



The Stock User's Guide



Sawtooth
National Recreation Area

“It was a land of vast silent spaces, of lonely rivers, and of plains where the wild game stared at passing horsemen. We felt the beat of hardy life in our veins, and ours was the glory of work and the joy of living.”

Theodore Roosevelt

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Welcome!

The mountain meadows, alpine lakes and jagged peaks of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA) await your visit. The task of keeping this area beautiful and undamaged belongs to all of us. As a stock user, you must take extra precautions to safeguard the land. The introduction of noxious weeds, overgrazing, tree girdling and other impacts can be easily avoided with a bit of skill and preparation.

This user's guide can help you prepare for your trip. For example, did you know you must get a free wilderness permit from a Forest Service office if you are taking stock overnight into the Sawtooth Wilderness? Are you aware that the eastern side of the Wilderness is closed to grazing? So if you go, bring certified weed seed free feed (no loose hay or straw). For more useful tips, please read on, and have a great journey.

No Weeds, Please

Noxious weeds kill native plants, multiply quickly and reduce forage for wildlife. Help Idaho fight this problem by taking a few simple precautions:

- ❶ Use certified weed-seed-free feed on all public lands
- ❷ Familiarize yourself with Idaho's most problematic noxious weeds. Visit <http://uidaho.edu/weeds>
- ❸ Make sure your stock has not been eating weed-infested feed at least three days before you visit the forest
- ❹ Check your clothing, shoes, stock and dogs for any seeds that may be attached and remove them before leaving home

Frontcountry Camping

To camp with stock in the frontcountry, try Casino Creek or Grandjean Campground. For more locations, contact a Forest Service office.

Avoiding Bruises

Summer thunderstorms, wildlife and rugged terrain—they make for an amazing backcountry trip, but they can also make it dangerous. Most accidents can be prevented with careful planning, good equipment and acquired skills.

Plan Ahead and Prepare

- ✧ Before you leave, let someone know your trip itinerary
- ✧ Fill out a permit or sign in at the trail registration box
- ✧ Get a current weather forecast
- ✧ Bring a first aid kit—know what’s inside and how to use it
- ✧ Find out about animals or insects of concern (biting flies, bears, ticks etc.)
- ✧ Bring equipment and clothing for extreme weather—both hot and cold (it can snow any day of the year)

While You’re Out There

- ✧ Drink lots of water
- ✧ Always purify your water! Use a filter or tablets or boil it
- ✧ Be aware of storms and sudden weather changes
- ✧ Your safety is your responsibility

Be Bear Aware

The black bears of the SNRA usually pose no threat to people. Unfortunately, carelessness with food, garbage and livestock feed turns bears into “problems”. When bears become accustomed to finding food in camps, they become a nuisance and sometimes aggressive. Often, this results in a need to kill the bear. A few precautions can prevent this cycle.







- ✧ **Hang your food and garbage in a tree.** Only take it down during meals. Bears can climb, so hang it at least 12 feet up and 6 feet from the trunk. Keep livestock feed in a bear safe container. Don’t burn or bury food scraps.
- ✧ If you encounter a bear, stay calm. Pick up children, restrain your dog, talk calmly and back away slowly.

Where Should I Go?

The Sawtooth Wilderness & Boulder-White Clouds offer differences in both scenery and regulations. Use the chart below to decide which area might be best for your group:

