

RECREATION



Silent City of Rocks, an historic landmark, known to immigrants on the California Trail.

Photo Courtesy: Steve Lee

State Parks



State Parks

Bear Lake

The 20-mile-long turquoise blue body of water that straddles the Idaho-Utah border. Anglers can try for a native cutthroat or lake trout in the summer. In the winter, they can come back with buckets and nets when the Bonneville cisco run. The fish is found nowhere else on Earth.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 297, Paris, ID 83261

Phone: 208-847-1045 Office (208-945-2565 N. Beach 208-945-2565 E. Beach - Seasonal)

E-Mail: BEA@idpr.state.id.us

Earl M. Hardy Box Canyon Springs Natural Preserve

Box Canyon is the site of the 11th largest spring in North America, which pours 180,000 gallons of water per minute into the Snake River. The canyon is also the home to a rare fish species found only in Idaho, the Shoshone sculpin, as well as three endangered spring snails. The canyon walls are popular for nesting raptors.

Mailing Address: 1074 E 2350 S, Hagerman, ID 83332

Phone: 208-837-4505

E-Mail: mal@idpr.state.id.us.

Bruneau Dunes

The dunes are unique in the Western Hemisphere as they form near the center of a natural basin. They include the largest single-structured sand dune in North America, with a peak 470 feet above the lakes. The combination of a source of sand, a relatively constant wind activity and a natural trap have caused sand to collect in this semicircular basin for about 12,000 years. These dunes do not drift far, as the prevailing winds blow from the southeast 28 percent of the time and from the northwest 32 percent of the time, keeping the dunes fairly stable. The two prominent dunes cover about 600 acres. The small lakes at the foot of the dunes provide an excellent bass and bluegill fishery.

20 minutes off I-84 near Mtn. Home

Location: Bruneau, ID (Highway 78, off State Highway 51)

Mailing Address: HC 85, Box 41, Mountain Home, ID 83647

Phone: 208-366-7919

Fax: 208-366-2844

E-Mail: bru@idpr.state.id.us

Castle Rocks

The 1,240-acre Castle Rock Ranch includes examples of early 20th century ranching structures and striking scenery. Spires rival the nearby City of Rocks National Reserve and offer exceptional rock climbing. Mule deer, mountain lion, bighorn sheep, snipe, sandhill crane and sage grouse can be found there. The park protects some of the most pristine archeological sites in southern Idaho. Evidence suggest that Castle Rocks was favored by different cultures over the previous 2,470 years.

Office Location: 3035 Elba Almo Rd., Almo, ID (off Idaho 77)

Mailing Address: PO Box 169, Albion, ID 83312

Phone: 208-824-5519

Fax: 208-824-5563

E-Mail: cit@idpr.state.id.us

City of Rocks National Reserve

Nestled amidst the mountain peaks of the Albion Mountain Range lies City of Rocks National Reserve. Embracing a sagebrush steppe valley, spectacular granite rock formations, pinyon/

juniper tree stands and alpine-like meadows, the reserve presents an inspirational landscape. Some of the granite rock formation here are 2.5 billion years old, they are some of the oldest rock formations found in the continental United States.

Location: 3035 Elba Almo Rd, Almo, ID (off Idaho 77)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 169, Almo, ID 83312

Phone: 208-824-5519

Fax: 208-824-5563

E-Mail: cit@idpr.state.id.us

Coeur d'Alene Parkway

The Parkway lies along the north shore of Lake Coeur d'Alene, following Centennial Trail east from Coeur d'Alene to Higgins Point. Over one half mile of public shoreline parallels the path.

Mailing Address: 2750 Kathleen Ave., Suite 1, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

Phone: 208-666-671, ext. 344

Park Ranger: 208-699-2224

E-Mail: coe@idpr.state.id.us

Dworshak

Located among trees and open meadows on the western shore of Dworshak Reservoir. The area is known for its moderate summer nights and mild winter temperatures. Camping, boating, fishing, swimming, hiking and water-skiing are just some of the many activities that await park visitors.

Location: Orofino, ID (Off U.S. 12, Freeman Creek Campground Cavendish area)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2028, Orofino, ID 83544

Phone: 208-476-5994

Cell Phone: 208-791-8921

Fax: 208-476-7225

E-Mail: dwo@idpr.state.id.us

Eagle Island

For summer fun this day-use park features grassy picnic areas with tables, a group shelter, equestrian trails and a waterslide. It's a great getaway near the capital city.

Location: Off Hatchery Road, west of Eagle, Idaho

Mailing Address: 2691 Mace Road, Eagle, ID 83616

Phone: 208-939-0696 (summer)

E-mail: eag@idpr.state.id.us

Farragut

Situated at the foot of the Coeur d'Alene Mountains in the Bitterroot Range. This four-season vacationer's paradise awaits you with scenic mountains, pristine forests, abundant wildlife, and the crystal clear, azure waters of the largest lake in Idaho, Pend Oreille. Lake Pend Oreille, with its 1,150 foot depths, is spectacular, offering trophy fishing, swimming and wide-open water-skiing. The world-record kamloops (37 pounds) was caught in Lake Pend Oreille. A diverse biological community exists in this scenic forest setting of lodgepole, pine, ponderosa pine, white pine, Douglas fir, poplar, western larch and grand fir. The forests are home to whitetail deer, squirrels, black bears, coyotes and bobcats.

Location: Athol, ID (State Highway 54, off U.S. 95)

Mailing Address: 13400 East Ranger Road, Athol, ID 83801

Phone: 208-683-2425

Fax: 208-683-2975

E-Mail: far@idpr.state.id.us

Harriman

Lies in the heart of a 16,000-acre wildlife reserve in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. This sanctuary protects a diversity of birds and mammals similar to those living in nearby Yellowstone National Park. In 1902, several officials of the Oregon Shortline Railroad and other investors purchased what is now Harriman State Park. Called the "Railroad Ranch, " the property was the private retreat of the Harrimans of Union Pacific Railroad fame and the Guggenheims, then prominent in copper. For 75 years, the ranch maintained healthy game, waterfowl and fish populations, allowing today's park visitors to observe a rare concentration of wildlife in its scenic, natural surrounding. One third of the Rocky Mountain trumpeter swan population winters here. Trumpeter swans are the largest of North American waterfowl and the world's heaviest flying bird. The Henrys Fork of the Snake River flows through the ranch with world famous fly fishing.

Location: 3489 E. Highway 20 (20 miles north of Ashton)

Mailing Address: 3489 Green Canyon Road, Island Park, ID 83429

Phone: 208-558-7368

Fax: 208-558-7045

E-Mail: har@idpr.state.id.us

Hells Gate

Quiet and grassy campsites along the shores of the Snake River await visitors to Hells Gate State Park, situated at the lowest elevation in the entire state. At just 713 feet above sea level, the low elevation and long season of warm weather give rise to Lewiston's reputation as "Idaho's Banana Belt." Just outside Lewiston, includes 200 developed acres that border the Snake River. A large beach, play area and miles of hiking and biking trails make the park a popular destination. The Lewis and Clark Discovery Center features educational displays and a two acre outdoor interpretive plaza.

Location: On Snake River, Lewiston, ID

Mailing Address: 3620 Snake River Avenue, Lewiston, ID 83501

Phone: 208-799-5015 (office) 208-799-5016 (marina)

Fax: 208-799-5187

E-Mail: hel@idpr.state.id.us

Henry's Lake

Located just 15 miles west of Yellowstone National Park, this high-mountain lake is surrounded by 8,000 to 10,000 foot mountains and the Targhee National Forest which provide spectacular scenery. The fishing in Henry's Lake and surrounding streams is a trout anglers' dream and is a world renowned fishery. The park was named after explorer Major Andrew Henry.

Location: 3917 E 5100 N, Island Park ID 83429

Mailing Address: HC 66, Box 20, Island Park, ID 83429 (summer)

Phone: 208-558-7532

E-mail: hen@idpr.state.id.us

Heyburn

The Coeur d' Alene Indians were the first inhabitants of the area now known as Heyburn State Park. It was an ideal place for an encampment. Then, as today, the lakes provided an abundance of fish, the marsh areas had plentiful waterfowl and the heavily timbered slopes and open meadows were ideal habitat for deer, bear and upland birds. Heyburn State Park was created from the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation by an Act of Congress, on April 20, 1908. The deed, signed by President William Howard Taft, granted 5,505 acres of land and 2,333 acres of water to the State. The park was named in honor of U.S. Senator W.B. Heyburn of Idaho.

Heyburn in the oldest state park in the Pacific Northwest. Starting in 1934, much of the early construction was performed by Civilian Conservation Corps Camp SP-1.

Location: Between Plummer & St. Maries, ID (SH 5, off U.S. 95)

Mailing Address: 1291 Chatcolet Rd., Plummer, ID 83851

Phone: 208-686-1308

Fax: 208-686-3003

E-Mail: hey@idpr.state.id.us

Lake Cascade

Nestled in the majestic mountains of central Idaho, popular for all types of boating, prevailing winds on the water make it especially well-suited for sailing and windsurfing. Rainbow trout, coho salmon, and small mouth bass and perch can be caught from the shore or by boat in the summer or through the ice in the winter. The North Fork of the Payette River, with its world-class kayaking rapids, flow to the south of Cascade.

Location: West old State Highway of Highway 55

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 709, Cascade, ID 83611

Phone: 208-382-6544

Fax: 208-382-4071

E-Mail: cas@idpr.state.id.us

Land of the Yankee Fork

Located in scenic central Idaho, this historic area provides visitors with a chance to experience Idaho's frontier mining history. Beginning in 1870, the area attracted gold seekers searching its streams and mountains. The 1880s brought rapid growth to the region as the Lucky Boy, General Custer and Montana mines produced abundant ore and the town of Custer reached a population of 600. But the gold eventually played out leaving Custer and Bonanza ghost towns by 1911. The Yankee Fork Gold Dredge, a 988-ton monster barge that searched the gravel of the Yankee Fork for gold as recently as 1953, is open for guided tours during the summer.

Location: Between Sunbeam and Challis off US 93 and SH 75

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1086, Challis, ID 83226

Phone: 208-879-5244

Fax: 208-879-5243

E-Mail: lan@idpr.state.id.us

Lucky Peak

This day-use-only park is located on and near Lucky Peak Reservoir, just east of Boise. Lucky Peak was listed by Northwest Travel Magazine as one of the Northwest's top 25 parks. The park consists of three units providing a wide variety of recreational activities, Spring Shores, Sandy Point and Discovery.

Location: Southeast of Boise on State Highway 21

Mailing Address: 9275 E Highway 21, Boise ID 83716

Phone: Spring Shores Marina Unit 208-336-9505,

Marina Restaurant/Store 208-336-7326, Sandy Point/Discovery Office 208-334-2679,

Spring Shores Marina Office 208-336-9505

E-mail: luc@idpr.state.id.us

Malad Gorge

The Malad River crashes down stairstep falls and into the Devils Washbowl, then cuts through a beautiful 250-foot gorge on its way to the Snake River, 2-1/2 miles downstream. The cracks

and folds of rock along the canyon cliffs record the movements of earth, lava and water. The historic Kelton Trail runs through the park, providing Western history buffs with excellent wagon ruts and traces of the Kelton Stage Stop.

