



USDA Forest Service

Caring for the Land and Serving People

Special Places

A Travel and Tourism Planner's Guide to Your National Forests

Message from the Chief

America's national forests and grasslands are the "golden crown" of outdoor settings where national and international visitors alike can enjoy a wide variety of premier adventure travel and eco-tourism recreation activities. From Alaska's forests and glaciers, Idaho's wild rivers, Utah's and Colorado's ski mountains, New Mexico's Jemez Mountains heritage sites, to Caribbean tropical forests, I invite you to visit your national forests for outdoor fun and experiences of a lifetime.

Dale N. Bosworth

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Welcome to Our Special Places—Sustainable Tourism, the Leave No Trace Partnership

Welcome to our Special Places promotion of great places to "VISIT US" in national forest and grassland destinations. We are launching this newsletter as a new partnership to share information about our little known treasures and build greater awareness among travel and tourism professionals about what we have to offer and what programs exist to host use of these spectacular public lands. The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, would

like to have the travel and tourism industry join us in promoting the development of responsible, sustainable recreation on the land. As visitors leave the beaten track and venture off from our developed facilities, we have adopted a major tool for educating tourists and recreational users on ways to conserve our public lands. This tool is Leave No Trace, Inc., a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) education program that unites four Federal land management agencies—the Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—with manufacturers, outdoor retailers, user groups, educators, and individuals who share a commitment to maintaining and protecting our public lands for future enjoyment. Sustainable tourism starts with the individual visitor, backpacker, or tour operator.

Leave No Trace, Inc., is a national and international program designed to assist visitors with their decisions when they travel and camp on America's public lands. The program strives to educate visitors about the nature of their recreational impacts, as well as techniques to prevent and minimize such impacts. Leave No Trace is best understood as an educational and ethi-

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Outdoor Recreation Links to the World Wide Web

<http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation> (recreation information on all forests and grasslands)
<http://www.recreation.gov> (interagency recreation activities information for Federal land)
<http://www.reserveusa.com> (National Recreation Reservation Service)

The Greatest Snow on Earth!

Skiers find the “greatest snow on Earth” at the Snowbasin Ski Resort, which is borne out by its selection as the site for the 2002 Olympic Winter Games signature events—the downhill and super g. In addition to an annual 400 inches of fluffy, powdery snow, the resort boasts 3,200 acres of skiable terrain serviced by eight lifts and a 2,900-foot vertical drop. Snowbasin Ski Resort is located on the Ogden Ranger District of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

By February 2002, the resort will offer two new gondolas and a high-speed quad chairlift, a state-of-the-art snowmaking system, and four new day-lodges. A new access road to the resort places Snowbasin only 40 miles from Salt Lake City International Airport.

The Snowbasin area also offers marked and groomed trails and many forest roads for cross-country skiing. A snowmobile parking area on Highway 39 is available during the winter months, and scenic Pineview Reservoir



offers a number of excellent locations for ice fishing.

The Snowbasin area is a great place to visit in the summer, with many trails for hiking, biking, all-terrain vehicle riding, motorcycling, and horseback riding. Campgrounds abound, with many sites on a first-come, first-serve basis. Reservations are available for single family and group picnic and camping sites through the toll-free National Forest Reservation System at (877) 444-6777. Tourists can also motorboat, sail, windsurf, jet-ski, swim, fish, water-ski, sunbathe, camp, and picnic at the Pineview Reservoir. Hunting and wildlife viewing are also popular throughout the forest.

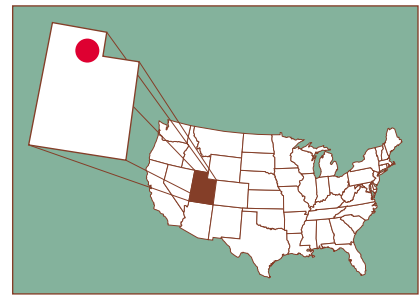
Several scenic byways provide outstanding views in the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The Ogden River Scenic Byway follows State Route 39 from Ogden, UT, to the eastern forest boundary. Visitors journeying up this narrow canyon can enjoy alpine beauty, excellent fishing, access to Pineview Reservoir, and spectacular fall colors. Driving the 44-mile byway requires approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. Portions of the route are closed in the winter, depending on snowfall.

Visitors shouldn't miss the drive along the popular Mirror Lake Scenic Byway, State Route 150. The byway begins in Kamas, UT, and passes through the national forest for 44 miles, ending in Evanston, WY. The Mirror Lake area offers campgrounds and picnic areas, overlooks, interpre-



tive and wildlife viewing sites, 20 trail-heads, fishing sites, 37 nonmotorized trails, 3 all-terrain vehicle trail systems, and winter parking areas along this scenic byway. The byway is groomed for snowmobiling in the winter by the Utah Division of Parks and Recreation.

For more information on the Ogden River Scenic Byway, contact the Ogden Ranger District at (801) 625-5112. For information on the Mirror Lake Scenic Byway, contact the Kamas Ranger District at (435) 783-4338 or Evanston Ranger District at (307) 789-3194. Or visit the following Web sites: <http://www.snowbasin.com> <http://www.saltlake2002.com> <http://www.fs.fed.us/wcnf/index.html> <http://www.publiclands.org>



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al vehicle hookups are provided or at local hotels and travel to the site each day. The projects vary in length from 2 days to 2 weeks or even longer. The level of accessibility ranges from very difficult to easy, depending on the activity and location of the project.

The Passport in Time Clearinghouse can answer questions about accessibility or physical requirements for any project. Just call (800) 281-9176 (voice, TTY) or (520) 722-2716 (local Tucson number) or send an e-mail to pit@srcrm.com.



To find out more about the program and projects, check the Web site at <http://www.passportintime.com>. Projects are also announced in the PIT Traveler, published in March and September. The newsletter is free; just contact the PIT Clearinghouse to receive a copy or to be added to the mailing list.





Shasta Cascade Wonderland

President Teddy Roosevelt knew what he was doing when he set aside national forests like the Shasta and Trinity in the early 1900s. Scenic deep canyons and thrilling river rapids, towering granite peaks and cliffs, and numerous lakes provide a wonderland of outdoor adventure for groups and individual travelers alike. Covering an area roughly the size of Ohio, the Shasta Cascade region contains seven national forests, numerous national and State parks, the Trinity Alps Wilderness, and the California Cascade Range, with its huge volcanic peaks—Mts. Shasta and Lassen.

Over 1,400 miles of trails meander through Shasta-Trinity National Forest under a canopy of cedar trees, ponderosa pine, Pacific dogwood, black cottonwood, and Pacific yews. The Pacific Crest Trail cuts across the forest for 154 miles, with stunning views in all directions. Shasta-Trinity National Forest is home to over 400 species of

mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Hundreds of miles of clear, cold-running streams offer opportunities to catch native rainbow trout, steelhead trout, and silver salmon.

For drivers looking to glimpse the area's grandeur through a windshield, the Trinity Scenic Byway along State Highway 3 offers one of the most beautiful drives in northern California. Self-guided auto tour information is available at the local offices and visitor center. Bicyclists touring along the 50-mile loop circling Mount Shasta can ride alongside glaciers and lava flows.

Outdoor recreation facilities range from primitive to modern. At Mount Shasta Board and Ski Park, snowboarders and skiers can cascade down sculpted terrain like quarter pipes, tabletops, rolls, and jumps. Three triple chair lifts take visitors to the top; 31 trails get them back down. The Shasta and Trinity Units of the National Recreation Area offer some of the best

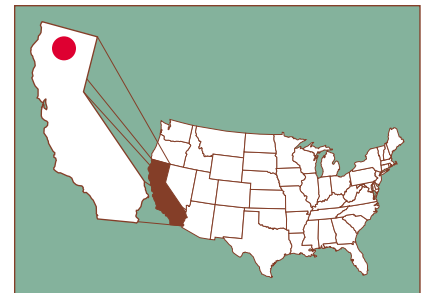
house boating and fishing available in the West. Over 100 miles of the rivers in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest have been designated as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, providing unique year-around whitewater boating opportunities. Within the boundaries of the national forest, you'll find five wilderness areas. From mountain climbing to whitewater boating, spelunking to gold panning, skiing to just sightseeing, the Shasta-Trinity National Forest has something for everyone.

Tour buses are well accommodated throughout Shasta-Trinity, and fee information is available upon request. Special-use fee arrangements for large groups can be made through the Forest Service. For more information on areas within the national forest boundaries, contact the Shasta-Trinity National Forest Supervisor's Office at (530) 244-2978.

For more information on area commercial guides authorized to provide tours and equipment rentals, visit the following Web site:

<http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/shastatrinity/nra/links.html>.

Information for tour planning is available through the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland Association, 1699 Hwy 273, Anderson, CA 96007. Visit the Web site: <http://www.shastacascade.org/> or call Karen Whittaker, Tourism Development Manager, at (530) 365-7500.



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cal program, not as a set of rules and regulations. Clearly, all use has impacts. The goal is to leave the landscape as charming and healthy as we found it when bringing guests into forest and grassland landscapes. The mission of Leave No Trace is to promote and

inspire responsible outdoor recreation through education, research, and partnerships. It is an educational program about discovering, enjoying, and maintaining the great outdoors for ourselves; our children; and the unique communities of peoples, plants, and animals that inhabit these lands. The message has been tailored for multiple uses and

ecosystems. The Leave No Trace, Inc., principles have been adapted for desert ecosystems, tropical rain forests, deciduous forests, caves, coastal environments, and other locations. The skills and ethics booklet series is organized by regions that cover all of North America. Check for your region on the Web site: <http://www.lnt.org>.

El Yunque—America’s Only Tropical Rainforest

If you’re looking for an exotic tour location, try the Caribbean National Forest in Puerto Rico. Set aside by the Spanish Crown in 1876 while Puerto Rico was still ruled from Madrid, it is one of the oldest protected areas in the Western Hemisphere. As a result, the forest looks much as it did when Christopher Columbus visited Puerto Rico 500 years ago. Under a damp canopy created by 1,000-year-old trees and in company of giant ferns, bromeliads, and rare orchids, tourists find it difficult to remember they are still in the United States. With its 200 inches of rain per year and more than 1,000 species of plants, this is as accessible and convenient as tropical rain forests get—no passport, vaccinations, or complex travel plans are required for U.S. citizens to visit.