| | Sawtooth Wilderness | Boulder-White Clouds |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Group Size | Groups are limited to 12 people & 14 head of stock. | Groups are limited to 20 people & 25 head of stock. |
| Campfires | Where campfires are allowed, they must be built on a fire pan or fire blanket. No rock fire-rings are allowed. | Where campfires are allowed, they must be built in existing fire-rings. Don't leave any trash in the fire ring. |
| Dogs | To respect other visitors & wildlife, keep your dog leashed when on a trail. Mandatory from July 1 - Labor Day. | To respect other visitors & wildlife, keep your dog leashed when on a trail. Strongly recommended, but not mandatory. |
| Permits | Free, self-issuing permits are required. Pick one up at a trailhead, ranger station or wilderness boundary. Large groups with more than 8 people and those using stock overnight must obtain a permit in advance. | Permits are not required, but please sign in at the trailhead registration box. |
| Motorcycles & Bicycles | As in all wilderness, these are not allowed | 2-wheeled motorcycles & bikes are allowed, but only on designated trails. |
| Leave No Trace | Leave No Trace techniques should be practiced to minimize your impact. | Leave No Trace techniques should be practiced to minimize your impact. |
| Stock Tie Areas | Designated stock tie areas are available with high lines. See pages 7-10. | Please use the available stock tie areas. See page 13. |
| Grazing | Grazing is allowed only on the west side of the wilderness. Certified, weed-seed-free feed must be used on the east side. No loose hay or straw. | Grazing is allowed throughout the area, but any feed brought in must be certified, weed-seed-free. |

A few SNRA facts

-  The Sawtooth Wilderness encompasses 217,088 acres.
-  The Boulder-White Cloud Mountains encompass approximately 400,000 acres.
- Z** More than 700 miles of trails exist within the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.
-  More than 2,000 alpine lakes can be found within the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.
-  42 peaks over 10,000 feet are within the Sawtooth Wilderness and 10 peaks over 11,000 feet are within the Boulder-White Cloud Mountains.
-  More than 40,000 people visit the roadless areas within the Sawtooth National Recreation Area between mid-June and late September.
-  The Salmon, Big Wood, South Fork of the Payette, and Middle Fork of the Boise Rivers all begin in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.

Leave No Trace

❶ Plan Ahead And Prepare

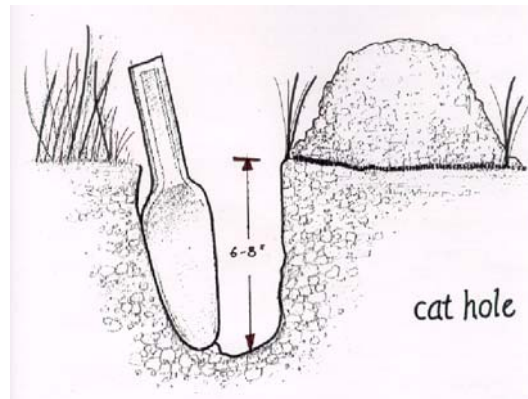
- ✧ Know the regulations
- ✧ Be prepared for any weather
- ✧ Repackage food to reduce waste
- ✧ Get a map and know how to use it

❷ Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

- ✧ Good campsites are not made...they are found
- ✧ Camp well away (200 feet) from water
 - ✧ In popular areas, use camps and trails showing use
 - ✧ In pristine areas, disperse your impact

❸ Dispose of Waste Properly

- ✧ Pack out all garbage, including “biodegradable” stuff
- ✧ Bury human waste 200 feet away from water (and



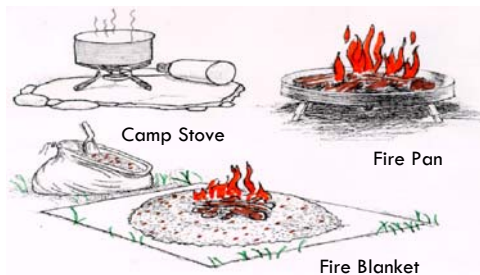
camp) in a cat-hole 6-8 inches deep. Cover and disguise the hole when you are finished. Pack out your toilet paper in a plastic bag

- ✧ Wash dishes and use *all* soap (even biodegradable) at least 200 feet from water sources

At A Glance

4 Minimize Fire Impacts

- ✧ Use a fire pan or fire blanket (required in the Sawtooth Wilderness) to avoid scarring and sterilizing the land
- ✧ Burn campfires down to ash & scatter cold ashes