Location: Tuttle, ID (Off I-84)

Mailing Address: 1074 E 2350 S, Hagerman, ID 83332

Phone: 208-837-4505

Cell Phone: 208-539-0519

E-Mail: mal@idpr.state.id.us

Massacre Rocks

Gate of Death and Devil's Gate were names given to this area during the Oregon Trail period. These names referred to a narrow break in the rocks through which the trail passed. Many emigrant names are inscribed on the large Register Rock. The park is rich in geological history. The Devil's Gate Pass is all that remains of an extinct volcano. The prehistoric Bonneville Flood shaped the landscape of the area, rolling and polishing the huge boulders found throughout the park. The flood was caused when eroding waters broke through Red Rock Pass near the Idaho/Utah border. Lake Bonneville, which covered much of what is today the state of Utah, surged through the pass and along the channel of the Snake River in a few short months. For a time, the flow was four times that of the Amazon River. It was the second largest flood in the geologic history of the world.

Location: 10 miles west of American Falls, (off I-86)

Mailing Address: 3592 N. Park Lane, American Falls, ID 83211

Phone: 208-548-2672

E-Mail: mas@idpr.state.id.us

McCroskey

This 5,300-acre park was given to the state of Idaho in 1955 and is dedicated to the memory of frontier women and the hardships they endured. The ridgeline park offers spectacular views of the Palouse Prairie which reflects the ever-changing agricultural patchwork of the valleys bordered by surrounding forested foothills.

Location: 30 miles North of Moscow on SH 95

Mailing Address: 2750 Kathleen Ave., Suite 1, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

Phone: 208-666-6711

E-Mail: mcc@idpr.state.id.us

Niagara Springs

Tumbling down the canyon side at 250 cubic feet per second, Niagara Springs is a sight you won't soon forget. The churning water is the icy blue of glaciers. The springs are a National Natural Landmark and part of the world-famous Thousand Springs Complex along the Snake River.

Mailing Address: 1074 E 2350 S, Hagerman, ID 83332

Phone: 208-536-5522

E-Mail: nia@idpr.state.id.us

Old Mission

In the early 1840s, Jesuit missionaries came to North Idaho. In 1842, Father DeSmet responded to the Coeur d'Alene Indians request and sent Father Point to help them establish a mission. The first Mission of the Sacred Heart was built along the St. Joe River, about 35 miles south of the present church. The mission was repeatedly flooded until 1846 when the St. Joe location was abandoned in favor of a high, grassy knoll overlooking the Coeur d'Alene River where the

mission stands today. Father Ravalli joined the Coeur d'Alenes and began designing the new mission which was built between 1848 and 1853. The park offers picnicking under tall trees, walking trails and a chance to explore the oldest building in Idaho with its unique 18-inch-thick walls. Most of all, it gives us a chance to learn more about the colorful history of Idaho and the Coeur d'Alene Indians.

Location: Cataldo, ID (Exit 39 off I-90)
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 30, Cataldo, ID 83810
Phone: 208-682-3814
Fax: 208-682-4032
E-Mail: old@idpr.state.id.us

Ponderosa

Ponderosa State Park covers most of a 1,000-acre peninsula that juts into Payette Lake, just outside McCall. The character of the park is molded by its diverse topography. It ranges from arid sagebrush flats to a lakeside trail; from flat, even ground to steep cliffs; and from dense forest to spongy marsh. The park's namesake, the 150-foot-tall Ponderosa Pine, is the most noticeable species of tree. Douglas and grand fir, lodgepole pine and western larch also grow in the park.

Location: McCall, ID (East Lake Drive, Off SH 55- Miles Standish Rd)
Mailing Address: P.O. Box A, McCall, ID 83638
Phone: 208-634-2164
Fax: 208-634-5370
E-Mail: pon@idpr.state.id.us

Priest Lake

Lying at about 2,400 feet above sea level, Priest Lake State Park has an abundance of beautiful scenery and recreational opportunities. Visitors will enjoy the dense cedar-hemlock forests and the wildlife, such as whitetail deer, black bear, moose and bald eagles. The stately Selkirk Mountain Range towers nearby. Noted for its clear water, Priest Lake extends 19 miles and is connected to the smaller Upper Priest Lake by a placid, two-mile-long water thoroughfare. Steeped in a history of Jesuit priests, Indian villages, homesteaders and logging camps.

Location: Coolin Road (off State Highway 57)
Mailing Address: 314 Indian Creek Park Road, Coolin, ID 83821-9076
Phone: 208-443-2200, 208-443-2929 (Lionhead Unit)
E-Mail: pri@idpr.state.id.us

Round Lake

The 58-acre lake at Round Lake State Park was a million years in the making. It is a product of glacial activity dating back to the Pleistocene Epoch. The "Trappers" nature trail around the lake will take you under canopies of western white pine, Engelmann spruce, grand fir, lodgepole pine, black cottonwood, paper birch, red alder and Rocky Mountain maple.

Location: Sagle, ID (2 Miles E on Dufort Road, off U.S. 95)
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 170, Sagle, ID 83860
Phone: 208-263-3489
E-Mail: rou@idpr.state.id.us

Three Island Crossing

Oregon Trail pioneers knew this spot well. It was one of the most famous river crossings on the historic trail. Upon reaching the Three Island ford, the Oregon Trail emigrants had a difficult decision to make. Should they risk the dangerous crossing of the Snake, or endure the dry, rocky route along the south bank of the river? About half of the emigrants chose to attempt the crossing

by using the gravel bars that extended across the river. Not all were successful, many casualties are recounted in pioneer diaries. The rewards of a successful crossing were a shorter route, more potable water and better feed for the stock. The Three Island ford was used by pioneer travelers until 1869, when Gus Glenn constructed a ferry about two miles upstream.

Location: Glens Ferry, ID (W Madison Street off I-84)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 609, Glens Ferry, ID 83623

Phone: 208-366-2394

Fax: 208-366-7913

E-Mail: thr@idpr.state.id.us

Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes

The Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes is one of the most spectacular trails in the western United States. The trail nearly spans the Panhandle of Idaho as it runs along rivers, beside lakes and through Idaho's historic Silver Valley. Dispersed along the trail are 36 unique bridges and trestles that cross mountain creeks, whitewater rivers and tranquil lakes. The east end of the trail passes through a narrow mountain valley once heavily mined for silver. The valley is dotted with numerous small historic mining communities each offering their own unique features. The middle section of the trail follows the tranquil Coeur d'Alene River, passing fifteen small lakes and marshes loaded with waterfowl. The west end of the trail lies along the shoreline of scenic Coeur d'Alene Lake for six miles. It crosses a 3100-foot bridge/trestle to Heyburn State Park, the Northwest's oldest state park. The trail then follows the remote forested Plummer Creek Canyon for six miles, ending in the community of Plummer.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 30, Cataldo, ID 83810

Phone: 208-682-3814

Fax: 208-682-4032

E Mail: old@idpr.state.id.us

Walcott

Located at the northwest end of the Bureau of Reclamation's Lake Walcott Project, Lake Walcott State Park is perfect for camping and fishing. Picnickers enjoy the acres of grass beneath groves of stately eastern hardwoods. The park serves as a convenient base from which to explore the Minidoka National Wildlife Refuge, which offers some of the best birding in southern Idaho.

Mailing address: 959 East Minidoka Dam, Rupert, ID 83350

Phone: 208-436-1258

Fax: 208-436-1268

E-Mail: wal@idpr.state.id.us

Winchester Lake

The park surrounds a 103-acre lake, nestled in a forested area at the foot of the Craig Mountains. The park offers year-round recreation activities, picnicking and hiking are popular summer activities, in winter enjoy cross-country skiing, ice skating and ice fishing. The vegetation is dominated by ponderosa pine and Douglas Fir. Wildlife most commonly seen in the park includes white-tailed deer, Canada geese, raccoons, muskrats, painted turtles, osprey, herons, and garter snakes.

Location: Winchester, ID (1/4 mile SW of town center)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 186, Winchester, ID 83555

Phone: 208-924-7563

Fax: 208-924-7824

E-Mail: win@idpr.state.id.us

Source: Idaho State Parks and Recreation

<http://www.idahoparks.org/> RECREATION

Alpine Ski Areas

Bald Mountain Ski Resort

North Central Idaho, 42 Miles E. of Orofino, 6 miles N. of Pierce
Managed by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, this small resort in north-central Idaho has been open since 1959.
Contact info: PO Box 1126, Orofino ID 83544
Phone: 208-464-2311

Bogus Basin Ski Resort

Southwestern Idaho, 16 miles N. of Boise
This year-round playground north of Boise features more than 2,600 acres of skiable terrain, and some of the best night skiing in the west. Every year, north of Boise, Mother Nature blankets the slopes of Bogus Basin Mountain Resort. The result: an enviable playground with 2600 acres of skiable, snowboardable terrain. And when the sun goes down, so can you, thanks to Bogus' lighted runs. Bogus has more night skiing terrain than any other ski area in the northwestern United States.
Contact Info: 2600 Bogus Basin Road, Boise, ID 83702
Phone: (208) 332-5100
Web Address: www.bogusbasin.com
E Mail: info@bogusbasin.com

Brundage Mountain Ski Resort

Southwestern Idaho, 8 miles N. of McCall
Eight miles north of McCall in the mountains of central Idaho, Brundage Mountain Ski Resort boasts 1300 acres of wide, elegantly-groomed runs and abundant powder glades. A big comfortable day lodge houses a restaurant, retail and rental shop and ski school. A spacious Kid's Center offers day-care for children as young as eight weeks and ski programs for children through age 12. Brundage Mountain is the home of CatSki - guided backcountry skiing by snowcat.
Contact info: Box 1062, McCall, ID 83638
Phone: (208) 634-4151
Web Address: www.brundage.com
E Mail: info@brundage@com

Cottonwood Butte Ski Resort

North Central Idaho, 19 miles N. of Grangeville near Cottonwood
Cottonwood Butte is a small ski resort in North Central Idaho with a t-bar lift and night skiing.
Contact info: PO Box 162, Cottonwood, ID 83522
Phone: (208) 962-3624

Grand Targhee Ski Resort

Eastern Idaho, 12 miles east of Driggs
Grand Targhee is nestled on the west side of Wyoming's majestic Teton Mountains and receives 500 inches of snow annually. Enjoy this full-service resort famous for spectacular snow and magnificent scenery. Targhee offers skiers two mountains totaling 3000 acres. Four chairlifts on Fred's Mountain give access to 1500 acres and 2200 vertical feet. A high-speed quad on Peaked Mountain opens up 500 skiable acres with an additional 1,000 acres reserved for

snowcat skiing. Tubing, dog sledding, snowshoeing, ice skating and spa services make for a complete winter vacation. Lodging is available on the mountain or in Driggs.