The Caribbean National Forest is located about 25 miles east of San Juan. “El Yunque,” as it is locally called, is one of the most popular recreation sites in Puerto Rico. Almost a million tourists visit this highly accessible tropical rain forest each year. El Yunque is the largest remnant of original forest that covered virtually the entire island before 85 percent of Puerto Rico was cleared for agriculture.

Islanders typically visit the forest in the hot summer months of July and August. Most off-island visitors come during the winter and early spring months. Many cruise ship passengers tour into the heart of the forest. Low-visitation times are mid-April through mid-June and September through October. Whatever time of year you visit, the scenic roadways, picnic areas, trails, and the El Portal Rainforest Center will welcome you.

You can learn about the forest and its relationship with other tropical rain forests in the world at the El Portal Rainforest Center. Its unique architecture, spectacular natural setting, exhibits and interactive displays, and helpful interpretive personnel make it a favorite starting point for your visit. A new nature trail starts just outside of the center. The theater’s bilingual film gives insight into hidden corners of El Yunque. The gift shop offers a unique selection of books, local arts and crafts, videos, educational items, and sou-



venirs. For more information call (787) 888-1810.

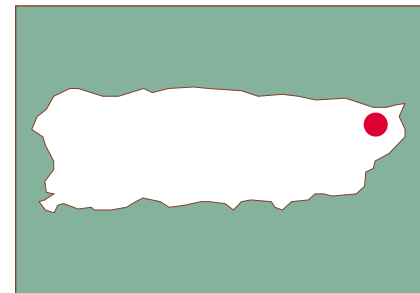
Forest Adventure Tours offer the opportunity to explore El Yunque rain forest trails with a guide. For information and reservations call (787) 888-1880. If visiting the forest during hurricane season (from June 1st to November 30th), check for local weather broadcasts: (787) 253-7877.

For more information, visit the following Web sites:

<http://www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/caribean/>



http://www.gorp.com/gorp/resource/US_National_Forest/pr_carib.HTM
<http://www.solboricua.com/elyunque/>



NatureWatching on National Forests

The NatureWatch program provides opportunities for people to experience wildlife, fish, and flowers in their natural settings; promotes recreational viewing opportunities; facilitates learning about the environment; and promotes conservation efforts and wise use of natural resources. The NatureWatch program is administered by the Forest Service Wildlife, Fish, and Rare Plant Program in cooperation with program sponsors and thousands of partnerships around the country.

Incorporate NatureWatch activities into your tours! For more information on NatureWatch auto tours, site locations, and accessible sites, check the

Web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/outdoors/naturewatch/default.htm> or call (414) 297-3257.



The Great Lakes of Colorado



The Arapaho National Recreation Area (ANRA) is a scenic water wonderland in the upper reaches of the Colorado River Valley. Adjacent to Rocky Mountain National Park, it is about a 2-hour drive from Denver, CO. Lake Granby, Shadow Mountain Lake, Monarch Lake, Willow Creek Reservoir, and Meadow Creek Reservoir are nestled within the ANRA. Adjacent to the ANRA, Grand Lake, with its deep, clear blue waters, is the largest natural lake in Colorado. Together, the lakes and reservoirs are often referred to as the Great Lakes of Colorado.

At an elevation ranging from 8,200 to 11,000 feet, the area offers cool summers and cold, snowy winters. Facilities usually open around May 20 and offer full service until shortly after Labor Day, subject to the weather.

Camping, picnic, and boating facilities are available at most of the lakes. Specific lake characteristics include:

- ▶ Lake Granby—the second largest body of water in Colorado—offers power and sail boating, water skiing, wind surfing, and fishing on its 7,256 acres.
- ▶ Monarch Lake supports high-quality nonmotorized recreation experiences on its 150 acres.
- ▶ Shadow Mountain is a shallow reservoir connected by a canal to Grand Lake, allowing boat passage between the two.
- ▶ Willow Creek Reservoir—tucked into the Willow Creek Valley—is oriented toward fishing and canoeing and allows powerboats restricted to a “no wake” speed on its 750 acres.
- ▶ Meadow Creek Reservoir—located in the most remote part of the ANRA—is nearly 10,000 feet in elevation and allows nonmotorized watercraft on its 125 acres.

Lodging accommodations are available at both the recreation lakes and in the nearby towns of Lake Granby and Grand Lake. For more information, contact the Granby Chamber of Commerce at (970) 887-2311 or Grand Lake Chamber at (970) 627-3402.

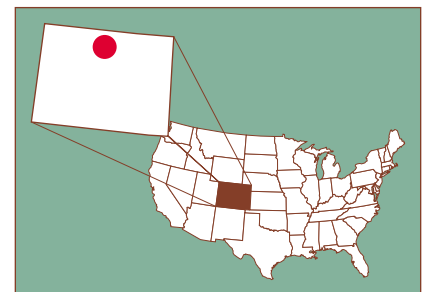
The west entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park along Highway 34 is located just 1.5 miles north of the ANRA. Those visiting the Rocky Mountain National Park should complete their trip with a visit

to the scenic lakes of the ANRA. Tour groups will enjoy a wide variety of watersports on these Great Lakes of Colorado. Many of the marinas rent boats of all kinds. Boat-in camping is popular along the northeast shores of Lake Granby. Hiking is also popular, with portions of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail in the ANRA. Horseback trips are another option on many trails. Rental stables are available in the town of Grand Lake. Mountain biking for all skill levels is popular around Meadow Creek Reservoir and in areas surrounding the ANRA. Bikes are rented in the towns of Grand Lake, Granby, and Winter Park. Backcountry camping is permitted in the ANRA, with access to the Continental Divide.

Cutthroat Bay Group Camp can accommodate up to 2 groups of 50 people in a rustic setting. Reservations are required. Point Park picnic area and fishing pier have facilities that are accessible to all. Reservations can be made through the National Recreation Reservation System at (877) 444-6777. Daily fees are charged for use of the campgrounds.

There is an entrance fee of \$5 per day or \$10 per weekend (3 days). Golden Eagle, Age, and Access Passports are accepted for admission.

For information on organizing tours in the Arapaho National Recreation Area, contact Bill Dunkelberger, Area Manager, at (970) 887-4127, or contact the Sulphur Ranger District, Arapaho National Forest, 9 Ten Mile Drive, P.O. Box 10, Granby, CO 80446, (970) 887-4100. For trip planning on the Web, use <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf/srd/vvc/camping/arapaho.htm>.



America's Best-Known Volcano



Mount St. Helens rumbled to life in March 1980. For 2 months, earthquakes and steam explosions rattled the mountain and the nerves of Northwest residents. Then, on May 18, 1980, Mount St. Helens erupted. The entire north face of the volcano collapsed in the largest recorded landslide in history. A tremendous lateral blast swept over ridges, toppling 230 square miles of forest like matchsticks. The eruption lasted 9 hours, turning a lush, forested landscape into a stark, gray moonscape.

Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument was created in 1982 for research, recreation, and education. Within the monument, the environment is left to respond and recover naturally. Scientists and visitors follow the changes in the landscape and volcano, and watch as vegetation and wildlife return to the blast zone.

No where else in the country can you view such comprehensive information on volcanic history as at Mount St. Helens. A full master plan of roads, viewpoints, visitor centers, and recreational facilities have been developed in the monument to encourage visitors to explore and learn about this unique volcanic landscape. Mount St. Helens offers picnicking, camping, and trails of all lengths and levels of challenge. Each year thousands of climbers make the journey to the crater rim. In addition to self-guided opportunities, Forest Service interpreters lead many activities including guided walks and amphitheater talks.

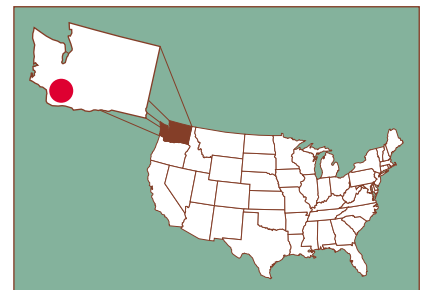
On State Route 504, Mount St. Helens and Coldwater Ridge Visitor Centers are open year-round and Johnston Ridge Observatory is open from spring to fall. Windy Ridge Viewpoint and other sites along Forest Road 99 are generally open from Memorial Day until snow closes the roads. Most trails are accessible from June through October, although some lower elevation trails can be hiked all year.

Winter at Mount St. Helens is magical. Many cross-country ski and snowmobile trails await winter tourists. Snow enthusiasts gather at Marble Mountain, Cougar, and Wakepish Snow-Parks, while those seeking shelter from the winter weather visit Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center, lingering to enjoy a cup of hot cocoa in the restaurant.

Tour and school groups are welcome at the monument and are encouraged to schedule visits in advance. Fees are charged at the Monument Visitor Centers, Ape Cave, and Windy Ridge, as well as for climbing the volcano. Golden Eagle, Age, and Access Passports are valid. For information on tours and passes, contact any of the following numbers:

- Mount St. Helens Visitor Center: (360) 274-2100
- Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center: (360) 274-2131
- Johnston Ridge Observatory: (360) 274-2140
- Monument Headquarters: (360) 247-3900
- Hoffstadt Bluffs Visitor Center (Cowlitz County): (360) 274-7750
- Forest Learning Center (Weyerhaeuser Co.): (360) 414-3439
- Castle Rock: (360) 274-6603
- Kelso/Longview: (360) 577-8058
- Centralia/Chehalis: (360) 748-8885
- Woodland: (360) 225-9552
- Stevenson: (509) 427-8911

Lodging, food, gas, and other services are located in nearby communities. For information on local offerings and tour support, contact the following attractions and Chambers of Commerce, or visit the monument Web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/mshnvm>.



Discovery in Southeast Alaska



Every good tour operator knows that Alaska is the land of superlatives—whether it is about size, temperature, variety, or uniqueness. The Tongass National Forest and the Southeast Alaska Discovery Center give you a strong sense of this last frontier.