- ✧ Keep fires small—use sticks found on the ground that are smaller than your wrist (never saw or break limbs off a tree)

5 Respect Wildlife

- ✧ Never feed animals
- ✧ Observe wildlife from a distance
- ✧ Control your dog! Don't let your dog chase wildlife
- ✧ Protect wildlife, and yourself, by hanging trash and food

6 Be Considerate of Other Visitors

- ✧ Be courteous and let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises
- ✧ Take breaks and make camp away from trails and visitors
- ✧ Step to the downhill side when encountering horses

7 Leave What You Find

- ✧ Don't build structures (rock benches, log rafts, etc)
- ✧ Preserve the past, present and future: it is against the law to take cultural artifacts, rocks, plants and other objects
- ✧ Avoid introducing noxious weeds

Sawtooth Wilderness

“A wilderness...is an area where the earth and community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.”

1964 Wilderness Act

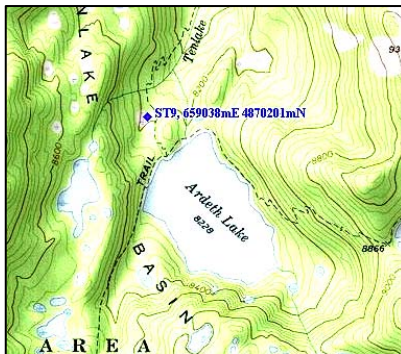
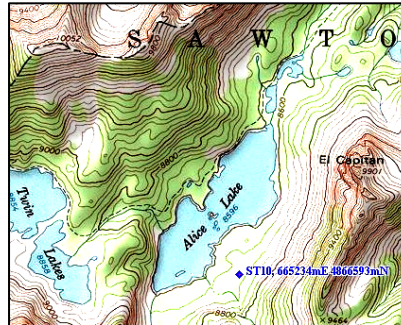


Wilderness Stock Tie Areas

*Please use these and other impacted areas when visiting the wilderness.
Maps and GPS Coordinates are approximate.*

Alice Lake ▶

ST10,665234mE4866593mN

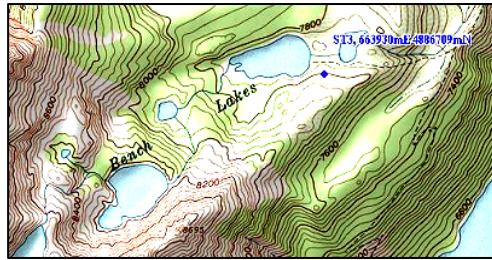


◀ Ardeth Lake

ST9,659038mE4870201mN

Baron Lakes ▶

ST4,657650mE4883001mN



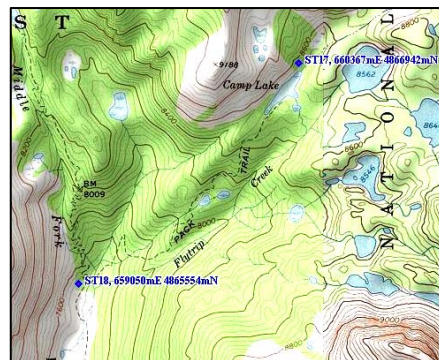
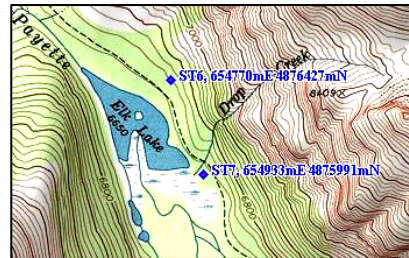
◀ Bench Lakes

