

OUR PLACE

Payette River, Photo: © Steve Bly

Idaho's public lands are a tapestry of canyons and deserts, grasslands and forests, valleys and mountains. They teem with wildlife and are braided with rivers and reminders of those who came before us.

Recreation

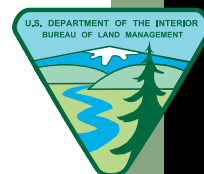
More than ever, people come to hike, raft and ride; to experience solitude; and to explore a place where no reservations are required. Public lands in Idaho contain 436 miles of nationally designated trails, including some of the most pristine portions of the Lewis and Clark Trail, the Oregon Trail, and the Continental Divide Trail.

Cultural Resources

Idaho's public lands contain numerous culturally significant sites, some of which date back nearly 10,000 years. They include ancient American Indian pictographs and petroglyphs, as well as wagon ruts from the late 1800's. The Native American descendants of these rock artists still exercise reserved treaty rights and engage in traditional uses on these lands; and numerous descendants of past pioneers still live on family homesteads and maintain their ties to the land.

Fish and Wildlife

The Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area has the highest known density of nesting raptors in North America. More than 100 bald eagles return each winter to public lands along Lake Coeur d'Alene in northern Idaho, attracting wildlife watchers from around the Nation and world. Gray wolves, Chinook salmon, sage-grouse and many other threatened, endangered and sensitive species also rely on Idaho's public lands for survival.



Rivers and Streams

Idaho's public lands are intersected by world famous rivers, including the Snake and Salmon Rivers, along with numerous streams and tributaries.

Wild Horses and Burros

The BLM manages six wild horse herds for a total population of about 600 horses in Idaho. Wild horse gathers and adoptions are conducted each year.

WORKING LANDS

Idaho's public lands have always been working lands. Besides outstanding recreation opportunities, they produce minerals, timber, and livestock forage. These abundant resources are vital to local communities in the state and country. These resources return more than \$13 million in annual revenue to the American people.

Rangeland

To meet the nation's needs, about 1,900 permittees graze livestock on Idaho's public land. Idaho BLM conducts regular assessments of all grazing allotments to ensure that grazing practices are consistent with BLM's Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health.

Wildland Fire

Idaho conducts the largest wildfire management program in BLM, outside of Alaska. Partnerships formed between BLM, local fire departments, private businesses and individual citizens have helped reduce wildfire impacts on Idaho's communities, economy and natural resources. These partnerships also address rehabilitation of lands after fire.

Restoration

Increasing wildfire, invasive noxious weeds, and abandoned mines threaten the health of public lands. The restoration of land and watersheds, while protecting healthy areas, is one of Idaho BLM's most important priorities.

Forestry

We've got trees! Idaho BLM manages over 320,000 acres of commercial forest land producing about 22.3 million board feet of timber and sales generating over \$1 million in annual revenues.



Chinook Salmon come home to spawn each year in Idaho.



Rangeland provides for recreation, livestock forage, and wildlife habitat.



Wildfire impacts natural resources annually in Idaho public lands.

THE NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION SYSTEM

The National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) was established in 2000 to recognize and protect some of the West's most spectacular landscapes. The special areas include officially designated National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, National Historic or Scenic Trails, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Wilderness Areas, and Wilderness Study Areas. Idaho BLM has 74 NLCS units that encompass approximately 3 million acres of public land. These units include:

Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve

The first national monument in Idaho is managed by the BLM and the National Park Service. Craters of the Moon contains a diverse array of volcanic features including volcanic rifts, cinder cones, spatter cones, shield volcanoes and lava tubes (caves) throughout its 750,000-acre area. A surprising number of plants and animals have adapted to live in the harsh volcanic and high desert environment. It is an excellent site for hiking, bird watching, photography, backpacking and caving.

Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area (NCA)

Less than an hour from Boise, you'll find the Snake River Birds of Prey NCA. It encompasses 485,000 acres of rim-top plateaus and deep, rugged canyons along 81 miles of the Snake River. The NCA provides prime nesting areas and habitat for resident raptors. A BLM-administered viewpoint and interpretive trail ensure visitors get the most out of their trip.

NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS (NHT)

The four National Historic Trails in Idaho were first used by American Indians and later renamed by pioneers. These trails tell the stories of rugged individualism and hardships encountered; portraying the true human spirit.

Oregon Trail – In the mid-1800's, thousands of pioneers followed native trails from Missouri to Oregon in search of a better life. The original wagon ruts are visible along the route in southwestern Idaho.

