:** 250  
**Highlights:** Outstanding habitat for big game; spectacular geology including one of the largest concentrations of landslides.

### Gros Ventre Wilderness

When the sun sets in Jackson Hole, the last mountaintop to hold the dying alpenglow is the Sleeping Indian. The Indian is lying on his back and wearing a full warbonnet, effectively hiding from view the wild canyons and plateaus of the Gros Ventre Wilderness. The Wilderness is a landscape of contrasts—from lush meadows to steep pinnacles of limestone. Spectacular views of the Teton Range can be seen from virtually any high point.

Over 10,000 years of human history are evidenced in the Wilderness. Each spring, small bands of Indians moved into Jackson Hole and hunted game in the mountains during the summer. In the 1800s, cabins began springing up for fur trappers. Then came the hunting outfitters, graziers, and ranchers. Even the French left their imprint: the name "Gros Ventre" in their language means "big belly."



Sheep Mountain (the Sleeping Indian)

### Teton Wilderness

The state's second largest Wilderness area straddles the Continental Divide deep in the heart of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Here, you'll see evidence of the landscape-changing Yellowstone fires of 1988. You may also see downed trees from the highest elevation tornado ever recorded that mowed a 20-mile by 2-mile wide swath in 1987. Remnants of the "Teton Tornado" can still be seen along some trails.



(© mlorenz)

The headwaters of the Yellowstone and Snake Rivers rise in the Teton Wilderness. Summer brings trumpeter swans, sandhill cranes, ducks, geese, and songbirds. Grizzly bears, grey wolves, mountain lions, and bison wander across meadows. Golden and bald eagles, grouse, coyotes, beavers, martens, bobcats, porcupines, otters, and mink make their living here.

#### Quick Facts

**Acres:** 585,238  
**Miles of Trails:** 450  
**Highlights:** Two Ocean Pass where water splits to the Atlantic and Pacific; one of the nation's most productive wildlife areas.



National Wilderness Preservation System

To learn about Wilderness Regulations, please visit: [www.fs.usda.gov/btnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/btnf).

For more information on the National Wilderness Preservation System, visit [www.wilderness.net](http://www.wilderness.net)

Help protect Wilderness for our future generations by following the "Leave No Trace" principles:

- » Plan ahead and prepare
- » Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- » Dispose of waste properly
- » Leave what you find
- » Minimize campfire impacts
- » Respect wildlife
- » Be considerate of other visitors



## Watchable Wildlife

The Greater Yellowstone region is one of the last intact temperate ecosystems on earth, with a conservation heritage of world-wide value. Its status is due in large part to the wildlands that support natural processes and a full complement of plant communities, predators and prey, making the ecosystem complete. The Bridger-Teton National Forest is a key component of this ecosystem. This makes for outstanding opportunities to view wildlife species in their natural habitats.

The following are a few of the forest's wildlife viewing highlights:

**Elk** - Elk may be seen throughout the Bridger-Teton National Forest during the summer. In winter, they move to lower elevations. The National Elk Refuge north of Jackson and the Alpine Feedground south of Alpine are good places to see large herds in winter.

**Pronghorn** - Open sagebrush areas across the forest are the preferred summer range of pronghorn. The Hoback Basin, Upper Green River, and the Gros Ventre Valley, are great places to spot them.

**Moose** - These large animals can often be found standing knee deep in rivers or swampy lakes. In the summer, moose reside throughout the forest. Winter usually finds them in riparian areas such as along the Buffalo Fork and Snake River.

**Bighorn Sheep on Winter Ranges** - Bighorns congregate in a few traditional wintering grounds. To see them try the Hoback Junction to Stinking Springs area, Russold Hill in the Gros Ventre Valley and Miller Butte at the National Elk Refuge.



Bull moose (© Art Mackey)

**Bald Eagles** - These majestic raptors may be seen along rivers and near lakes throughout the Forest. The Snake and Hoback Rivers are good areas to watch, as they forage and nest here.

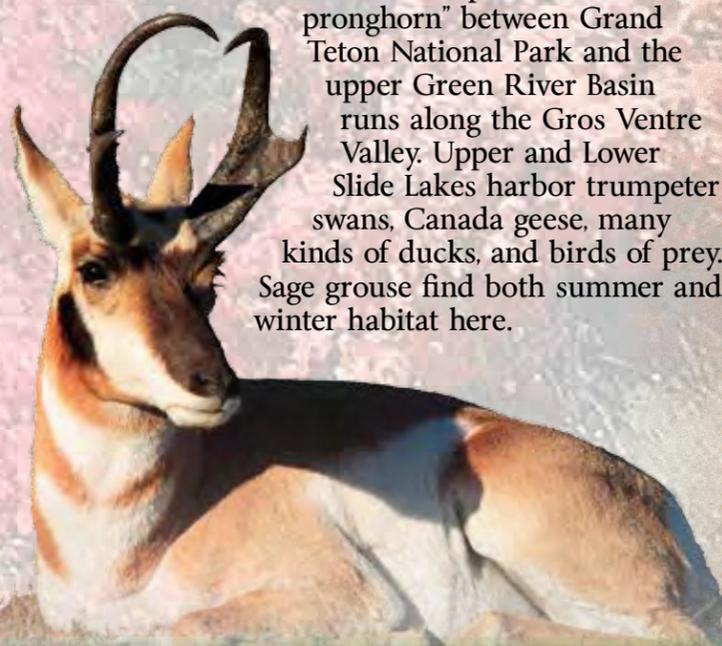
**Other Birds** - A plethora of species can be seen at the Interagency Visitor Center north of Jackson. Buffalo Valley is also rich in bird life. Check with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department for seasonal birding hot spots.