ST3,663930mE4886709mN

Elk Lake ▶

ST6,654770mE4876427mN

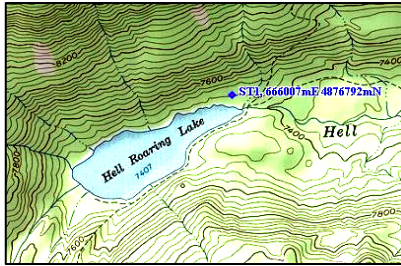
ST7,654933mE4875991mN



◀ Flytrip Creek & Camp Lake

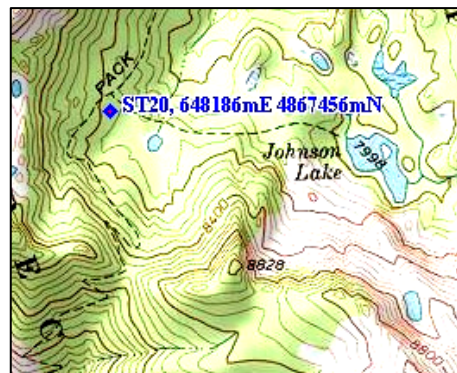
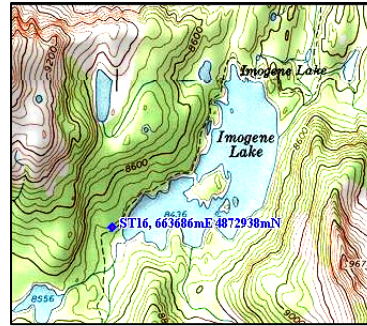
ST17,660367mE4866942mN

ST18,659050mE486554mN



◀ Hell Roaring Lake
ST1,666007mE 4876792mN

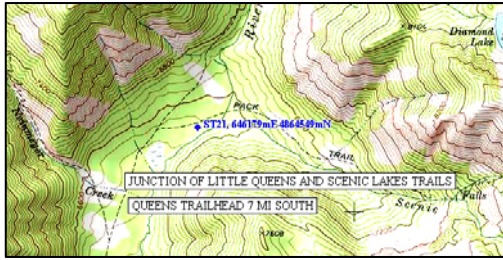
Imogene Lake ▶
ST16,663686mE 4872938mN



◀ Johnson Lake
ST20,648186mE 4867456mN

Pat's Lake ▶
ST8,650322mE 4870437mN

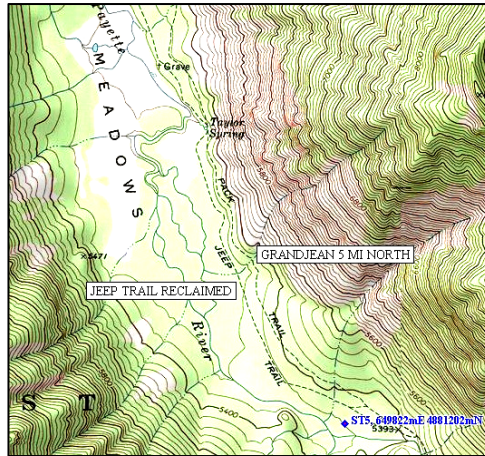




◀ Queens River
Trail ST21,646179
mE4864549mN

South Fork of the
Payette River Trail

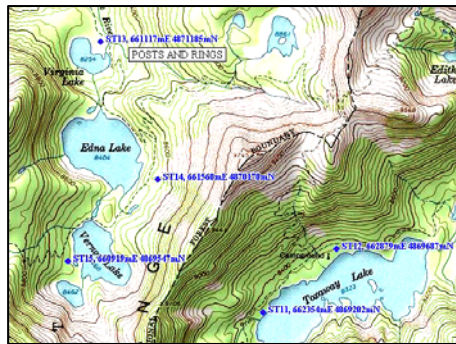
▶
ST5,649822mE4881202mN



◀ Spangle Lake
ST19,658207mE4867400mN

Virginia, Edna,
Vernon & Toxaway
Lakes ▶

ST13,661117mE4871185mN
ST14,661560mE4879170mN
ST15,660919mE4869547mN
ST12,662879mE4869687mN



