

# Grand Teton Guide

Winter 2016-2017 (November–April)

The official newspaper of  
Grand Teton National Park &  
John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial  
Parkway



## Winter in the Tetons

Grand Teton National Park feels like a different place in winter. The pace is slower, the snow-covered mountains seem larger and the whole park feels quieter. A great way to experience the park is on skis or snowshoes. Even if you have never been on snowshoes before, you can join a ranger-guided snowshoe walk for a fun-filled and educational experience!

While many of us travel over snow for recreation, skiing and snowshoeing were once key to winter survival. The oldest known snowshoes—found in the Italian Dolomites—are almost 6,000 years old! Many different cultures probably developed snowshoes around the same time to allow traveling and hunting during winter.

Native American tribes refined their designs by fashioning beautifully laced snowshoes that caught the eye of European settlers. The historic snowshoes used on the park's ranger-guided snowshoe walks reflect these ancient designs.



Some of the park's historic snowshoes likely came from the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division. During and after World War II, soldiers from the 10th trained for combat in mountain areas and

winter conditions—skis and snowshoes were invaluable tools. The oldest pair in our collection dates back to 1943! The snowshoes' history is not well known leaving many unanswered questions. Were these snowshoes ever used in combat? Were they used by local area soldiers recruited for their skills in the mountains? We will never know, but it's fun to wonder.

Join a ranger-guided snowshoe walk to experience these unusual snowshoes for yourself. Or, head out on your own and enjoy the experience of winter in Grand Teton National Park.



## Winter Wildlife

Winter poses challenges for all wildlife. Snow buries food, temperatures plummet and traveling through deep snow is difficult and tiring. Wildlife survive the harsh winter by adapting. Some animals migrate, some hibernate and some simply endure. Enjoy watching the wildlife in the park, but be respectful and don't add to their challenges.



### Did You Know?

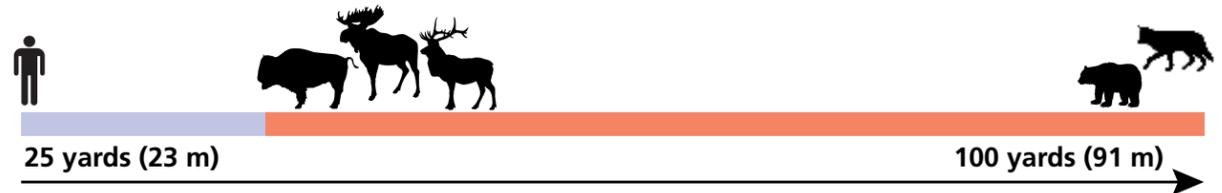
Bears usually hibernate from December into March—timing varies on weather and food.

### Safe Wildlife Viewing

- Keep your distance and never approach.
- Use binoculars for better viewing.
- Obey speed limits: Wildlife may be near the roadway.
- Feeding wildlife is prohibited and dangerous.

### Keep Your Distance

For your safety and theirs, never approach wildlife and back away if needed.



### Winter Closures

To protect wildlife during this stressful season, the park closes key habitat areas to all travel.

- Areas around Snake River, Buffalo Fork River & Kelly Warm Springs: December 15–March 31
- Summits of Mount Hunt, Prospectors Mountain & Static Peak: December 1–March 31

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## International Visitors

- Des renseignements en Français sont disponibles aux centres des visiteurs dans le parc.
- Sie können Informationen auf Deutsch in den Besucherzentren bekommen.
- Se puede conseguir información en Español en el Centro del Visitante.
- 国立公園案内の日本語版が各公園内のビジターセンターでご利用できます
- 您可以在游客中心免费领取中文版《大提顿国家公园游览指南》



Accessibility information available at visitor centers and on the Grand Teton website: [www.nps.gov/grte](http://www.nps.gov/grte).

