

Grand Teton Guide

Winter 2014-2015 (November–April)

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



Welcome to Grand Teton National Park

FEW LANDSCAPES IN THE WORLD are as striking and memorable as that of Grand Teton National Park. Rising abruptly from the valley floor, the Teton Range offers a testament to the power and complexity of nature. The mountains, valleys, lakes, rivers and skies are home to diverse and abundant plants and animals.

People have been living in the shadow of the Teton Range for more than 11,000 years. The human history of this area is extensive, beginning with American Indian prehistoric life, continuing with the early Euro-American explorers, the

more recent frontier settlement and today's adventure seekers.

This spectacular mountain range and the desire to protect it resulted in the establishment of Grand Teton National Park in 1929. Through the vision and generous philanthropy of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and others, additional lands were added to form the present day park in 1950.

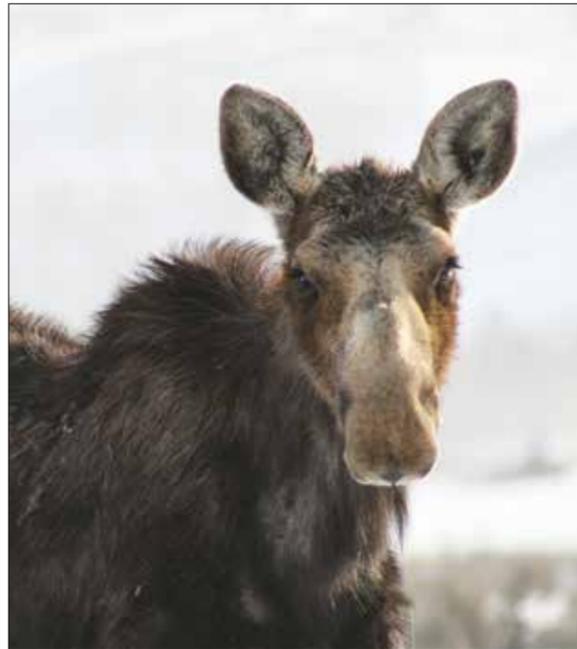
Grand Teton National Park is truly a unique place. With thoughtful use and careful management, it will remain so for generations to come. As with

other sites in the National Park System, Grand Teton preserves a piece of America's natural and cultural heritage for future generations.

While you are here, take a moment to put your cares aside: take a scenic drive, celebrate winter by skiing or snowshoeing, and lose yourself to the power of this place.

We hope you will be refreshed and restored during your visit, and stay connected to this magnificent landscape long after you have returned home.

Winter Wildlife



LIVING WITH WILDLIFE challenges all of us. Whether you visit Grand Teton National Park on vacation or live in the valley of Jackson Hole, encountering wildlife in their own environment is thrilling and potentially dangerous.

Winter poses special challenges for wildlife—both predator and prey. Snow buries food, temperatures plummet and traveling through deep snow is difficult. Wildlife survive the harsh winter by adapting. Some animals migrate, some hibernate and some simply endure.

Grand Teton National Park closes key wildlife habitat areas to all travelers during winter. The corridor along the Snake River is closed from December 15 until April 1; and several high peaks are closed from December 1 until April 1. Check the map on page 4 for more information. These areas are closed to allow wildlife a place where they will remain undisturbed.

Look for wildlife during your visit, observing and photographing them is always exciting. Maintain a distance of at least 100 yards from bears and wolves, and 25 yards from all other animals for your safety and theirs. If your actions cause an animal to flee, you are too close.

Bears usually hibernate from December or January into March, but the timing varies depending on the weather and food availability.

Whatever brings you to this special place, remember the spectacular mountains and diverse wildlife you encounter during your time here.



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.

Accessibility information available on the Grand Teton website: www.nps.gov/grte.



Contact Information

Grand Teton National Park Website
Grand Teton National Park Facebook
Grand Teton National Park Tweets
Lost & Found

www.nps.gov/grte
www.facebook.com/GrandTetonNPS
twitter.com/GrandTetonNPS
www.nps.gov/grte/playourvisit/lost-found.htm

EMERGENCY	911
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 and Information	(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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Publication of the Grand Teton Guide made possible through the generous support of the Grand Teton Association.

Make the Most of Your Winter Park Visit



VISITOR INFORMATION

Between November 3, 2014 to March 1, 2015 all visitor centers in the park are closed. The Craig Thomas Discovery & Visitor Center will reopen March 2. For information, visit the park's website: www.nps.gov/grte, or call (307) 739-3399, Monday - Saturday, 10 am to 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 to travel on snowshoes. The park offers a two-hour guided snowshoe walk from the Taggart Lake Trailhead Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, at 1:30 pm beginning December 27th through mid-March (conditions permitting). Call (307) 739-3399 for reservations.



scenery, variety of terrain, ease of access and challenging lines found in the park's backcountry.

