

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK
TORREY, UTAH**

Superintendent's Compendium

A compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements and other regulations enacted under the discretionary authority granted to the park Superintendent under Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

The regulations contained in this compendium are a supplement to those already codified in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, and are in addition to other federal and state laws applicable within Capitol Reef National Park.

Signature on file

Albert J. Hendricks
Superintendent

6/27/2012

Date

SECTION 1.5 – CLOSURES AND PUBLIC USE LIMITS

1.5(a)(1) - Visiting hours, public use limits, closures

All park roads are subject to temporary closure during periods of adverse weather, natural disaster, emergency, or implementation of management responsibility, as indicated by signs, locked gates, or other means of notification. Driving a vehicle on closed roads is prohibited.

Service and administrative roads that are designated by signs and/or locked gates are closed to all vehicle traffic except those on official government business.

All roads within the boundary of the park are closed to the use of off-highway vehicles defined by Utah Criminal and Traffic Code, Section 42-22-2 as All-terrain type I and All-terrain type II vehicles. This definition includes any vehicle registered as a "street legal ATV/UTV" and/or eligible for a state ATV/UTV registration sticker. Motorcycles designed, equipped, and licensed for highway use are not included in this restriction.

Backcountry trails may be temporarily closed when trail conditions are such that use may be hazardous to the visiting public (e.g., rockslides, flash flooding). Visitors shall be advised of such closures by the posting of signs at trailheads, trail junctions and/or other appropriate locations. Entering a closed trail is prohibited.

Between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., on nights the campground is posted as full, entry into the campground is limited to registered campers and their vehicles.

Administrative buildings and areas are closed to the public except during ordinary business hours, when invited by park staff, or to report bona fide emergencies. The housing area is open to the public only when invited by park staff or residents or to report bona fide emergencies.

The Capitol Reef Field Station (CRFS) facilities and grounds are closed to the general public except during scheduled public events or for participants involved with scheduled activities. For purposes of this closure, the CRFS and grounds include the access road and mesa-top where the buildings are located, and the CRFS well site.

Other portions of Capitol Reef National Park are subject to closure or restriction of public activities if the Superintendent or his/her designated representative determine that such closure or restriction is necessary to avoid risk to public safety or damage to the natural, cultural, scenic, or aesthetic resources of the park. Such closures will be lifted upon termination of the condition that precipitated the closure (e.g., rockslide, flash flood). Entering a closed area is prohibited.

Fenced orchards with the gates locked are closed to public entry.

Pastures containing park horses are closed to public entry.

The section of cliffs and talus slopes north of Utah Highway 24 between the Fruita Schoolhouse (mile 80.1) and the east end of the Petroglyph boardwalk is closed to entry.

The top of Hickman Natural Bridge is closed to the public.

The vertical surfaces of the Temple of the Sun and Moon are closed to the public.

The vertical surfaces of Chimney Rock are closed to the public.

All fenced research enclosures are closed to entry.

The firearms range and the road leading to it beginning at the cable gate are closed to the public.

The sewage lagoons and the access road leading to them beginning at the "boneyard" are closed to the public.

The access road leading to the well and water diversion area beginning 100 yards east of the well/solar panel site and 200 feet from both of those facilities in all directions is closed to the public.

The dump station in the Fruita Campground may be closed for maintenance or other management activities.

Scavenging in government refuse containers is prohibited.

1.5(a)(2) - Use Limits, Conditions, Restrictions

General

The following public use limits, conditions, and restrictions are established within Capitol Reef National Park:

Orchards

Orchard fruits may be gathered subject to the following restrictions:

No fee will be charged for fruit consumption within the orchards.

A fee will be charged for fruit removed from the orchards (excluding mulberries and grapes).

Tree climbing is prohibited in orchards, campgrounds and picnic areas.

Fruit gathering is considered a recreational activity. Fruit harvested for resale or other commercial purposes is prohibited without a permit issued by the Superintendent.

Weddings

Weddings may be held in the park pursuant to a permit issued by the Superintendent including the following conditions:

Unless held in the reserved group camping area, the total number of guests/participants is limited to 100. No other areas of the park may be reserved for exclusive use.

Throwing confetti, rice, or birdseed and releasing birds, butterflies or balloons is prohibited.

All participant vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas.

No public address systems or amplified music are permitted.

Wildlife

The use of calls, calling devices, audio attractants or other artificial or natural means of attracting or disturbing wildlife (including rattling antlers or verbal animal imitations) is prohibited.

Collecting antlers, feathers, or other animal parts is prohibited.