Contact Info: Box Ski, Ski Hill Rd., Driggs, ID 83414

Phone: 208 307-353-2300 x1318

Website: www.grandtarghee.com

Email: info@grandtarghee.com

Kelly Canyon Ski Resort

Eastern Idaho, 25 mi. NE of Idaho Falls

This eastern Idaho resort founded in 1957 features intermediate terrain, a ski school, equipment rentals and four lifts serving 640 skiable acres. It provides the only night skiing in eastern Idaho

Contact Info: Address: Box 367, 5488 E. Kelly Canyon Rd., Idaho Falls, ID 83443

Phone: 208 538-7700 or 538-6251

Website: www.skikelly.com

Little Ski Hill

Southwestern Idaho, 3 miles NW of McCall

McCall's Little Ski Hill was the second ski area developed in Idaho, preceded only by Sun Valley. The Payette Lakes Ski Club has maintained a nonprofit organization status for the Little Ski Hill since 1937, when it was used for jumping. Night skiing is available on the weekends with Friday family nights and Saturday telemark nights. It is run by volunteers whose goal is the development of skiing and snowboarding as lifetime sports for all ages. This community-supported ski area offers something for everyone, with more than 50K of groomed skating lanes, touring trails, a biathlon range and 405 vertical feet of alpine terrain.

Contact Info: PO Box 442, McCall, ID 83638

Phone: 208-634-5691

Website: www.littleskihill.org

Lost Trail Powder Mountain

Central Idaho, North of Salmon

Located north of Salmon on U.S. Highway 93 at the Montana border, Lost Trail ski area has excellent intermediate runs and trails. This ski area is well known for its consistent good base and light snow. Cafeteria, rentals and ski lessons are available at the day lodge and overnight lodging can be found in Salmon, Idaho.

Contact Info: PO Box 311, 7674 Hwy 93 S. Sula, MT, Conner, MT 59827

Phone: 406-821-3211

Website: www.losttrail.com

Email: ski@losttrail.com

Lookout Pass Ski Area

Northern Idaho, 12 miles E. of Wallace on I-90

Lookout, Idaho's oldest ski area, opened in 1935. Today, it is an affordable family ski area with easy access and great snow - more than 350-400 inches per year means there's always great powder skiing. More than forty additional acres of expert terrain, called Claim Jump, was recently added including a world class snowboard terrain park featuring nine notorious 20-foot hits along an 1,100-foot long, nonconforming halfpipe, and acres of expert tree skiing and boarding.

Contact info: PO Box 108, Wallace, ID 83873

Phone: 208-744-1301
Web Address: www.skilookout.com
Email: info@skilookout.com

Magic Mountain Ski and Summer Resort

South Central Idaho, 28 miles S. of Hansen
This small resort near the Twin Falls area features great snow, a day lodge with a cafeteria, equipment rentals and a lounge. Magic Mountain is also open every weekend in the summer and weekdays with advance reservations. The Wild Rockies Mountain Bike Race is held the 1st weekend of June, an archery shoot is held on July 4th weekend and there is an annual Buffalo Feed the 2nd weekend of September. The lodge is available for wedding receptions, reunions and other events. Camping is allowed in summer.
Contact Info: 3407-A N. 3300 E., Kimberly ID 83341
Phone: 208-423-6221

Pebble Creek Ski Resort

Southeastern Idaho, SE of Idaho Falls near Pocatello
Pebble Creek is a vertical playground that attracts skiers of all abilities. Located 20 minutes south of Pocatello in the Caribou National Forest, Pebble Creek boasts 2000 vertical feet, 1100 skiable acres, 45 runs, virtually nonexistent lift lines and terrain for beginners or those demanding an honest challenge. After skiing, enjoy the soothing natural spas of Lava Hot Springs.
Contact Info: PO Box 370, Inkom, ID 83245
Phone: 208-775-4452
Web Address: www.pebblecreekskiarea.com

Pomerelle Ski Resort

South Central Idaho, near Burley, 25 miles off I-84, Hwy. 77 near Albion
Pomerelle Mountain Resort welcomes skiers with great snow, affordable rates, smiles and service. Pomerelle is a relaxed, fun-filled, personalized day resort nestled in the Sawtooth National Forest. With an annual snowfall of 500", it is usually one of the first Idaho ski resorts to open with Mother Nature's natural snow and one of the last to close. Pomerelle offers groomed ski runs and caters to family oriented ski/boarding enjoyment. The Ski School specializes in family groups. Kids 6 and under ski free with parent. Nordic skiing is adjacent to the resort on Forest Service marked trails.
Contact info: PO Box 158, Albion, ID 83311
Phone: 208- 673-5599 (winter)
Web Address: www.pomerelle-mtn.com
Email: info@pomerelle-mtn.com

Schweitzer Mountain Resort

Northern Idaho, 11 miles E. of Sandpoint
Schweitzer Mountain is perfectly situated overlooking Lake Pend Oreille. With over 2500 skiable acres, 2400 vertical feet and 300 inches of snow annually, its no wonder Schweitzer is one the top destination resorts in the Northwest. Schweitzer has a total of 62 runs and two huge bowls served by six chairlifts including Stella, Idaho's only six-passenger high-speed chairlift. Schweitzer also offers great options for slopeside lodging including the White Pine Lodge, Selkirk Lodge and condos. The Village at Schweitzer offers great shopping and dining opportunities including the Chimney Rock Restaurant, which was recently featured in Travel and Leisure magazine. The Mountain Learning Center provides learn to ski and board packages

with some of the most qualified instructors in the Northwest. Schweitzer Mountain's Activity Center offers excellent options for those non-ski days, schedule a massage, go for a snowshoe hike, or sign up for guided backcountry ski and snowmobile excursions with the Selkirk Powder Company.

Contact info: 10,000 Schweitzer Mountain Road, Sandpoint, ID 83864

Phone: 208-263-9555

Web Address: www.schweitzer.com

Email: ski@schweitzer.com

Silver Mountain Ski Resort

Northern Idaho, E. of Coeur d'Alene near Kellogg

Located on the north-facing slopes of the scenic Bitterroot range, Silver Mountain is blessed with 350 inches of powder annually with diverse and challenging terrain. Two mountains - Kellogg Peak at 6,300 feet and Wardner Peak at 6,200 feet, three bowls, 2,200 vertical feet, 53 runs, terrain park, exciting tree skiing and some of the finest powder stashes you will find anywhere. The mountain's six lifts are reached after a 19-minute ride on the world's longest single-stage gondola. The base terminal features a restaurant, ski rentals and shops. The upper terminal lodge offers a bag check and complimentary ski check and waxing. A beginner chair, handle tow, SKIwee and day care puts the emphasis on family skiing.

Contact info: 610 Bunker Avenue, Kellogg, ID 83737

Phone: 208-783-1111

Web Address: www.silvermt.com

Email: info@silvermt.com

Snowhaven Ski Resort

North Central Idaho, SE of Lewiston near Grangeville

Snowhaven is a small ski resort with three runs served by a T-bar and rope tow. It has a snack bar, a ski shop and day lodge.

Contact info: 225 W. North, Grangeville, ID 83530

Phone: 208-983-2851

Soldier Mountain Ski Resort

Central Idaho, 12 miles N. of Fairfield on Hwy. 20

When you ski Soldier Mountain, you go back to simpler, less-crowded times. Backcountry skiing or catskiing is incredible. We have great low prices and awesome snow with 36+ runs and an enhanced snowboard terrain park. Soldier Mountain is one of Idaho's hidden gems, an easygoing resort located in the picturesque Camas Prairie, halfway between Boise and Sun Valley.

Contact info: PO Box 510, Fairfield, ID 83327

Phone: 208-764-2526

Web Address: www.soldiermountain.com

Email: soldiermt@tlink.com

Sun Valley Ski Resort

Central Idaho, at Ketchum

Sun Valley is the very definition of the American winter vacation, being the nation's first destination ski resort. Discover for yourself why Sun Valley attracts such an interesting mix of Hollywood movie stars and Olympic champions. Sun Valley boasts a world-class mountain, with a quality ski school, experienced instructors and a rich variety of apres-ski activities. Casual elegance is the style at the resort's stately Sun Valley Lodge and Sun Valley Inn. Sun

Valley continues to be ranked among the best in North America (Conde Nast 1997; Ski Magazine 1996).

Contact info: Sun Valley Resort, Sun Valley, ID 83353

Phone: 208-622-4111

Web Address: www.sunvalley.com

Email: ski@sunvalley.com

Source: Idaho Department of Commerce

Snowmobiling

Idaho has over 7,200 miles of snowmobile trails in 29 grooming programs located throughout the state. Millions of acres of open riding exist on Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, State and private land. The Forest Service and BLM can provide information that identifies open and closed areas, closure dates and other details that may help you plan an enjoyable ride. Many county snowmobile programs also provide trail maps of the areas that are groomed. For more on where to ride in Idaho, contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at (208) 334-4199.

Nordic Skiing

Idaho's unique terrain of mountain valleys, broad sweeps of gently rolling hills and a rugged backcountry that includes the largest wilderness in the continental U.S., offers the Nordic ski enthusiast a very special experience.

Nordic ski instruction and rentals are available at most ski resorts throughout the state. There are also several tour operators who offer Nordic ski packages, including backcountry touring, hut to hut skiing, or groomed trails for easy touring. Numerous Forest Service and privately groomed trails from 5 to 60 kilometers are found throughout the state.

Park N' Ski Program

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation operates a unique program called Park N'Ski through four separate trail systems and four state park ski areas. Many trails are groomed on a regular basis and provide amenities such as restrooms, warming shelters and backcountry huts/yrurts. A season pass cost \$20 and a three-day temporary permit costs \$7.50. Permits may be purchased at a variety of places throughout the state, including sports shops, state parks offices, U.S. Forest Service ranger stations and chambers of commerce. In addition to the Park N'Ski areas, Farragut State Park, Priest Lake State Park, Round Lake State Park and Winchester State Park have cross-country ski trails available for use. For more information, contact the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0065, (208) 334-4180 ext. 228.

Source: Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation

Bureau of Land Management

The BLM manages 11.9 million acres of public land in Idaho, most of which is concentrated in the southern part of the State. Every Idaho county contains some BLM-managed land, which accounts for 36 percent of the total Federal acreage within Idaho's borders. Idaho's public lands feature alpine forests, rolling rangeland, and spectacular canyonlands with premier desert white-water streams--the Owyhee, Bruneau, Jarbidge, and Lower Salmon.

Idaho's public lands are rich in environmental, historical, recreational, and economic values. These lands, with historical features that include some of the best remaining original ruts of the Oregon Trail, will attract millions of recreational visits. Many of these visits will be made by the outdoor sportsmen of Idaho, where about one of every three persons owns a fishing or hunting license. BLM-managed lands also support the traditional commodity activities of grazing, mining, and timber production, which are vital to Idaho's rural economies.