Trumpeter swan (© Jim Nelson)

### The Gros Ventre River Valley

Known locally as Jackson Hole's "Little Serengeti," the landforms, climate and vegetation here combine to create superb wildlife habitat and year-round viewing. In winter, elk, moose, and bighorn sheep are often seen on their winter ranges. In spring and fall, you may be lucky to witness some spectacular wildlife migrations. The hundred-mile "path of the pronghorn" between Grand Teton National Park and the upper Green River Basin runs along the Gros Ventre Valley. Upper and Lower Slide Lakes harbor trumpeter swans, Canada geese, many kinds of ducks, and birds of prey. Sage grouse find both summer and winter habitat here.



Bighorn sheep (© Art Mackey)

### Wildlife Viewing Ethics

- ☞ Give the wildlife their space. Use those binoculars!
- ☞ If you find what you believe to be an "orphaned" or sick animal, leave it alone. Often the parents are close by and are waiting for you to leave.
- ☞ Pets must be restrained at all times.
- ☞ Do not feed wildlife. Animals that become habituated to handouts can eventually become nuisances, losing their instinctive fears of people. Often the only solution is to euthanize the animal.
- ☞ Leave the area if an animal shows signs of alarm. Watch and listen for raised ears, skittish movements, or alarm calls.



# Know Before You Go

**tread lightly!**<sup>®</sup>

LEAVING A GOOD IMPRESSION



Unpaved and primitive roads present special challenges even in good weather. Before you take off, think about another challenge—your responsibility to “Tread Lightly.” Here’s how:

- T** ravel only where motorized vehicles are permitted.
- R** espect the rights of others to enjoy their activities undisturbed.
- E** ducate yourself by getting maps and information; ask owners’ permission to cross private property.
- A** void streams, lakeshores, meadows, muddy roads, steep hillsides, wildlife, and livestock.
- D** rive responsibly to protect the environment and preserve opportunities to enjoy you vehicle on wild lands.

## Be Bear Aware!

Black and grizzly bears are present throughout much of the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Proper food storage and clean camping techniques are mandatory. You can help protect yourself, other visitors, and the bears themselves by following these rules:

- » **Keep a clean campsite. Store food, garbage, and stoves in closed vehicles and out of sight.**
- » **Never put food scraps in the campfire.**
- » **Don't keep food (or anything that smells) in tents.**
- » **If you're in the backcountry, food, garbage, and other bear attractants must be hung at least 10 feet high and 4 feet from the nearest vertical support.**
- » **In some areas, food storage poles or boxes are provided—check with the local ranger district to find out where these are.**
- » **Never leave food or beverages out in in coolers unless someone is present to monitor them.**



Bear repellent (“pepper spray”) is available at local outdoor retail stores. It is recommended for anyone traveling in bear country. Forest Service offices have bear-resistant panniers/food tubes for a small rental fee. Brochures with instructions on proper food storage and clean camping techniques are available at local Forest Service offices. For more information, visit: [www.BeBearAware.org](http://www.BeBearAware.org).

## Dogs

Dogs are welcome on the Bridger-Teton National Forest; however, they must remain under control. It is strongly recommended that there are no more than two dogs per group. In developed campgrounds, pets must be leashed.

## Noxious Weeds

There are 24 known noxious weeds and several invasive aquatic organisms in or near the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Noxious weeds can displace native plant species that provide habitat for wildlife and food for people and livestock. Here’s how you can help reduce their spread:

- ☺ *You must use certified noxious weed-free feed in the national forest.*
- ☺ *Don't camp or drive in weed infested areas where your vehicle or gear may pick up seeds.*
- ☺ *Keep vehicles, pets, stock, and clothing free of weed seeds and other plant parts.*
- ☺ *To prevent whirling disease and mud snails from spreading wash all equipment prior to entering new waters.*

For more information, visit: [www.jhwma.org](http://www.jhwma.org)

Dalmation toadflax (© Bob Nowierski)



Spotted knapweed (© John Cardina)



Dalmation toadflax and spotted knapweed are noxious weeds on the Bridger-Teton National Forest.



## Winter Recreation

Winter brings a magical quiet to Bridger-Teton National Forest. Most forest roads are closed, effectively creating endless miles of snow trails, and expanding the backcountry.



Explore on your own, or choose one of the forest's permitted outfitter/guides who can guide you skiing, snowshoeing, dog sledding, snowmobiling, and on sleigh rides.

### Nordic Skiing

There are about 25 miles of groomed ski trail on the forest. But hundreds of miles of unplowed roads and hiking trails await the winter skier.

A few suggested ski tours include:

- \* *Cache Creek:* This is a popular ski for locals with a few spare hours. The trailhead is located at the end of Cache Creek Drive, at the south east corner of Jackson.
- \* *Shadow Mountain:* An outstanding moderate level tour offering Teton vistas and downhill runs. Most skiers follow the Shadow Mountain Road from Antelope Flats Road to the summit and return via the same route or down through open meadows.
- \* *Skyline Drive:* A large loop system of groomed (about 15 miles) and ungroomed trails near White Pine Ski area north of Pinedale.
- \* *Salt River Pass:* Two loops of groomed trail originating at the top of Salt River Pass, south of Afton.

Winter travel maps are available at Bridger-Teton National Forest offices.