The Tongass is America's largest national forest, with almost 17 million acres. It has some of the smallest and largest critters and plants—from the shrew to the brown bear, from tiny bog orchids to towering spruce. The national forest encompasses about 2,000 islands, over 5,000 glaciers, and 33,000 miles of coastline. In short, it's a place to inspire the soul!

During the summer months, thousands of visitors travel the ferries of

southeast Alaska. The Tongass National Forest has interpreters on board the ships 7 days a week from June 1st through Labor Day to bring alive the wonders of Alaska. One of four Alaska Public Lands Information Centers located around the State, the Southeast Alaska Discovery Center is a key visitor resource. It is located in downtown Ketchikan, just 2 short blocks from the cruise ship dock and 2.5 miles from the ferry terminal.

As tourists enter the spacious lobby, they're surrounded by authentic red cedar totem poles that represent the three tribes of Southeast Alaska: the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian. An information desk, center store, trip planning room, movie, and series of

world-class exhibits await perusal. Interpreters are available to answer questions and offer programs. For many visitors, the first stop after the lobby is to view *Mystical Southeast Alaska*, an award-winning 14-minute program that combines slides, video, and original music in an orientation program on southeast Alaska. From the theater, visitors go to nearby exhibits, which highlight the ecosystems, natural resources, and people of southeast Alaska. The trip planning room is designed like a wilderness lodge, where visitors can plan travels to any of the six geographic regions of Alaska. Before going back into the lobby, many people stop at the Alaska Natural History Association (ANHA) Bookstore, which features books, videos, maps, educational resources, and gift items that highlight topics featured in the center.

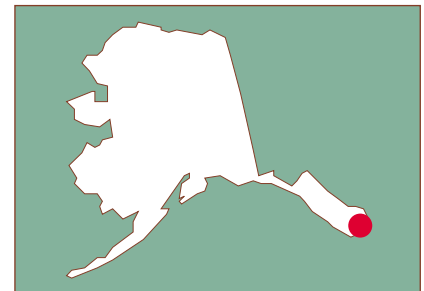
If you are interested in taking groups into this remarkable area, contact the Southeast Alaska Discovery Center and start them out right!

Southeast Alaska Discovery Center
50 Main Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901
E-mail:
r10_ketchikan_Alaska_Info@fs.fed.
us
Phone: (907) 228-6220
TDD: (907) 228-6237
Fax: (907) 228-6234

Web sites:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass/districts/discoverycenter/index.html>

<http://www.nps.gov/aplic/center/index.html>



Lewis and Clark

If you're looking for a theme tour of westward expansion, Native American history, and the indomitable spirit of human discovery, this is the place! The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail brings to life the experiences of the great expedition in the early 19th century to discover a "Northwest Passage" from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

Located on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River in Montana's Giant Springs Heritage State Park, the 25,000-square-foot interpretive center includes a huge exhibit hall, a 158-seat theater, a hands-on education room, and a retail store. Easy trails invite visitors down to the river.

Exhibits chronicle the 1804 to 1806 journey of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, with a focus on their interactions with the Plains Indians. A



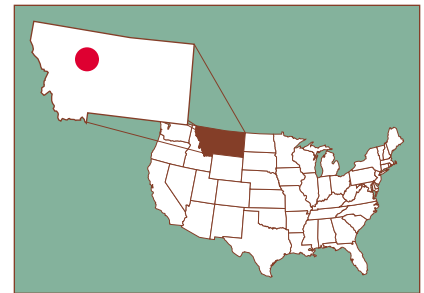
two-story diorama portrays a portage around the great falls of the Missouri River, and two-story windows overlook the river. The theater features a 30-minute introductory film. Native plants can be viewed by traveling on an outdoor trail. At the living history area along the banks of the Missouri River, demonstrations of expedition daily life and native cultures occur during the summer.

The center is gearing up for the 4-year commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial from 2003 to 2006. A variety of workshops and classes are offered, lasting from a 1/2-day to 3-day sessions and covering topics from event planning to the 19th century Indian material culture. Each workshop requires advance registration and a small fee. Attendance is limited. The interpretive center also offers regularly scheduled interpretive programs on expedition-related topics such as medicine, food, diplomacy, and wildlife, as well as current-interest demonstrations on portaging, pitching a teepee, plant study, and various orientation and outdoor skills. Call for current program listings.

Entry prices range from \$5 for adults, to \$4 for seniors and students, to \$2 for youth (6 to 17 years). Children age 5 and under enter free. Groups

with more than 20 paying adults may arrange for a discount. Educational tours are also offered during the school year. For more information or to make a group reservation, call the interpretive center at (406) 727-8733. Interpretive tours are offered daily during the spring, summer, and fall. The center is fully accessible to individuals with disabilities and also offers parking for tour buses.

For further information, contact the center at: P.O. Box 1806, Great Falls, MT 59403-1806, or visit the Lewis and Clark Web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/lewisclark.lcic.htm>. Other Web sites with information about Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and their expeditions include: <http://bicentennial@lewisandclark200> <http://www.lewis-clark.org> <http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark>



From Relics to Rentals: Recycled Forest Service Cabins for Rent!

Imagine yourself as the sole smoke spotter for 100,000 acres of land, alone on a mountaintop while summer lightning flashes in dizzying bolts all about you. Or, perhaps you are the Lone Ranger charged with riding and protecting a whole mountain range with your trusted steed as your only companion. Relive the drama of our early forest rangers as you enjoy our many restored authentic cabins and lookouts on national forests and wilderness areas.

In these modern times of plugged-in communication, these sites are no longer necessary for managing the land. Because the sites are too valuable and

close to the heart to destroy, a public rental program was developed to protect and maintain them, and to offer the experience of staying in the wild in the historic cabins and lookouts of early rangers.

There are now over 400 Forest Service-maintained structures available for daily or weekly rental around the country. Most can be reached only by foot, ski, snowmobile, or horseback. "Off the beaten track" definitely applies here! From administrative cabins still used today in Alaska, to quasi-luxury cabins with private springs in Florida, the great outdoors of national forest cabins awaits you. Check out the fol-



lowing Web sites for phone numbers or to make online reservations for these one-of-a-kind treasures:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/permits/cabinrentals.htm>
<http://www.reserveusa.com/cabins/index.html>
http://www.camprrm.com/rental_cabins.htm



Grassroots Ecotourism: Ozark Ecotours

If you are planning a trip to the Ozarks of Arkansas and are looking for a unique, locally based, authentic ecotourism experience in the heartland of America, then you must try Ozark Ecotours. Located in the landscapes around Jasper, AR, these tours were developed to provide highly interactive educational tours into the natural and cultural history of the Ozark Mountains. Each tour is designed to provide tourists with ecological and cultural interpretations that support and protect the Newton County natural resources and cultural heritage and

the Ozark Mountain culture. Some tours may explore remote natural springs and waterfalls, native history sites, or seldom known native plants. Each has a special theme and is tailored for high interaction with the group participants. As an expert in birding, history, native lore, or hidden gems of the forest, each local guide is well versed in interpretation techniques and how to keep visitors close to the real experience of the land and culture they are traveling through. These tours are very limited and special opportunities to help support the preservation of Ozark culture and to enjoy a wonderful, intimate experience in these natural landscapes.

Tours can be arranged for groups of 6 to 12 people as custom tours. They are ideally suited for small van tours or individual groups looking for that unique tourism experience. The entire Ozark Ecotours effort is community driven and is a great example of truly

authentic ecotourism principles set into action.

To find out more information on prescheduled tours or how to book a custom tour, contact:

Ozark Ecotours, P.O. Box 513, Jasper, AR 72641-0513

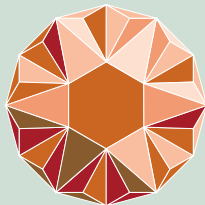
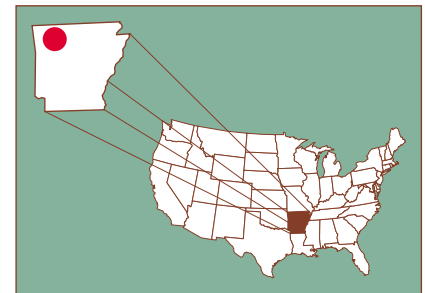
Voice: (870) 446-5898

FAX: (870) 446-2701

Toll Free: (877) 622-5901

Web site:

<http://www.ozarkecotours.com>



Hidden Gems: Scenic Wonders—Smaller Crowds

These “lesser known” national treasures of the National Forest System possess great facilities for both group tours and smaller parties that are looking for true backcountry Americana locations, “far from the madding crowds.”



Hells Canyon National Recreation Area



On the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA) straddles the Snake River as it winds its way down the boundary between Idaho and Oregon. In Hells Canyon one can find some of the most rugged, spectacular wildlands on Earth—including, at 7,800 feet (2,800 meters), the deepest gorge in North America and the wildest whitewater stretch of the Snake River. The Hells Canyon Wilderness encompasses nearly one-third of the

NRA. Hells Canyon State Scenic Byway (a newly designated All-American Road) passes through part of the canyon, offering breathtaking vistas. Hells Canyon NRA includes a diversity of plant and animal communities, over 1 million acres of pristine land, archaeological sites of irreplaceable value, scenic beauty, and recreational opportunities galore.

Drawn by relatively mild winters, lush forage, and plentiful wildlife, Chief Joseph’s band of Nez Perce Indians

lived in Hells Canyon. Today, the walls of the canyon are like a museum, displaying evidence of the Indians' early settlement in pictographs and petroglyphs.

Hunters, anglers, and casual observers appreciate the variety and abundance of fish and wildlife. Scenic vistas abound; countless undeveloped sites await discovery. If you are seeking a more developed setting, choose from 900 miles of constructed hiking trails and 25 designated camping areas. Whether you seek a wilderness hike or a scenic drive, a rafting thrill or tranquil water, a campsite away from civilization or one in a bustling campground, Hells Canyon NRA has plenty to discover!

This year Hells Canyon NRA celebrates its 25th anniversary, as well as the designation of the Hells Canyon State Scenic Byway as an "All American Road." Make your plans now to join in the celebrations!