When skiing or snowboarding in the national park backcountry you are responsible for managing your risks. 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 or call (307) 733-2664.

If your plans include backcountry camping, you must obtain a backcountry permit. For more information, call (307) 739-3309.

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 are prohibited). Thanks to the generous support of the Grand Teton National Park Foundation and the Nordic Alliance, the Teton Park Road will be groomed twice-weekly on Fridays and Mondays from mid-December to mid-March (conditions permitting). Call (307) 739-3682 for updates. Other places to enjoy cross-country skiing and snowshoeing include Colter Bay, Moose-Wilson Road, Taggart Lake and Flagg Ranch.

BACKCOUNTRY SKIING & SNOWBOARDING

Jackson Hole is world-renowned for skiing. Few places provide the

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.

SNOWMOBILING

Snowmobile use is limited in Grand Teton National Park. For current information, visit: 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.

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 7, 2014. 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. Obey all wildlife closures (page 4).

PETS

During the 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 (six feet or less) at all times. Properly dispose of pet feces. Pets are not allowed in visitor centers, on ranger-led activities, park trails or in the backcountry. Pets are ONLY allowed in boats on Jackson Lake.

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 pools or streams is allowed, provided they do not contain an originating water source. These waters may harbor organisms that cause a fatal meningitis infection or other diseases.

WINTER SAFETY

- Protect yourself. Know your equipment, capabilities and limitations.
- 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 increasing elevation. Check the weather forecast before you venture out, and above all use common sense.
- Be cautious in AVALANCHE terrain, such as mountain canyons and crossing "exposed slopes. The Bridger-Teton National Forest Avalanche Center posts a daily avalanche forecast at: www.jhavalanche.org or call (307) 733-2664.
- 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.



Let's Get Moving in Grand Teton National Park



Let's Move Outside encourages all park visitors to engage in outdoor activities to get bodies moving and hearts pumping. The Let's Move campaign was initiated by First Lady Michelle Obama to end childhood obesity within a generation. Join our ranger-guided snowshoe walk to have fun and get healthy! Or explore the park on your own.

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.

Park Concessioners & Lodging

CLIMBING GUIDES

Exum Mountain Guides
(307) 733-2297
Open year-round
www.exumguides.com

Jackson Hole Mountain Guides

(307) 733-4979
(800) 239-7642
Open year-round
www.jhmg.com

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI & SNOWSHOE TOURS

The Hole Hiking Experience
(866) 733-4453
www.holehike.com

Jackson Hole Mountain

Resort Nordic Center
(307) 739-2629
www.jacksonhole.com

Teton Backcountry Guides

(307) 353-2900
www.skithetons.com

WINTER LODGING

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

Headwaters Lodge & Cabins at Flagg Ranch
Open December 18, 2014 to

March 2, 2015

(800) 443-2311
(307) 543-2861
www.gtgc.com/headwaters-lodge.aspx

Dornans Spur Ranch

Open year-round
(307) 733-2522
www.dornans.com

Additional accommodations available in Jackson, Wilson and Teton Village. For more information, visit the Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce website: www.jacksonholechamber.com or call (307) 733-3316.

Go Digital

SOCIAL MEDIA

Like us on Facebook to get park updates, or share photos and your thoughts with our friends: www.facebook.com/GrandTetonNPS; or follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/grandtetonnps

GRAND TETON iPHONE APP

Produced for the Grand Teton Association, the park's official app includes essential information you need to plan your trip before leaving home: tetonapp.com.



TravelStorysGPS iPHONE APP

This free app from the Grand Teton National Park Foundation shares vivid and engaging audio stories about the history, geology, animals and activities in the park: www.gtnpf.org/TravelStorysGPS.php.



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. Enjoy an interactive field trip through the corridor: www.nps.gov/features/grte/moosewilson/eTour.html



Developing a comprehensive management plan for the Moose-Wilson corridor is critical to ensure the protection of key resources, values, and your experience. This past summer the park conducted visitor surveys within the corridor to determine perceptions of issues, problems and desired experience. Review and comment: go.nps.gov/mwplan. Learn more and stay connected: go.nps.gov/moose-wilson.

Jenny Lake Renewal Project

INSPIRING JOURNEYS A CAMPAIGN for JENNY LAKE

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE from around the world visit Grand Teton National Park each year to experience its stunning scenery, incredible hiking, unsurpassed geology and abundant wildlife. Seventy percent of visitors stop at Jenny Lake, making it the park's most popular destination.