National Forests and Grasslands in Idaho

The National Forest system is responsible for administration of over 21 million acres of Idaho's forested land. This land serves a multiplicity of uses. The Forest Service must juggle several competing uses including mining, recreation, logging, camping, wilderness, watershed protection, and scientific research, to name a few.

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST*

1801 N. 1st Street
Hamilton, MT 59840
406-363-7100
www.fs.fed.us/r1/bitterroot/

NEZ PERCE NATIONAL FOREST

Route 2, Box 475
Grangeville, Idaho 83530
(208) 983-1950
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/nezperce/>

BOISE NATIONAL FOREST

1249 Vinnell Way, Suite 200
Boise, ID 83709
208-373-4100
www.fs.fed.us/r4/boise/

PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST

800 West Lakeside Ave, PO Box 1026
McCall, Idaho 83638
208-634-0700
<http://www.mccall.net/payette>

CARIBOU-TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST*

1405 Hollipark Drive
Idaho Falls, ID 83401
208-524-7500
www.fs.fed.us/r4/caribou-targhee

SALMON - CHALLIS NATIONAL FORESTS

50 Hwy 93 South
Salmon, Idaho 83467
208-756-5100
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/sc/>

CLEARWATER NATIONAL FOREST

12730 Highway 12
Orofino, Idaho 83544
208-476-4541
www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater/

SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST*

2647 Kimberly Road East
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
208-737-3200
www.fs.fed.us/r4/sawtooth/

CURLEW NATIONAL GRASSLANDS

Malad Ranger District
75 S. 140 E., Box 146
Malad, Idaho 83252
208-766-4743
www.fs.fed.us/r4/caribou-targhee/about/curlew/

WALLOWA NATIONAL FOREST*

PO Box 907, 1550 Dewey Avenue
Baker City, Oregon 97814
514-523-6391
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/w-w/>

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS - COEUR D'ALENE, KANIKSU, and ST. JOE NATIONAL FORESTS*

3815 Schreiber Way
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
208-765-7223
<http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/>

WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST*

8236 Federal Bldg./125 S State Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84138
801-236-3400
<http://www.fs.fed.us/wcnf/>

**Unit is in two or more states*

Major Land Areas, Sites and Rivers Designated by the U.S. Government

NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS

The first National Park (Yellowstone) was designated in 1872. The National Park Service was created in 1916 to advance a new concept of land use to conserve the scenery, natural, historic, and wildlife in perpetuity for the benefit and enjoyment of the people. The U.S. Congress establishes these Parks and Sites.

NATIONAL RECREATION AREAS

Congress in 1962 passed the National Recreation Area Act to help preserve and expand outdoor recreation opportunities throughout the nation.

WILDERNESS AREAS

In 1964, Congress passed the Wilderness Act to set aside certain lands from development and to preserve their natural character. The Wilderness Act defines wilderness as an area of undeveloped Federal land, usually 5,000 acres or more, in a substantially natural condition. It is without permanent improvements or human habitation, and has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Such an area may contain ecological, geological, or other features or scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values.

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

In 1968, Congress authorized the Wild and Scenic Rivers System Act which permits State Legislatures and the U.S. Congress to designate certain rivers as wild and scenic to preserve outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values in a natural and free-flowing condition for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

NATIONAL NATURAL AREAS AND LANDMARKS

In 1972 Congress directed the Secretary of Interior to investigate and inventory areas which could be designated National Natural Landmarks and for possible inclusion into the National Parks System.

Sources: Bureau of Land Management, *Idaho Facts*; *United States Code*

NATIONAL PARKS, MONUMENTS AND RESERVES

Nez Perce National Historical Park - Spalding Visitor Center

Established: 1965. For thousands of years the valleys, prairies, mountains, and plateaus of the inland northwest have been home to the Nimiipuu or Nez Perce people. Explore these places. Learn their stories. Treat them with care. The 38 sites of Nez Perce National Historical Park are scattered across the states of Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Montana and have been designated to commemorate the stories and history of the Nimiipuu and their interaction with explorers, fur traders, missionaries, soldiers, settlers, gold miners, and farmers who moved through or into the area.

Contact Info: 3906 U.S. Hwy 95, Spalding, ID 83551

Phone: 208-843-2261

Website: www.nps.gov/nepe

Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve

Established: 1924. A sea of lava flows with scattered islands of cinder cones and sagebrush describes this "weird and scenic landscape" known as Craters of the Moon. Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve contains three major lava fields covering almost half

a million acres. These remarkably well preserved volcanic features resulted from geologic events that appear to have happened yesterday and will likely continue tomorrow.

18 miles W of Arco on Hwy 20

Contact Info: P.O. Box 29, Arco, ID 83213

Phone: 208-527-3257

Website: <http://www.nps.gov/crmo/>

Yellowstone National Park

Established: 1872. Idaho can also boast of having a portion of the nation's oldest and most famous national park. A thin strip totaling 31,488 acres (of the park's 2 million plus acres) make up part of its western border. Long before any recorded human history in Yellowstone, a massive volcanic eruption spewed an immense volume of ash that covered all of the western U.S., much of the Midwest, northern Mexico and some areas of the eastern Pacific. The eruption dwarfed that of Mt. St. Helens in 1980 and left a caldera 30 miles wide by 45 miles long. That climactic event occurred about 640,000 years ago, and was one of many processes that shaped Yellowstone National Park—a region once rumored to be “the place where hell bubbles up.” Geothermal wonders, such as Old Faithful, are evidence of one of the world's largest active volcanoes. These spectacular features bemused and befuddled the park's earliest visitors, and helped lead to the creation of the world's first national park.

Contact Info: P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Phone: 307-344-7381

Website: www.nps.gov/yell/

City of Rocks National Reserve

Established: 1988. “We encamped at the city of the rocks, a noted place from the granite rocks rising abruptly out of the ground,” wrote James Wilkins in 1849. “They are in a romantic valley clustered together, which gives them the appearance of a city.” Wilkins was among the first wagon travelers to fix the name City of Rocks to what looked like “a dismantled, rock-built city of the Stone Age.” California Trail pioneers were leaving civilization as they knew it in the East for new lives in the West. Some wrote their names in axle grease on rock faces, and their signatures can be seen today. No doubt thirsty on this northern edge of the Great Basin Desert, one emigrant saw the distant rocks in August like “water thrown up into the air from numerous artificial hydrants.” Beginning in 1843, City of Rocks was a landmark for emigrants on the California Trail and Salt Lake Alternate Trail and later on freight routes and the Kelton, Utah to Boise, Idaho stage route.

Contact Info: P.O. Box 169, Almo ID 83312

Phone: 208-824-5519

Website: <http://www.nps.gov/ciro/>

Hagerman Fossil Bed National Monument

Established: 1988. Hagerman Fossil Beds NM contains the largest concentration of Hagerman Horse fossils in North America. The Monument is internationally significant because it protects the world's richest known fossil deposits from a time period called the late Pliocene epoch, 3.5 million years ago. These plants and animals represent the last glimpse of time that existed before the Ice Age, and the earliest appearances of modern flora and fauna.

Contact Info: P.O. Box 570, 221 North State Street, Hagerman, ID 83332

Phone: 208-837-4793

Website: www.nps.gov/hafo/

National Parks, Monuments and Reserves (continued)

Hells Canyon National Recreation Area

Established: 1975. Hells Canyon, North America's deepest river gorge, encompasses a vast and remote region with dramatic changes in elevation, terrain, climate and vegetation. Carved by the great Snake River, Hells Canyon plunges more than a mile below Oregon's west rim, and 8,000 feet below snowcapped He Devil Peak of Idaho's Seven Devils Mountains. There are no roads across Hells Canyon's 10-mile wide expanse, and only three roads that lead to the Snake River between Hells Canyon Dam and the Oregon-Washington boundary.

Contact Info: Route 1, Box 270A, Enterprise, Oregon 97828

Phone: 503-523-6391

Website: www.fs.fed.us/hellscanyon/

Sawtooth National Recreation Area

Established: 1972. The SNRA, a part of the Sawtooth National Forest, is one of the most breathtakingly beautiful spots in Western America. Three classic mountain ranges with 40 peaks of 10,000 feet or higher provide scenic landscapes in every direction. More than 300 high mountain lakes are within the SNRA and hundreds of sparkling streams with the clarity of crystal. Headwater creeks of the Salmon River converge in the Sawtooth Valley to form this legendary "River of No Return." Although the heartland of the SNRA is a 217,000-acre wilderness, it is only part of the total 756,000-acre SNRA.

Contact Info: 2647 Kimberly Rd. East, Twin Falls, ID 83301

Phone: 208-733-3698

Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/sawtooth/>

California National Historic Trail

Established: 1992. The California Trail carried over 250,000 gold-seekers and farmers to the gold fields and rich farmlands of California during the 1840's and 1850's, the greatest mass migration in American history. Today, more than 1,000 miles of trail ruts and traces can still be seen in the vast undeveloped lands between Casper, Wyoming and the West Coast, reminders of the sacrifices, struggles, and triumphs of early American travelers and settlers. More than 240 historic sites along the trail will eventually be available for public use and interpretation. The California Trail system (more than 5,500 miles) was developed over a period of years, and numerous cutoffs and alternate routes were tried to see which was the "best" in terms of terrain, length and sufficient water and grass for livestock. The general route began at various jumping off points along the Missouri River and stretched to various points in California, Oregon, and the Sierra Nevada. The specific route that emigrants and forty-niners used depended on their starting point in Missouri, their final destination in California, the condition of their wagons and livestock, and yearly changes in water and forage along the different routes. The trail passes through the states of Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Oregon, and California.

Contact Info: City of Rocks National Reserve, PO Box 169, Almo ID 83312

Phone: 208-824-5519

Website: www.nps.gov/ciro/

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System was created in 1968 by Congress. Designation as a wild and scenic river is not designation as a national park. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act does not generally lock up a river like a wilderness designation, the goal is to preserve the character of a river. Uses compatible with the management goals of a particular river are allowed; change is expected to happen. Development not damaging to the outstanding resources of a designated river, or curtailing its free flow, are usually allowed. The term “living landscape” has been frequently applied to wild and scenic rivers. Of course, each river designation is different, and each management plan is unique.

Middle Fork of the Salmon

Designated Reach: October 2, 1968. From its origin to its confluence with the Main Salmon River.

Classification/Mileage: Wild — 103.0 miles; Recreational — 1.0 mile; Total — 104.0 miles.