### Snowmobiling

Over 800 miles of snowmobile trails (including 700 miles of groomed) connect into a vast network of statewide and regional snowmobile trails. Continental Divide and Southwest Wyoming Snowmobile Trail Maps show the variety of riding opportunities. Snowmobiles must be registered with the State of Wyoming, which can be done at most snowmobile dealers and lodges catering to snowmobilers.

Snowmobile trail maps are available at local Forest Service offices or by contacting [www.wyotrails.com](http://www.wyotrails.com).

### Wildlife Winter Ranges

Winter is a tough time for animals, but there are simple things we can do to help them through this harsh season.

- \* While driving, stay alert and be prepared for wildlife on our roads, especially at dawn, dusk, and night.
- \* Observe the winter range closures. Harsh winter conditions limit animals' foraging areas and require them to expend extra energy to survive.
- \* In areas that are open to recreational use, be aware that wildlife might be present. Give them plenty of room and time to move away slowly rather than forcing them to run off.
- \* Make sure your dogs are under control and do not let them chase wildlife. Know where dogs must be on leashes.

### Avalanche Safety Tips

- ⌘ Eighty percent of all avalanches happen during or shortly after a storm, generally on slopes of 30-45 degrees.
- ⌘ Snowfall of 1 inch/hour or winds of 15 mph or higher greatly increase avalanche danger.
- ⌘ Cross a suspected avalanche path on a ridge above or in the valley floor well below danger. In a group, cross single file and move quickly.
- ⌘ Everyone should carry an avalanche beacon, a shovel, and survival/first aid gear.
- ⌘ Tell someone where you're going and when you'll return.



**Bridger-Teton National Forest  
Avalanche Center**  
[www.jhavalanche.org](http://www.jhavalanche.org)  
(307) 733-2662

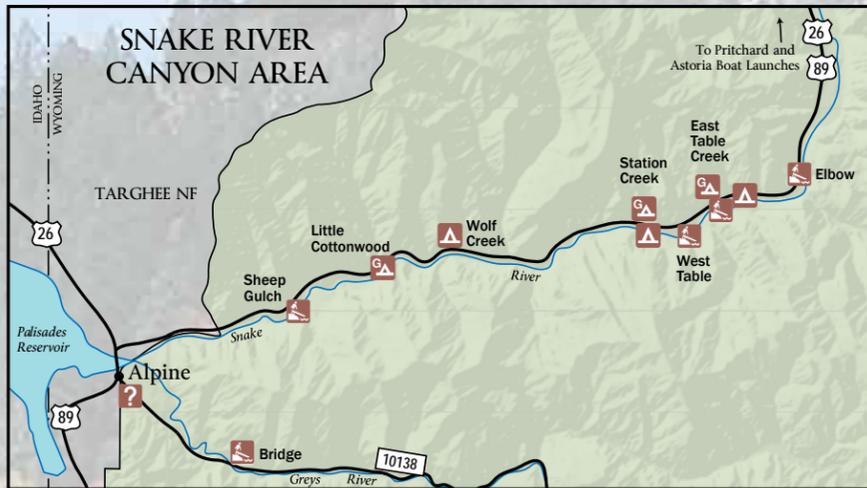
Area-specific avalanche advisories are posted by about 7 AM daily and an advisory for western Wyoming is posted by about 5 PM daily from early November to late April.

Avalanche beeper  
(© Eugeny Vasenev)

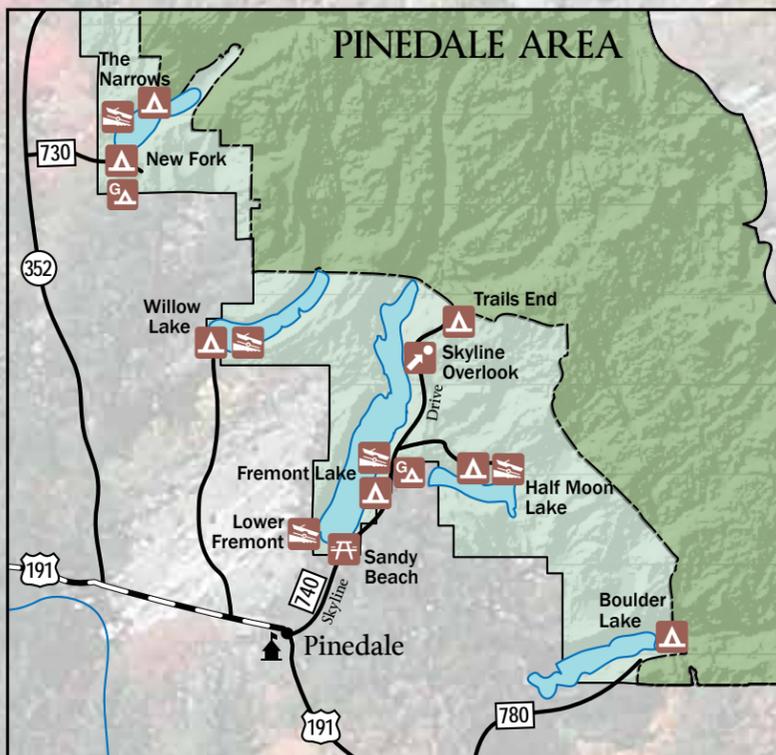


# Bridger-Teton National Forest

**Inset 1**



**Inset 2**



Forest Supervisor's Office	Interstate Highway
District Ranger Office	U.S. Highway
Roads	State Highway
Scenic Byway	Forest Route
Boat Launch	Bridger - Teton National Forest
Point of Interest	Wilderness
Marina	National Parks
Non-motorized Boat Launch	Campground
Information Center	Group Campground
	Picnic Area

Before venturing onto the Bridger-Teton National Forest, please pick up a map with the level of detail appropriate for your planned activities:

**For backcountry and off-road travel:**

Forest Visitor and Motor Vehicle Use (travel) maps are available at all Forest Service offices. They may also be ordered or downloaded from our website: [www.fs.usda.gov/btnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/btnf). Topographic maps for each of the three Wildernesses are also available.

