



General Information and Facts



Twin Sisters

City of Rocks National Reserve, designated on November 18, 1988 (located in southern Cassia County), is cooperatively managed by the National Park Service and Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation.

Unique granite formations, some towering as high as 600 feet, provide world class rock climbing. Some of the oldest rock west of the Mississippi River is also found in the reserve. Remnants of the California and Salt Lake Alternate Trails are visible and protected within the reserve's boundary. An abundance of wildflowers, many species of birds, and other wildlife offer numerous opportunities for viewing and photographing.

The area's historical and geological features, grand vistas, and opportunities for recreation make this a must-see during any visit to Idaho.

Recreational Opportunities

World class rock climbing, camping, hiking, picnicking, mountain biking, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, hunting, interpretive programs, photography, and winter activities are all available at City of Rocks.

Area Services and Facilities

Almo: Tracy's Mercantile and Post Office 208-824-5570, Almo Creek Outpost Cafe 208-824-5577, Old Homestead Bed and Breakfast 208-824-5521, Rock City Repair 208-824-5510, Castle View RV Park and Campground 208-824-5507 or 435-827-5758, Daughter's Gifts 208-824-5543.

Connor Creek (16 miles from Almo): Connor Creek Store 208-638-5557, Goodrich Auto Repair 208-638-5586.

Malta (23 miles from Almo): Fuel Depot 208-645-2474, Bake Central Store 208-645-2521, Desert Dog Cafe 208-645-2258.

Oakley (24 miles from Almo): Searle's 208-862-7887, Clark's for Shopping 208-862-3364, Whiteley Warm Springs 208-862-3246.

Albion (27 miles from Almo): Mountain Manor Bed and Breakfast 208-673-6642, Marsh Creek Inn 208-673-6259, Village Gas and Groceries 208-673-6614, Albion Cafe 208-673-5404, Sage Mountain Grill 208-673-6696.

General Information

The visitor center in Almo is open 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., seven days a week, April 15 through October 31, and 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays during the rest of the year except holidays. Field guides, climbing guides, books, postcards, T-shirts, climbing gear, patches, pins, maps and other items may be purchased at the visitor center.

Camping is permitted in various areas within the reserve. Most of the designated campsites among rock formations are accessed from the road including three group sites. Reservations are recommended. Sites are equipped with picnic tables and grills. There are no hook-ups, showers, or dump station. Vault toilets are located throughout the reserve. Bring your own fire wood or purchase wood at the visitor center or from local merchants. Gathering of fire wood inside the reserve is strictly prohibited.

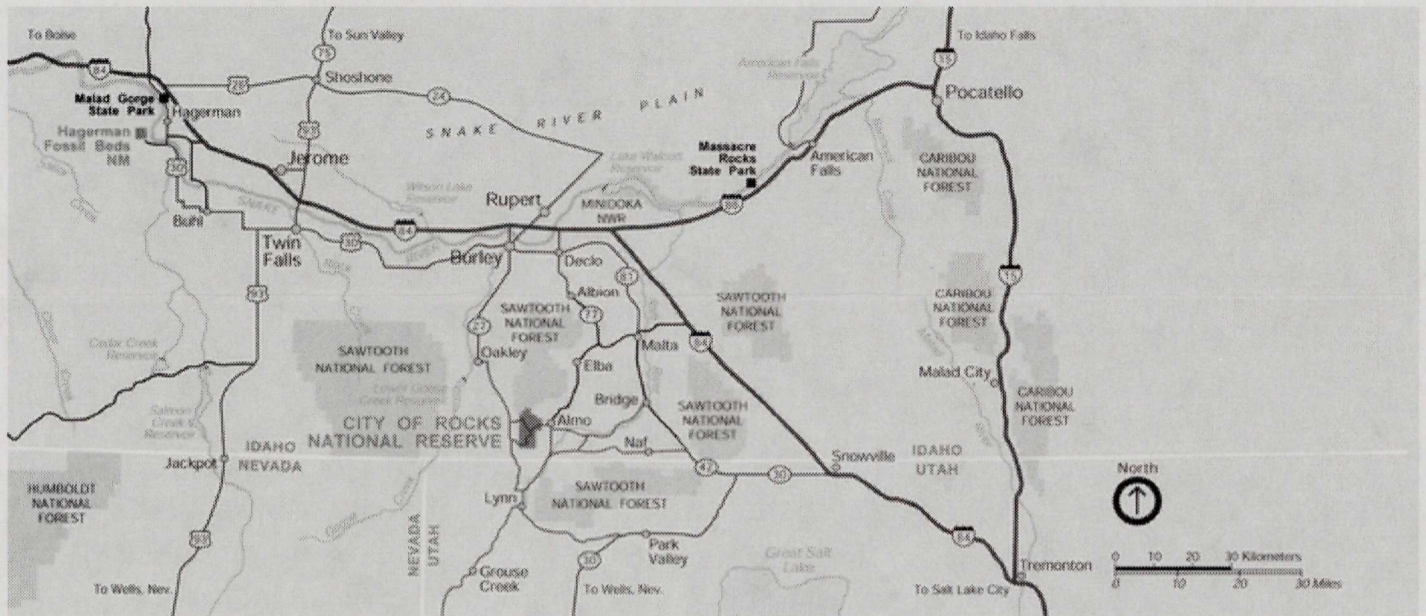
Solitude is offered to hikers and backpackers in the backcountry. A permit is required for all overnight backcountry use. Check at the visitor center for permits.

