

Travel Tips

Cross-country motorized travel is not allowed within the Monument and Preserve except immediately adjacent to roads and trails for purposes such as parking, turning around, or passing another vehicle.

Only vehicles licensed for highway use are allowed on the 7-mile Loop Road and no vehicles, including motorcycles and bicycles, are permitted off designated roadways. All trails in the Loop Road area are limited to non-motorized use.

Additional travel restrictions are in effect in certain areas to protect wildlife and sensitive features. Roads designated with "Seasonal Closures" may only be used during the open period. Permission from private land owners is required to cross private land unless legal access is provided by a Federal, State, or County road.

Travel Map

Where You Can Go: The public travel map is available at BLM offices in Twin Falls, Shoshone, and Boise.

Why are these definitions of travel routes important?

Travel routes are usually defined by safety factors and the size of your vehicle (car, truck, ATV, UTV, motorcycle, or mountain bike). Since the monument is comprised of volcanic lava, travel routes are rocky and unimproved everywhere except for the National Park Service Visitor Loop south of the visitor center and Highway 20/26/93.

Map Definitions

ROAD: A route managed for use by low clearance vehicles having four or more wheels, and maintained for regular and continuous use, depending on current weather conditions. Roads are open to all motorized and non-motorized use unless specified otherwise. Portions of all roads within the Monument are rocky, unimproved and may require a high-clearance vehicle.

PRIMITIVE ROAD: A route managed for use by four-wheel drive or high-clearance vehicles. Primitive roads do not normally meet any BLM road design standards. These roads are open to all motorized and non-motorized use unless specified otherwise.

TRAIL: A route managed for human-powered, livestock, or off-highway vehicle transportation or for historical or heritage values. Currently ALL trails within the Monument and Preserve are limited to non-motorized use. UTVs are limited to roads and primitive roads. Use caution when traveling on any of these routes.

Outdoor Ethics

[Leave No Trace](#): Promotes and inspires responsible outdoor recreation through education, research and partnerships. It is dedicated to building awareness, appreciation, and most of all, respect for our public recreation places.

- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Minimize Campfire Impacts
- Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Ride Responsibly on Public Lands

Stay on designated roads.

Motorized cross-country travel is prohibited in the Monument. Cross-country travel can increase soil erosion, ignite wildfire, spread noxious weeds, frighten wildlife and damage wildlife habitat.

Respect closed areas and private property.

If crossing private property, be sure to ask landowner permission.

Avoid wet areas.

They are a vital resource for plants and animals.

Share roads.

Stop or slow down and lower the noise and dust levels when approaching equestrians, hikers and other land users. Yield the right of way to those passing or traveling uphill.

View animals from a distance.

When animals flee, they must use valuable energy reserves. This is their home; please respect it.

Respect seasonal closures.

Seasonal closures are in place to provide wildlife places to survive the winter, reproduce and raise their young undisturbed.

Know federal and state laws, rules, and regulations before operating an off-highway-vehicle (OHV) on public lands.

Safety

Outside the developed NPS area, there are no services and marginal phone coverage in the Monument. Exploring these areas requires special planning and an awareness of potential hazards. Bring a map, compass or GPS, a reliable form of communication, first-aid kit, sun protection, fire extinguisher, shovel, and plenty of water, food and fuel. Always let someone know where you're traveling and when you'll return.

On any road or trail, conditions may change at any time based on weather and maintenance frequency. Summer temperatures often exceed 100 degrees Fahrenheit with high winds causing dangerous fire conditions. Rain or snow can make roads impassable. If you do get stuck or have a mechanical breakdown, stay with your vehicle. A vehicle is much easier to locate than a person on foot.

Prevent Wildfires

- Completely drown all campfires with water and stir with a stick. Leave a campfire cool to your touch.
- Make certain all motorized vehicles are equipped with a proper exhaust system and spark arrestor.
- Never park or drive on dry grass. The exterior of your exhaust system can reach temperatures up to 2800 degrees Fahrenheit, igniting fires in dry vegetation. Vegetation can gather on top of your exhaust system causing it to ignite.
- Include a fire extinguisher and a shovel in your vehicle as standard equipment.
- Report all wildfires at 1-208-886-2373 or #FIRE on your mobile phone.