One of the original eight rivers in the nation designated as Wild and Scenic on October 2, 1968, the Middle Fork of the Salmon River originates 20 miles northwest of Stanley, Idaho, with the merging of Bear Valley and Marsh Creeks. The designated segment extends 100 miles from Dagger Falls to the confluence of the Middle Fork and the Main Salmon. The river traverses northeast through the heart of Idaho and the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness, flowing through a canyon that is the third deepest in North America. The Middle Fork is one of the last free flowing tributaries of the Salmon River system. Because of its remote location, man’s presence in the area was somewhat limited, leaving it in the condition we see today. The Native Americans who occupied the Middle Fork drainage were known as The Sheepeaters. They gained their name from the bighorn sheep that were prevalent in the area and constituted much of their diet. White trappers, miners and settlers began coming into the area in the 1850’s. No road access was ever built, and all supplies came in by horseback. Floating the river began in the 20’s with a few adventurous souls who wanted to see beyond the rock wall canyon at Big Creek where the trail ended. Wildlife along the Middle Fork river is abundant due to the designation and isolation of the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. The river moves through a variety of climates and land types, from alpine forest to high mountain desert to sheer rock walled canyon, creating a wide variety of habitats. Deer, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, bear and cougar are just a few of the animals to make the area their home. The fishery is one of the best catch and release fly fisheries in the nation. The Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness occupies part of an extensive geological formation known as the Idaho Batholith. This formation, mainly granite, has been severely eroded, exposing underlying rock formations laid down during the Precambrian, Permian, Triassic, and Cretaceous periods.

Contact Info: Salmon-Challis National Forest
Middle Fork Ranger District
Post Office Box 750
Challis, Idaho 83226
www.nps.gov/rivers/wsr-salmon-middle.html

Salmon

Designated Reach: July 23, 1980. The segment of the main stem from the mouth of the North Fork of the Salmon River downstream to Long Tom Bar.

Classification/Mileage: Wild — 79.0 miles; Recreational — 46.0 miles; Total — 125.0 miles. Known as “The River of No Return,” the Salmon River is the longest free flowing river (425 miles) within one state in the lower 48. It originates in the Sawtooth and Lemhi Valleys of central

and eastern Idaho, and snows from the Sawtooth and Salmon River Mountains in the south, and the Clearwater and Bitterroot Mountains in the north, feed this wild river. The upper section passes through the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness, while the lower section forms the southern boundary of the Gospel-Hump Wilderness. The Salmon flows through a vast wilderness in the second deepest gorge on the continent. Only the Snake River (Hells) Canyon is deeper. The Salmon's granite-walled canyon is one-fifth of a mile deeper than the Grand Canyon. For approximately 180 miles, the Salmon Canyon is more than one mile deep. Largely due to this incredible wilderness, Congress designated 46 miles of the river, from North Fork to Corn Creek, as a recreational river and 79 miles, from Corn Creek to Long Tom Bar, as a wild river. From North Fork to Corn Creek, the spectacular canyon of the Salmon River has exposed some of the oldest known rocks in the state of Idaho. In the vicinity of Shoup, these rocks, called gneiss, have been dated as 1.5 billion years old. From Corn Creek to Long Tom Bar, the majority of the rocks exposed in the canyon walls are part of the Idaho Batholith. These rocks are generally called quartz monzonite and are approximately 65 million years old. The canyon itself was formed 35 to 45 million years ago. This rugged canyon provides habitat for an abundant and varied wildlife resource. The main stem of the Salmon River provides habitat for a variety of fish species. These include: cutthroat trout, bull trout, rainbow trout, mountain white fish, sockeye salmon, chinook salmon (spring/summer/fall run), steelhead, smallmouth bass, squawfish, sucker and sturgeon. The river offers high quality sportfishing for resident populations of cutthroat and rainbow trout, steelhead and whitefish. Evidence



"In a country where nature has been so lavish and where we have been so spendthrift of indigenous beauty, to set aside a few rivers in their natural state should be considered an obligation."

-- Senator Frank Church

Salmon River

Photo Courtesy: Laurie Draper

suggests that man first inhabited the Salmon River country 8,000 years ago. White man came to the Salmon river in the very early 1800's following Lewis and Clark's 1805 expedition. There are several Native American and pioneer historical sites to visit along the river corridor. Many, such as the Jim Moore place, an early mining claim, are on the National Register of Historic Places.

Contact Info: Salmon-Challis National Forest
North Fork Ranger District
Box 180
North Fork, Idaho 83466
www.nps.gov/rivers/wsr-salmon-main.html

Middle Fork of the Clearwater

Designated Reach: October 2, 1968. The Middle Fork from the town of Kooskia upstream to the town of Lowell. The Lochsa River from its confluence with the Selway River at Lowell (forming the Middle Fork) upstream to the Powell Ranger Station. The Selway River from Lowell upstream to its origin.

Classification/Mileage: Wild—54.0 miles; Recreational—131.0 miles; Total—185.0 miles. The Middle Fork Clearwater includes the Lochsa and Selway Rivers, premier whitewater rivers. Part of the exploration route of Lewis and Clark follows the Lochsa River. Most of the Selway lies in Idaho's Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. These rivers offer clear, clean water, beautiful scenery with great plant diversity, and abundant wildlife.

Contact Info: Clearwater National Forest
12730 Highway 12
Orofino, Idaho 83544

Nez Perce National Forest
Route 2, Box 475
Grangeville, Idaho 83530

Bitterroot National Forest
1801 North 1st Street
Hamilton, Montana 59840
www.nps.gov/rivers/wsr-clearwater.html

Rapid

Designated Reach: December 31, 1975. The segment from the headwaters of the main stem to the national forest boundary. The segment of the West Fork from the wilderness boundary downstream to the confluence with the main stem.

Classification/Mileage: Wild—26.8 miles; Total—26.8 miles.

The water quality of Rapid River is exceptional; the river contains three listed fish species, chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout, and associated critical habitat. The river's scenery is also outstanding; the steep gradient and narrow canyon focus the viewer's perspective on the fast-moving water and diverse riparian vegetation.

Contact Info: Nez Perce National Forest
Salmon River Ranger District
HC 01, Box 70
White Bird, Idaho 83554
www.nps.gov/rivers/wsr-rapid.html

Saint Joe

Designated Reach: November 10, 1978. The segment above the confluence of the North Fork of the St. Joe River to St. Joe Lake.

Classification/Mileage: Wild — 26.6 miles; Recreational — 39.7 miles; Total — 66.3 miles. This northern Idaho river offers outstanding scenery, good fishing, and plenty of wildlife. The river was originally named the “St. Joseph” by Father Pierre-Jean DeSmet, a Catholic priest who established a mission there.

Contact Info: Idaho Panhandle National Forest
3815 Schreiber Way
Coeur d’Alene, Idaho 83815
www.nps.gov/rivers/wsr-saint-joe.html

Snake

Designated Reach: December 1, 1975. The segment from Hells Canyon Dam downstream to an eastward extension of the north boundary of section 1, T5N, R47E, Willamette meridian.

Classification/Mileage: Wild — 32.5 miles; Scenic — 34.4 miles; Total — 66.9 miles
The Snake River likely got its name from the first white explorers who misinterpreted the sign made by the Shoshone people — who identified themselves in sign language by moving the hand in a swimming motion — which appeared to these explorers to be a “snake”; it actually signified that they lived near the river with many fish. In the 1950’s the name “Hells Canyon” was borrowed from Hells Canyon Creek, which enters the river near what is now Hells Canyon Dam. In the old days, Hells Canyon was known as Snake River Canyon or Box Canyon, though a few locals called it the “Grand Canyon of the Snake.” The Hells Canyon area was once home to Shoshone and Nez Perce tribes. According to the Nez Perce tribe, Coyote dug the Snake River Canyon in a day to protect the people on the west side of the river from the Seven Devils, a band of evil spirits living in the mountain range to the east. In the late nineteenth century, the military drove the Native Americans out and settlers began ranching and mining in the canyon. Today, boaters can explore archaeological sites and old homesteads, all part of the canyon’s rich, colorful history. Hells Canyon is one of the most imposing river gorges in the West. Until a million years ago, the Owyhee Mountains acted as a dam between the Snake River and its current confluence with the Columbia River, creating a vast lake in what is now southwestern Idaho. When the mountains were finally breached, the Snake roared northward, cutting a giant chasm through the volcanic rock. The resulting canyon, roughly ten miles across, is not as dramatic as the Grand Canyon. However, when the surrounding peaks are visible from the river, the sense of depth is tremendous. The adjacent ridges average 5,500’ above the river. He Devil Mountain, tallest of the Seven Devils (9,393’) towers almost 8,000’ above the river, creating the deepest gorge in the United States. The river is as big as the landscape. Below Hells Canyon Dam, the Snake usually carries more water than the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. Below the confluence with the Salmon River, flows average 35,000 cfs and often peak over 100,000 when the Salmon is high. Further downstream, the Clearwater and other rivers dump their flows into the Snake River, creating the Columbia River’s largest tributary.

Contact Info: Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
PO Box 907
Baker City OR 97814
www.nps.gov/rivers/wsr-snake.html

Source: National Wild & Scenic Rivers System
www.nps.gov/rivers/wildriverslist.html

NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

National Conservation Areas (NCAs) are designated by Congress to conserve, protect, enhance, and manage public land areas for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. NCAs feature exceptional natural, recreational, cultural, wildlife, aquatic, archeological, paleontological, historical, educational or scientific resources.

Birds of Prey Natural Area

Created: 1993

Along the Snake River, 20 miles south of Boise, Idaho, the NCA contains 485,000 acres. This includes 81 miles of the Snake River, 65,000 acres of critical nesting habitat, and 420,000 acres of prey habitat. A unique combination of climate, geology, soils, and vegetation has created a complete and stable ecosystem where predators and prey occur in extraordinary numbers. Canyon walls along the Snake River, ranging up to 600 feet high, provide abundant nest sites for birds of prey. Deep, wind blown soils cover expansive plateaus above the canyon. An unusual variety and high number of small mammals burrow in the fine textured soils, and find food and cover in the dense grasses and shrubs that grow on the plateau. Paiute ground squirrels are the most abundant burrowing species. Portions of the area support the densest ground squirrel populations ever recorded, they are the main prey of Prairie falcons. Blacktailed jackrabbits are an important prey species, especially for Golden eagles. Pocket gophers, kangaroo rats, and deer mice are also common prey species. The NCA contains the densest concentration of nesting birds of prey in North America, and one of the densest in the world, more than 700 pairs of raptors nest here, representing 15 species. The NCA's prairie falcon population represents a significant portion of the species population. In all, 259 wildlife species inhabit the area; 45 mammal, 165 bird, 8 amphibian, 16 reptile, and 25 fish species. The Snake River Canyon within the NCA contains some of the oldest and most remarkable Native American archaeological sites in Idaho. Over 200 sites are recorded, including numerous



"It is not possible to go in any direction from this area without losing several of the important characteristics that make up this remarkable situation. The soils change, the geology changes, the climate changes; and in no other area in the Northern Hemisphere do these combinations of factors occur to such benefit to the birds of prey." - Raptor expert Morley Nelson

outstanding petroglyphs. Human occupation has been dated to 10,000 B.C. In 1979 the Black Butte-Guffey Butte Archaeological District, located entirely within the NCA, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Portions of the Oregon National Historic Trail traverse the length of the NCA. Certain trail remnants are among the best preserved in the nation. The 1860's discovery of gold in the nearby Owyhee Mountains brought settlement to the area. Three sites from this period are on the National Register of Historic Places, including Swan Falls Dam (1901), the first hydroelectric dam on the Snake River.