## Contact Information

Website [www.nps.gov/grte](http://www.nps.gov/grte)  
Facebook [www.facebook.com/GrandTetonNPS](https://www.facebook.com/GrandTetonNPS)  
Lost & Found [www.nps.gov/grte/planyourvisit/lost-found.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grte/planyourvisit/lost-found.htm)

<b>EMERGENCY</b> . . . . .	<b>911</b>
Park Dispatch . . . . .	307-739-3301
Visitor Information . . . . .	307-739-3300
Weather . . . . .	307-739-3611
Road Conditions . . . . .	307-739-3682
Bridger-Teton National Forest Avalanche Center . . . . .	307-733-2664
Snowshoe Hike Reservations/Information (10 am–4 pm, M–Sa) . . . . .	307-739-3399
Backcountry Permit Information . . . . .	307-739-3309
TTY/TDD Emergency Calls Only . . . . .	307-739-3301

## Snowshoe Walk



Experience winter in Grand Teton National Park. Join a ranger for a guided snowshoe walk. Walks offered, late December through mid-March, conditions permitting. See page 2.

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# Make the Most of Your Winter Park Visit



## VISITOR INFORMATION

From November 1, 2016 through March 5, 2017 all visitor centers in the park are closed. The Craig Thomas Discovery & Visitor Center will reopen on March 6. For information, visit the park's website: [www.nps.gov/grte](http://www.nps.gov/grte), or call 307-739-3399, Monday–Saturday, 10 am–4 pm.

## Activities

### RANGER-GUIDED SNOWSHOE WALKS

Are you curious about winter ecology or snow science? Would you like to experience the park in winter? A snowshoe walk with a interpretive ranger is the perfect introduction to winter in Grand Teton National Park and snowshoe travel. The park offers a two-hour guided snowshoe walk from the Taggart Lake Trailhead Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, at 1:30 pm beginning December 26th through mid-March (conditions permitting). Reservations required. Call 307-739-3399, 10 am–4 pm, Mon.–Sat.

### CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING & SNOWSHOEING

Experience the exhilaration of winter on cross-country skis or snowshoes. From November 1 through April 30, 14 miles of the Teton Park Road from the Taggart Lake trailhead to Signal Mountain Lodge, is open for non-motorized use only (snowbikes prohibited). Thanks to the generous support of the Grand Teton National Park Foundation and the Nordic Alliance, the Teton Park Road will be groomed approximately twice-weekly from mid-December to mid-March (conditions permitting). Call 307-739-3682 for updates. Other places to enjoy winter activities include Colter Bay, Moose-Wilson Road, Taggart Lake and Flagg Ranch.

### BACKCOUNTRY SKIING & SNOWBOARDING

Jackson Hole has world-renowned backcountry access. Few places provide the scenery, variety of terrain, and challenging lines found here.

When skiing or snowboarding, you are responsible for your own safety. If you access the park from Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, remember the park does not perform avalanche hazard reduction work. Please check the map on page 4 for wildlife closures. The Bridger-Teton National Forest Avalanche Center posts a daily avalanche forecast at: [www.jhavalanche.org](http://www.jhavalanche.org) or call 307-733-2664.

### WINTER CAMPING

Park campgrounds are closed during winter. Primitive winter camping is allowed on the parking lot next to the Colter Bay Visitor Center from December 1 to April 15. Pay \$5 at the self-pay station by the restroom. If your plans include backcountry camping, you must obtain a backcountry permit. For more information, call 307-739-3309.

### SNOWMOBILING

Snowmobile use is limited in Grand Teton National Park to the frozen surface of Jackson Lake with approved snowmobiles for ice fishing only. Snowmobiles are also allowed on the Grassy Lake Road in the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway. For more information, visit: [www.nps.gov/grte/planyourvisit/winter.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grte/planyourvisit/winter.htm).

### FISHING

Fishing in Grand Teton National Park is subject to Wyoming state regulations. A Wyoming fishing license is required in the park and parkway. Obey wildlife closures along the Snake River.

Average Weather		Moose, WY 1958-2013		
Month	Average High Temp	Average Low Temp	Average Snowfall	Average Snow Depth
January	26.1 °F	0.9 °F	43.1 in.	27 in.
February	31.0 °F	3.2 °F	28.7 in.	33 in.
March	39.4 °F	12.1 °F	20.3 in.	30 in.
April	49.3 °F	22.3 °F	9.5 in.	12 in.
May	60.9 °F	30.8 °F	2.4 in.	0 in.
June	70.7 °F	37.3 °F	0.1 in.	0 in.
July	80.6 °F	41.6 °F	0 in.	0 in.
August	79.2 °F	39.7 °F	0 in.	0 in.
September	69.3 °F	32.1 °F	0.4 in.	0 in.
October	55.7 °F	23.2 °F	4.7 in.	0 in.
November	38.3 °F	13.6 °F	23.4 in.	4 in.
December	26.5 °F	1.8 °F	39.5 in.	16 in.

