



Winter Travel Map Payette National Forest



America's Great Outdoors

Purpose of this map

The Payette National Forest System has been designated as a National Forest System land. The purpose of this map is to provide information regarding types of travel and when and where use may be used. In some cases, types of travel are restricted to ensure user safety, protect resources, and provide for non-motorized recreation opportunities. Designations reflect a mix of user needs and resource values. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that the Forest Service manage the forest under a plan that provides for the protection of resources and the protection of the environment.

Groomed snowmobile routes are managed under cost share agreements with the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation and by Valley County. The routes shown on this map are designated due to snow conditions and program management of the routes. Please note that not all routes are groomed. Snow conditions and funding may limit some routes from being groomed.

Idaho Snowmobile Validation Stickers

Idaho State law requires that all over-snow vehicles have current certificate of number stickers visibly affixed to the right and left hand sides of their snowmobile. The certificate of number sticker is required to purchase a nonresident snowmobile user certificate of number sticker and visibly affix the certificate of number to the right and left hand sides of their snowmobile. Failure to display certificate of number information on the location of the nearest vendor, call the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation at 1-800-247-6332 (in state) or 208-334-4197 (out-of-state).

Local Area Requirements

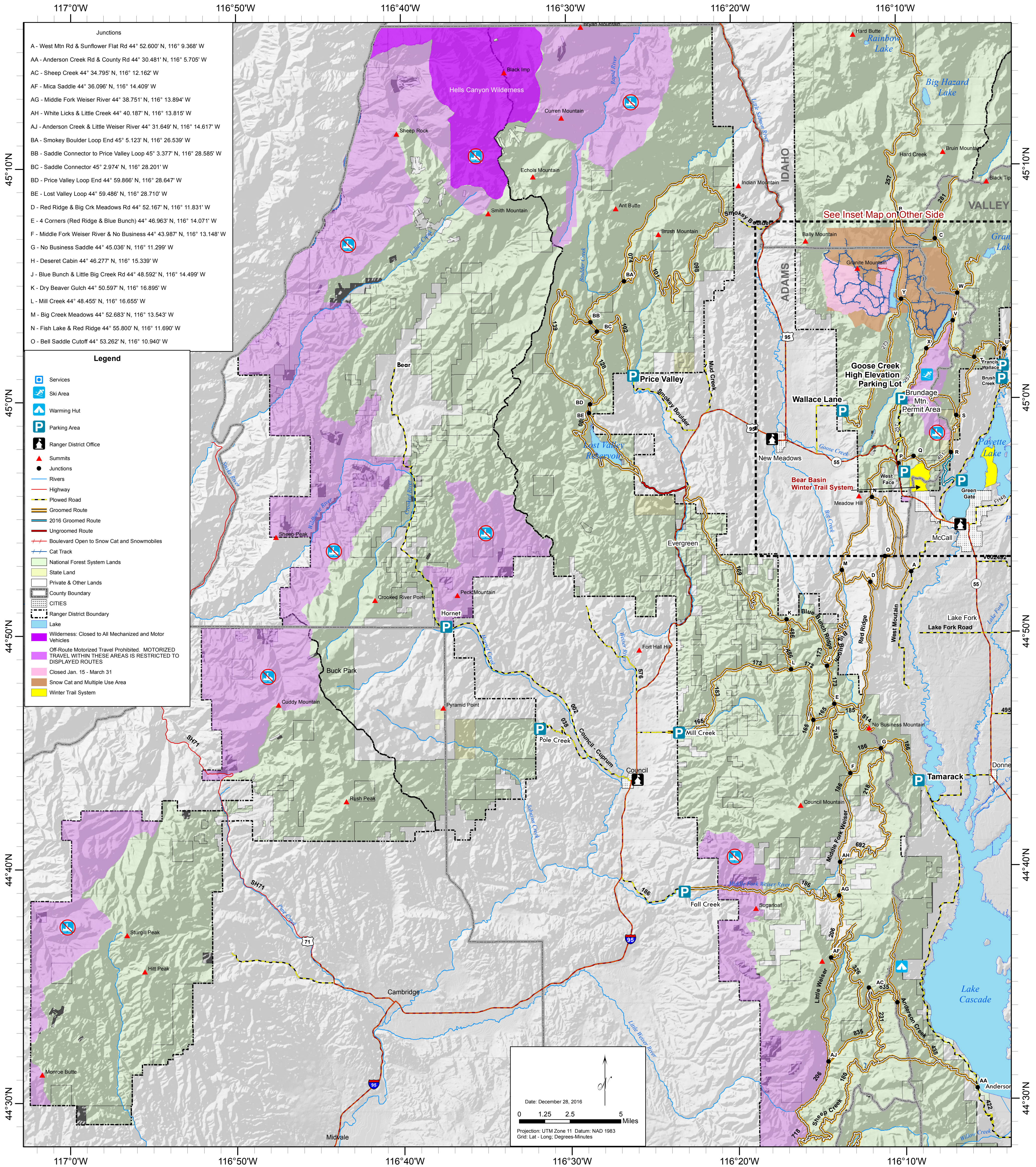
- Use extreme caution in and around Snow-Cat routes.
- Snow-Cat routes are marked with a light blue line and a snowcat icon (both marked in light purple on this map). are closed to snowmobiles.
- Overnight parking is allowed at the West Face and Francis Wallace parking lots only.
- On the Goose Creek parking lot, snowmobile noise level (vehicle plus trailer) must not exceed 52 feet.
- In the Goose Creek parking lot, snowmobile noise level must not exceed 86 dBA (at 100 feet) when measured from one meter.