Please note you will need a "Northwest Forest Pass" when parking



at several trailheads serving the Hells Canyon NRA on the Oregon side. They may be purchased from Forest Service offices or local vendors for \$5 per day. Many of the roads leading to Wilderness trailheads and viewpoints are single lane and suitable for low-speed use only. Call (541) 426-4978 for road conditions before entering.

For group information, visit the Web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/feedemo/welcome.html> or contact the Hells Canyon NRA.

Hells Canyon National Recreation Area

88401 Hwy. 82
Enterprise, OR 97828
(541) 426-4978

Satellite offices are located at Clarkston, WA: (509) 758-0616, and Riggins, ID: (208) 628-3916.

For additional trip planning information, contact the Wallowa Mountains Visitor Center at (541) 426-5546 or TDD (541) 426-5609.

The following Web sites offer information about recreational activities and outfitter/guide services:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/w-w/rog/recrep/recrep_hcnra.htm

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/w-w/hcnra.htm>

http://www.gorp.com/gorp/resource/us_wilderness_area/or_hells.htm

<http://www.tcfn.org/tctour/parks/HellsCanyonNRA.html>

<http://www.ohwy.com/id/h/hellcnra.htm>



Hudson-Meng Bison Bonebed and Toadstool Geologic Park



A visit to Hudson-Meng Bison Bonebed is perfect for the adventure-some small group. Here you can glimpse a current archeological excavation in progress. Interpretive materials and guided tours explain why this is such an important discovery and encourage visitors to develop their own theories about what happened to the bison. The site is located in the shadow of Nebraska's picturesque Pine Ridge, overlooking this unique site within the Oglala and Buffalo Gap National

Grasslands. Here you can still imagine how dinosaurs roamed the land and see the prairie landscapes that early settlers found when they carved pathways to a new life in the late 1800s.

Hours:

Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. : May 15 - September 30

Excavation Session Dates:

Session 1: May 29 - June 7

Session 2: June 12 - 21

Session 3: June 26 - July 5

Session 4: July 10 - 19

Fees:

Adult: \$3

Children 6-12: \$1

Under 6: Free

Group rates and tours are available by calling (308) 432-0300 (off season) and (308) 665-3900

when the facility is open.

Near Crawford, Nebraska, it's only a few miles to the moonscape of Toadstool Geologic Park. Toadstool Geologic Park is noted for unusual geologic formations and scientifically valuable fossil deposits. It also contains the

longest known mammal trackway of the Oligocene epoch. This 1-mile-plus trackway is featured in a new interpretive kiosk and a self-guided trail brochure. A 1-mile-loop trail from the campground highlights many examples of eroded clay/sandstone formations. A reconstructed sod house provides a look into the past when homesteaders on the prairie used the only abundant building material available. A \$5 camping fee or a \$3 per vehicle day-use fee is charged from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

For information, check

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/nebraska/hudsonmeng.html>.





The magnificence of Red Rock Country has been 330 million years in the making. Traveling from the Mogollon Rim high on the Colorado Plateau to the depths of Oak Creek Canyon, you pass through a rich geologic record, similar to that of the upper Grand Canyon. Like pages in a great book, horizontal layers of rock tell stories of ancient oceans and swamps, floodplains, vast deserts of sand, and violent volcanic eruptions.

The splendor of Red Rock Country is obvious even through the windshield of a quickly moving vehicle. Unified by Oak Creek—the vital riparian link between the Mogollon Rim and the

Sedona's Red Rock Country

Verde Valley—this splendid and unique landscape is a geologic wonder and a living crossroads between time and space. The stream is the lifeblood of the area, and the magnet that draws regional visitors from the desert valleys to the cooler environment of the Red Rocks. People have come to this area for more than 10,000 years. Nestled in Red Rock Canyons are outstanding rock art sites, impressive pueblos, cliff dwellings, and other remains of prehistoric cultures that once inhabited the area.

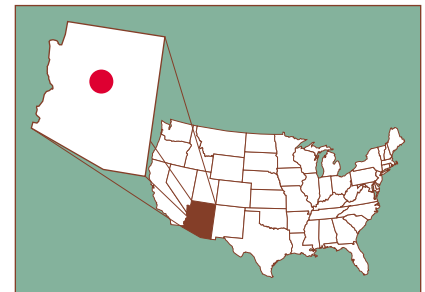
Red Rock Country boasts three federally designated wilderness areas, marked by colorful cliffs and soaring pinnacles, dry desert, thick pinyon-juniper forests, and lush riparian areas. With nearly 200 miles of trails, camping and hiking is allowed in all wilderness areas. Parking is very limited at most trailheads; buses are not recommended.

Within a short drive of Sedona, AZ, several Forest Service campgrounds and picnic areas provide recreational opportunities for groups and family campers. Most campsites and all picnic sites are available on a “first-come, first-served” basis. Campground reservations are accepted at some locations. Campgrounds fill up early, so calling ahead is recommended. Dispersed camping outside of campgrounds is prohibited in much of Red Rock Country.

Many driving routes are “must see” drives, including Highway 89A into Oak Creek Canyon from Flagstaff, Highway 89A to Sedona from Cottonwood, and Highway 179 to Sedona from I-17. All routes feature spectacular views of Red Rock Country. Buses are welcome on these scenic routes.

Offering comprehensive information and education services, five visitor centers welcome tourists to the Red Rock Country. A Red Rock Pass is required for parking in the national forest.

For more information call the ranger station at (520) 282-4119, or contact Coconino National Forest, Sedona Ranger District, P.O. Box 300, 250 Brewer Road, Sedona, AZ 86339. For complete trip planning assistance, check the following Web site: <http://www.redrockcountry.org>



Blanchard Springs Caverns

Come experience a “living” cave where glistening stalactites, stalagmites, columns, and flowstones slowly form and change—the result of minerals deposited by dripping water. Visitors can stroll through large, beautifully lighted rooms with paved trails. For over 25 years, spectacular cave formations have drawn visitors to Blanchard Springs Caverns. Located on the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests, the caverns offer a close-up view of a little known subterranean world.

Blanchard is a three-level system, but only two levels of the caverns are

open for guided tours. Open year-round, the Dripstone Trail Tour travels about a half-mile through huge rooms and sparkling formations. It is accessible to people with strollers and, with assistance, individuals in wheelchairs.

Although rates to tour the cave are subject to change, they range from \$5 to \$9 per person, with discounts available for Golden Age or Golden Access Passports. Discounts are also available for groups of 10 or more when reservations are made in advance. Call (888) 757-2246 between 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. (c.s.t.) for current rates. Guided

tours are available, some with assistance by agency tour staff.

The visitor center is open from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and is fully accessible.

RV campers will enjoy Blanchard Campground, with 32 sites, and the Gunner Pool Campground, with 27 sites.

Blanchard Springs Caverns and recreation areas are located 15 miles northwest of Mountain View, AR.

For information or tour reservations, contact:

USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 1279, Mountain View, AR 72560, (870) 757-2211, or toll-free (888) 757-2246.

For Web site information, visit http://www.fs.fed.us/oonf/ozark/recreation/bsc_main.htm.

Heritage Sites: It's About Time!

National forests are not just about natural vistas and wonderful recreation sites, they also shelter the stories of our past. Ancient pueblos, ceremonial kivas, totem poles, ancient villages, obsidian quarries, ghost towns, gold mines, Basque tree carvings, homesteads, lookouts, and lighthouses are all part of our historic landscape. Uncovering their stories can be quite an experience. The Forest Service offers a number of ways to experience this history, from staying in a historic lookout or cabin, to volunteering to help agency archaeologists, to visiting sites and learning preservation skills from the Forest Service staff of heritage professionals.

Heritage Expeditions

Heritage Expeditions are educational tour programs about historic and prehistoric sites on national forests. Some even offer training courses designed to teach traditional skills. Upcoming Heritage Expeditions include a hiking and camping trek along Oregon's historic Santiam Wagon Road; Horsemanship & Packing clinics in Montana; and a bus and hiking tour in northern California, which takes you



by prehistoric rock art, stone tool quarries, Indian battlefields, and Basque Shepherders' carved tree art.

Want to learn how to stabilize historic buildings? How about cooking in a Dutch oven? Driving a team of mules? It's all waiting for you in Heritage Expeditions! Fees vary according to the type and length of the expedition. A 1-day course on Dutch Oven Cooking is \$90, you get to take home the cookbook and 10-inch dutch oven! The 5-day hiking and camping trek along the Santiam Wagon Road is \$375.

For more information about Heritage Expeditions and current offerings, call (530) 233-8730 or visit the Web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/heritage/expeditions.shtml>.

Passport in Time

Passport in Time is a volunteer program that invites the public to work alongside Forest Service archaeologists and share in the thrill of discovery through archaeological and historical research. It is better suited to the individual traveler who wants a very "hands on" educational vacation.

Adventurous Passport in Time volunteers have helped stabilize ancient cliff dwellings in New Mexico, excavate a 10,000-year-old village site in Minnesota, restore a historic lookout tower in Oregon, clean vandalized rock art in Colorado, survey for sites in the rugged Montana wilderness, and excavate a 19th-century Chinese mining site in Hell's Canyon, ID.

Because Passport in Time is a volunteer program, there is no fee to participate. The program now includes sites on 117 national forests in 36 States. Many projects involve backcountry camping where volunteers are responsible for their own food and gear. Others offer, often for a small fee, meals prepared by a "camp cook." Volunteers may stay at campsites where recreation-

continued on page 2

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Yates Federal Building
201 14th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024



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USDA Forest Service
Caring for the Land and Serving People

Special Places

A Travel and Tourism Planner's Guide to Your National Forests

The **Tread Lightly!** message is simple:

- T** - Travel and recreate with minimum impact
- R** - Respect the environment and rights of others
- E** - Educate yourself. Plan and prepare before you go
- A** - Allow for future use of the outdoors. "Leave it better than you found it"
- D** - Discover the rewards of responsible recreation

For more information and to ask for the **Tread Lightly** packet for tourism providers, contact the **Tread Lightly!** office in Ogden, UT, at 1-800-966-9900, or visit their Web site:
www.treadlightly.org.