Unfortunately, high visitation has led to degradation of the Jenny Lake area. Trails, bridges and facilities are in poor condition. Hikers have denuded areas resulting in erosion that threatens fragile habitats. Past efforts addressed some needs, but much can be done to improve the visitor experience. More than ever, national parks must model how best to care for and preserve our natural treasures.

To address these needs, Grand Teton National Park and Grand Teton National Park Foundation initiated Inspiring Journeys: A Campaign for Jenny Lake. The purpose of this campaign is to create a cohesive, durable, timeless,



The official nonprofit fundraising partner
of Grand Teton National Park



and beautifully constructed complex of trails, bridges and facilities around Jenny Lake. The quality, scale and character of the project will complement this historic and spectacular area, elevate visitor experiences and protect fragile resources. Inspiring Journeys will transform the built environment at Jenny Lake addressing and repairing natural resource damage.

The Foundation's \$13 million campaign, along with \$3 million in park-funds, will allow for far-reaching improvements at Jenny Lake. Fund-raising is targeted for completion by August 25, 2016, the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. As of September 2014, the Foundation has raised \$9.2 million toward the goal.

For more information on Inspiring Journeys: A Campaign for Jenny Lake, please visit www.gtnpf.org.



Current Trail Erosion



Artist's Concept of view point at South Jenny Lake

Park Partners

Park partners help accomplish park goals by supporting important projects, programs and visitor services.

Grand Teton Association
P.O. Box 170
Moose, WY 83012
(307) 739-3406
www.grandtetonpark.org

Grand Teton National Park Foundation
P.O. Box 249
Moose, WY 83012
(307) 732-0629
www.gtnpf.org

Teton Science Schools
700 Coyote Canyon Rd.
Jackson, WY 83001
(307) 733-1313
www.tetonscience.org

The Murie Center
P.O. Box 399
Moose, WY 83012
(307) 739-2246
www.muriecenter.org

**University of Wyoming/
NPS Research Station**
Dept. 3166
1000 E. University Ave.
Laramie, WY 82071
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.

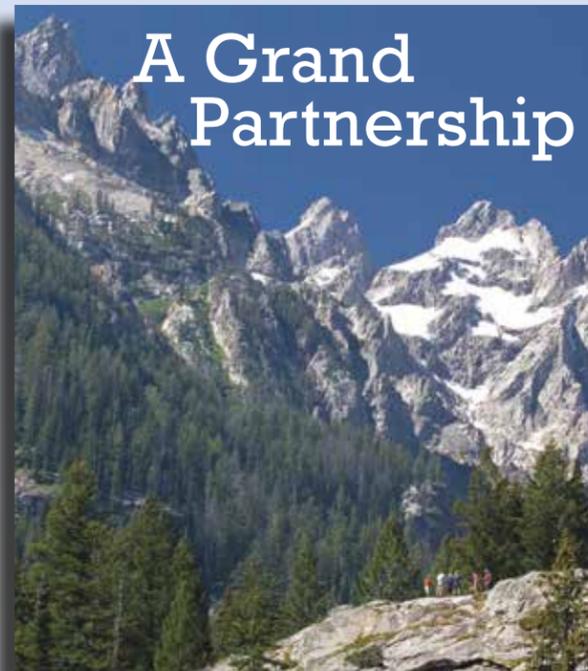
- \$35 Individual Annual Member with discount privileges and a unique member gift
- \$50 Family Annual Member with discount privileges and a choice of member gifts
- Additional annual memberships: \$100 Supporting Member, \$250 Sustaining Member, \$500 Gold Member with discount privileges and additional gifts
- \$1000 Platinum Member, a three-year membership includes an Interagency Annual Pass (\$80 value).

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



A Grand Partnership



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

GRAND TETON ASSOCIATION

The Grand Teton Association is a nonprofit organization founded in 1937 that has long been an important bridge between visitors and the environment in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The mission is to increase public understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of Grand Teton National Park and the surrounding public lands,

through aid to the interpretive, educational and research programs of our partners.

The association provides educational materials, fund learning programs, give research grants, host art events, and much more. Please consider shopping at the online store or becoming a member to help carry out this essential work.