Swimming or bathing in tinajas, tanks, potholes, or waterpockets is prohibited except for that which is necessary to traverse such features during the normal course of a canyoneering/hiking route.

Fremont River Waterfall Area

The area listed below is closed to the public spring through fall (actual dates determined each year based on weather). Beginning at the mid point of the westbound travel lane alongside the parking lot at the Fremont River waterfall on Utah State Route 24 at mile marker 85.9, progressing northeast (downstream) 125 yards and southwest 100 yards (upstream), including all land between the highway, the Fremont river itself, and 30 yards on the north (far) bank of the river, is closed to entry.

When the waterfall area is open the following are prohibited within the area defined above: swimming, diving, jumping from rocks, possession of glass containers, and possession of pets.

Technical Rock Climbing and Canyoneering

Definitions:

- Technical Rock Climbing is defined as ascending or descending a rock formation utilizing rock climbing equipment.
- Canyoneering is defined as cross country travel involving occasional ascending or descending of a rock formation utilizing rock climbing equipment.
- Free Climbing and Clean Aid Climbing are minimum impact approaches that employ stoppers, nuts and camming devices, rather than fixed pitons or bolts, for protection or direct support. These are climbing aids, which are removable and do not damage the rock.

Permits are not required for rock climbing or canyoneering; however, if the climbing or canyoneering includes an overnight stay, then a backcountry use permit is required. Climbers or canyoneers are encouraged to use minimum impact camping and climbing practices.

Climbing and canyoneering within Capitol Reef National Park shall be either free climbing or clean aid climbing, except as described below:

No new climbing hardware may be left in a fixed location; however, if an existing bolt or other hardware item is unsafe, it may be replaced. This will limit all climbing to existing routes or new routes not requiring placement of fixed anchors.

Protection may not be placed with the use of a hammer except to replace existing belay and rappel anchors and bolts on existing routes, or for emergency self-rescue.

If an existing software item (slings, runners, etc.) is unsafe, it may be replaced.

Software that is left in place shall match the rock surface in color.

The intentional removal of lichen or plants from rock is prohibited.

The physical altering of rock faces such as by chiseling, glue reinforcement of existing holds, and gluing of new holds is prohibited.

The use of motorized power drills is prohibited.

Ropes may not be left in place unattended for more than 24 hours, and these ropes must be out of reach from the ground or other points accessible without technical climbing.

In addition to the areas identified as closed to the public in Section 1.5(a)(1), technical rock climbing is prohibited in the following areas:

- On any arch or natural bridge within the boundaries of Capitol Reef National Park.
- Within 300 feet of an archeological site.
- Within 1/4 mile of nesting eagles, owls, hawks or falcons.

Commercial Vehicles

Operators of commercial passenger-carrying diesel fueled motor vehicles are prohibited from idling their engines for longer than 3 minutes in parking lots in developed areas.

Designated Backcountry

All lands and waters within the boundaries of Capitol Reef National Park including four-wheel drive roads are designated as backcountry, with the exception of the following frontcountry areas:

Areas contained within both paved and unpaved two-wheel drive road corridors are open for general use by all categories of passenger vehicles. Dimensions for these corridors shall be 300 feet from the centerline on paved roads and 50 feet from centerline of non-paved two-wheel drive roads, unless a topographic feature provides a closer and more functional natural boundary. Designated two-wheel drive roads are identified on the Capitol Reef brochure, publication number: GPO: 1999-454-767/00100 Reprint 2004 (or subsequent revision).

Developmental zones directly accessed from two-wheel drive roads as identified on the Capitol Reef brochure.

SECTION 1.6 – PERMITS

Pursuant to 36 CFR 1.6(f), the following is a list of activities for which a permit is required within Capitol Reef National Park. Permits are issued by the Superintendent and may be subject to special requirements. Engaging in these activities without a permit, or violating the terms and conditions of a permit is prohibited.

Specimen collection	2.5(a)
Frontcountry camping	2.10(a)
Backcountry use permit (overnight/camping)	2.10(a)
Special events	2.50(a)
Public assemblies, meetings	2.51(a)
Sale or distribution of printed material	2.52(a)
Livestock, grazing, or agriculture	2.60(b)
Memorialization (scattering of human ashes)	2.62(b)
Post or distribute commercial notices or advertisements	5.1
Business operations	5.3
Commercial photography/filming	5.5(a) & (b)

Permit must be in the permittee's possession at all times and exhibited to authorized personnel upon request.

SECTION 2.1 – PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

2.1(b) - Leaving a trail or walkway to shortcut between portions of the same trail or walkway, or to cut to an adjacent trail or walkway, is prohibited.

