



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

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Grand Teton National Park News Release

Grand Teton National Park Celebrates National Park Week With Annual Ranger-led Grouse Watching Trips

To celebrate both the arrival of spring and the upcoming National Park Week, park rangers will lead early-morning tours to observe strutting sage grouse as they perform their annual mating dance on a traditional lek (strutting arena) located just off the Antelope Flats Road near Mormon Row. Strutting grouse trips will be offered on both Saturdays and Sundays of the following weekends: April 8–9, April 15–16, and April 22–23, 2006.

Strutting grouse tours begin from the Moose Visitor Center at 5:30 a.m. and reservations are required. To make a reservation and obtain information about what to wear and bring along on these free, ranger-led trips, phone the Moose Visitor Center at (307) 739-3399.

Ranger-led excursions offer a unique opportunity to witness this spring-time ritual, as sage grouse congregate and perform animated mating displays. As participants view the antics of strutting grouse, rangers will provide information about the natural history of the birds and conservation efforts underway for sage grouse populations that are declining throughout much of the American West.

National Park Week will be celebrated during the week of April 22–30, 2006. The theme for this year's observance is "Connecting Our Children to America's National Parks." The week-long celebration offers diverse opportunities for U.S. citizens and international visitors alike to explore and learn about America's exceptional natural, cultural, and recreational heritage. National Park Week also salutes the many individuals, groups and associations that help make the National Park System one of this Nation's greatest assets.

Additional information about National Park Week is available on the National Park Service website at www.nps.gov/npweek .

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