SUMMER Recreation Opportunities

DUBOIS Ranger District
CARIBOU-TARGHEE
National Forests

The District Office is located in Dubois, Idaho – just off Interstate 15 – approximately 50 miles north of Idaho Falls. The area administered by the District involves more than 450,000 acres. The area covers a variety of landscapes ranging from the desert floor to some of the highest mountains in Idaho. Vegetation varies from sagebrush-grass to stands of aspen, lodgepole pine, and Douglas fir. There are some streams and a few small lakes on the District. The area is rich in wildlife ranging from antelope, deer, elk, moose, small game, and non-game species.

The District is involved in a variety of other multiple-use management activities, including livestock grazing, timber harvesting and various recreational activities. Though much of the area – especially at lower elevations – does not receive large amounts of snow which allow a longer season for winter activities, the long summer season offers wonderful opportunities to explore the areas the early trappers, miners, and Native Americans utilized many years ago.

Please remember that although the areas may look like wide open spaces, they may be private or other Federal and State owned lands. Be sure to check all the rules and regulations which govern these lands. Even on the Dubois District, there are various restrictions for off-road and trail travel. Check the map carefully and inquire at the District Office if you have questions. But while you are here, enjoy America's Great Outdoors.

LEAVE NO TRACE

Plan Ahead and Prepare

Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit. Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies. Visit in small groups when possible. Use a map, compass or GPS device to eliminate the use of marking paint, rock cairns or flagging.

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow. Protect riparian areas by camping at least 200 feet from lakes and streams. Good campsites are found, not made.

Dispose of Waste Properly

Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter. Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp, and trails. Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.

Leave What You Find

Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts. Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.

Minimize Campfire Impacts

Use a lightweight stove for cooking and enjoy a candle lantern for light. Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires. Keep fires small. Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.

Respect Wildlife

Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them. Never feed animals. Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience. Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail. Avoid loud voices and noises.

WELCOME TO BEAR COUNTRY

Here are some practical tips for traveling in bear and mountain lion country:

- Inquire about recent bear and mountain lion activity in the area.
- Let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return.
- Read all signs at the trailhead.
- Hike in groups and keep children close to you at all times. Don't hike in the dark.
- Make your presence known. Call out, clap your hands, or sing loudly, especially around loud streams, on windy days, and in areas of low visibility. Stay alert near food source like berry patches and spawning fish.
- Carry bear pepper spray when hiking and camping.
- Stay on trails.
- Be aware of your surroundings. Look for signs of bear activities: tracks, scat, diggings, torn-up logs, and turned-over rocks.
- Carry a bandana, shirt or hat to drop as a distraction for an approaching bear or mountain lion. Do not drop your backpack. Keep it on for added protection.
- Avoid taking pets on hiking trails. It is not advised and sometimes prohibited. If dogs are permitted, keep them on a leash.
- Always keep a clean camp.
- Use designated camping areas.
- Store food in a bear-resistant box, hard shelled vehicle, or car trunk. Do not leave food out when not in use. Use bear-resistant trash receptacles.
- Set up tents with space between them. Keep your sleeping area, tent and sleeping bag free of food and odors.
- Don't sleep in the clothes you wore when you cook your food.
- Keep a flashlight handy.
- Photograph from observation areas only.
- Use a telephoto lens, binoculars, or a spotting scope to view animals. Never follow wildlife. Maintain a safe distance.
- Avoid dead animals because bears will defend these food sources.

TREAD LIGHTLY

OBTAIN A TRAVEL MAP . . .
from the Forest Service, or regulations from other public land agencies. Learn the rules and follow them.

AVOID . . .
running over young trees, shrubs, and grasses – damaging them or killing them.

STAY OFF . . .
soft, wet roads and trails readily torn up by vehicles (particularly during hunting seasons). Repairing the damage is expensive.

TRAVEL AROUND . . .
meadows, steep hillsides, or streambanks and lakeshores easily scarred by churning wheels.

RESIST . . .
the urge to pioneer a new road or trail, or to cut across a switchback.

STAY AWAY . . .
from wild animals that are rearing young – or suffering from food shortage. Stress can sap scarce energy reserves.