**For hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding:**

7 1/2-minute scale topographic maps are recommended. They may be purchased locally at most outdoor stores, or visit the US Geological Survey for online purchases: [www.usgs.com/](http://www.usgs.com/)

## Points of Interest



- \* **Togwotee Pass** - At 9,544 feet, Togwotee Pass is a historically important passage to Jackson Hole across the Continental Divide. It is on the Wyoming Centennial Scenic Byway, with year-round vehicle access.
- \* **Union Pass** - This gravel road connects Dubois and the upper Green River Basin, and there is a historic site at the top of the pass. The road is open July-September, and accessible by snowmobile in winter.
- \* **Gros Ventre Slide** - A paved road east of Kelly provides year-round access to a view of the large landslide that created Slide Lake.
- \* **Teton Pass** - Another historic access to Jackson Hole, Teton Pass has interpretive signs, trail access, and a scenic overlook with year-round access.
- \* **Granite Hot Springs** - A developed outdoor pool lies at the foot of the Gros Ventre Range. Winter access is by snowmobile or dog sled guides.
- \* **Henderson Overlook** - A gravel road along the Greys River accesses this wayside and views of the central Salt River Range. Vehicle access is June-October; snowmobile guides operate in winter.
- \* **Skyline Drive** - The paved scenic road starts at Pinedale and is accessible July-September. The Pine Creek Overlook offers spectacular views into the Wind River Range and Fremont Lake, one of the deepest natural lakes in the nation.
- \* **Periodic Spring** - Four miles east of Afton, a 0.5-mile trail leads to the spring and waterfall. This unique cold-water geyser flows intermittently on a 17-minute schedule. Access is available May-October.
- \* **McDougal Gap** - The only road that passes over the crest of the Wyoming Range, McDougal Gap links the Greys River and the upper Green River Basin. The gravel road is open July-September.
- \* **Salt River Pass** - At the south end of Star Valley, U.S. 89 crosses the pass where there is a scenic overlook and groomed cross-country ski trails in winter. Access is available year-round.
- \* **Big Fall Creek** - Travertine falls, spring-fed water, and wildflowers can be enjoyed along this short two-track road. Access is via LaBarge Creek road, June-October.
- \* **Tri-basin Divide** - A remote but significant regional landmark, Tri-basin Divide separates the Greys River (Columbia River basin) and LaBarge Creek (Colorado River basin). A few miles to the west, the Smiths Fork flows into the Great Basin. This gravel road is accessible June-October.

# Recreation Sites

NAME	SEASON	# OF UNITS	AMENITIES	RESERVABLE
Allred Flat Campground <i>(group picnic site available)</i>	May-Sept.	32		No <i>(except for group)</i>
Angles Campground	June-Sept.	4		No
Atherton Creek Campground and Boat Site	May-Sept.	20		No
Big Sandy Campground <i>(tents and small trailers only)</i>	July-Sept.	5		No
Box Creek Campground	June-Sept.	6		No
Boulder Lake Campground	May-Sept.	15		No
Bridge Picnic Area and Boat Site	May-Sept.	5		No
Cottonwood Lake Campground <i>(group sites available)</i>	May-Sept.	20		No <i>(except for group)</i>
Crystal Creek Campground	May-Sept.	6		No
Curtis Canyon Campground	May-Sept.	12		No
East Table Campground	May-Sept.	18		No
Forest Park Campground	May-Sept.	12		No
Fremont Lake Campground <i>(group site available for 50-75 people)</i>	May-Sept.	50		Yes
Granite Creek Campground	May-Sept.	52		No
Green River Lakes Campground <i>(3 group sites available for 35-70 people)</i>	June-Sept.	27		Yes
Greater Yellowstone Area Visitor Center, Jackson	Year-			
Half Moon Lake Campground	May-Sept.	17		Yes
Hams Fork Campground	May-Sept.	13		No
Hatchet Campground	May-Sept.	9		No
Hoback Campground	May-Sept.	14		No
Hobble Creek Campground	July-Sept.	18		No
Kozy Campground	May-Sept.	7		No
Lynx Creek Picnic Area	May-Sept.	14		No
Moose Flat Campground	May-Sept.	10		No
Murphy Creek Campground	May-Sept.	10		No
Narrows Campground	May-Sept.	19		Yes
New Fork Lake Campground	May-Sept.	15		No
New Fork Lake Group Site <i>(75 people)</i>	May-Sept.	1		Yes
Pacific Creek Campground	May-Oct.	8		No

**Camping fees range from \$5-\$15 depending on amenities (group sites \$35-\$70) and are subject to change.**



NAME	SEASON	# OF UNITS	AMENITIES	RESERV-ABLE
Red Hills Campground	May-Sept.	5		No
Sacajawea Campground	July-Sept.	26		No
Sandy Beach Picnic Area <i>(group camping site available)</i>	May-Sept.	75		No <i>(except for group)</i>
Sheffield Creek Campground	June-Sept.	5		No
Station Creek Campground <i>(group site available)</i>	May-Sept.	16		No <i>(except for group)</i>
Swift Creek Group Campground	May-Sept.	12		Yes
Trails End Campground	June-Sept.	8		No
Turpin Meadows Campground	May-Sept.	18		No
West Table Boat Launch	May-Sept			No
Whiskey Grove Campground	May-Sept.	9		No
Willow Lake Campground	May-Sept.	7		No
Wolf Creek Campground	May-Sept.	26		No