Sawtooth Wilderness Regulations

“To secure for the American people
of present and future generations
the benefits of an enduring resource
of wilderness.” 1964 Wilderness Act

▲▲▲ Permits & Groups

- * All wilderness users must have a permit for wilderness use.
- * Groups with 8 or more people or any overnight stock use in the wilderness must obtain a permit from a Forest Service office. Self-issued wilderness permits are available at trailheads for all other users.
- * Groups may not exceed 12 people & 14 head of stock May 1 to Nov. 30. Smaller groups are recommended when traveling off-trail to protect fragile areas.
- * Groups may not exceed 20 persons & 14 head of stock Dec. 1 to April 30.

🐎 Stock

- * Use proper stock containment methods. If you must tie to live trees, limit it to periods of less than 1 hour.
- * Stock are not to be tethered within 100 feet of springs, lakes & streams, nor grazed within 200 yards of lake shores. Keep bacteria out of water sources & protect fragile lake & stream shores.
- * Grazing of equine stock is not allowed in the Salmon River drainage (east side of wilderness). Feed is very limited.
- * Carry pelletized, certified weed-seed-free feed. Packing in loose hay or straw is prohibited. Prevent noxious weeds.
- * No stock are allowed in the Goat Creek drainage (tributary of the South Fork of the Payette) or Alpine Creek drainage (near Alturas Lake). Help protect these fragile areas.
- * Equine stock are not allowed overnight at Edith Lake. Help protect this fragile area.
- * Stock are allowed in campsites only when loading and unloading.

▲ Camping

- * Camp at least 100 feet from trails, lakes & streams. Use existing camps in high traffic areas.

Dogs

- * Dogs must be on leash while on trails from July 1 to Labor Day. Control your pet. Stock users must have their dog under physical restraint. Shock collars are acceptable. Loose dogs can harass wildlife, stock and disturb other visitors.
- * Dogs are not allowed in the Goat Creek drainage (tributary of the South Fork of the Payette River).

Fire

- * All campfires must be on a fire pan or fire blanket. Use of gas stoves is highly recommended. If you must build a fire, use only dead and down wood. Fires damage vegetation, sterilize soil and scar the land.
- * **Campfires are not allowed:** Wood is limited and use is high in these areas.
 - * Off-trail from July 1 to Labor Day.
 - * In the following drainages: Alice/Twin Lakes, Toxaway/Farley Lakes, Goat Creek (tributary of the South Fork of the Payette River), or Alpine Creek.
 - * Within 200 yards of Sawtooth, Goat & Alpine Lakes near Iron Creek, Alpine & Saddleback (Shangri-la) Lakes in the Redfish drainage & the Scenic Lakes.

Sanitation

- * Pack out all trash. This includes food scraps. Help remove evidence of your stay and keep the area clean.
- * Wash 150 feet away from lakes and streams. Even “biodegradable” soap pollutes. Keep it pure!
- * Bury human waste at least 100 feet from water sources. Catholes should be 6-8 inches deep and covered with soil.
- * Properly dispose of toilet paper. We prefer that you carry it out (doubled plastic bags work great for this!).

Z Etiquette

- * Do not disturb natural features. Leave them for others to enjoy.
- * Stay on the trail. Cutting switchbacks causes erosion.
- * Respect the quiet that wilderness offers. Shouting, music & other loud noises disrupt solitude and disturb wildlife.
- * Remember—as in all wilderness—bicycles, motor vehicles, carts &

Boulder-White Clouds

“Backcountry horsemen around the world support low impact wilderness use and endorse the principles and ethics of Leave No Trace.”

Backcountry Horsemen of British Columbia



Backcountry Stock Tie Areas

- ▶ Chamberlain Lakes 1 & 3
- ▶ Frog Lake 2
- ▶ Walker Lake

For additional stock tie areas, please contact the Forest Service offices listed on the back cover of this guide.