OBEY . . .
gate closures and regulatory signs. Vandalism costs tax dollars.

STAY OUT . . .
of Wildernesses. They're closed to all vehicles. Know where the boundaries are.

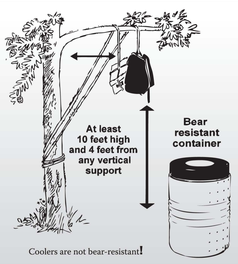
GET PERMISSION . . .
to travel across private land. Respect landowner rights.

Future opportunities for exciting travel with your recreation vehicle are in your hands, so – TREAD LIGHTLY!

POINTS OF INTEREST

CHARCOAL KILNS, A-3
Only four partially intact brick and adobe kilns remain. Sixteen kilns were built to furnish charcoal to the smelter at Nicholia. They are located off State Highway 28 in the Birch Creek valley.

FOOD STORAGE is required east of I-15 on the Dubois Ranger District.



Coolers are not bear-resistant!

FOOD STORAGE REQUIRED MARCH 1 - DECEMBER 1
Attractants must be unavailable to bears at night and during the day when unattended.

ATTRACTANTS ARE:
Food, beverages, toiletries, game meat, carcass parts, processed livestock food, pet food and garbage.

UNAVAILABLE MEANS:
- Hung at least 10 feet high and 4 feet from any vertical support.
- Stored inside a bear-resistant container or hard-sided vehicle.
- Game meat, if properly stored, at least 100 yards from a sleeping area, recreation site or Forest Service System Trail.
- Game meat, if left on the ground, at least one-half mile from any sleeping area, or recreation site and 200 yards from any Forest Service System Trail.

NOTICE

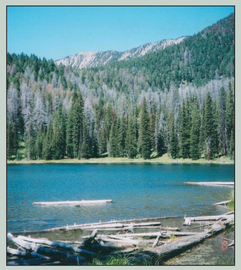
Unless otherwise posted, motorized access is allowed for parking and dispersed camping within 300 feet of roads and trails which are open for motorized use provided that no vegetation is damaged or destroyed, and streams and wet meadows are not crossed. Direct ingress and egress is permitted for firewood gathering as defined by the permit.

DRINKING WATER

All surface water, though it appears clear and cool, should be boiled for at least five minutes prior to drinking or using for food preparation.

WEED FREE HAY

Only hay, straw, mulch or forage products which have been certified as free of noxious weeds and seeds are allowed on National Forest lands.



CHECK YOUR MOTOR VEHICLE USE MAP

The Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) is a companion map to the one you are holding. It identifies the roads, trails and areas where motor vehicles are allowed. In general, motorized travel off of designated roads and trails is prohibited. See the MVUM for exceptions.

Forest visitors are allowed to park adjacent to any Forest road or trail where it is safe to do so, does not damage natural and cultural resources, and is not prohibited by signage. Once parked along a road or trail, visitors may engage in other motorized or non-motorized activity, including unloading OHVs for use on roads and trails where they are allowed.

The MVUM defines where motorized access to dispersed campsites is permitted. Check your MVUM to determine if it is allowed on this forest. Motor Vehicle Use Maps are available at the local Forest Service office or at www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohv/ohv_maps.shtml.

FIRE INFORMATION

Lightning caused fire is a natural occurrence. Fire has played a natural role in forest ecosystems and may be managed to burn naturally when management deems the risk/benefit ratio to be acceptable.

Human carelessness will always be an unacceptable cause of fire in the forest. Please help prevent unplanned wildland fire, and take these few simple steps toward fire prevention:

- Consider if it is too windy or hot and dry for a campfire.
- Use existing fire rings and build campfires in a safe spots.
- Never leave your fire unattended.
- Always keep a bucket of water and a shovel nearby.
- When putting a campfire out, drown it with water and stir with a shovel.
- Completely extinguish your fire. Make sure it is cold to the touch before leaving the area.