## Safety and Regulations

### FALL ELK REDUCTION

Congress authorized an elk reduction program in some areas of the park for herd management when the park expanded in 1950. The reduction program ends on December 11, 2016. Call 307-739-3399 for additional information.

### WILDLIFE VIEWING

Maintain a distance of at least 100 yards from bears and wolves, and 25 yards from all other animals whether on foot or in your vehicle. Please obey all wildlife closures (see map on page 4).

### PETS & SERVICE ANIMALS

**Pets:** During winter, pets are allowed on plowed roadways and parking areas, and the unplowed portions of the Teton Park and Moose-Wilson roads. Pets must be restrained on a leash (6 feet or less) at all times. Properly dispose of pet feces. Pets are not allowed in visitor centers, on ranger-led activities or park trails. Pets are only allowed in boats on Jackson Lake. **Service Animals:** Must assist with a disability and must be trained to perform tasks to aid with the disability. Dogs whose sole function is providing comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

### FIREARMS

Wyoming state regulations apply. Carrying or possessing firearms is prohibited in buildings where notice is posted. Firearms may not be discharged in a national park, except by permitted individuals during legal hunting seasons.

### UNMANNED AIRCRAFT

Launching, landing or operating an unmanned aircraft, such as a drone, within Grand Teton National Park is prohibited.

### SNOWBIKES & KITE-SKIING

Snowbikes are NOT allowed for over-snow travel. Kite-skiing is only allowed on the frozen surface of Jackson Lake.

### HOT SPRINGS

Soaking in pools where thermal waters originate is prohibited to protect resources. Soaking in adjacent run-off streams is allowed, provided they do not contain an originating water source. These waters may harbor organisms that cause diseases.

### WINTER SAFETY

- Protect yourself. Know your equipment and capabilities.
- Ski or snowshoe in GROUPS. Always tell someone your route, destination, and expected return time.
- HYPOTHERMIA is a common cause of human fatality in mountain country. Carry extra clothing and dress to prevent hypothermia. Never leave a member of your party alone. If anyone in your group begins to act or talk abnormally, have them put on more clothing and drink warm liquids. Learn about treating hypothermia before your trip.
- Be prepared for sudden changes in the WEATHER and SNOW. Conditions may vary considerably throughout the day and with elevation. Check the weather forecast before you venture out, and above all use common sense.
- Be cautious in AVALANCHE terrain, such as in mountain canyons and crossing “exposed” slopes. See Avalanche forecast information above.
- Take the following essential WINTER GEAR on any excursion: water in an insulated bottle, high energy snacks, first aid kit, extra clothing including a hat and gloves, sunscreen and sunglasses, map and compass, flashlight, and a repair kit.

## Park Concessioners & Lodging

### BACKCOUNTRY SKIING/ AVALANCHE EDUCATION

Exum Mountain Guides  
307-733-2297 [www.exumguides.com](http://www.exumguides.com)

Jackson Hole Mountain Guides  
307-733-4979 [www.jhmg.com](http://www.jhmg.com)

### CROSS-COUNTRY SKI & SNOWSHOE TOURS

The Hole Hiking Experience  
866-733-4453 [www.holehike.com](http://www.holehike.com)

Jackson Hole Mountain Resort Nordic Center  
307-739-2629 [www.jacksonhole.com](http://www.jacksonhole.com)

Teton Backcountry Guides  
307-353-2900 [www.skithetetons.com](http://www.skithetetons.com)

### WINTER LODGING

Triangle X Ranch  
Open: late December to late March  
307-733-2183 [www.trianglex.com](http://www.trianglex.com)

Dornans Spur Ranch  
307-733-2522 [www.dornans.com](http://www.dornans.com)

Additional accommodations available in Jackson, Wilson & Teton Village. For more information, visit the Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce: 307-733-3316 [www.jacksonholechamber.com](http://www.jacksonholechamber.com)



## Go Digital

### Grand Teton National Park App

Grand Teton National Park is proud to announce the release of their new app on both iTunes and Google Play Store. Locate your favorite trailhead, learn about a historic district, find a place to eat or take a guided tour as you explore this iconic park.