Boulder-White Cloud Regulations

▲▲▲ Permits & Groups

- * Groups may not exceed 20 people & 25 head of stock. Smaller groups are recommended when traveling off-trail to protect fragile resources.

Stock

- * Stock are not to be tethered within 100 feet of springs, lakes & streams. Keep bacteria out of water sources and protect fragile lake and stream shores.
- * All feed must be certified noxious weed-seed-free. Prevent the introduction of weeds by packing pelletized feed.
- * Use proper stock containment methods. If you must tie to live trees, limit to periods of less than one hour.

▲ Camping

- * Camp at least 100 feet from trails, lakes & streams. Use existing camps in high traffic areas.

Fire

- * Build campfires only in existing fire rings. Carry out all trash, don't burn it.
- * Use of gas stoves is highly recommended. If you must build a fire, use only dead and down wood. Fires damage vegetation, sterilize soil & scar the land.
- * Campfires are not allowed within 200 yards of the following lakes: Cirque, Cove, Sapphire, Sheep, Slide, Tin Cup, Gunsight, Four Lakes Basin, Scree, Shallow, Castle and Chamberlain 9849. Wood is limited in these areas.

Sanitation

- * Pack out all trash. This includes food scraps. Help remove evidence of your stay and keep the area clean.
- * Wash 150 feet away from lakes and streams. Even "biodegradable" soap pollutes.
- * Bury human waste at least 100 feet from water sources. Catholes should be 6-8 inches deep and covered with soil.
- * Properly dispose of toilet paper. We prefer that you carry it out (doubled plastic bags work great for this!).

Z Etiquette

- * Do not disturb natural features. Leave them for others to enjoy.
- * Stay on the trail. Cutting switchbacks causes erosion.
- * Respect the quiet that the wild country offers. Shouting, music & other loud noises disrupt solitude and disturb wildlife.

Checklist for You

Required Items

- ☼ Wilderness Permit (Sawtooth Wilderness)
- ☼ Fire Pan or Fire Blanket (if having a fire in the Sawtooth Wilderness)

Camping Gear

- ☼ Lightweight Stove
- ☼ Fuel
- ☼ Waterproof Matches or Lighter
- ☼ Cookware
- ☼ Utensils
- ☼ Water Filter
- ☼ Water Containers
- ☼ Collapsible Buckets
- ☼ Trowel or Small Shovel
- ☼ Lightweight Sleeping Bag
- ☼ Sleeping Pad
- ☼ Lightweight Tent

Personal Items

- ☼ Pocket Knife
- ☼ Maps
- ☼ Compass
- ☼ Flashlight and Batteries
- ☼ First Aid Kit
- ☼ Bug Repellent
- ☼ Sunscreen
- ☼ Sunglasses
- ☼ Camera
- ☼ Plastic Bags for Trash

Clothing

- ☼ Riding Boots and Camp Shoes
- ☼ Shirts
- ☼ Pants
- ☼ Jacket
- ☼ Socks
- ☼ Hat
- ☼ Gloves
- ☼ Rain Gear

Checklist for Your Stock

- ☼ Saddles
- ☼ Pack Saddles
- ☼ Saddle Blankets and Pads
- ☼ Halter and Rope
- ☼ Headstalls
- ☼ Pelletized Feed
- ☼ Nose Bags
- ☼ Hobbles
- ☼ Highline and Tree Saver Straps
- ☼ Panniers or Manties and Rope
- ☼ Bug Repellent
- ☼ Stock First Aid Kit
- ☼ Brush and Comb
- ☼ Temporary Horse Shoe

Contact

Sawtooth National Recreation Area Headquarters
5 North Fork Canyon Road
Ketchum, ID 83340
(208) 727-5000

Stanley Ranger Station
HC 64 Box 9900
Stanley, ID 83278
(208) 774-3000

Redfish Lake Visitor Center (June to Labor Day)
(208) 774-3374

*Please call for more information or to schedule a
free Leave No Trace program for your riding group.*

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