2.1(c)(1) - Wild growing asparagus may be gathered for personal consumption. Quantities are limited to 1 pound per person per trip. See also Section 1.5 regarding Orchard Fruit.

SECTION 2.2 – WILDLIFE PROTECTION

2.2(d) - Conditions for transporting lawfully taken wildlife through the park area:

- All wildlife lawfully taken outside the park and transported through the park must be tagged in accordance with state law, with the license and the hunter present.
- Transportation through the park of wildlife lawfully taken outside the park is permitted only in a motor vehicle on designated open, through roads in the park. In addition, legally taken bison may be transported by stock or on foot across NPS land on a direct line from the NPS boundary and the Swap Mesa access parking area. All other areas are closed to the transportation of wildlife across park lands.
- Transportation through the park of wildlife lawfully taken outside the park must be non-stop, except for emergencies.

- Persons transporting wildlife carcasses through the park must have a valid state hunting license in their possession for the species being transported.
- Any animal entering the park after being shot or wounded while outside the park may not be retrieved without first contacting a Law Enforcement Ranger.

No actions may be taken in the park to aid or assist in the legal hunting of game outside the park including scouting, glassing, hazing, or pursuing.

2.2(e) - All lands within the boundaries of Capitol Reef National Park are closed to viewing wildlife with an artificial light, including flash photography of wildlife at night.

SECTION 2.10(a) – CAMPING AND FOOD STORAGE

A Backcountry Use Permit is required for all overnight use (commercial and non-commercial) outside these designated campgrounds: Fruita Campground, Cedar Mesa Campground, and Cathedral Campground.

Except for the developed campgrounds listed above, camping is not allowed within ½ mile or within sight and sound of developed roads and trails.

Between April 1 and November 30 of each year, the camping limit (in designated park campgrounds) is a total of 14 days in either one visit or the accumulation of separate visits. Between December 1 and March 31 the limit is 30 days.

Use of any park land as a camp for hunting and/or trapping parties is prohibited.

Parties using the park's backcountry areas for overnight camping are limited in size to no more than 12 persons.

In the Fruita Campground and Group Campsite all food items must be stored in a vehicle or in an animal proof hard-sided container between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., unless being prepared or consumed.

Group Campsite

The following conditions apply to the Fruita Campground group campsite:

The Fruita group campsite will be open from April 1 through October 20, except for Tuesdays and Wednesdays when it will be closed for groundskeeping purposes.

Maximum capacity is 40 people and 10 vehicles and/or trailers combined.

Maximum length of stay is 5 days annually.

Frontcountry Vehicle Campsites

Camping with vehicles is permitted only in designated campgrounds. Campgrounds are designated by appropriate signing and by NPS brochures and maps available to the public at the visitor center and ranger stations.

Campsite occupancy in the Fruita Campground is limited to no more than 8 people.

Campsite parking in the Fruita Campground is limited to the number of vehicles (including trailers) that can fit within the designated parking space without extending into the roadway. The walk-in tent sites in B Loop of the Fruita Campground are the exception, and are limited to the number of vehicles that can park single file in front of the marker on the rail fence corresponding to the site number without extending into the roadway. These parking spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

In the Fruita Campground, campsite registration and fee payment must be completed within 30 minutes of occupying a campsite. No person may register for a campsite with the intent of saving the site for someone else.

Campsite occupancy is not recognized unless the required camping fee has been paid, and the registration properly posted.

It is prohibited for visitors to go through the campground requesting registered campers to share their campsite.

Check-out time at the Fruita Campground is 11 a.m.

Generator operation is permitted in the Fruita Campground only between the following hours:

- Mountain Standard Time: from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Mountain Daylight Savings Time: from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Campers may use hammocks and clotheslines in the Fruita Campground only:

- Within their own campsite,
- During daylight hours, and
- In such a way that no resource damage occurs to vegetation.

Backcountry Vehicle Campsites

Camping with vehicles is restricted to designated sites within the Cedar Mesa and Cathedral Campgrounds.

Maximum capacity for camping at the Cedar Mesa and Cathedral Campgrounds is 8 people and 2 vehicles per site.

Generator operation is not permitted.

Backcountry Camping Without Vehicles

Backcountry camping is prohibited within 1/2 mile of established roads or trailheads.

Backcountry camping is also prohibited within sight of maintained roads or trails, or within sight or sound of other camping parties.

Backcountry camping is prohibited within 100 feet from water courses (wet or dry) and 300 feet from tanks, ponds, recognizable archeological or historical sites, and backcountry trail junctions.