Contact Info: Bureau of Land Management

Lower Snake River District
3948 Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705
208- 384-3300
www.birdsofprey.blm.gov/

NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARKS

The National Natural Landmarks Program recognizes and encourages the conservation of outstanding examples of our country's natural history. It is the only natural areas program of national scope that identifies and recognizes the best examples of biological and geological features in both public and private ownership. National Natural Landmarks (NNLs) are designated by the Secretary of the Interior, with the owner's concurrence. To date, fewer than 600 sites have been designated. The National Park Service administers the NNL Program, and if requested, assists NNL owners and managers with the conservation of these important sites. **NNLs are not National Parks. NNL status does not indicate public ownership, and many sites are not open for visitation.*

Big Southern Butte

Butte County - 37 miles northwest of Blackfoot. Designated 1976. Owner: Federal
The butte is composed of light-colored silicic volcanic rocks and stands nearly 760 meters above the low relief surface of the Eastern Snake River Plain. The site is an ecological "island" supporting vegetation such as lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*), aspen (*Populus sp.*), Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), and manzanita (*Arctostaphylos sp.*) not common to this region. The largest area of volcanic rocks of young age in the United States.

Big Springs

Fremont County - 54 miles northeast of Rexburg. Designated 1980. Owner: Federal
The springs emanate from rhyolite lava flows of the Madison Plateau, which comprise one of the largest rhyolite lava fields in the United States. Big Springs is the only first magnitude spring in the United States that issues forth from rhyolitic lava flows. It is the source of the South Fork of the Henry's Fork River.

Cassia Silent City of Rocks

Cassia County. Designated 1974. Owner: Federal, State and Private.
Contains monolithic landforms created by exfoliation processes on exposed massive granite plutons, and the best example of bornhardts in the country.

Crater Rings

Elmore County. Designated 1980. Owner: Federal
Two adjacent and symmetrical pit craters that are among the few examples of this type of crater

in the continental United States. The pit craters, which are volcanic conduits in which the lava column rises and falls, were formed by explosions followed by collapse.

Great Rift System

Blaine County and extends into Minidoka and Power Counties - 43 miles northwest of Pocatello. Designated 1968. Owner: Federal

As a tensional fracture in the Earth's crust that may extend to the crust-mantle interface, the Great Rift System is unique in North America and has few counterparts in the world. It also illustrates primary vegetation succession on very young lava flows.

Hagerman Fauna Sites

Twin Falls County - West and southwest of Hagerman. Designated 1975. Owner: Federal and State.

Contains the world's richest deposits of Upper Pliocene Age terrestrial fossils, therefore considered to be of international significance.

Hell's Half Acre Lava Field

Bingham County and extends into Bonneville County - The center of the site is 20 miles west of Idaho Falls. Designated 1976. Owner: Federal and State

A complete, young, unweathered, fully exposed pahoehoe lava flow and an outstanding example of pioneer vegetation establishing itself on a lava flow.

Hobo Cedar Grove Botanical Area

Shoshone County - 12 miles northeast of Clarkia. Designated 1980. Owner: Federal.

An outstanding example of pristine western red cedar forest. Two communities are represented: cedar/Oregon boxwood on the uplands and cedar/fern on the lowlands.

Menan Buttes

Jefferson County and extends into Madison County. Designated 1980. Owner: Federal and Private.

Contains outstanding examples of glass tuff cones, which are found in only a few places in the world. Their large size and unusual composition make them particularly illustrative of an unusual aspect of basaltic volcanism.

Niagara Springs

Gooding County. Designated 1980. Owner: Private.

The least developed of the large springs discharging into the Snake River from the Snake River Plain aquifer system. It is outstandingly illustrative of the enormous volume of water transmitted through this aquifer.

Sheep Rock

Adams County - In Payette National Forest, 35 miles northwest of Council and two miles east of the Snake River. Designated 1976. Owner: Federal

Provides the best view of the horizontally layered lavas that represent successive flows on the Columbia River Basalt Plateau, and an unobstructed view of two contrasting series of volcanic rocks separated by a major unconformity—an important geologic phenomenon.

Source: National Park Service, Dept of the Interior
www.nature.nps.gov/nnl/

NATIONAL HISTORIC AND RECREATION TRAILS

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail Elevations range from 7,000 to 11,000 feet. From Summit Lake Trail in Yellowstone National Park, the trail meanders along the Idaho-Montana border for 80 miles through the Beaverhead National Forest. The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail does not actually go through Idaho, but rather runs along the border of Idaho and Montana. It runs through the rugged and beautiful Beaverhead Range, then east through the Centennial Mountains. Address: Continental Divide Trail Alliance, P.O. Box 628, Pine, CO 80470 Phone: 888-909-CDTA

Hull's Gulch National Recreation Trail Hulls Gulch-Crestline This trail branches off to at least three other Ridges to Rivers trails in the Boise Front. Fun and smooth trails. Address: Bureau of Land Management Boise District Office, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, ID 83706 Phone: (208) 384-3300

Idaho Centennial Trail The Idaho Centennial Trail travels 1200 miles from the Canadian border to the border with Nevada. It passes through all the ecological zones of the state: old growth cedar groves, clear glacial lakes, precipitous and rugged peaks, deep forests carpeted with ferns, granite spires, rushing rivers, and sagebrush steppes. The wildlife varies with the landscape, and adventurers may encounter just about any species in Idaho. The rivers and lakes are uniformly filled with game fish; raptors and waterfowl nest along the waterways. The forests are home to big game, from bighorn sheep and mountain goats to deer, elk, and moose. The expansive sage grasslands offer habitat to antelope, pheasant, grouse, and other upland game birds. The trail includes single track trails, jeep trails, and dirt roads, so any kind of user can appreciate the best that Idaho has to offer. The trail branches in the center of the state, so those on mountain bikes, snowmobiles, ATVs or trail bikes have a non-wilderness alternative. From Murphy Hot Springs at the Nevada state line to Upper Priest Falls, near the Canadian border. Enroute it passes through the Owyhee Uplands, the Sawtooth National Forest and National Recreation Area, the Challis, Boise, Payette and Nez Perce National Forests, the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness, the Clearwater National Forest, and the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. Address: Idaho Trails Council, PO Box 1629, Sun Valley, ID 83353 Phone: 208-622-3046

Lewis and Clark National Trail The Lewis and Clark Expedition, which occurred from 1804 to 1806, was one of the most dramatic and significant episodes in the history of the United States. It stands, incomparably, as our nation's epic in documented exploration of the American West. On the journey to the Pacific Ocean, the Lewis and Clark Expedition passed through north central Idaho. There are several historic sites and trails.: **Traveller's Rest:** Campsites of September 9-10, 1805, and June 30, 1806, near present-day Lolo, Montana. **Campsites of September 11 and 12, 1805:** Along present-day Lolo Creek in Montana. **Lolo Hot Springs:** A resort today. **Packer Meadows:** The site where the Expedition rested on the return trip. Find it just east of the visitor center at Lolo Pass. **Glade Creek Camp:** The site where the Expedition camped on September 13, 1805, a mile from the Lolo Pass Visitor Center and a few hundred yards off Forest Service Road 5670. **Colt Killed Camp:** The site where the Expedition camped on September 14, 1805. It's at the Powell Ranger Station. Here the Expedition, unable to find game in the mountain, killed a young horse for food. **Whitehouse Pond:** The small pond named by Private Whitehouse and noted in his journal. From here the Expedition left the river bottom and climbed up a steep ridge to the mountains to the north. A visitor seeking the true Lewis and Clark experience can hike a five-mile trail up that ridge line. **Sites accessible from Kamiah or Weippe:** Along well-maintained gravel roads near Weippe. **Salmon Trout Camp:** The site where the Corps camped June 18, 1806, waiting for the snows

to melt in the high country. Short of food as they had been unsuccessful at hunting, they shot at several salmon a number of times without success. **Small Prairie Camp:** The site where the Corps camped June 15, 1806, in a hard rain. **Lewis and Clark Grove:** The site where Captain Clark, with five hunters, camped September 19, 1805, after coming 22 miles "...over a mountain, ...through much falling timber (which caused our road of to day to be double the direct distance on the course)..." **Pheasant Camp:** The site where the main party under Captain Lewis camped September 21, 1805. Lewis wrote, "...we killed a few pheasants..." **Weippe:** The site where Clark came across a few Nez Perce Indians near present-day Weippe on September 20, 1805. Today the site of the meeting is commemorated with a highway sign. The route along the ridge line followed by the Expedition is visible to the east. Location: Lolo Pass at the Montana Border on U.S. Hwy. 12. Address: Lewiston Chamber of Commerce, 111 Main St. # 120, Lewiston, ID 83501 Phone: 208-743-3531

Nee-Me-Poo (Nez Perce) National Historical Trail In the summer of 1877, the Nez Perce were forced to move to a reservation, and a small band, some led by Chief Joseph, resisted. After repeated treaties had been broken, a small group of Nez Perce warriors lost patience and killed some particularly unfriendly settlers. Fearing retribution, the band fled through Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana, seeking refuge in Canada. They were pursued doggedly by the US Army and several volunteers, and eventually caught after fleeing over 1500 miles in three and a half months. Location: In its 1,170-mile route toward Canada, the trail runs from Wallowa Lake, Oregon to the Bear Paws Mountains in northern Montana, and passes through the states of Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana, crossing tribal, private, county, state, and Federal lands. Address: Nez Perce National Historic Trail Foundation, P.O. Box 20197, Missoula, MT 59807 Phone: 406-728-7649

Oregon Trail National Historic Trail In the mid-1800s, thousands of pioneers followed the Oregon Trail 2,000 miles from Missouri to Oregon in search of a better life. However, the Oregon Trail was never just one route. The Idaho portion of the Oregon Trail crossed deserts, mountains, and dangerously turbulent or deep rivers. Some emigrants deviated from the main trail in search of water and livestock forage, while others found shortcuts and better routes to avoid difficult terrain. Two segments of the primary route, North Trail and Sinker Creek, are located in southwestern Idaho, and visitors today can still see original wagon ruts. Interpretive sites at Bonneville Point, 16 miles southeast of Boise, and at the Milner Site, 4 miles west of Burley, explain the challenges faced by courageous pioneers. Natural landmarks on the Oregon Trail include: **Smith's Fort:** Trading post owned by mountain man Peg Leg Smith who supplied travelers 1848-1849. **Sheep Rock:** Named for mountain sheep seen by early travelers. Now called Soda Point, it is not far from the modern town of Soda Springs. Hudspeth's Cutoff branches from the main trail here. **Soda Springs:** Steamboat Spring and Beer Spring were dubbed the Soda Springs because they bubbled out of the ground. Now covered by the Soda Point Reservoir. The modern town of Soda Springs gets its name from these springs. **American Falls:** These falls were mentioned in the diaries of immigrants traveling the trails. **Massacre Rocks:** 25 families from Iowa were attacked here August, 1862. **Fort Hall:** Founded in 1834 by Nathaniel Wyeth. Later purchased by the Hudson's Bay Company. Abandoned in 1856. **Twin Springs:** A welcome end to a stretch of desert along Hudspeth's Cutoff. **City of Rocks:** Formations of soft granite. **Salmon Falls:** Famous Indian fishing spot where travelers traded for fresh food. Not the same location as the modern town of Salmon. **Twin Falls:** Side by side waterfalls are as good as their name. **Shoshone Falls:** An impressive waterfall dropping into the Snake River Canyon. Worth a side trip by wagon or car. **Thousand Springs:** A series of waterfalls coming from the wall of the Snake River Canyon. **Three Island Crossing:** Three small islands in the Snake River give this river ford its name. **Hot Springs:** East of the modern town of Mountain Home. Not the same hot spring as Lava Hot Springs. **Givens Hot Springs:** On the southern alternate route. **Fort Boise:** Established in 1834 by the Hudson's Bay