SEE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS MAP FOR WINTER USE OPPORTUNITIES

Key to Rec Symbols

- Campground
- Restrooms
- Drinking Water
- Trailer Parking Sites
- Parking
- Point of Interest
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Horseback Riding
- Campfires Allowed
- Campground other than FS
- Picnic Area other than FS
- Picnic Area
- Motorcycling
- Bicycling
- Fee Required

Backcountry Recreation

The Dubois Ranger District offers many opportunities for backcountry recreation. While enjoying these activities please remember to:

- Tread lightly
- Be careful with fire
- Keep your distance from wildlife
- Bury human waste away from water
- Pack it in, pack it out

Recreation Site Information

Site No.	Name	Location	Season of Use	Elevation	No. of Units	Group Units	Picnic Sites	Activities and Facilities	Remarks
1	Charcoal Kilns	A-3	May-Oct	7400			1		Historical Site
2	Kaufman (Idaho Fish & Game Site)	C-4	May-Oct	6400			1		Idaho Fish & Game Site
3	John Day (BLM Campground)	C-5	Apr-Oct	5700	12				BLM Campground
4	Webber Creek Campground	E-3	May-Sept	7000	4				
5	Paul Reservoir	H-2	May-Sept	7600					Small Reservoir; No Facilities
6	Stoddard Creek Campground	J-2	May-Sept	6200	24	1			Group Camping
7	Steel Creek Campground	K-2	May-Sept	6600		1			Group Camping

Trailhead Information

Site No.	Name	Location	Elevation	Parking Spots	Activities and Facilities
1	Rocky Canyon	B-3	7200	5	
2	Pass Creek	B-4	6800	5	
3	Eight Mile	C-5	7000	10	
4	Willow Creek	C-2	8200	5	
5	Scott Canyon	C-3	7700	10	
6	Crooked Creek	D-3	7000	5	
7	South Fork Meyers Creek	E-3	7000	5	
8	Webber Creek	E-3	7000	5	
9	Fritz Creek	D-2	7200	10	
9A	Divide Creek	E-2	7200	10	
9B	Bear Gulch	L-2	7000	10	
9C	Trail Creek	L-1	7000	5	
9D	Aldous	M-1	7000	10	

General Camping Information

The Dubois Ranger District provides numerous opportunities for rewarding recreational experiences such as camping, horseback riding, photography, bird watching, berry picking, boating, hunting and fishing. The developed campground sites are on a first come, first serve basis. Some reservations can be made online at RECREATION.GOV, or call 1-877-444-6777.

Limits of stay are posted at each campground. Most undeveloped areas within the Forest are open to camping at no charge, however these sites may have restrictions on length of stay and food storage. Bear-proof boxes are required in some camping areas. Check with the local District Office for the most current regulations and conditions.