California Trail – One of the primary routes to reach California during the gold rush was through South Pass, Wyoming which led pioneers through southeast Idaho. One route led to Salt Lake City and then northward to Idaho where the Salt Lake Cutoff rejoined the main trail in Idaho at the City of Rocks.

Nez Perce Trail – This trail and epic tale of the Nez Perce stretches from Wallowa Lake, Oregon and across Idaho to the Bear Paw National Historic Trail in Chinook Montana, just south of the Canadian border.

Lewis and Clark Trail – On August 12, 1805, Captain Lewis and three members of the Corps of Discovery came to the headwaters of the Missouri River. High on a spiny ridge, on the Continental Divide, they entered Idaho at Lemhi Pass where the water separates to flow east and west to either the Atlantic or Pacific Ocean.

NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS - The Continental Divide

A short section of the 3,100 mile primitive backcountry trail traverses east-central Idaho along the Idaho/Montana border. The trail stretches from Canada to Mexico along the backbone of America.



Sacajawea Monument on the Lewis and Clark Trail



Photography: ©Leland Howard

Falls Creek Falls comes alive with color on the South Fork of the Snake River each spring.

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

Idaho has many rivers and river segments that are considered eligible and suitable for future Wild and Scenic designation by Congress. The most notable Idaho rivers include:

The South Fork of the Snake River

This majestic river flows for 66 miles across southeastern Idaho, through high mountain valleys, rugged canyons, and broad flood plains to its confluence with the Henrys Fork of the Snake near Menan Buttes. Since 1985, the river has been eligible for inclusion in the nation's Wild and Scenic River System. Diverse ecosystems and recreational opportunities abound! The South Fork is known nationally as a premier blue ribbon trout fishery.

The Lower Salmon River

The diverse landscape, geology and spectacular beauty of this 112-mile stretch of river includes narrow basalt gorges, exciting whitewater rapids, bountiful wildlife, and evidence of historic uses including pit houses, pictographs, and rock shelters. This is the longest completely free-flowing river in the lower 48 states and has been recommended for "National Wild and Scenic River" designation.

The Owyhee River

The Owyhee is famous for its deep canyons, steep cliffs, turbulent whitewater, brilliant wildflowers and a plethora of wildlife including golden eagles, falcons, hawks, bighorn sheep and deer. It provides a venue for exciting adventures in beautiful canyon settings.

The Bruneau and Jarbidge Rivers

The 69-mile Bruneau/Jarbidge River System flows north from the mountains of northern Nevada through the Owyhee Uplands to the Snake River in southern Idaho. These rivers provide challenging whitewater adventures through sheer-walled, rocky canyons with "hoo-doo" rock spires, junipers and red volcanic cliffs.

WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS (WSAs)

Idaho has 67 WSAs that encompass 1.8 million acres of public lands. These lands are managed to protect and preserve their unique wilderness characteristics which include naturalness, primitive recreation and opportunities for solitude. While some uses such as logging are restricted, livestock grazing in these areas still occurs and recreation opportunities for hunting, hiking and equestrian use are plentiful.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Does BLM Sell Land?

This is a common question, and the answer is almost always no. Only on rare occasions do we sell land. BLM's mission is to retain public lands and manage them for everyone's benefit. We are also asked about homesteading. Homesteading on public land no longer takes place. The law permitting homesteading was repealed by Congress in 1976.

2. Can Wild Horses Be Adopted?

The answer is a resounding yes! Wild horses can be adopted by qualified citizens. In Idaho, we usually conduct wild horse adoptions each year. Check with any BLM office to find out more details and fee information or visit www.blm.gov/adoptahorse/

3. Can mining claims be staked on federal land?

Yes. Public land, for the most part, is open to mining claims. First, you need to visit the nearest BLM office and ensure the area isn't closed or that a claim hasn't already been staked.

4. Where are the best trails?

Biking, hiking, horseback riding and motorized vehicle use are booming in Idaho. Your best bet is to stop by the nearest local BLM office to find out what opportunities and trails are in the area or visit Idaho BLM's web site at www.blm.gov/id/st/en/prog/recreation.1.html and the State of Idaho's web site at www.visitidaho.org/thingstodo/outdoorrecreation.aspx

5. What maps do you have?

Most offices have 1:100,000 scale (5/8" = 1 mile) area maps for Idaho that indicate land ownership and mineral status. Two sizes of Idaho maps can also be purchased at most offices; a wall size map at 1:500,000 scale (1"= 8 miles) and a smaller map at 1:100,000 that is 2'x 3'.