Backcountry camping is limited to 3 nights in a particular location, 14 days per trip, and a maximum of 30 days annually, in either one visit or the accumulation of separate visits.

SECTION 2.13(a)(1) – FIRES

Open fires are permitted only in designated vehicle campsites and picnic areas. At these locations, fires shall be contained within designated grills/rings or in portable fire pans capable of containing all fire ash and residue. Portable fire pans may not be used directly on the surface of the ground where vegetation may be impacted.

SECTION 2.14(b) – SANITATION AND REFUSE

Where toilet facilities are not available, all solid human waste will be either packed out to an appropriate disposal location or buried at least 6 inches deep, away from wash bottoms, at least 100 feet from standing water, at least 200 feet from flowing water, and in an area not frequented by the public.

SECTION 2.15 – PETS

2.15(a)(1) - Pets on leashes, or otherwise under physical restraint, are permitted only within 50 feet of center line of roads and parking areas open to public vehicle travel and in unfenced and/or unlocked orchards. Pets are prohibited on all trails, with two exceptions: leashed pets are permitted on the trail from the visitor center to the Fruita Campground, and the Fremont River Trail from the campground to the south end of Hattie's Field.

2.15(a)(1) - Working dogs may be used to control livestock when accompanied by ranchers with legally authorized grazing or trailing permits. Leashes are not required for these dogs.

2.15(a)(1) - Pets are not permitted on commercial tours.

2.15(a)(1) - Pets are prohibited outside the paved parking area at the Fremont River waterfall.

2.15(a)(5) - In all areas where pets are allowed, pet owners/controllers are required to immediately pick up solid waste left behind by their animals and dispose of it in garbage cans, dumpsters, or vault toilets. Placing plastic bags in a vault toilet is prohibited.

SECTION 2.16(g) – HORSES AND PACK ANIMALS

The following conditions and restrictions apply to horse and pack animal use within Capitol Reef National Park:

Definition: Animals designated as pack animals shall be limited to horses, burros, and mules.

Horses and pack animals may not be kept overnight in any established roadside pullout, campground, picnic area or orchard, with the exception of the Equestrian Staging Area at the Post Corral.

Horse and pack animal use in any part of the park may be prohibited when, at the discretion of the Superintendent such action is necessary to protect park values or visitors.

Equestrian Staging Area

Camping at the Equestrian Staging Area located at the Post Corral is permitted only for non-commercial horse users. Use of the Equestrian Staging Area requires advanced reservation by phone or in person, and requires the party to obtain a backcountry permit in person from the visitor center, prior to use.

All vehicles, camping units, and trailers associated with groups camping at the Equestrian Staging Area must be parked within the large (west) side of the corral, and horses must be kept in the adjacent pens of the corral.

Camp use is limited to one group of 12 riders and 12 horses. Up to two camp tenders may also accompany the group, and may remain in camp as needed.

Generator operation is not permitted.

No ground fires are permitted unless contained within a fire pan or grill. Ashes must be removed out of the park.

Riders not camping at the Equestrian Staging Area must use this area for staging day use trips. Vehicles and trailers must be parked in the area marked by signs that is located adjacent to the corral, and not at the trailhead.

Stock Use

Horses and pack animals are allowed throughout the park except in the following areas:

Brimhall Bridge Trail

Capitol Gorge
Cassidy Arch Trail
Castle Trail
Cathedral Trail
Cathedral Valley Overlook Trail
Chimney Rock Trail
Cohab Canyon Trail
Fremont Gorge Viewpoint Trail
Fremont River Overlook Trail
Fruita Campground to the Visitor Center Trail
Frying Pan Trail
Golden Throne Trail
Goosenecks Trail
Grand Wash
Halls Overlook Trail
Halls Creek Narrows
Headquarters Canyon
Hickman Bridge Trail
Navajo Knobs Trail
Red Canyon
Rim Overlook Trail
Spring Canyon (Upper and Lower)
Strike Valley Overlook Trail
Lower Sulphur Creek
Sunset Point Trail
Surprise Canyon

A Backcountry Use Permit [36 CFR 1.6(f)], available at the visitor center, is required for each party with horses or pack animals staying overnight in the park.

Parties camping with horses or pack animals must camp and picket their animals at least 300 feet from tanks, ponds, any archeological or historical site, and backcountry trail junctions, and at least 100 feet from any water course (wet or dry).

Camping with horses or pack animals (other than in the Equestrian Staging Area) is prohibited within 1/2 mile of established roads or trailheads. Camping is also prohibited within sight of established roads or trails, or within sight and sound of other camping parties.

Parties camping with horses or pack animals, (other than the equestrian staging area) must camp in a new location each night.