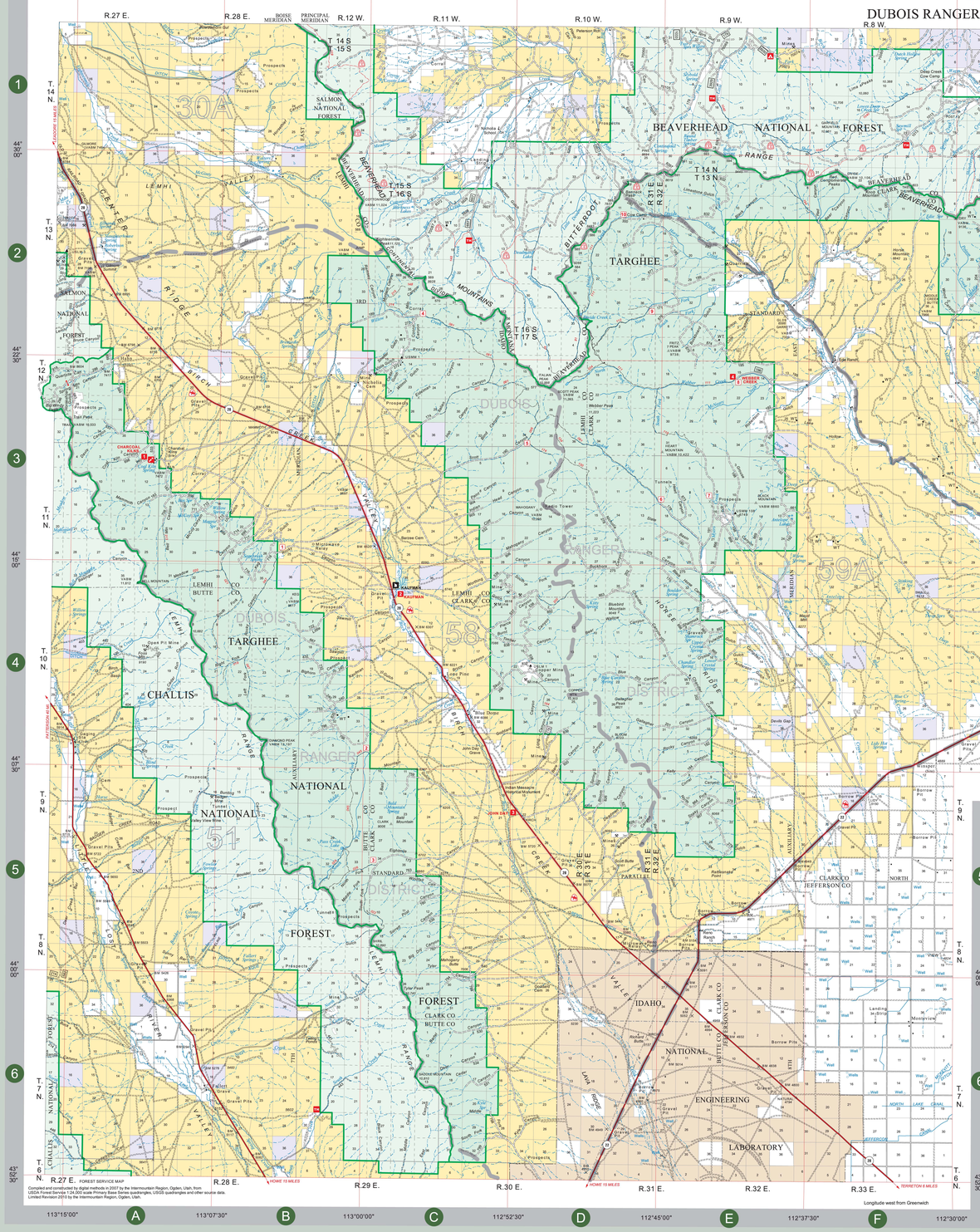
Safety Tips

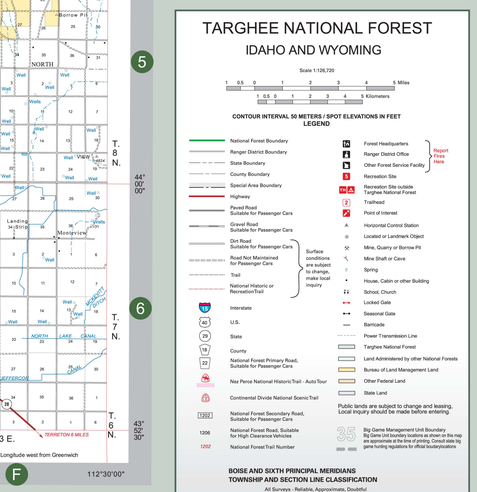
Hypothermia kills people unprepared for the cold, rain or snow. Be prepared. Remember to bring adequate clothing and protection from bad weather.

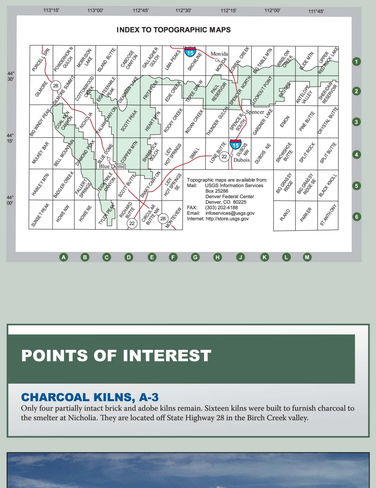
Water in some streams and lakes may be contaminated with Giardia or other dangerous bacteria. To avoid problems, boil water at least five minutes before you drink it or before you carry it with you.

When driving in the backcountry, always carry emergency equipment such as snow chains, shovels, extra clothing, food and water.

When camping, always take along a shovel, bucket or fire extinguisher.







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