### Grand Teton Association App

The Grand Teton Association app includes essential information for planning your trip or during your visit.



### TravelStorysGPS App

The Grand Teton National Park Foundation app shares engaging audio stories about the history, geology, wildlife and activities.



Experience a sense of adventure climbing the Grand Teton from anywhere. Learn about the history, environment, and risks of this journey: [www.nps.gov/features/grte/grandteton/eClimb.html](http://www.nps.gov/features/grte/grandteton/eClimb.html)

## Follow @GrandTetonNPS



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[twitter.com/GrandTetonNPS](https://twitter.com/GrandTetonNPS)  
[instagram.com/GrandTetonNPS](https://www.instagram.com/GrandTetonNPS)  
[www.youtube.com/user/GrandTetonNP1](https://www.youtube.com/user/GrandTetonNP1)  
[flickr.com/GrandTetonNPS](https://www.flickr.com/photos/GrandTetonNPS)

## Moving Forward

### MOOSE-WILSON CORRIDOR

Grand Teton National Park is planning for the future of the Moose-Wilson corridor. This 10,300 acre corridor is in the park's southwest corner and features a remarkable variety of natural communities, cultural and wilderness resources.

The Moose-Wilson Road bisects the corridor and provides access to several park destinations, including Death Canyon and Granite Canyon trailheads, Laurance S. Rockefeller Preserve, White Grass Ranch and Murie Ranch historic districts. The road also passes through a wildlife-migration corridor with outstanding wildlife viewing opportunities.

Developing a comprehensive management plan for the Moose-Wilson corridor is critical to ensure the protection of key resources, values, and your



Photo: G. Pollock

experience. Discover the corridor through an interactive "eXperience" online field trip by visiting: [www.nps.gov/features/grte/moosewilson/eTour.html](http://www.nps.gov/features/grte/moosewilson/eTour.html). Learn more about the final comprehensive management plan / environmental impact statement released on September 2 on our website: [www.nps.gov/grte/learn/management/mwccmp.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grte/learn/management/mwccmp.htm)

## Jenny Lake Renewal Project

### INSPIRING JOURNEYS A CAMPAIGN for JENNY LAKE

A public-private partnership  
to celebrate the National Park Service centennial in 2016



The official nonprofit fundraising partner of  
Grand Teton National Park

#### WHAT IS INSPIRING JOURNEYS?

An \$18 million collaboration between Grand Teton National Park and its fund-raising partner, Grand Teton National Park Foundation, celebrating the National Park Service's centennial. The project will build a cohesive, durable and timeless complex of trails, bridges and other facilities around Jenny Lake.

#### WHY IT MATTERS

The park's most visited destination hosts more than one million people a year. The Civilian Conservation Corps crews that built much of the infrastructure in the 1930s could not conceive of so many visitors.

#### WHAT TO EXPECT

Work will continue in the Jenny Lake area through summer 2017. Construction work around South Jenny Lake will continue with completion of the interpretive plaza, trail network and new restrooms. Work on the west side of Jenny Lake will focus on the Inspiration Point viewing area, but the viewing area for Hidden Falls will reopen.

For more information about the Jenny Lake Renewal Project, please visit: [www.nps.gov/grte/getinvolved/jlrp.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grte/getinvolved/jlrp.htm)

## Park Partners

### GRAND TETON ASSOCIATION

The Grand Teton Association was established in 1937 as the park's primary partner to increase public understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of Grand Teton National Park and the Greater Yellowstone area. The association has long been an important bridge between visitors and the environment.

When you make a purchase at an association bookstore, you help support the educational, interpretive and scientific programs in the park including the winter Snow Desk, the NPS Academy, the Boyd Evison Graduate Research Scholarship and many other programs. Your purchase also supports the publication of this newspaper, books and educational handouts.