A Note About Recreation Fees

You will notice that many of the Special Places in this publication charge fees. Most of these sites are under the Recreation Fee Demonstration program, authorized by Congress in 1996. Under this program, fees collected at a particular site are reinvested at that site to improve facilities, services, and resources. Since 1996, more than \$123 million has been collected and reinvested in campgrounds, trails, public safety, parking areas, and restrooms. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service has found that, in general, the public accepts and even supports recreation fees when they see direct benefits to the site where they've paid the fees. By maintaining our recreation attractions we are also helping gateway communities sustain and improve their tourism industries.

Message from the Chief Sustainable Tourism - The Tread Lightly! Partnership

America's national forests and grasslands are the "golden crown" of outdoor settings where national and international visitors can enjoy premier adventure travel and ecotourism recreation. The national forests and grasslands offer everything from a dinosaur tracksite in southeastern Colorado and a living history farm in Tennessee, to North America's largest coastal sand dunes in Oregon and a voyageur canoe on Lake Superior.

I invite you to enjoy the many Special Places on our national forests and grasslands. However, I know that—by inviting you—we must also ensure that the price of popularity does not impact the very values that make these places special in the first place. That is why I am proud the USDA Forest Service is a partner with the **Tread Lightly!** organization.

Tread Lightly! was launched in 1985 by the Forest Service and has since

become a not-for-profit organization. The **Tread Lightly!** program is about leaving a good impression—both on the land where we recreate and with the nearby communities. Its sole purpose is to educate users and tourism providers on how to minimize the impact our recreational activities have, while still enjoying the great outdoors. The educational materials are geared to different uses, such as four wheeling, mountain biking, snowmobiling, and boating.

Travel and tourism industries perform an important public service by delivering the right information to visitors at the right time for proper trip planning. By encouraging responsible tourism, our Special Places will be available to outdoor enthusiasts for years to come.

Accessing Our Special Places

By inviting you to our Special Places, I must also ensure that our services and facilities are accessible to people of all abilities. Accessibility is an issue that does—or will—affect each of us, either directly or through family or friends. Since the early 1990s, the Forest Service has worked to integrate accessibility into our services and facilities. Today, we are rededicating ourselves to this effort.

Come on out and enjoy the great outdoors. These are **your** Special Places!

Dale N. Bosworth



Outdoor Recreation Links to the World Wide Web

- www.fs.fed.us/recreation (recreation information on all national forests and grasslands)
- www.recreation.gov (interagency recreation activities information for Federal land)
- www.reserveusa.com (National Recreation Reservation Service)
- www.scenicbyways.org (information on Scenic Byways throughout the Nation)

The Way the West Was

A drive along the 44-mile Pioneer Mountains National Forest Scenic Byway in southwest Montana is like looking through a window into the past, the way the west was. Follow the Pioneer Mountains Byway to ghost towns, silver mills, historic railroads, and ranches.

For the first European settlers of this area, survival meant battling drought, floods, insects, and blizzards. It meant riding horseback 60 miles to summon the doctor, returning home only to find loved ones already dead. Thanks to their perseverance, early homesteaders left a legacy of courage, adaptability, and faith, and paved the way for those to come.

At Mono Campground, turn off onto a side road to the Coolidge Ghost Town, and Elkhorn Mine and Mill. There, you'll be standing on the bed of the old Montana Southern Railway, built to transport silver ore. Believed to be the last narrow-gauge railroad constructed in the lower 48, the railroad operated for only 8 short years before the Pettengill Dam ruptured, washing out major sections of the railroad.

A stop at Crystal Park will yield one of the most unique experiences in the National Forest System. Here you can dig for lovely quartz and amethyst crystals, most of them around 2 inches long. The area is open during daylight hours from about May 15 to October 15 (depending on the snow), and all facilities are accessible. Bring your shovel and a sense of discovery.

After spending a morning digging for crystals, you may need a soak at the Elk Horn Hot Springs Resort, about 6 miles down the road. You'll find a small pool, lodging in rustic cabins, and a café.

At Grasshopper Overlook, you can gaze over country that has been traversed by Indians, picked over by gold prospectors, tamed by generations of ranchers, and cherished by modern recreationists. Montana's first great gold rush in 1862 near Bannack brought over 5,000 people to this valley in less than a year. Those who stayed after the rush found cattle ranching a more secure venture than gold mining. Today, ranching remains much the same in Grasshopper Valley as it was more than 100 years ago.



For more information, contact:
 Wise River Ranger District
 P.O. Box 100
 Wise River, MT 59762
 (406) 832-3178
 Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest
 420 Barrett St.
 Dillon, MT 59725-3572
 (406) 683-3900 or
 (406) 683-3913 (recorded
 information line)
www.fs.fed.us/r1/b-d

Or take a virtual tour of the byway
 by visiting:
www.fs.fed.us/r1/b-d/virtualtours/byway/virtual-byway-tour.html

Earthquake Lake Visitor Center

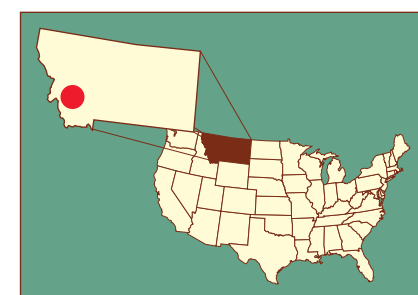
On August 17, 1959, the earth moved and a mountain fell in southwestern Montana. The Hebgen Lake Earthquake triggered a massive landslide that roared down the mountain at 100 mph. In less than 1 minute, over 80 million tons of rock crashed into



the narrow canyon, blocking the Madison River and forming Earthquake Lake. Twenty-eight people lost their lives.

Today, the Earthquake Lake Visitor Center provides a panoramic view of the mountain and lake that formed from the slide. The center features exhibits on seismographs, earthquakes, the phenomenon of Earthquake Lake, a video, and interpretive talks. Outside, numerous interpretive displays line an accessible walkway. Honoring those who died in the earthquake, a short, but steep, trail leads to Memorial Boulder above the center. An auto tour in the area expands the experience even more.

The majority of the center is accessible and open daily, 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. from Memorial Day to mid-



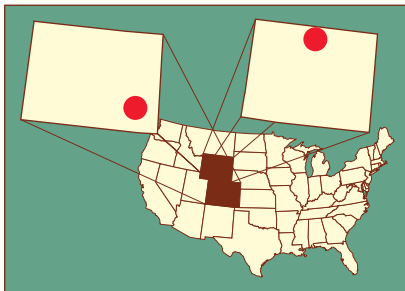
September. Visitors are charged \$3 per car, \$15 per tour bus, or \$1 per hiker or biker.

For more information, contact:
 Gallatin National Forest
 Hebgen Lake Ranger District
 P.O. Box 520, Highway 191
 West Yellowstone, MT 59758
 Ranger District: (406) 823-6961
 (Voice/TTY)
 Visitor Center: (406) 682-7620
 (Memorial Day to mid-September)
http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin/recreation/visitor_center

Footprints in the Sands of Time

In the Purgatoire River valley in southeastern Colorado lies an area that is uniquely rich—in dinosaur tracks. Over 1,300 footprints from as many as 100 different animals have been discovered along a 1/2-mile stretch of river, making it the largest tracksite in North America.

During the Jurassic period, 150 million years ago, this part of Colorado had a tropical climate, sprouting forests of tree ferns, ginkgos, and sequoia trees. An enormous shallow lake with a muddy shoreline provided the perfect place for dinosaurs, such as apatosaurs and allosaurs, to leave testimony of their existence. One can easily see the tracks of brontosaurus walking side by side along the ancient lakeshore, making this one of the few places in the world where evidence of herding behavior in dinosaurs is preserved. Little did these creatures know the sensation their muddy footprints would create 150 million years later!



The tracksite lies within the floodplain of a wide canyon, with stunning scenery all around. According to legend, a group of Spanish soldiers died in the Purgatoire River valley while looking for lost treasures in the 17th century. Without the benefits of clergy to perform their last rites, these men became lost souls, banished to Purgatory. By the 18th century, French hunters and trappers began settling the area, and the French pronunciation was corrupted into Picketwire.

The Picketwire Canyonlands are also rich in historic resources. Native Americans thrived here for thousands of years, leaving behind a remarkable legacy of petroglyphs (rock art). Hundreds of years later, ranching flour-

ished in the open range of the canyonlands. The Rourke Ranch, one of the most successful in the southwest, still remains. The high-quality workmanship and architecture of the buildings (mostly adobe and jacal style) earned it a place on the National Register of Historic Places. The remains of the Dolores Mission and Cemetery may also be viewed, giving visitors a sense of the rough, but peaceful life in the canyonlands.

In order to provide access into this rugged country, the Comanche National Grassland offers guided auto tours for up to 25 people at a time into Picketwire Canyonlands. Visitors must provide their own four-wheel-drive, high-clearance vehicle. Tours may be taken on Saturdays in May, June, September, and October for \$15 per adult. In addition to sharing the phenomenon of the dinosaur legacy, tour guides help visitors understand how to **Tread Lightly!** in this special area. For the hardy, hiking trails offer foot access as well.

For more information about the area or specific accessibility needs, call: Comanche National Grassland
1420 E. 3rd Street
La Junta, CO 81050
(719) 384-2181
www.fs.fed.us/r2/psicc/coma/palo/index.htm

Shell Falls Interpretive Site



Shell Falls is the thundering heartbeat of Wyoming's Big Horn Mountains. The dynamic force of water against rock has resulted in a roaring waterfall that gushes over some of the oldest rocks on Earth. Over a billion years of geologic history are exposed at Shell Falls, where water has incised a deep chasm in the land. The thudding sensation of falling water can be felt through the soles of your feet, but the water's voice has a way of soothing the traveler.

The Shell Falls Interpretive Site is on the Big Horn Scenic Byway, one of three scenic byways in the Big Horn National Forest. The site includes a cliff-side waterfall viewing bridge, an outdoor interpretive plaza, restrooms, a bookstore, and a 1/8-mile self-guided

trail to the falls—all fully accessible. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, the site is staffed daily, and numerous interpretive programs are offered. (The staff even provides a unique singing entertainment that has become a highlight for many tour bus companies!) For the remainder of the year, visitors may walk to the falls and enjoy the outdoor exhibits, but the other facilities are closed.