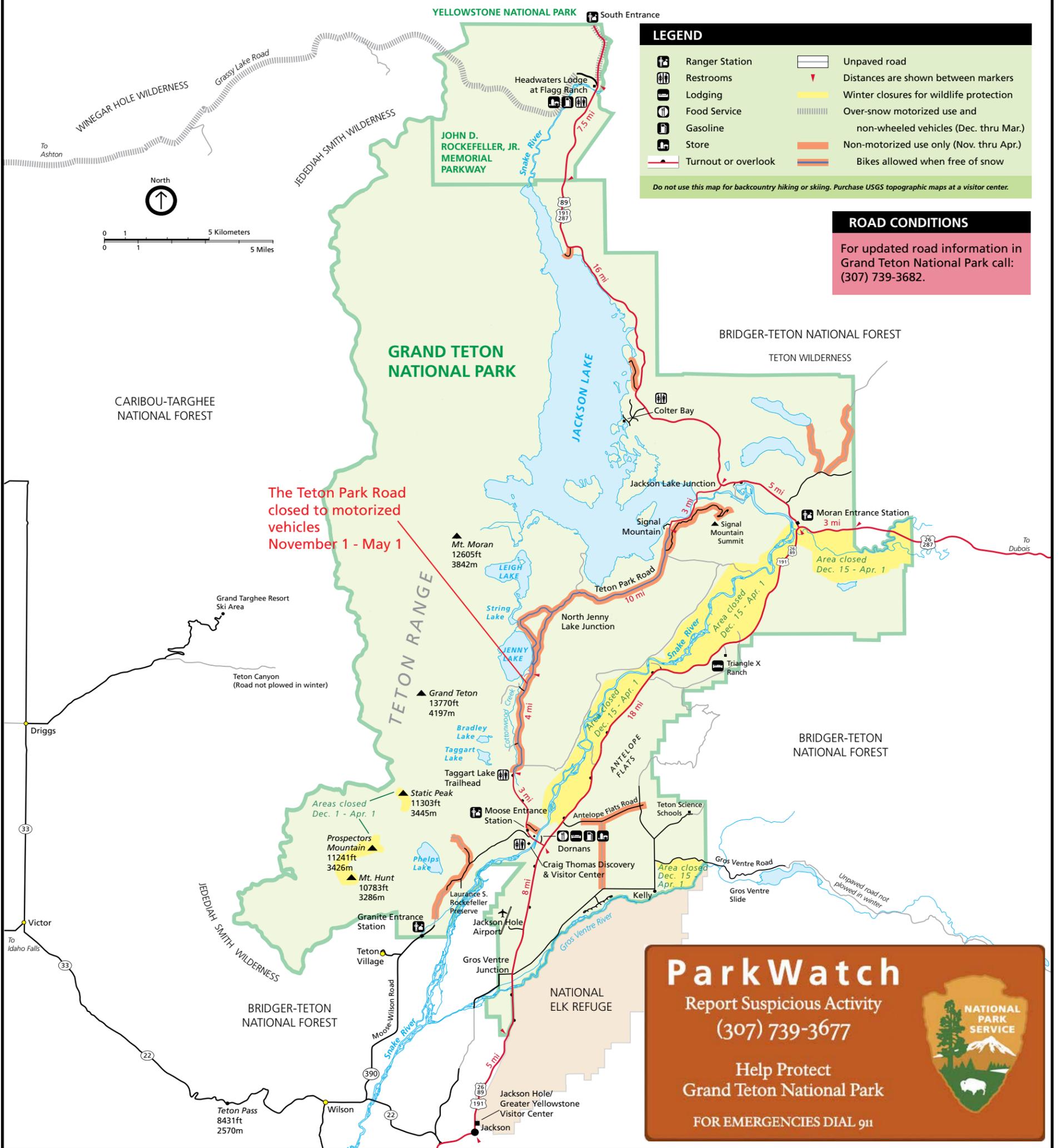
GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION

Grand Teton National Park Foundation provides private financial support for special projects that enhance and protect Grand Teton National Park's treasured resources. Since 1997, this organization has raised nearly \$23 million for education-based capital projects, work and learn programs

that reconnect youth to nature, and wildlife research and protection.

By funding initiatives that go beyond what the National Park Service could accomplish on its own, Foundation friends solve park challenges and create a solid future for Grand Teton.

Grand Teton National Park Map



Drive Safely!

WINTER DRIVING may 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.

- Roads may be icy or snow-covered, drive below the speed limit when conditions warrant.
- Watch for wildlife on the roadway, especially in the morning and evening.
- Carry an emergency kit and a shovel in your vehicle. Snowstorms may occur at any time. Roads may close at any time for visitor safety.
- Always wear your seat belt.
- Be prepared for changing weather conditions.

Accessible 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 Road and the Moose-Wilson Road 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 parking area 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.