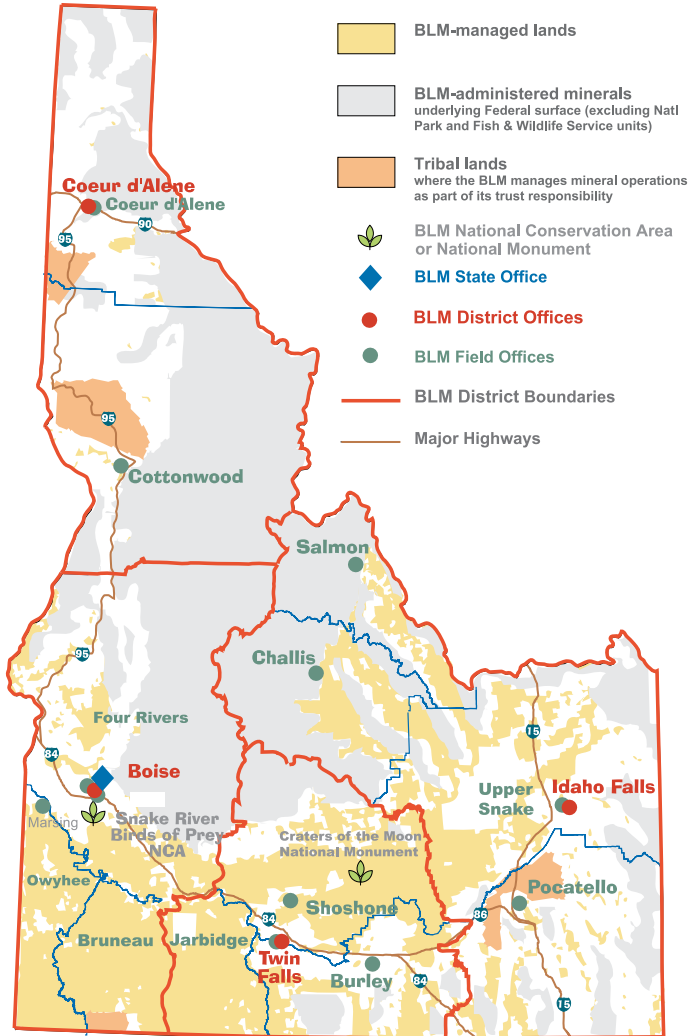
Most BLM offices do not sell USGS topographic maps. It's best to call ahead to find out what maps may be obtained at individual BLM offices.



Solitude for now. In the past 15,000 years, eight eruptions have occurred at Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve.

THE BLM IN IDAHO

The BLM manages nearly 12 million acres of public land in Idaho; this is 22 percent of the State's land area, and equivalent to an area about the size of Vermont and New Hampshire combined!



Questions?

Visit or call our offices listed on this brochure or visit our web site at www.blm.gov/id/st/en.html



IDAHO BLM OFFICES

Idaho State Office

1387 S. Vinnell Way
Boise, ID 83709
Phone: (208) 373-4000

Coeur d'Alene District

Coeur d'Alene District Office
Coeur d'Alene Field Office
3815 Schreiber Way
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815
Phone: (208) 769-5000

Cottonwood Field Office
1 Butte Drive
Cottonwood, ID 83522
Phone: (208) 962-3245

Idaho Falls District

Idaho Falls District Office
Upper Snake Field Office
1405 Hollipark Drive
Idaho Falls, ID 83401
Phone: (208) 524-7500

Pocatello Field Office
4350 Cliffs Drive
Pocatello, ID 83204
Phone: (208) 478-6340

Salmon Field Office
1206 South Challis Street
Salmon, ID 83467
Phone: (208) 756-5400

Challis Field Office
801 Blue Mountain Road
Challis, ID 83226
Phone: (208) 879-6200

Twin Falls District

Twin Falls District Office
2536 Kimberly Road
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
Phone: (208) 735-2060

Burley Field Office
15 East 200 South
Burley, ID 83318
Phone: (208) 677-6600

Shoshone Field Office
400 West F Street
Shoshone, ID 83352
Phone: (208) 732-7200

Jarbidge Field Office
2536 Kimberly Road
Twin Falls, ID 83301
Phone: (208) 736-2350

Boise District

Boise District Office
Four Rivers Field Office
Bruneau Field Office
3948 Development Ave.
Boise, ID 83705
Phone: (208) 384-3300

Owyhee Field Office
20 First Avenue West
Marsing, ID 83639
Phone: (208) 896-5912

No other agency manages a greater variety of resources than the Bureau of Land Management

- from white sand desert to alpine forests. These are public lands belonging to all Americans;

*places everyone can visit and enjoy. Our place is... **YOUR PLACE.***