For more information, contact the Big Horn National Forest at: Medicine Wheel/Paintrock Ranger District
604 East Main Street
Lovell, WY 82431
(307) 548-6541
www.fs.fed.us/r2/bighorn (for general forest information)

Santa Catalina Mountains—An Island in the Sky

Southeastern Arizona is a land of striking contrasts and stunning scenery. Massive, pine-clad mountains rise abruptly from an ocean of desert, creating an “Island in the Sky”—the Santa Catalina Mountains. Temperatures here are often 30 degrees cooler than the deserts below. And, there is more natural diversity in these mountains than in any area of comparable size in the continental United States. Over 600 animal species make their home here, from black bears and gila monsters to peregrine falcons and ringtail cats.

Just north of Tucson, the Santa Catalina Mountains rise from the Sonoran Desert to an elevation of 9,157 feet, offering a wide variety of year-round recreation opportunities. The two most popular areas are Sabino Canyon and Mt. Lemmon. Both of these special places offer many recreational opportunities, for people of all abilities.

In Sabino Canyon, visitors will find beautiful views of the mountains, towering rocky cliffs, and lush ribbons of green along the creek. Sabino Canyon is closed to private vehicles, so visitors park at the visitor center and walk, or ride an accessible shuttle, 3.7 miles into the canyon.



The Sky Island Scenic Byway, one of the most scenic highways in the Southwest, accesses Mt. Lemmon. The byway winds through a land of breathtaking vistas, outlandish rockscapes, cool mountain forests, and deep canyons spilling out onto broad deserts. Driving the byway is the biological equivalent of a trip from Mexico to

Canada in a mere 25 miles. Every turn reveals something new. At the top, visitors can enjoy Mt. Lemmon Ski Valley, where you can ski in the winter and take a skyride the remainder of the year. The village of Summerhaven also rests at the summit.

Accessible facilities on Mt. Lemmon include Palisades Visitor Center, Rose Canyon Lake, most vista points, many restrooms and picnic areas, and the General Hitchcock Campground. Descriptive audiocassettes of the byway are available at the Tucson-Pima libraries.

Parking fees for Sabino Canyon and Mt. Lemmon are \$5 per day or \$10 per week per vehicle. An annual pass valid at both sites is \$20. There is an additional fee to ride the Sabino Canyon shuttle (\$6 per adult and \$2.50 per child), and reservations are recommended for groups and people with disabilities.

For additional information, contact: Coronado National Forest Santa Catalina Ranger District 5700 N. Sabino Canyon Road Tucson, AZ 85750 (520) 749-8700 (voice and TTY) (520) 749-2327 (reservations for groups, or people with disabilities) www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado

Sabino Canyon Visitor Center

Start your visit to the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area with a stop at the fully accessible Sabino Canyon Visitor Center. Although open year round, visitors are encouraged to plan their trip in the summer months, when the area is less crowded and the canyon provides a cool respite from the desert floor.

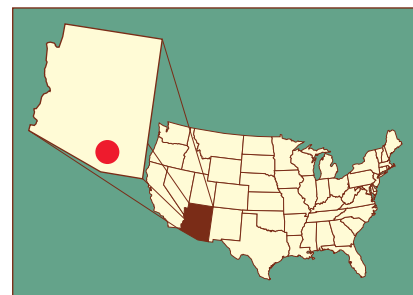
The center houses new exhibits, including a floor model of Sabino Creek. Hands-on exhibits give visitors the chance to closely examine a saguaro boot, a cactus wren nest, sand rubies, and more. Visitors can learn about the six seasons of Sabino Canyon, as well as “alien invaders.” One of the more fascinating exhibits is

a tree slice from a Douglas fir that was 300 years old when it died.

Outside the center, you can take a stroll along the accessible 1/2-mile Bajada Loop Trail. From the trail you can view magnificent mountains and unique desert plants. A self-guiding trail brochure is available at the visitor center.

The Sabino Canyon shuttle starts from the visitor center and runs from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the Coronado National Forest at the address shown in the accompanying article. Or visit its Web site at: www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/scrd/rec/vc/sabcanyvc.





A Land Above the Ordinary

It's hard not to speak in superlatives when referring to the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (NRA)—located in the heart of Idaho. At 750,000 acres, the Sawtooth NRA is the largest national recreation area in the National Forest System. Four mountain ranges offer scenic vistas every way you look. The Ice Age architecture of stiletto peaks, steep-walled cirques, and tree-carpeted moraines delight both the photographer and the geologist.

Although it is a recreation area by name, it offers much more than just a place to play. The Sawtooth NRA was established to assure the preservation and protection of the natural, scenic, historic, pastoral, fish and wildlife

values, as well as to provide for the enhancement of the recreation values associated therewith.

The fish and wildlife values are indeed rich. Over 1,000 miles of streams and more than 1,100 lakes provide habitat for native fish populations, some of which have migrated more than 900 miles from the Pacific Ocean to spawn here. The area's forests, valleys, and alpine ridges are also home to 300 species of wildlife, such as mountain goats, elk, moose, wolves, bears, and sandhill cranes. The presence of eight threatened or endangered species attests to the important role the area plays in conservation efforts.

Humans have a long history in the Sawtooth area. Native American

hunters visited the Redfish Lake area 9,500 years ago, using the Redfish Rock Shelter as cover while they searched for elk, deer, antelope, and salmon. As European settlers entered the area, they built mines, homesteads, and cabins for ranching operations. Several of these structures are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Access to this extraordinary area is by way of three scenic byways (Sawtooth, Ponderosa Pine, and Salmon River). A series of auto tape tours has been developed for all three of the byways. Along these roads, there are numerous scenic overlooks that can accommodate large RVs and buses.

Two national recreation trails offer short, self-guided interpretive experiences for users of all abilities: the Fishhook Creek Boardwalk at Redfish Lake and the Wood River Nature Trail located in Wood River Campground.

Because of the Sawtooth NRA's popularity, visitors are encouraged to **Tread Lightly!** in this special area. When you visit the Sawtooth, remember to "leave it better than you found it."

The best place to start your visit is at one of the USDA Forest Service visitor centers (see accompanying article). You may also contact the Sawtooth NRA at:

HC 64, Box 8291
Ketchum, ID 83340
(208) 727-5000 or 1-800-260-5970
www.fs.fed.us/r4/sawtooth/recreation.htm

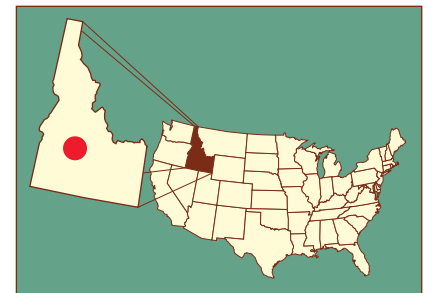
Sawtooth NRA North Fork Visitor Center

Individuals and groups will find the North Fork Visitor Center to be a good starting point to plan their exploration of the Sawtooth NRA. Located 8 miles north of Ketchum, the visitor center houses interpretive exhibits and offers trip planning assistance. There is also a small theater where visitors can select from a wide variety of videos about the natural and cultural history of the area. The North Fork Visitor Center is open year round, with daily activities and

evening campfire programs offered throughout the year.

For more information, or to arrange a presentation for your group, contact the visitor center at the address or phone number located at the bottom of the accompanying article.

In addition to the North Fork Visitor Center, the Redfish Lake Visitor Center is open during the summer months.



The Eastern Sierra Scenic Byway—On the Edge

When you visit the Eastern Sierra Scenic Byway, you will find yourself “on the edge” in more ways than one! The sheer rise of the Sierra Nevada creates a sharp edge thousands of feet above the basins below. This crest catches moisture-laden clouds from the Pacific Ocean, casting a rain shadow on the land to the east, creating dramatic contrasts. As you travel the byway, you’ll be on the geological edge of the eastern sierra escarpment, the ecological edge of the Great Basin and Sierra Nevada, and the cultural edge of survival of both historic and contemporary cultures and communities.

This region is home to both the lowest and highest points in the conterminous United States. Only 80 miles separate the lowest point in Death Valley National Park from the highest, Mt. Whitney.

The 250-mile-long byway provides access to nine different visitor centers and museums, and numerous special areas. Highlights include:

- 3 The majestic Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area—with unearthly limestone tufa spires—and thousands of migratory birds.
- 3 Devil’s Postpile National Monument—with volcanic “post-piles” of columnar basalt and Rainbow Falls on the beautiful San Joaquin River.

- 3 The Ancient Bristlecone Scenic Byway and Schulman Grove Visitor Center that showcase the phenomenon of the world’s oldest living trees, 4,000- to 5,000-year-old Great Basin Bristlecone Pines.

- 3 Access to Tioga Pass Scenic Byway, which leads up a spectacular canyon to the peaks of the Sierra Nevada in Yosemite National Park.

Many of the facilities along the Eastern Sierra Scenic Byway are accessible. A visit to

www.r5.fs.fed.us/inoyo/vvc/access.htm will give you site-by-site information on accessible features.

An excellent time to visit the Eastern Sierra Scenic Byway is in the

fall when canyons and mountainsides explode in shades of orange, yellow, and crimson, and the summer traffic has subsided.

For more information, contact: Interagency Visitor Center – Lone Pine (open all year)
Intersection of Highway 395 and 136
P.O. Box R

Lone Pine, CA 93545-2017
(760) 876-6222

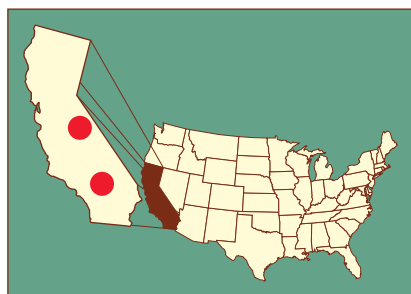
(760) 876-6223 (TTY)

www.r5.fs.fed.us/inoyo

For maps and books about the area, go to www.r5.fs.fed.us/inoyo/esia

Or visit the Eastern Sierra Scenic Byway Web site at:

www.395.com/scenicbyway



Big Bear Discovery Center

Located on the north shore of Big Bear Lake in southern California, the Big Bear Discovery Center is your starting point for information and adventures on the San Bernardino National Forest. Guests may visit the accessible discovery center for interpretive programs, evening nature lectures, or just to linger over the constantly changing exhibits.