**Camping fees range from \$5-\$15 depending on amenities (group sites \$35-\$70) and are subject to change.**

**RENTAL CABINS** The facilities are generally equipped with a table, chairs, wood stove, and bunks (most with mattresses). Bedding is not furnished. Cooking utensils are available at some cabins. Electricity and piped-in water are generally not available. It may be necessary to bring in safe drinking water, or chemically treat or boil water for consumption. At some cabins, you will need to cut your own firewood. Be prepared to use outdoor vault toilets. For reservations, use the National Recreation Reservation Service at 1-877-444-6777, or [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

CABIN	LOCATION	CAPACITY/DAILY FEE	SEASON	NOTES
Kelley Guard Station	45 miles north of Kemmerer; 23 miles northeast of Cokeville	4/\$30	Year-round	Snowmobile access in winter.
LaBarge Guard Station	87 miles north of Kemmerer; 36 miles southeast of Afton; 39 miles northeast of LaBarge	6/\$30	Year-round	Snowmobile access in winter.
Scaler Guard Station	78 miles north of Kemmerer; 18 miles from the LaBarge Trailhead	6/\$30	Year-round	Snowmobile access in winter.
Snider Guard Station Bunkhouse	23 miles west of Big Piney	4/\$30	Year-round; 7-day limit	Two rooms. Water available in summer. Corral for stock.
Hoback Guard Station	59 miles northwest of Big Piney	4/\$30	6/1-9/15; 7-day limit	Two rooms. Water in summer only. Corral may be available for stock.
McCain Guard Station	22 miles east of Alpine	8/\$40	Year-round; 7-day limit	Snowmobile access in winter.
Cazier Guard Station	46 miles southeast of Alpine	8/\$40	Year-round; 7-day limit	Snowmobile access in winter. Stock corral may be available.
Deer Creek Guard Station	14 miles southeast of Alpine	5/\$40	Year-round; 7-day limit	Snowmobile access in winter. Stock corral may be available.
Meadows Guard Station	29 miles southeast of Alpine	6/\$40	Year-round; 7-day limit	Snowmobile/nordic ski access in winter. Stock corral may be available.
Green River Lakes Lodge	52 miles north of Pinedale at the end of Forest Route #650 on the southwest shore of Lower Green River Lake	50 day use; 10 overnight	Year-round; 7-day limit	Snowmobile/nordic ski access in winter; hiking, horseback riding, fishing, boating.



# Activities

## Dispersed Recreation & Backcountry

Dispersed camping (outside campgrounds) is free in the remote areas of the forest, and is a great way to get away from it all.

### Know Where to Go

You can help us protect the land and water of the forest by using established campsites rather than creating a new site. Please stick to roads that are marked as OPEN (see the appropriate travel map for more information).

### Know Your Stay Limits

In general, you can camp outside of a developed campground for up to 16 days in the same site. If you wish to remain longer, you must move your camp more than 5 miles for at least 7 days before returning to the first site. Special camping regulations are enforced in the Jackson area between May 1 and Labor Day to discourage people from "living" on the forest. The regulations establish areas with no camping, 2-day limits, 5-day limits and the standard 16-day limits. A map showing restricted areas is available at the Jackson Ranger District.

### Wash Away from Water

Soap degrades water quality and harms fish and other aquatic life. Wash at least 200 feet from the water.

### Campfire Safety

- ☞ Check at the local Ranger Station for current fire restrictions. Remember, they can change on a daily basis.
- ☞ Use existing fire rings if possible.
- ☞ To put out a campfire, slowly pour water onto the fire and stir with a shovel. Continue adding and stirring until all material is cool to touch.
- ☞ Do not simply bury your fire. The coals can smolder and re-ignite.
- ☞ NEVER leave a fire unattended, even if there are no flames present. Many wildfires have been caused by abandoned campfires.



(© Gorilla)

### Human Waste

Bacteria and viruses found in human feces are known to cause many different gastro intestinal diseases. Please follow these simple steps when nature calls:

- ☞ Find a spot at least 200 feet from any water source.
- ☞ Dig a hole 6-8 inches deep and bury human waste.
- ☞ Pack out used toilet paper.



### Horse Use

Horses are welcome on most Bridger-Teton National Forest trails, but there are a few that are not suitable. Check with your local Forest Service office for details on specific trails.



### Other tips:

- \* Horse users are encouraged to bring feed with them on backcountry trips since natural forage is limited in many places. Packed-in feed must be certified weed-free.
- \* Stock must be tethered more than 200 feet from lakes and 100 feet from streams or other flowing water.
- \* Use highlines or pickets for tethering stock.
- \* **SPECIAL NOTE FOR BRIDGER WILDERNESS:** Hay is not allowed in the Bridger Wilderness. Stock users (horses, mules, llamas, and goats) must obtain a free permit from the Pinedale Ranger District for overnight use.

## Mountain Biking

For the fat-tire enthusiast, the Bridger-Teton National Forest offers a diversity of experiences and terrain. Mountain bikes are not permitted in the Teton, Gros Ventre, or Bridger Wildernesses, but there is plenty of other territory to explore. A "Mountain Biking in the Jackson Hole Area" map and guide is available for sale at some Bridger-Teton National Forest offices.