Horse and pack animal manure must be scattered upon vacating a campsite. Manure must be removed immediately if dropped in or near any spring or non-flowing water source.

All feed must be carried in and supplied by horse and pack animal users. All feed must be certified weed-free feed.

Except under conditions set forth in a valid permit, grazing of horses or pack animals is not permitted.

When stock is being used in the park's backcountry, group size is limited to no more than 12 people and no more than 12 head of stock.

Loose herding of horses and pack animals is prohibited.

Riders will slow their mounts to a walk when passing hikers.

Horses and pack animals must be picketed in locations where there will be minimum vegetation damage.

SECTION 2.20 – SKATING, SKATEBOARDS AND SIMILAR DEVICES

The use of roller skates, roller blades, skateboards, roller skis or similar devices is prohibited except on housing area streets and driveways.

SECTION 2.21(a) – SMOKING

Smoking is prohibited in all public use and administrative buildings and facilities.

Smoking is prohibited within 25 feet of any door, window or air intake of any building.

Smoking is prohibited in all government vehicles (Department of the Interior policy).

Smoking may be prohibited in any area of the park during times of high fire danger.

SECTION 2.22(a)(2) – PROPERTY

Vehicles may be parked overnight in parking areas only for the period of time specified on their approved backcountry camping permit.

In the Fruita Campground, registered campers may park vehicles or trailers that do not fit within the required space at their individual site in the Cultural Demonstration Area parking lot. Campers may not camp in, or occupy, these vehicles or trailers.

The practice of geo-caching, letterboxing or similar activities is prohibited.

SECTION 2.23(a) – RECREATION FEES

Travel south of the Fee Station on the Scenic Drive requires payment of the appropriate entrance fee.

Recreation fee permits are required for overnight stays in the Fruita Campground, including the Group Site. The permit application requirement will be deemed as having been completed upon

completing the fee collection envelope, inserting the required payment into the envelope, and depositing the envelope in the security container at the registration station or the visitor center within 30 minutes of occupying the campsite.

SECTION 2.35(a)(3)(i) – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

All public use buildings are closed to the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages except during officially sanctioned activities when the building is closed to the general public.

Alcohol possession or consumption is prohibited at the Fremont River waterfall and within one-quarter mile radius of the waterfall, including the adjacent parking area along Utah Highway 24 at mile 85.9.

**SECTION 2.51(e) – PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES, MEETINGS and
SECTION 2.52(e) – SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATERIALS**

A permit is required for groups over 25 people. Activities pursuant to this section are allowed at the following locations (see attached map):

For groups up to 25 persons: There are pre-designated locations that must be used if the group requests a 25 person permit exemption.

- Primary: 81 square foot sidewalk area in front of the visitor center (see attached map).
- Secondary: 60 square foot sidewalk area in front of the flag pole, including flag pole area but not blocking the sidewalk (see attached map).

For groups over 25 persons: A permit is required. Location will be determined through the application process.

SECTION 4.11 (a) – SIZE LIMITS

Vehicles, or vehicle/trailer combinations, are limited to no more than 27 feet total length, on the Goosenecks, Grand Wash, and Capitol Gorge Roads.

SECTION 4.21(b) – SPEED LIMITS

The following speed limits are established:

Fruita Campground	10 mph
Park Residence Area:	10 mph

Scenic Drive (except as noted below), Notom Road and Burr Trail	25 mph
Scenic Drive between the Blacksmith Shop and the Fee Station	15 mph
Capitol Gorge/Grand Wash/ Pleasant Creek/South Draw/ Goosenecks Roads	15 mph

SECTION 4.30(a) – BICYCLES

Bicycles are prohibited on all park trails except: The trail from the visitor center to Loop A of the Fruita Campground, and the Fremont River Trail from the campground to the south end of Hattie's Field.

SECTION 4.31 – HITCHHIKING

Hitchhiking is allowed on park roads in locations where a hazard is not created. Hitchhikers must stand on the road shoulder and not on the pavement. Obstructing traffic is prohibited.

SECTION 5.3 – BUSINESS OPERATIONS

A commercial use authorization or the commercial road-based tour fee is required of all commercial groups/tours while conducting business in the park. Location exceptions to this are the State Highway 24 corridor, (which includes all turnouts, parking areas, the petroglyph panel and the Fruita schoolhouse), the visitor center, and the Scenic Drive to the fee station including the picnic areas and Gifford House. If commercial groups utilize any area of the park except the above listed areas, they are subject to this requirement.

Attachment: Small Group Permit Exemption Map (1 page).