Boating

Permits and Fees

Privately owned vessels (including stand-up paddle boards) must register each year with Grand Teton National Park. Purchase permits at the Craig Thomas and Colter Bay visitor centers.

**Park Permit Fees:**
- Motorized boat $56
- Non-motorized boat $17

The permit sticker must be placed on the port (left) side of the vessel, approximately one foot forward of the stern (back). State registration for motorized vessels is required prior to obtaining a park permit.

**Motorized Boats**

Motor boats are only allowed on Jackson and Jenny lakes. On Jenny Lake, motors may not exceed 10 horsepower, except by boating concessioners.

**Non-Motorized Boats**

Human-powered vessels are permitted on Jackson, Jenny, Phelps, Emma Matilda, Two Ocean, Taggart, Bradley, Bearpaw, Leigh, and String lakes, and on the Snake River 1,000 feet below the Jackson Lake Dam. Stand up paddle boards (SUPs) require a park permit.

Only human-powered rubber rafts, canoes, dories, and kayaks may be operated on the Snake River within the park and parkway.

All other waters within the park and parkway are closed to watercraft, including Pacific Creek, Buffalo Fork, Cottonwood Creek, and the Gros Ventre River.

Aquatic Invasive Species

- Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are an increasing concern. Many bodies of water are already contaminated. Clean, drain, and dry boats, boots, and waders before entering a new body of water.
- **Park inspection stations at Moose and Moran.**
- Never empty containers of bait, fish, plants or animals into park waters.
- Any watercraft transported into Wyoming must wear a PFD whenever a vessel is underway from sunset to sunrise.

March 1–November 30 requires boat inspection prior to launch, and the purchase of an AIS decal. Inflatable craft less than 10 feet long are exempt.

- **Purchase decals at many fishing gear stores, or online at wgfd.wyo.gov/ais .**
- **AIS Fees**
  - Non-motorized Resident $5
  - Motorized $10
  - Non-resident $15

Equipment

**Required Equipment**

All vessels must meet U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) requirements including:
- **Lifesaving Equipment**
  - All vessels must carry a USCG approved personal flotation device (PFD) of the appropriate size for each person on board. PFDs must be accessible and in good working condition. PFDs should be worn while boating. All passengers under 13 years old must wear a PFD whenever a vessel is underway or be within an enclosed cabin.
  - **Lights**
    - Every vessel must use navigation lights when underway from sunset to sunrise.
  - **Fire Extinguisher**
    - All motorboats must have at least the minimum number of portable fire extinguishers required by the USCG.

- **Signaling Devices**
  - All motorized watercraft shall have an efficient sound producing device on board.

- **Waste Receptacle**
  - All vessels should have a waste receptacle aboard.
  - Dispose of trash in garbage cans or dumpsters.
  - Draining, dumping, or discharging wastes into park or parkway waters is prohibited.
  - **Oars**
    - All boats shorter than 16 feet should be equipped with oars or paddles as a second means of propulsion.
  - **Bailing Bucket**
    - All boats should carry a bailing bucket in addition to bilge pumps and automatic bailers.

**Suggested Equipment**

- **Boating Safety Equipment**
  - Every vessel must be equipped with a whistle, a light, and a fire extinguisher.
  - All vessels should carry a bailing bucket and a pump.
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Prohibited Operations

All federal and state boating regulations apply.

- Operating jet skis on park waters.
- Operating while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Operating a vessel in excess of 5 mph or creating a wake in areas designated “No wake; speed 5 mph”.
- Operating in a reckless or negligent manner, or in a manner that is likely to endanger any other person or property.
- Operating motorized craft within 100 feet of other watercraft, for example, approaching canoes closer than 100 feet.
- Operating while any person is riding on the gunwales, transom or on the decking over the bow while the vessel is underway.
- Operating a vessel that exceeds a noise level of 82 decibels measured at a distance of 82 feet.
- Carrying passengers for hire or performing any other commercial operation within the park or parkway without Superintendent’s authorization.
- Operating within 500 feet of any designated swimming area, except within marked channels, where slow speed must be maintained.
- Operating a vessel within 100 feet of a diver’s marker, downed skier or swimmer.
- Leaving any vessel unattended outside a designated mooring or beaching areas for more than 24 hours without prior written permission from the Superintendent. Any vessel so left may be impounded.
- Overnight mooring or beacheding of boats on the shore of a designated harbor area, except in an emergency.
Important Information