TRAIL NAME	HIGHLIGHTS AND HOW TO GET THERE
Teton Pass area	Trailheads at bottom and top of pass via WY 22 west of Jackson, Wyoming. Trails for hikers, bikers, and stock, scenic views. Local trail maps available.
Cliff Creek	First six miles of the trail to scenic falls. Reached via Cliff Creek Road from U.S. 189/191, 14 miles east of Hoback Junction.
Rimrock Ranch Road	Gentle grade to scenic pass from Bryan Flat east of Hoback Junction via U.S. 189/191. Opportunities for various loops.
Mosquito Creek	South of Wilson along Fall Creek Road, Mosquito Creek is to the west. Several loops available.
Shadow Mountain	Though an open forest road, use is light and this is a very popular ride. Spectacular Teton views. North of Kelly past Antelope Flats turnoff. Loops possible from top.
Ditch Creek	Combination lightly used road, closed road, and single track trails. Near Teton Science School Kelly campus.





## Trails

The Bridger-Teton National Forest is a paradise for hikers and horseback riders, with hundreds of miles of trails at all levels of difficulty. Among the options are three trails that have been recognized for their national significance:

### The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail

Known as the "Trail that Unites Us" the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST) runs along the entire spine of the continent between Mexico and Canada. About 200 miles of the 3,100-mile CDNST are located in the Bridger-Teton National Forest.

The following is a sampling of other hiking trails in the national forest. Most are multi-use trails, open to foot and stock traffic and mountain bikes. Check with your local Forest Service office for more information.

### The Wyoming Range National Recreation Trail

About 75 miles long, the Wyoming Range National Recreation Trail runs north-south from Bryan Flat to Snider Basin. The north end is especially popular for horseback riding, mountain biking, and hiking.

### Lander Cutoff, Oregon National Historic Trail

The Lander Cutoff crosses the Bridger-Teton National Forest near its southern end, running roughly east-west between South Piney Creek and the Salt River. The trail continues on adjacent Bureau of Land Management lands. For much of its length, public roads have replaced the original trail, but in several spots wagon ruts from the late 1850s remain visible. Several immigrant graves along the route have been preserved.



TRAIL NAME	MILES (one way)	HIGHLIGHTS AND HOW TO GET THERE
Bailey Creek	9.3	Access to scenic Bailey Lake, designated Wild River. Access via Little Greys River road spur near McCain Guard Station.
Box Creek - Clear Creek Loop	13.0	Access to Teton Wilderness, Buffalo Valley views. Developed trailhead and campground located near Turpin Meadows.
Cabin Creek - Dog Creek Loop	10.0	Developed trailheads both ends, Snake River Range and Palisades Wilderness Study Area.
Cache Creek	6.0	Developed trailhead and picnic area, several trails in area for hiking, horseback and mountain biking. East from Jackson via Cache Creek Drive. Local trail maps available.
CCC Ponds	4.5	Developed trailhead, interpretive hiking trail system with fishing ponds. Trailhead is 3 miles north of Pinedale.
Covey Cutoff	7.0	Meadows Guard Station-rental, Salt River Range. Trailhead at the guard station.
Cliff Creek	8.0	Camping area with toilet, eligible Wild River, scenic falls. Reached via Cliff Creek Road from U.S. 189/191 14 miles east of Hoback Junction.
Game Creek	4.0	Scenic valley, access to other trails in area, popular for mountain biking. Reached via Game Creek road from U.S. 189/191/89 south of Jackson.
Granite Highline	15.0	Scenic views, Gros Ventre Wilderness. East access reached via U.S. 189/191, 11 miles east of Hoback Junction, turning north onto Granite Creek Road. Trailhead is 9 miles from start of the road.
Huckleberry Lookout	5.0	Teton Wilderness, views into Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, historic fire lookout. Developed trailhead and campground off JDR Parkway near Flagg Ranch.
Lake Barstow	1.5	Spring-fed lake, short, easy hike. 37 miles south of Alpine along Greys River Road.
Lake Alice	2.0	Scenic large lake, fishing, camping. Trail starts at Hobble Creek Campground.
Little Greys River	5.3	Eligible Wild River, scenic canyon, access to Wyoming Range trail. Access via Little Greys River Road.
Middle Piney Lake	3.6	South shore of large lake, scenic views, easy trail, fishing and camping. 25 miles west of Big Piney via SR 350.
Middle Ridge	18.5	Scenic ridge with views of Wyoming and Salt River Ranges. North end accessed via Greys River Road 7 miles south of Alpine.
Pacific Creek	19.2	Access to Teton Wilderness, Wild River. Developed trailhead and campground at end of Pacific Creek Road.
Salt River	9.8	Lander Cutoff Trail access, eligible Wild River. 1 mile up Smiths Fork Road near Salt River Pass.
Strawberry Creek	7.6	Scenic lake, springs, fishing. Reached via Strawberry Creek Road, the Star Valley rest stop on U.S. 89 north of Afton.
Swift Creek	7.1	Research Natural Area, eligible Wild River, Periodic Springs view. Four miles east of Afton.
Teton Pass Area	various	Trailheads at bottom and top of pass via WY 22 west of Jackson. Trails for hikers, bikers, and stock, scenic views.
Upper Hoback River	7.8	Eligible Wild River, access to Wyoming Range trail and scenic backcountry. Reached via Hoback River Road from U.S. 189/191 east of Bondurant.
Wagner Pass	1.0	Starts at LaBarge Meadows guard station (rental) south of Tri-Basin Divide, follows the Lander Cutoff Historical Trail.
Wyoming Peak	5.1	Undeveloped, scenic trail, highest peak in Wyoming Range at 11,378 feet. 55 miles south of Alpine via Greys River Road and Shale Creek road.