Pets must be kept on a leash at all times. For the safety of others, please do not leave pets unattended.

Getting to City of Rocks

The reserve is located 5 miles west of Almo, Idaho on maintained county roads.

From Boise and points west, take I-84 to the Declo exit, number 216, and south on Idaho route 77 to Albion, Elba, and Almo. From Pocatello, Idaho Falls and points east, take I-86 to I-84 to the Declo exit, number 216, and south on Idaho route 77 to Albion, Elba, and Almo. From Salt Lake City and points south, take I-84 north to the Sublette exit, number 245, and travel west towards Malta, Elba, and Almo.



Guide Services

Trail Rides: Indian Grove Outfitters, P.O. Box 213, Almo, ID 83312, 208-824-5766.

Climbing: Sawtooth Mountain Guides, P.O. Box 18, Stanley, ID 83278, 208-774-3324.

Exum Mountain Guides, P.O. Box 56, Moose, WY 83012, 307-733-2297. Jackson Hole Mountain Guides, P.O. Box 7477, Jackson, WY 83002, 1-800-239-7642.

Designations and Acreage

Designated as a National Natural Landmark in 1964

Acreage: 14,407 acres

Designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1974

Federal: 9,190.99 acres

Designated as City of Rocks National Reserve on November 18, 1988

State: 640.00 acres

Transferred to IDPR for on-site management on May 13, 1996

Private: 4,558.20 acres

R&PP: 120.00 acres

History, Geography and Natural History

Prominent stop along California Trail beginning in 1843

Elevation ranges from 5,720 to 8,867 (Graham Peak), local relief of 3,147

Pioneer, James F. Wilkins named the City of Rocks in 1849

Granite Spires of the Almo Pluton; Bath Rock 180 ft., Twin Sisters over 60 stories high

52,000 emigrants passed through in year 1852

450 plant species, 163 bird species, 4 amphibians, 14 reptiles, 55 mammal species

Boise-Kelton Stage operated through present day reserve

Largest Pinyon Pine forest in Idaho, Champion Pinyon Pine

Cattle and sheep grazing since 1870's

Located in Cassia County, in the Albion Mountain Range, part of the Great Basin

Visitation, Facilities and Operations

World-class rock climbing site

Camping Fee is \$7.00 per night/vehicle is charged. A second vehicle at the same site is \$5.00, with a maximum of 8 people and 2 vehicles per site. Reservations are available with an additional \$6.00 site fee.

75,000-95,000 visitors annually

700 established rock climbing routes, 300 bolted routes

12.5 miles of park gravel roads

Number of employees:

6.8 miles of established primary trail, 23 miles of secondary trail

Full-time = 5, Part-time = 7-12

78 campsites with picnic tables, grills, vault toilets, water fountain

FY-03 Budget: \$538,000

(State and Federal funding combined)