



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Niobrara National Scenic
River

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Niobrara National Scenic River News Release

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Regulations Established for Niobrara National Scenic River

Regulations are now in effect for Niobrara National Scenic River as implemented in the 2009 Superintendent's Compendium.

"The Niobrara is one of the rare jewels of our nation and has been set aside for public enjoyment," said Superintendent Dan Foster. "However, the unique values of the Scenic River also require protection for this and future generations. The Superintendent's Compendium is intended to help the visitor to have a memorable experience while maintaining the outstanding qualities for which the River was included as a part of America's National Park Service."

These regulations are designed to increase the safety of river users, protect nature and to reiterate existing laws that apply to the waters of the National Scenic River. The mission of Niobrara National Scenic River is to protect the free-flowing river, water quality, scenic beauty, geology, fish, wildlife and fossil resources as well as the outstanding recreation experiences for which the river was named a national treasure.

The public is encouraged to read the full text of the compendium, which includes the reason for each regulation.

Among the regulations that apply to the river waters include:

No glass containers or Styrofoam coolers

No large volume alcohol containers (kegs) or rapid alcohol delivery devices (beer bongs)

No Mardi-Gras style beads

No stock tanks used as watercraft

No dry ice

Group size limits of 10 individuals with vessels lashed together

Copies of the new rules are available on the web at www.nps.gov/niob. Copies may also be picked up at the National Park Service office in Valentine, or read at local river outfitters.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

The Compendium was revised for clarity with input from the public, including landowners, river outfitters, partners, and concerned citizens.

You might see some stock tanks on the river this year, under a temporary special use permit issued by the National Park Service. This and other regulations will be discussed in future river management planning process.