Grand Teton National Park works closely with a variety of partnership organizations who help support important projects, programs and visitor services, benefiting visitors and the park.

#### Grand Teton Association

P.O. Box 170, Moose, WY 83012  
307-739-3403  
[www.grandtetonpark.org](http://www.grandtetonpark.org)

#### Teton Science Schools

700 Coyote Road, Jackson, WY 83001  
307-733-1313 [www.tetonscience.org](http://www.tetonscience.org)

#### The Murie Center of Teton Science Schools

P.O. Box 399, Moose, WY 83012  
307-739-2246 [www.muriecenter.org](http://www.muriecenter.org)

#### Grand Teton National Park Foundation

P.O. Box 249, Moose, WY 83012  
307-732-0629  
[www.gtnpf.org](http://www.gtnpf.org)

#### University of Wyoming/AMK Research Station

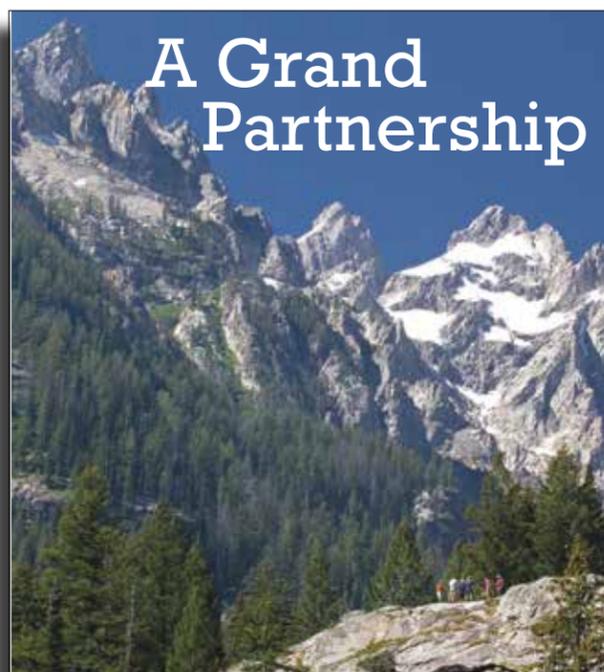
Department 3166 1000 E. University Ave.  
Laramie, WY 82071 [www.uwyo.edu](http://www.uwyo.edu)

We invite you to become a member entitled to a 15% discount on purchases at all GTA visitor center outlets, as well as on catalog and website orders. Many cooperating association stores nationwide offer reciprocal discounts.

- \$35 Individual Annual Member with discount privileges and a unique member gift
- \$50 Family Annual Member with discount privileges and a choice of member gifts
- Additional annual memberships: \$100 Supporting Member, \$250 Sustaining Member, \$500 Gold Member with discount privileges and additional gifts
- \$1000 Platinum Member, a three-year membership includes an Interagency Annual Pass (see page 2)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Paid by  Cash  Check  Credit Card  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Teton Association • P.O. Box 170 • Moose, WY 83012  
307-739-3403 • [www.grandtetonpark.org](http://www.grandtetonpark.org)