Avalanche Center Information

Check backcountry avalanche and weather conditions before you leave home. 208-634-0419 or check the avalanche web site at www.avalanche.org.



Cover Photo by Rick Hudson



Welcome to Winter on the Payette National Forest!

The Winter Travel Map for the Payette National Forest is the legal document that identifies designated routes and open play areas for over the snow motor vehicle use for the Payette National Forest.

Over the snow vehicles are defined as:

A motor vehicle that is designed for use over the snow and runs on tracks and/or ski or skis while in use over the snow.

As defined by Chapter 71, Title 67, Idaho Code

A "snowmobile" means any self-propelled vehicle under one thousand (1000) pounds unladen gross weight, designed primarily for travel on snow or over natural terrain, which may be steered by tracks, skis, or runners.

This map displays the two Special Orders written to enforce winter over-snow travel.

The Forest-wide Special Order (0412-415):

Closes portions of the Forest annually to over-snow motor vehicle use. These restrictions were developed to protect resources (to provide wildlife security, reduce hunting vulnerability for game species, provide for non-motorized recreation experiences, and to restore or protect habitat for Threatened, Endangered, Candidate and Sensitive species).

The other Special Order (0412-465):

Closes portions of the Granite Mountain area annually to over-snow vehicle use for a 75 day period (January 15 – March 31) in an effort to preserve the non-motorized recreation experience.

With this Special Order the Forest provides back-country skiing opportunity without the presence of snowmobiles in the same area. The Special Order promotes safety and a non-motorized experience for the many recreationalists desiring a back-country skiing experience in the Granite Mountain area.

As "The Boulevard" which leads from Goose Reservoir up into the bows and over to the Granite Lookout will continue to be open to snowmobiles. In addition, the Granite Lookout remains outside the motorized closure (See the enlarged detailed map for details).

Special Order (0412-465)

Also opens Hitt Mountain and Squaw Point to over-snow motor vehicle use and provides for additional snowmobiling opportunities in these areas.

The removal of the restriction on motorized travel in these two areas should benefit motorized users. Use in the Hitt Mountain area is light to moderate, therefore, conflicts in use or user safety issues are not expected. Squaw Point is an area that was previously closed to over-snow motorized use. The area provided some benefit to back country skiers, but most back country skiers have moved to other areas because of the high snowmobile use along the trail.

Need to travel long distances to access the area. The snowmobiling community will benefit from having the Squaw Point area re-opened to their use once again as it is adjacent to the groomed snowmobile route and provides for quality of trail snow mobile experiences.

Know where you are. The Payette National Forest is comprised of motorized and non-motorized designated areas. It is each user's responsibility to know his or her location in relation to the map.

Carry a topographical map or GPS and keep track of landmarks such as mountain peaks, valleys, rivers and numbered non-motorized or multiple use routes.

Please observe and obey all signage as these restrictions are in place. Please do not cross area boundaries and non-motorized recreational experiences.

Thank you to the Forest Partners: The Payette National Forest would like to thank the following partners for their generous contribution of both time and funds to the publication of this map:

- Brundage Mountain Resort
- Cheap Hill Ski Area
- Idaho Snowmobile Association
- McCall Snowmobile Club
- Winter Wildlands Alliance

Cover Photo by Rick Hudson