The more adventurous can join a discovery tour on foot, in a van, or by canoe. Regularly scheduled tours include the “Mountain Mining Tour,” where visitors tour a historical gold mine site and a modern limestone mine. Or join in the “Flowers and Flames Tour” in the ashen remains of the 1999 Willow Fire to see a remarkable display of regeneration. With some special programs, you can even pan for gold! If you

explore by canoe, you’ll get the chance to discover waterfowl, beavers, and other aquatic life.

A full menu of special events includes everything from western music festivals to historical tours of the Big Bear Valley. Staff is available to tour with large groups that provide their own bus. Smaller groups (less than 15) can board the discovery center van for a personalized tour.

The Big Bear Discovery Center is open daily (hours are extended from mid-May to September 30).

For more information, contact the center at:

P.O. Box 66
Fawnskin, CA 92333

(909) 866-3437

www.bigbeardiscoverycenter.com

North America's Largest Coastal Sand Dunes



Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area (NRA) invites you to explore the largest expanse of coastal sand dunes in North America. Wind-sculpted dunes tower almost 500 feet above sea level and blend with lakes, forests, and the ocean to create a remarkably diverse ecosystem. The dunes extend for 40 miles along the Oregon coast from Florence to Coos Bay. Formed by the ancient forces of wind, water, and time, these dunes are like no others in the world. Day to day and season to season, this ecosystem can change dramatical-

ly. Spend some time in the dunes and you are sure to see geology in action!

Picture yourself hiking through forests and dunes, riding an off-highway vehicle through a landscape of sand, or watching a sunset from a scenic beach? How about camping in a cozy campground, boating or fishing in one of the 30 lakes and streams? Or maybe you're an avid birder, beachcomber, or berry picker? It's easy to leave an impact on the dunes, so you'll want to plan your trip to **Tread Lightly!** in this environment.

You won't want to miss the view from the Oregon Dunes Overlook. This site has three accessible viewing platforms that gaze out over the dunes and the Pacific Ocean. Easy, self-guided loop hikes will give you a taste of this remarkable landscape.

Some of the best times to visit the dunes are in the spring or fall (April/May and September/October). The weather is outstanding, and you'll find plenty of space in which to lose yourself.

There is a \$5 per vehicle day-use fee at the Oregon Dunes NRA, but a visit to the visitor center is free. The visitor center is open daily from mid-May to mid-September, and 6 days a week the rest of the year. For more information, call the visitor center at:

855 Highway 101
Reedsport, Oregon 97467
(541) 271-3611
(541) 271-6014 (TTY)

www.fs.fed.us/r6/siuslaw/oregondunes

For information on guided tours and locations to rent dune buggies and ATVs, contact the Reedsport/Winchester Bay Chamber of Commerce at www.reedsportcc.org, the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce at www.florencechamber.com, or the Florence Chamber of Commerce at 1-800-524-4864.

Cape Perpetua Visitor Center

The stunning panoramic view is one of the finest attractions at the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center. At the center, learn about the cultural and natural history of the central Oregon coast. Interactive exhibits share information about coastal Indians, tide pools, and coastal rain forests. Special events are also a part of the center's interpretive venue.

The visitor center is the jumping-off point for the 2,700-acre Cape Perpetua Scenic Area. Join one of the guided tide pool or forest interpretive walks or explore any of the numerous hiking trails on your own. During the winter and spring, migrating gray whales can be spotted from the center as they

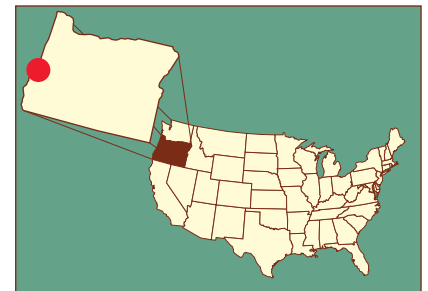
make their annual 10,000-mile roundtrip.

The accessible visitor center is open daily from mid-May through Labor Day. Limited hours are available during the fall, winter, and spring months (call ahead for specifics). There is a \$5 per vehicle fee for the scenic area, but a visit to the visitor center is free.

For more information, contact them at:

Cape Perpetua Visitor Center
P.O. Box 274
2400 Highway 101
Yachats, OR 97498
(541) 547-3289
(541) 547-3251 (TTY)

www.newportnet.com/capeperpetua



Memories Are Made at Land Between The Lakes



Nestled in western Kentucky and Tennessee, Land Between The Lakes is the largest human-created inland peninsula in the United States. The region is rich with a vibrant history, native wildlife, and natural beauty. And, with more than 170,000 acres and 300 miles of undeveloped shoreline, you'll discover a wide range of opportunities at Land Between The Lakes for solitude and exploration.

Attractions include The Homeplace living history farm, Woodlands Nature Station environmental education center, the Elk and Bison Prairie habitat restoration, and the Golden Pond Planetarium and Observatory. These four facilities join Land Between The Lakes' other fascinating attractions—including the ruins of the Great Western Iron Furnace and the Golden

Pond Visitor Center—to make it a place well worth visiting.

The Woodlands Nature Station serves as a starting point for guided hikes along trails, streams, and lakes, as well as canoe trips that explore Land Between The Lakes' wildlife. In addition to the regular calendar of programs, the nature station offers special events throughout the year. Among the most popular events are guided bald eagle excursions that take visitors to see the migratory eagles wintering in Land Between The Lakes each year.

The Elk and Bison Prairie is a restoration of the native prairie habitat that thrived in western Kentucky and upper Tennessee over 200 years ago. Native wildlife such as elk and bison thrive on the 700-acre prairie. Visitors can take a self-guided driving tour

along a 3.5-mile road that features three interpretive stops.

The Golden Pond Planetarium is located inside the Golden Pond Visitor Center.

The planetarium houses an 81-seat theater and offers planetarium shows several times daily during the operating season.

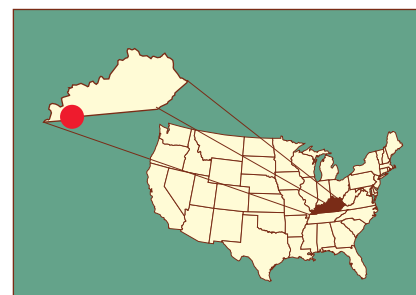
The Homeplace and Woodlands Nature Station are open March 1 to November 30. The Elk and Bison Prairie is open year round, dawn to dusk. The planetarium is open March 1 to December 21, including a special holiday show in December.

Prescheduled organized groups of 10 or more receive a \$2 discount admission price per person and motor coach drivers are admitted free. All sites listed are accessible.

For more information, contact Land Between The Lakes at:

100 Van Morgan Drive
Golden Pond, KY 42211
(270) 924-2000 or 1-800-LBL-7077
www.lbl.org

For reservations, or for special programs and inquiries about group opportunities, call (270) 924-2020.



The Homeplace Living History Farm

The Homeplace Living History Farm allows visitors to experience life much as it was in mid-19th century rural America. The farm consists of 16 original and restored log structures, with interpreters in period dress leading demonstrations. At Land Between The Lakes they say, "The homeplace doesn't just bring history to life, it brings it into the here and now."

In addition to re-creating such daily activities as cultivating and harvesting tobacco, working farm animals, and performing household chores, the

Homeplace also spotlights social events of the period. Special events include a traditional music Pickin' Party, a traditional July Fourth celebration, an 1850s Wedding, and the Fall Harvest Celebration.

The Homeplace is accessible and open daily from April to October. It is also open for limited hours throughout the winter. Fees are \$3.50 per adult and \$2 per child. For more information, contact the Homeplace at (931) 232-6457. Or, visit the Land Between The Lakes' Web site at www.lbl.org



Tune Up Your Wheels for an Ozark Adventure

More than 100 miles of mountain bike, all-terrain vehicle (ATV), and motorcycle trails wind in and out of deep, forested hollows and down long ridge tops in the rough Ozark country southwest of Chadwick, MO. This is the Chadwick Motorcycle and ATV Area!

Chadwick is cloaked in oak, hickory, and pine, with rock ledges and steep ridges that open into small forest glades. Most trails stay on ridge tops or hollow bottoms, with connecting trails crossing side slopes. Some trail sections offer greater challenges than others and are indicated by a black diamond marker where the trail begins. Off-trail travel is allowed at two locations—the 2-acre family play area and the 5-acre trail bike area.

The **Tread Lightly!** message resonates loud and clear at Chadwick. Here, users have the perfect opportunity to practice their minimum-impact riding techniques, ensuring that future use of this special area continues.

Camping and riding occurs year-round, with the majority of use occur-



ring on spring and fall weekends. There are both single and double camp units at the newly renovated Cobb Ridge Campground. Many of the units are pull-through for easier handling of trailers, and half offer electrical hook-ups. Water and accessible vault toilets are provided; some of the campsites are accessible as well.

Fees are required to use the Chadwick area and go toward improvements in trails, campground facilities, and visitor information. Fees are:

- 3 ATVs and motorcycles—\$35 per year or \$5 per day
- 3 Mountain bikes—\$20 per year or \$3 per day.

For further information, contact: Mark Twain National Forest
Ava-Cassville-Willow Springs Ranger District

P.O. Box 188
1103 S. Jefferson
Ava, MO 65608

(417) 683-4428
(417) 683-4464 (TTY)

www.fs.fed.us/r9/marktwain/recreation

A Superior Experience

A “Superior” experience awaits you at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center near Ashland, WI. The 37,000-square-foot accessible visitor center is located on the Bayfield Peninsula and features a 5-story observation tower overlooking Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands. It is a four-season facility, capturing the unique qualities of this multi-state region.

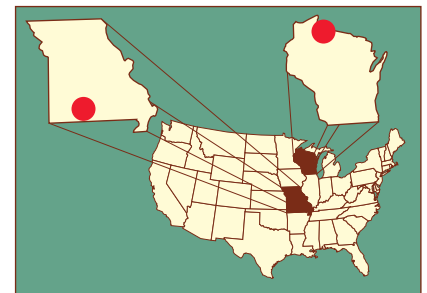
Everyone likes a good story and the center’s interactive exhibits make the stories of the region come alive. Spend an hour or a day in the main exhibit hall discovering the cultural and natural forces that helped shape the region’s lighthouses, commercial fishing, shipping, Native American culture, fur trade, Lake Superior, mining, glaciers, forests, and farming.