Company. The trail in Idaho leads from the southeastern corner of the state, through the central part of the state along the Snake River, near Boise and into Oregon. Address: Bureau of Land Management State Office, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise, ID 83709

Pacific Northwest Trail This northern country is a land of glaciers, giant sturgeon, gold stampedes, canal-building schemes, hot springs, and pioneer fortitude. This section of the trail is open to horses, mountain bikes, and hikers. Location: From Montana, on the Kootenai River, north around Priest Lake to Washington. The entire trail goes from Waterton, Alberta (Canada) 1100 miles to Cape Alava in Washington. Address: Pacific Northwest Trail Association, P.O. Box 1817, Mount Vernon, WA 98273 Phone: 360-424-0407

Whoop-Um-Up National Recreation Trail 5800-foot elevation. Cross-country ski trail. This is an Idaho Park 'N Ski area requiring a pass to park here. Some sections of this 6.6 mile trail, particularly the downhill sections of the creek trail, are relatively challenging and require advanced skiing skills. Other areas are suitable for intermediate to expert skiers. A rest room and plowed parking area is shared with snowmobilers. The trail is marked but not groomed. A backcountry yurt provides shelter and warmth. 18 miles northeast of Idaho City on ID 21. Address: Idaho City Ranger District, Boise National Forest, P.O. Box 129, Idaho City, ID 83631

William Pogue National Recreation Trail 3400-foot elevation. Trail splits at trailhead. One branch heads east along Sheep Creek to connect with the Roaring River Trail (11 miles). The other branch goes due south, following Corral Creek and meeting Forest Road 221 (8.5 miles). Both sections are open to bikes, motorcycles, horses, and hikers. Spurs off the William Pogue trail are Lava Mountain, Lower Lava Mountain, and Devils Creek, which all branch off to the south from the Sheeps Creek section. Information at trailhead kiosk. From Boise, go 17 miles north on ID 21, then 26 miles east on Forest Road 268, around the Arrowrock Reservoir. Address: Mountain Home Ranger District, Boise National Forest, 2180 American Legion Blvd., Mountain Home, ID 83647

Wright Creek National Recreation Trail This trail runs northwesterly for 9 miles in the Elkhorn Mountain Range from Summit Campground to Reed Canyon. Fantastic views of Elkhorn Peak, at 9095 feet. This trail is a scenic route open to year round recreational use. This trail can be done as a loop by returning other area trails. Hunting for mule deer in the fall. There is a stock loading ramp in the parking lot for equestrians. Trailhead at Summit Campground, just west of I-15. Address: Malad Ranger District, Caribou National Forest, 75 South 140 East Malad, ID 83252 Phone: 208-766-4743

Source: Public Lands Information Center
www.publiclands.org/

NATIONAL WILDLIFE AREAS

Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Wildlife Refuge System preserves a network of lands and waters set aside for the conservation and management of the nation's fish, wildlife, and plant resources for the benefit of present and future generations. Information can be obtained from the following sources:

Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge

PO Box 9, Montpelier, ID 83254
208-847-1757

The refuge is located 7 miles SW of Montpelier. *Primary Wildlife:* Especially important as a nesting area for white-faced ibis, Canada geese and redhead ducks. Also a nesting, resting and feeding area for ducks, greater sandhill cranes, and a variety of water and shorebirds. *Habitat:* 19,000 acres of marsh, open water, and grasslands at an elevation of 5,900 feet in the mountain-ringed Bear Lake Valley. The marsh is drawn down severely for agriculture in late summer and is covered with ice in winter. *Recreation and Education:* Wildlife observation, study and photography. Waterfowl hunting.

Camas National Wildlife Refuge

2150 East 2350 North
Hamer, Idaho 83425
208-662-5423

Primary Wildlife: Nesting, resting, and feeding areas for ducks, geese, trumpeter swans, and song birds. Also, moose, mule deer, and white-tailed deer. *Habitat:* 10,578 acres of marshes, meadows, and uplands. *Recreation and Education:* Wildlife observation, study, and photography; waterfowl hunting; upland game bird hunting

Deer Flat

13751 Upper Embankment Road
Nampa 83686
208-467-9278

Provides an important breeding area for birds and mammals, as well as other wildlife. The refuge is also a significant resting and wintering area for birds migrating along the Pacific Flyway, including spectacular concentrations of mallards and Canada geese. Because of its value to birds, Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge has been declared a Globally Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy. Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge has two sectors—Lake Lowell and the Snake River Islands. The Lake Lowell sector encompasses 10,588 acres, including the almost 9,000-acre Lake Lowell and surrounding lands. The Snake River Islands sector contains about 800 acres on 101 islands. These islands are distributed along 113 river miles from the Canyon-Ada County Line in Idaho, to Farewell Bend in Oregon. Deer Flat, founded by President Teddy Roosevelt on February 25, 1909, is one of the oldest refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Grays Lake

74 Grays Lake Road
Wayan, Idaho 83285
(208) 574-2755

Primary Wildlife: The largest nesting population of greater sandhill cranes in the world. Nesting area for Canada geese and a variety of diving and dabbling ducks. Franklin's gulls nest in large colonies and may reach nearly 40,000 in some years. These colonies also attract large numbers of nesting white-faced ibis. *Habitat:* 18,330 acres of high mountain

marsh at the foot of Caribou Mountain. *Recreation and Education:* Wildlife observation, study, and photography, Waterfowl hunting, Wildflower bloom peaks around mid-June, Foot traffic (including cross country skiing and snow shoeing) is allowed on the northern half of the refuge from October 10 - March 31.

Kootenai

HCR 60 Box 283
Bonners Ferry, Idaho 838052
208-267-3888

Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge is located in Idaho's Panhandle approximately 20 miles south of the Canadian border and 5 miles west of Bonners Ferry, Idaho (map). This 2,774 acre refuge was established in 1965, primarily to provide important habitat and a resting area for migrating waterfowl. The Refuge is comprised of a wide variety of habitat types. Wetlands, meadows, riparian forests and cultivated agricultural fields (for producing valuable wildlife food crops) are interspersed in the valley bottom adjacent to the west banks of the Kootenai River. Wetlands include open-water ponds, seasonal cattail-bulrush marshes, tree-lined ponds and rushing creeks. The western portion of the refuge ascends the foothills of the scenic Selkirk Mountains which consists of dense stands of coniferous trees and tranquil riparian forests. Over 300 different species of wildlife can be found on Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge, indicating the richness and diversity this area holds. The refuge not only serves as valuable habitat for resident and migratory wildlife, but provides a nice stopping point for visitors to get out and enjoy some of the vast natural beauty Boundary County has to offer.

Minidoka

961 E. Minidoka Dam
Rupert, Idaho 83350
(208) 436-3589

Primary Wildlife: Up to 100,000 ducks and geese are present during spring and fall migrations. Migrating tundra swans can be seen in spring in shallow bays and shores of the lake. Bald eagles, golden eagles, hawks, and owls are frequently seen. Mule deer are year-round residents and pronghorn antelope are occasionally seen. *Habitat:* 20,721 acres, including 11,000 surface acres of Lake Walcott, which is created by the Bureau of Reclamation's Minidoka Dam. An abundance of aquatic vegetation is found in small bays and inlets of the lake. Surrounding uplands are typical sagebrush and grassland. ***Recreation and Education:*** Wildlife observation, study, and photography, Waterfowl and resident game bird hunting, Trout fishing

Oxford Slough Waterfowl Production Area

Southeast Idaho Refuge Complex
4425 Burley Drive, Suite A
Chubbuck, Idaho 83202
(208) 237-6615

Primary Wildlife: Especially important as nesting area for redhead ducks. Nesting ducks and a variety of waterbirds including a colony of white-faced ibises. *Habitat:* 1,878 acres of marshes, meadows, and uplands. *Recreation and Education:* Wildlife observation, study, and photography, Waterfowl hunting, Limited upland game bird hunting.

Source: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<http://refuges.fws.gov/>

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

National Historic Landmarks are nationally significant historic places designated by the Secretary of the Interior because they possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. Today, fewer than 2,500 historic places bear this national distinction. Working with citizens throughout the nation, the National Historic Landmarks Program draws upon the expertise of National Park Service staff who work to nominate new landmarks and provide assistance to existing landmarks.

U.S. Assay Office

210 Main Street, Boise, ID 83702

Designation: May 8, 1965

The Boise Assay Office was erected by the U.S. Government in 1870-71. The building is a symbol of the importance of mining in the political, social, economic and legal development of Idaho and the Far West. In operation from 1872 to 1933, it is one of the most significant public buildings remaining from Idaho's territorial days. In 1972 the Idaho State Historical Society assumed ownership, it is presently being used as offices and a museum.

Bear River Massacre Site

Preston, Franklin County, ID

Designation: June 21, 1999

On January 29, 1863, California Volunteers under the command of Col. Patrick Edward Conner attacked a band of Northwestern Shoshone. The bloodiest encounter between Native American and white men to take place in the West in the years between 1848 and 1891, Bear River Massacre resulted in the deaths of almost 300 Shoshone and 14 soldiers.

Camas Meadows Battle Site

Kilgore, Clark County, ID

Designation: April 11, 1989

On August 19, 1877, the military force led by Maj. Gen. Oliver O. Howard which had been pursuing the Nez Perce since their departure from Clearwater, was in a position to intercept them in their flight to Canada. Here, on August 20, a predawn raid by Nez Perce warriors succeeded in capturing most of Howard's pack mules, forcing the army to halt until more mules and supplies could be secured, which resulted in a time-consuming detour. The army's delay made it possible for the Nez Perce to escape into Yellowstone Park and Montana. Their remarkable journey toward Canada continued for six weeks longer as a result of this raid.

Cataldo Mission

Cataldo, Kootenai County, ID

Designation: July 4, 1961

Built around 1850 by Jesuit missionaries and Coeur d'Alene Indians, this log and adobe church with Baroque and Greek Revival details is the oldest surviving church in the Pacific Northwest and also the oldest structure in Idaho. The mission restoration project was completed in 1975 and is now a museum administered by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation.