## Snake River Water Sports

Kayaking and rafting the Snake River are recreation highlights for both residents and visitors. The Bridger-Teton National Forest administers 25 miles of the river from South Park Bridge to the Palisades Reservoir. The section below the Hoback River confluence is a National Recreational River. The following are some of the most popular stretches:

- » **South Park Bridge to Pritchard Creek:** The 8.5-mile section between South Park Bridge and Pritchard Creek offers a generally unobstructed channel with strong eddies. This section is appropriate for novice and intermediate boaters. King's Wave is one mile below the Hoback River confluence.
- » **Pritchard Creek to West Table:** These 8 miles offer the intermediate to expert boater several braided streams, log jams, and shallow, rocky channels to navigate. One significant class I rapid is found just upstream from Bailey Creek. Boaters should know how to maneuver around obstacles prior to floating this section.
- » **West Table to Sheep Gulch:** The 8.5 miles from West Table to Sheep Gulch offer the experienced boater several big rapids. Boaters should have whitewater experience before attempting this section and kayakers should be able to Eskimo roll. Inexperienced boaters seeking a whitewater experience should consider going with a commercial float trip operator.

All noncommercial groups of more than 15 people are required to obtain a permit at least two weeks prior to floating the river. To obtain a permit, go to [www.fs.fed.us/r4/btnf/teton/river/index.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/btnf/teton/river/index.shtml)

Lake trout  
(© Joe Tomelleri)



### Fishing

Rainbow trout  
(© Joe Tomelleri)



Native cutthroat trout are found in many waterways across the forest. Other sport fish species found on the forest include brook, brown, lake, and rainbow trout.

A Wyoming State fishing license is required to fish within the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Licenses are available from Wyoming Game and Fish Department offices and many sporting goods dealers. For more information, visit the Wyoming Game and Fish Department at: <http://gf.state.wy.us/fish/fishing/index.asp>.

Fisherman (© Pavol Kmeto)



Brown trout  
(© Joe Tomelleri)



### Aquatic Nuisance Species

For more information, visit [www.protectyourwaters.net](http://www.protectyourwaters.net).

When zebra and/or quagga mussels invade our local waters they damage boats, destroy fish habitat, and clog public water pipes.

Once a boat has been in infested waters, it could carry invasive mussels. Zebra and quagga mussels attach to boats and aquatic plants carried by boats. These mussels also commonly attach to bait buckets and other aquatic equipment. You can help stop these aquatic hitchhikers by following these three steps:

1. Clean mud, plants, animals or other debris from your boat and equipment
2. Drain the ballast tanks, bilge, livewells and motor
3. Dry (7 days summer; 18 days spring/fall; and 30 days winter) or freeze (3 days)



Brooke trout  
(© Joe Tomelleri)



If you cannot perform these steps, you should have your boat professionally cleaned with high-pressure, scalding (140° F) water.



## Motorized Recreation

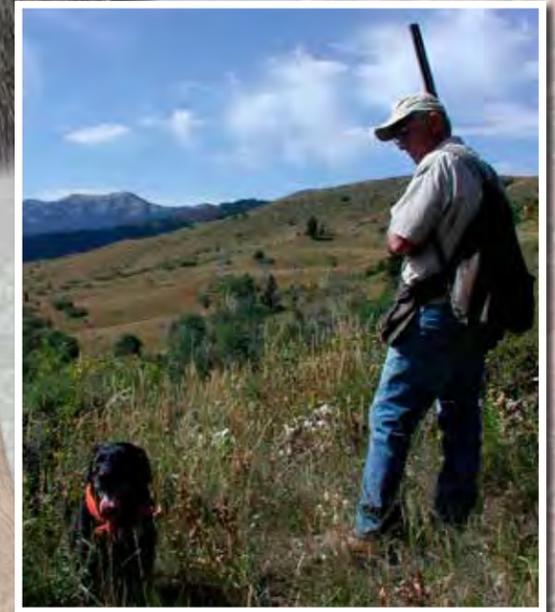
Motorized vehicle travel is allowed on designated open roads and trails only. Off-road vehicle travel is prohibited to prevent soil erosion, damage to meadows and streams, wildlife disturbance, and spread of noxious weeds. In addition, winter travel restrictions are in effect from December 1 through April 30 to protect wintering wildlife. Both winter and summer travel maps are available at all Bridger-Teton National Forest offices and at [www.wyotrails.com](http://www.wyotrails.com).

A sampling of OHV-friendly trails are shown below:

TRAIL NAME	HIGHLIGHTS AND HOW TO GET THERE
Slate Creek	Several loop opportunities, open to OHVs 50 inches or less. Hunting, camping, wildlife viewing. Open July 1 - September 9 annually. Access via Gros Ventre River road, trailhead .5 mile past Crystal Creek Campground.
Shadow Mountain	Loop opportunities from the summit, suitable for family riding, open to vehicles less than 50 inches July 1 - November 30. Grand Teton views, scenic forest trails. Access is north of Kelly past Antelope Flats turnoff.
Horsetail Creek	Loop motorcycle trail open July 1 - September 9. Scenic views of Slide Lake and surrounding mountains, steep in parts. Access via Gros Ventre River road 2 miles beyond Atherton Campground.
Union Pass	Network of primitive 2-track roads with low use in the Lake of the Woods - Mosquito Lake area. Spectacular views, fishing access, and camping areas. Access via Green River/Union Pass Road northwest of Pinedale.