Accidents
Report collisions, accidents, fires or other incidents that result in property loss, property damage, personal injury or death to a park ranger immediately. Each operator of involved vessels must report. This report does not relieve the responsibility of reporting boating accidents as may be required by the State and/or the U.S. Coast Guard. Any operator involved in an accident must also provide in writing his name, address, and identification of his vessel to any injured person and/or to the owner of any damaged property.

Motorized Boat Launching
Vessels transported by vehicle must be launched or removed from park waters at designated boat ramps: Leek’s Marina, Colter Bay, Signal Mountain, Jenny Lake, and Spalding Bay.

Non-motorized Boat Launching
Boaters may carry hand-propelled vessels to shoreline points where launching is convenient unless otherwise posted. Wheeled carriers or carts are prohibited.

Inspections
A park ranger may, at any time, stop or board a vessel to examine documents, licenses, and permits relating to operation of the vessel and to inspect the vessel to determine compliance with boating and fishing regulations.

Minimum Age of Operation
Operators of motorized vessels must be at least 16 years of age or accompanied by an adult.

Spalding Bay
Because of limited space, only single axle boat trailers are allowed at Spalding Bay. Trailer parking requires a special parking permit. Permits are available on a first-come, first-served basis and can be obtained 24 hours in advance from the permits office at Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center or Colter Bay Visitor Center.

Pets
Pets are permitted for day use only within boats on Jackson Lake. Overnight campers are not allowed to have pets in lakeshore campsites except at Spalding Bay. Pets are not allowed on the Snake River or on shore away from designated launch areas on Jackson Lake.

Camping
Lakeshore camping is permitted at designated numbered sites along Jackson and Leigh lakes. Get a mandatory backcountry camping permit at the Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center or Colter Bay Visitor Center. Camping at numbered lakeside sites on Jackson Lake is limited to three consecutive nights.

Permits for Fires
Fires are allowed only on Jackson Lake below the high water line with a permit. Fires are not allowed along the east shore from Spalding Bay to Lizard Creek Campground. Obtain a permit from the Colter Bay Visitor Center Permits Office. Extinguish your fire before leaving.

Swimming
Swimming from vessels underway, from docks and inside marinas is prohibited.

Sailboats and Wind Surfers
Sailboats and windsurfers require all permits listed on the front and may only be used on Jackson Lake.

Jet Skis & Personal Watercraft
Jet skis and personal watercraft are prohibited on all park waters.

Water Skiing
• Towing skiers is allowed only from sunrise to sunset.
• There must be at least 2 persons in the vessel with the passenger in a position to observe the status of the person or persons being towed.
• Skiers must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved flotation device.
• Water skiing is not allowed in channels or within 500 feet of harbors, swimming beaches or mooring areas or within 100 feet of any person swimming or diving.

Traps and Nets
Possessing, carrying, and/or using traps or nets is prohibited.

Boat Trailer Parking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Day Parking</th>
<th>Short-Term Parking (3-night limit)*</th>
<th>Long-Term Parking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leek’s Marina</td>
<td>Upper parking lot</td>
<td>Upper parking lot</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colter Bay</td>
<td>Colter Bay Village parking lot designated by striping and signed for boats &amp; RVs</td>
<td>Colter Bay Visitor Center parking lot (east side, designated area)</td>
<td>Near Colter Bay Cabin office for GTLC permit with slip or mooring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signal Mountain</td>
<td>Boat ramp parking area</td>
<td>Mid-lot parking area</td>
<td>Base of Signal Mtn. Summit Road, on the north side, with Signal Mtn. mooring permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spalding Bay</td>
<td>Designated sites, parking permit required</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* After 72 hours, the trailer must be removed for 24 hours. Trailers may be parked in short-term parking no more than 30 days during a calendar year.

These parking areas are for trailer use only. No vessel may remain on the trailer while parked in these locations. Please park in designated areas only, illegally parked vehicles may be ticketed and/or towed.