City of Rocks

Near Almo in Cassia County

Designation: July 19, 1964

A popular stopping point on the California Trail named for its strange resemblance to a city skyline scattered across Graham and Circle Creeks and their basins and rising against a backdrop of wooded mountainsides, this complex provided westbound emigrants a refreshing contrast to the extensive sagebrush plains surrounding it. Thousands of emigrants camped here, leaving still-visible wagon rut tracks. The site is now a State Park and National Reserve.

Experimental Breeder Reactor #1

Near Arco, Butte County

Designation: December 21, 1965

On December 20, 1951, the EBR-1 produced the first usable amounts of electricity created by nuclear means; in July 1963, it was the first reactor to achieve a self-sustaining chain reaction using plutonium instead of uranium as the major component in the fuel. In addition, the EBR-1 was the first reactor to demonstrate the feasibility of using liquid metal at high temperatures as a reactor coolant.

Fort Hall

Bannock County

Designation: January 20, 1961

Fort Hall is the most important trading post in the Snake River Valley and is known for its important association with overland migration on the Oregon-California Trails. In the 1860s and 1870s it was a key road junction for the overland stage, mail and freight lines to the towns and camps of the mining frontier in the Pacific Northwest.

Lemhi Pass

Tendoy, Lemhi County, ID

Designation: October 9, 1960

On August 12, 1805, when he reached the summit of this pass, Meriwether Lewis stood on the boundary of newly-acquired Louisiana Purchase, looking west to the snow-capped peaks of the Bitterroot and Salmon River Ranges, into what was then Spanish territory. Situated on a remote section of the Beaverhead Range, at an elevation of 7373' above sea level, Lemhi Pass was the point where the Lewis and Clark Expedition crossed the Continental Divide.

Lolo Trail

Lolo Hot Springs, Clearwater County, ID

Designation: October 9, 1960

When, after reaching Lemhi Pass and crossing the Continental Divide, navigation of the Salmon River proved impossible, Lewis and Clark determined to use one of the several trails over the mountains used by the Nez Perce in their annual journeys to the buffalo plains in the east. The Lolo Trail, used by the explorers to cross the Bitterroot Mountains in September 1805, represents probably the most arduous single stretch of the entire route travelled by the expedition.

Weippe Prairie

Weippe, Clearwater County, ID

Designation: May 23, 1966

On the morning of September 20, 1805, an advance party of the Lewis and Clark Expedition came out of the Bitterroot Mountains onto the southeastern corner of Weippe Prairie, the western terminus of the Lolo Trail and long a favored source of camas root for the Nez Perce Indians. Here, the expedition first encountered the Nez Perce, who had never before seen white men. The Nez Perce gave the explorers food as well as much-needed help and direction during the 2 -1/2 week period spent in their territory.

Source: National Historic Landmarks Programs
www.cr.nps.gov/nhl/

IDAHO HISTORIC SITES

The Idaho State Historical Society oversees historic sites at four locations in the state which are operated in conjunction with local support groups.

Old Idaho Penitentiary

The territorial prison was built east of Boise in 1870. The penitentiary grew from a single cellhouse into a complex of several distinctive buildings surrounded by a high sandstone wall. Convicts quarried the stone from a nearby ridges and completed all the later construction. Over its century of operation, the penitentiary received more than 13,000 convicts, of whom 215 were women. Spurred in part by conditions that sparked a general riot in 1971 and an even more severe riot in 1973, the inmate population was moved to a modern penitentiary south of Boise and the Old Idaho Penitentiary was closed on December 3, 1973. After the Penitentiary closed in 1973, the site was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

2245 Old Penitentiary Road, Boise, ID 83712
208-334-2844

Rock Creek Station and Stricker Homesite

Rock Creek has formed a refuge for Native Americans, explorers, and pioneers traveling through south central Idaho for centuries. The availability of water and plant life was a natural draw to voyagers and those in search of a permanent settlement. In the 1840s, settlers followed the Oregon Trail to the Oregon country, Rock Creek was a popular camping spot and wagon ruts can still be seen there. In the 1860s Rock Creek became a stop on what became the Kelton Wagon Road. In 1864, Lava Creek became a stage station between Salt Lake City and Walla Walla, WA. The original station consisted of a lava-rock building that served as a hotel and barn. In 1865 a store was built at the site. A small community grew up around the business. Railroad construction boosted the prosperity of Rock Creek for a period of time. In 1884 The Oregon Short Line Railroad was constructed across the river from Rock Creek and ultimately contributed to a decline in the community's importance. The small log store building that was the **Rock Creek Store** remains intact at the west end of the site. A **dry cellar** used for storage of food and supplies, as a jail and reportedly as protection from Indians is located just north of the store. It was created by utilizing a natural depression in the basalt and enlarging it by removing additional rock. Poles and a dirt roof were added to complete the structure. Also located north of the store is a **wet cellar** that was used to store saloon supplies. It is also a semi-subterranean structure. The foundation of the **Stage Station** is still visible east of the dry and wet cellars. Lava rock markers outline the location of the former **China House**, a small building which was located east of the store and may have been used as an opium parlor or store that sold Chinese merchandise. Beyond mining, Chinese settlers tended gardens and sold vegetables at the site. Eventually, open hostility from other residents and restrictive immigration laws, such as the Exclusion Act of 1882, forced the Chinese to leave the area. Herman Stricker homesteaded at Rock Creek in 1876 and eventually acquired 960 acres. The original six-room log cabin burned down in 1900. Later that year the family built a new home which still exists today on the southeast corner of the Rock Creek site. The 1916 11-room structure was constructed of hand-hewn lumber hauled from Albion. The upper floor of the **Stricker House** served as a hotel for travelers, cowboys, and engineers and surveyors during construction of the Milner Dam and the Twin Falls Canal. Located on a five-acre piece of private land west of the Rock Creek site the **cemetery** contains graves dating from 1874 to 1897.

Franklin Historic Properties

The town of Franklin was founded in the spring of 1860 by Mormon pioneers moving north through the Cache Valley of Utah. Sixty-one families built small cabins along the Cub River (then called the Muddy River) and commenced farming. Settlers fanned out to establish new communities in northern Cache Valley. These early pioneers believed they were still in Utah, and not until 1872 did an official boundary survey fix the Idaho-Utah border a mile south of where Franklin was established. **Relic Hall** was built in 1936-1937 from timber provided by the U.S. Forest Service and labor by Civilian Conservation Corps crews for use as a museum. The **Franklin Cooperative Mercantile Building**, believed to have been constructed in 1870, stands on the east side of the Relic Hall and is probably the best preserved early commercial building in Idaho. It is still used as an adjunct display area to the Relic Hall. The **Hatch House**: in 1872, Lorenzo Hill Hatch built his elegant stone house on one of Franklin's largest lots on Main Street, across from the city square. Hatch was the town's temporal and spiritual leader from 1863 to 1875. He was the second Mormon bishop and first mayor of Franklin. He was also the first Mormon legislator in Idaho. The stone Greek Revival house was occupied by descendants of Bishop Hatch until the 1940s. It was acquired by the Historical Society in 1979. The Relic Hall is open to the public from Memorial Day through Labor Day and other times by appointment. The Franklin Cooperative Mercantile Building, which primarily houses Mormon history of a local and denominational nature, is open periodically, mostly by appointment. The Hatch House is closed.

Pierce Courthouse

On January 8, 1861, the Washington Legislature established Shoshone County and made Pierce the county seat. By that summer, thousands of gold seekers poured into the Nez Perce country, which had been set aside as a reservation in 1855, and the town became a boisterous mining town in what was then Washington Territory. At first, the county commissioners met and court proceedings were held in rented rooms. Private citizens were paid to provide room and board for prisoners. In 1862, Shoshone County built a courthouse at Pierce. The county remained a part of Washington Territory until Idaho Territory was established in 1863. By then roads, towns, farms, and dwellings were scattered across the landscape, and that year a new treaty reduced the Nez Perce reservation to less than one tenth its original size. The Pierce Courthouse served governmental needs until 1885, when the county seat was moved to Murray.

Source: Idaho Historic Sites Office 208/334-2844
www.idahohistory.net

FISHING IN IDAHO

Idaho is famous for its fishing. More than 10 world-class blue-ribbon wild trout streams, including the Henrys Fork, Silver Creek and the St. Joe River, are scattered throughout the state. Many other high-quality trout streams exist that don't get the headlines and the crowds. Idaho's rugged mountains contain more than 1,500 high mountain lakes with good trout fishing. Numerous large natural lakes and reservoirs provide a wide variety of fishing opportunities for warm and cold-water species. In contrast to some states, most Idaho fishing waters are located in the public domain, and are open to the public. Access is free.

Family Fishing Waters

In response to anglers' requests for more family-oriented fishing opportunities and simplified rules, Fish and Game has developed Family Fishing Water regulations. In these areas there are year-around seasons, a general six-fish limit for trout, bass, walleye and pike and no bag limit on other species. There are no length limits or tackle requirements.

Salmon and Steelhead

Idaho is the only inland western state with ocean-run salmon and steelhead, and when conditions are right, the hatchery part of these runs provide an exciting fishing experience. State records are 54 pounds for salmon and 30 pounds, 2 ounces for steelhead.

HUNTING IN IDAHO

Idaho has some of the best and most varied hunting in the west! From the trophy species of moose, bighorn sheep and mountain goat to the more often hunted deer (mule deer AND whitetails), elk and antelope, Idaho covers it all. We hunt black bear and mountain lions too, and a variety of upland game, turkeys and waterfowl. Licenses and tags are available over the counter for almost every species. There are outfitters if you need them. The state is two-thirds public land and a new Fish and Game program called Access Yes! is opening up more private land every year. Idaho has it all!

Fish and Game License and Tag Sales Number Sold

Description	FY 1999	FY 2004	Change 99 to 04	Percent Change
Resident Combination	137,399	121,558	(15,841)	(10.6%)
Resident Sportsman's Package	15,315	18,502	3,187	19.5%
Resident Fishing	129,396	118,592	(10,804)	(7.5%)
Resident Hunting	57,046	59,704	2,658	4.7%
Resident Miscellaneous Licenses	4,445	21,182	16,737	259.9%
Non-resident Combination	0	1,641	1,641	812.4%
Non-resident Fishing	21,853	19,531	(2,322)	(9.7%)
Non-resident Hunting	26,107	25,351	(756)	(2.7%)
Non-resident Misc. Licenses	5,901	20,015	14,114	207.6%
1-Day Fishing Licenses	153,898	119,786	(34,112)	(20.5%)
Resident Tags	268,418	278,790	10,372	3.8%
Non-Resident Tags	26,238	34,201	7,963	27.2%
Upland Game/Waterfowl	91,614	0	(91,614)	(99.7%)
Miscellaneous Permits	131,888	180,851	48,963	32.8%
Total	1,069,518	1,019,704	(49,814)	(4.4%)

Source: *Idaho Fiscal Facts*, 2004