Take a few moments to peek inside an 18th century fur trade post. Wander into the head frame of a deep-shaft, iron mine; push down on the dynamite

plunger, and feel the rumbling explosion. Step back in time and listen to voyageurs singing as they paddle their fur-laden, 35-foot birch bark canoe across Lake Superior.

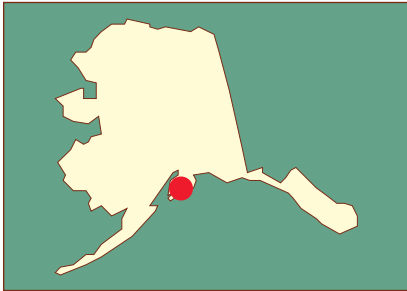
While at the center, don’t miss the 11-minute multimedia show, “Northern Voices.” Special lighting, music, sound effects, and unique objects are woven into an engaging story about the regional immigrants, Native Americans, and the land of the Northern Great Lakes region.

Then, grab a trail guide and take a stroll through a cedar and black ash wetland on the accessible Wetlands Boardwalk. A unique design allows the 3/4-mile boardwalk to “float” over the swamp. Exhibits describe the sedge meadow, tamarack, and other wetland habitats that you pass along the way. Guided hikes are offered in the summer, and special events are hosted throughout the year.



The Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center is open daily, year round. For more information, contact them at: 29270 County Highway G
Ashland, WI 54806
(715) 685-9983

www.northerngreatlakescenter.org



Portage Valley—Sculpted by Ice

Portage Valley has glaciers. There are glaciers advancing and retreating, glaciers calving into a lake or perched high on a mountain, and glaciers gleaming blue in the distance or icy cold at your fingertips.

A drive through Portage Valley gives visitors the chance to explore how glaciers sculpted the landscape. Interpretive trails, scenic overlooks, picnic areas, and campgrounds invite you to spend some time soaking in the surrounding mountains, spotting a mountain goat or moose, or listening to the music of the summer songbirds.

Walk the Moraine Trail to learn more about what glaciers leave behind. Stroll along the Moose Flats boardwalk for a chance to see waterfowl and other wetland wildlife. Or fish the streams of Portage Valley for five different species of Pacific salmon. A good place to view red and chum salmon during the spawning season is the

viewing platform at the Williwaw Salmon Viewing Site. There are also several ponds with fishing platforms in the valley.

Camping is available at Williwaw and Black Bear Campgrounds. And should you get chilled from your adventures, you can warm up with a hot meal at the Portage Glacier Lodge, near the Begich, Boggs Visitor Center.

Moose Flats, Alder Pond, Williwaw Salmon Viewing Site and Williwaw Campground are all accessible.

Located on the Chugach National Forest, Portage Valley is only an hour's drive from Anchorage. For more information, contact:

Chugach National Forest
Girdwood Ranger District
P.O. Box 129

Girdwood, AK 99587
(907) 783-3242

www.fs.fed.us/r10/chugach/pages_district/glacier



One of the most popular attractions in all of Alaska is the Begich, Boggs Visitor Center, located 55 miles south of Anchorage. It sits at the head of the Portage Valley and on the edge of Portage Lake, where you can come face to face with a living glacier that continues to carve the landscape on the Chugach National Forest.

The visitor center is dedicated to the memory of Congressmen Nick Begich of Alaska and Hale Boggs of Louisiana. The men, Congressional

Begich, Boggs Visitor Center

Aide Russell Brown, and their pilot, Don Jonz, disappeared while flying across Portage Pass in 1972.

The Begich, Boggs Visitor Center recently underwent a massive renovation, using a state-of-the-art approach to exhibits and audio productions. Everything is designed to be touched, and many exhibits are interactive. There are Nature Pianos that allow the visitor to listen to everything from sandhill cranes to ice bergs calving. Step into the Alaskan's and Their Stories room, where you can listen to stories of adventurers in the area. The Wild Side includes a life-sized cow moose and calf, and an ice worm couch! Scheduled interpretive walks and presentations abound, including the famed Ice Worm Safari. (Yes, ice worms really do exist!)

The award-winning film "Voices From the Ice" is shown hourly (for a \$1 per person fee) and provides a spectacular view of glaciers on the move.

During the last 80 years, Portage Glacier calved large icebergs into

Portage Lake as it retreated. Today, it forms a magnificent vertical face on the edge of the lake, and is still calving. Although the glacier is no longer visible from the visitor center, visitors can still experience the glacier up close from the deck of the MV Ptarmigan tour boat (accessible). USDA Forest Service interpreters are on board to help visitors better understand these rivers of ice. Hour-long tours run daily from Memorial Day to mid-September and cost \$25 per adult and \$12.50 per child.

The Begich, Boggs Visitor Center is free, fully accessible, and open daily from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and on weekends from Labor Day to Memorial Day (with an additional week open over Christmas).

For more information, contact the Girdwood Ranger District at the address shown in the accompanying article. Or go to the visitor center Web page at:

www.fs.fed.us/r10/chugach/chugach_pages/bbvc.html

Fire Lookouts—Sentries of the Forest

“We live in the sky. It forms three-fourths of what we can see. A lookout lives with weather, not land, not fire. The sky moves and changes; the land doesn't unless there's something like shadows of clouds passing over.”
 (Donna Ashworth, Woody Mountain Lookout, Coconino National Forest)

Fire lookout towers have had a proud and prominent history in forestry, often perceived as a symbol of forest conservation. Although their role in fire detection has changed, lookouts—even abandoned ones—remain popular with visitors.

Over 400 lookouts have been listed on the National Historic Lookout Register. Seven of those are on the San Bernardino National Forest in southern California, and each one has its own unique qualities. They operate from approximately Memorial Day through late fall, depending on weather. Volunteers staff the lookouts, and enthusiastically share their knowledge of fire suppression tools and techniques, prescribed fire programs, and the cultural history of fire lookouts.

Most lookouts are accessible by vehicle, and can accommodate about five people at a time in the tower itself. If you are not able or inclined to climb the stairs, hosts will also meet you at the base of the tower to provide their interpretive programs.



Starting the summer of 2002, the Morton Peak Tower will be available for overnight rental.

For more information, contact:
 San Bernardino National Forest
 Mountaintop Ranger District
 P.O. Box 350
 Sky Forest, CA 92835
 (909) 337-2444
www.sbnfa.org/fire_lookout.htm

For more information on fire lookouts from the Forest Fire Lookout Association, visit their Web site at:
www.firelookout.org

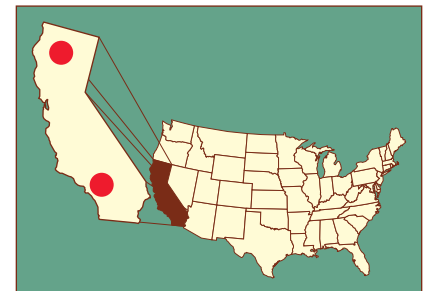
For more information on the USDA Forest Service lookout and cabin rental program, go to:
www.fs.fed.us/recreation/permits/cabin_rentals

Northern California Guide to Backcountry Roads



The Shasta Cascade Wonderland Association recently completed an award winning 44-page travel guide about some of the most spectacular backcountry roads in the northern California Shasta Cascade region. The guide was developed for sport-utility vehicle owners who are yearning for a family adventure off the beaten path.

The guide includes location maps, route descriptions, time and distances, and visitor information services. In 2002, the Backcountry Roads Guide received a California Tourism



Marketing Excellence Award. Free copies are available from:
 Shasta Cascade Wonderland Association
 Karen Whitaker, Tourism Development Manager
 1699 Hwy. 273
 Anderson, CA 96007
 (530) 365-7500
scwa@shastacascade.org



Hidden Gems: Scenic Wonders—Smaller Crowds

Sub-Alpine Splendor

The magnificent views of sculpted peaks, active glaciers, flowering meadows, and sub-alpine forests of Heather Meadows makes it one of the most spectacular attractions in western Washington.

In the summer, the USDA Forest Service operates the Heather Meadows Visitor Center in a renovated building listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The visitor center and several self-guided interpretive trails are all accessible.

Heather Meadows Visitor Center is located along the upper reaches of the Mt. Baker Scenic Byway, a 24-mile scenic trip from Glacier, WA. The road is typically snow-free between mid-July and late September, during which time the visitor center is open daily.

Another highlight of the Heather Meadows area is Artist Point. You're well above timberline here, with several trails to choose from.

Use of this area requires a Northwest Forest Pass (\$5 per day per vehicle or \$30 per year per vehicle).

For more information, contact:
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Mt. Baker Ranger District
810 State Route 20
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284
(360) 856-5700
www.fs.fed.us/r6/mbs/

Florida National Scenic Trail

Meandering through one of the largest subtropical regions in the United States, the Florida National Scenic Trail is one of the Nation's premier long-distance hiking trails. Over 1,300 miles long, it passes through all three national forests in Florida, and features many of Florida's outstanding scenic areas.

From this trail, imagine visiting the site of Florida's largest Civil War battle. Located on the Osceola National Forest, an accessible 1-mile loop trail has been

recently added to the Florida National Scenic Trail, passing through the pine flatwoods that harbor echoes of the Battle of Olustee. The events of this battle are reenacted every year during President's Day weekend.

Adjacent to the Battlefield and trailhead is the Olustee Depot, which now serves as the visitor information center for the Osceola National Forest. Interpretive displays explore the important roles that the railroad and timber industry played in the development of north Florida. The visitor center is open daily, except for Tuesdays.

For further information, contact:
Osceola National Forest
P.O. Box 70
Olustee, FL 32072
(386) 752-2577
www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/florida/recreation

You may also want to visit the Florida National Scenic Trail Association at www.florida-trail.org/ (1-877-HIKE-FLA), or the Olustee Battlefield Historic Site at www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/district2/olustee/ (386-758-0400).

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Yates Federal Building
201 14th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024



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