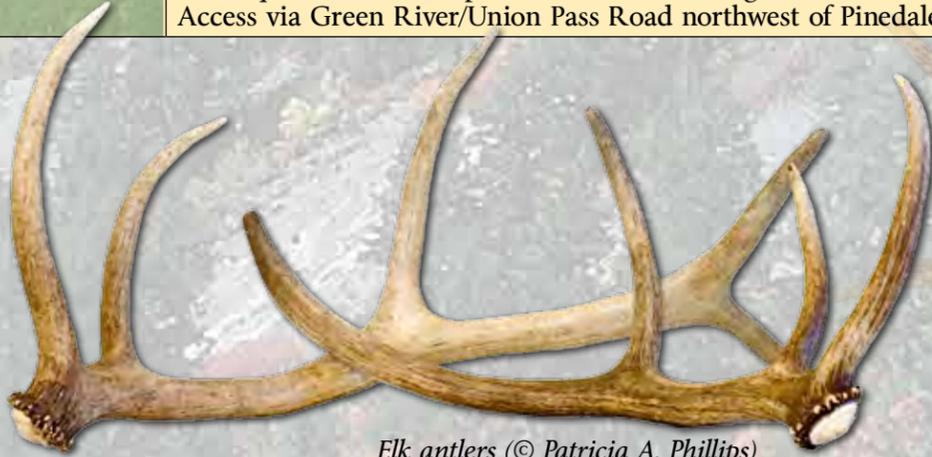
PLEASE  
Stay on  
Marked Trail



Moose antler (© Arunas Gabalis)

## Hunting

Because of our abundant wildlife, western Wyoming is synonymous with big-game hunting. Outfitters are permitted by the Bridger-Teton National Forest for those seeking guided hunts. Outfitters or registered resident guides are required for non-residents seeking to hunt in a federal Wilderness area in Wyoming. Hunting license applications are available from the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (307-777-4600). For more information, visit <http://wgfd.wyo.gov>.



Elk antlers (© Patricia A. Phillips)

## Outfitters and Guides

You may wish to take advantage of the numerous outfitters and guides who have the skills and equipment to help help make the most of your adventure. Guided activities include:

- » backpacking
- » rafting and kayak instruction
- » backcountry travel with horses or llamas
- » day hiking and interpretive walks
- » hunting
- » fishing
- » snowmobiling and avalanche instruction
- » backcountry skiing and snowshoeing
- » horseback rides
- » dogsledding
- » climbing and mountaineering
- » wildlife viewing/birdwatching



Llama  
(© Lincoln Rogers)



Many outfitters can accommodate people with special needs. Be sure to check that your outfitter has a permit to operate on the national forest by calling the local Forest Service office.



# Bridger-Teton National Forest



## America The Beautiful - National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Interagency Pass Program

## Your Recreation Fee Dollars at Work

Recreation fees have made a meaningful difference in our ability to serve our national forest visitors because these dollars can be reinvested into services and infrastructure. Some recent examples of work completed with these fee dollars include:

- ☺ Campground hosts at various campgrounds
- ☺ Trail improvement in many parts of the forest.
- ☺ New toilets, log barriers, tables, grills and other permanent facilities in campgrounds
- ☺ Wash stations at boat launches to prevent introduction of aquatic invasives
- ☺ Noxious weed control in developed sites and backcountry
- ☺ New vault toilets in campgrounds rental cabins and boat launches
- ☺ Refurbishment of historic cabins so they can be rented to the public
- ☺ This Visitor Guide

The America the Beautiful interagency pass program is a suite of annual and lifetime passes that provides visitors a convenient way to access Federal recreation lands.

**NOTE:** All passes listed below are honored nationwide at all Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and US Fish & Wildlife Service sites charging entrance or standard amenity fees.

### Annual Passport - \$80.00

Not accepted at campgrounds for a camping discount.

### Senior Passport - \$10.00

Must show proof of being at least 62 years old at purchase time. Good for a 50% discount on camping fees.

### Access Passport - Free

Purchaser must be medically determined to be blind or permanently disabled and must show written proof at purchase time. Good for a 50% discount on camping fees.

For more information, visit <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html>



## Contact Information

**Bridger-Teton National Forest Supervisors Office**  
340 N. Cache  
P.O. Box 1888  
Jackson, WY 83001-1888  
(307) 739-5500  
Email: [r4\\_b-t\\_info@fs.fed.us](mailto:r4_b-t_info@fs.fed.us)

**Jackson Ranger District**  
25 Rosencrans Lane  
P.O. Box 1689  
Jackson, WY 83001-1689  
(307) 739-5400

**Kemmerer Ranger District**  
308 Hwy. 189 North  
Kemmerer, WY 83101  
(307) 877-4415

**Buffalo Ranger District**  
Hwy. 26/287  
P.O. Box 278  
Moran, WY 83013-0278  
(307) 543-2386

**Big Piney Ranger District**  
10418 South Hwy. 189  
P.O. Box 218  
Big Piney, WY 83113-0218  
(307) 276-3375

**Pinedale Ranger District**  
29 East Fremont Lake Rd.  
P.O. Box 220  
Pinedale, WY 82941-0220  
(307) 367-4326

**Greys River Ranger District**  
671 N. Washington St.  
Afton, WY 83110  
(307) 886-5300



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