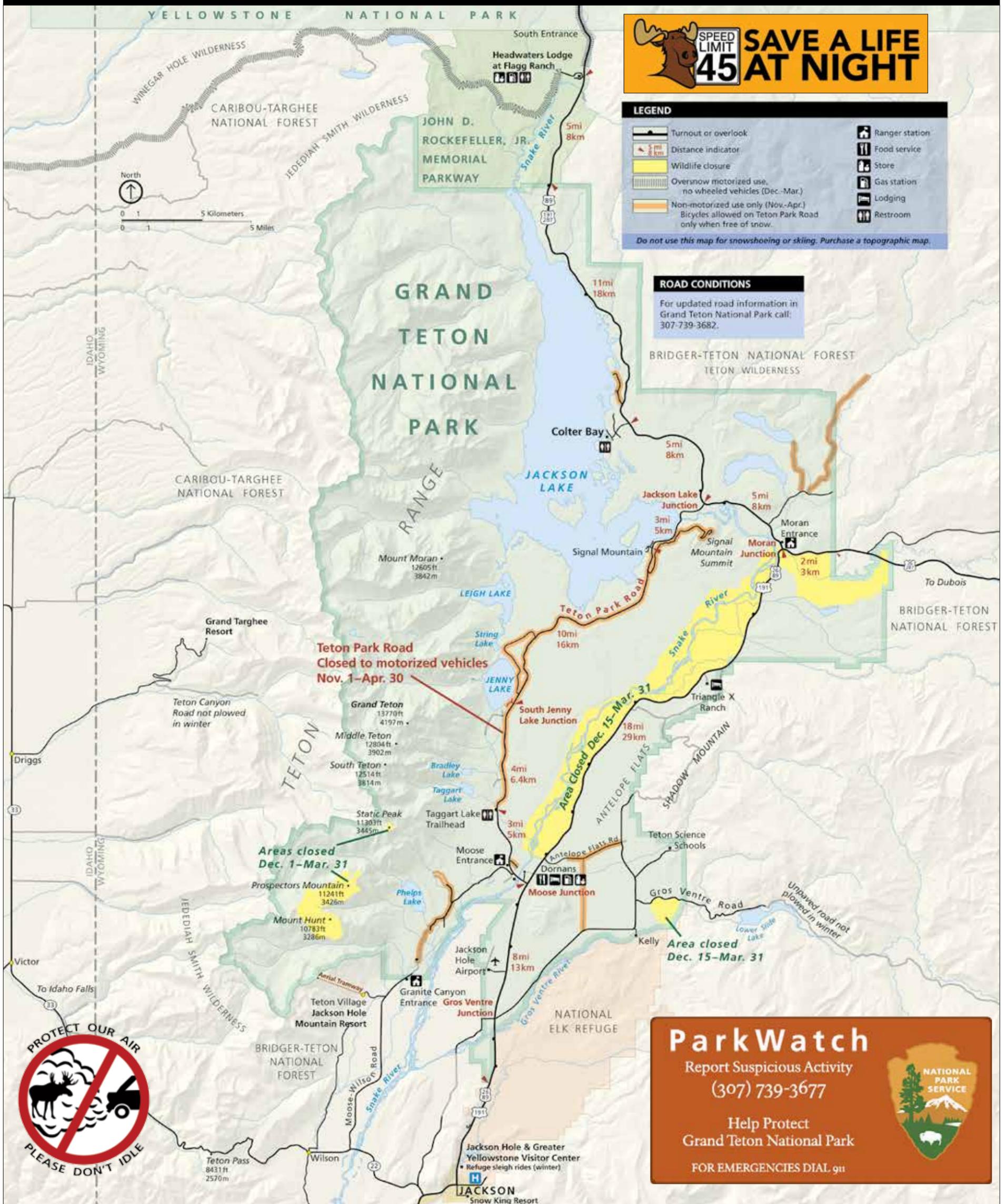


Donor gifts offer a helping hand to one of America's favorite outdoor destinations. When you support trail renewal, wildlife, and outdoor education for youth, Grand Teton National Park can deliver unforgettable experiences to visitors and strengthen resources for the future.



[www.gtnpf.org](http://www.gtnpf.org)

# Grand Teton National Park Map



## Drive Safely!

WINTER DRIVING can be challenging. Park roads are frequently covered with ice or hard-packed snow. Winter storms create white-out driving conditions. Make sure your vehicle is equipped with winter or all-season tires and carry tire chains when crossing mountain passes.

- Drive below the speed limit as conditions warrant.
- Watch for wildlife on the roadway.
- Carry an emergency kit and a shovel in your vehicle.
- Snowstorms can occur at any time.
- Roads may close at any time for visitor safety.
- Always wear your seat belt.
- Be prepared for changing weather conditions.

## Open Roads During Winter

The park's main roadways, Highway 26/89/191 and Highway 26/287, are plowed and open for winter travel.

## Seasonal Road Closures

Much of the Teton Park and the Moose-Wilson roads are closed to motorized vehicles during the winter months. See the map above for additional seasonal road closures. The unplowed section of the road from Taggart Lake trailhead to Signal Mountain Lodge—a distance of 14 miles—is open to non-motorized use only (skiers, snowshoers and walkers). Snow bikes are not allowed.

