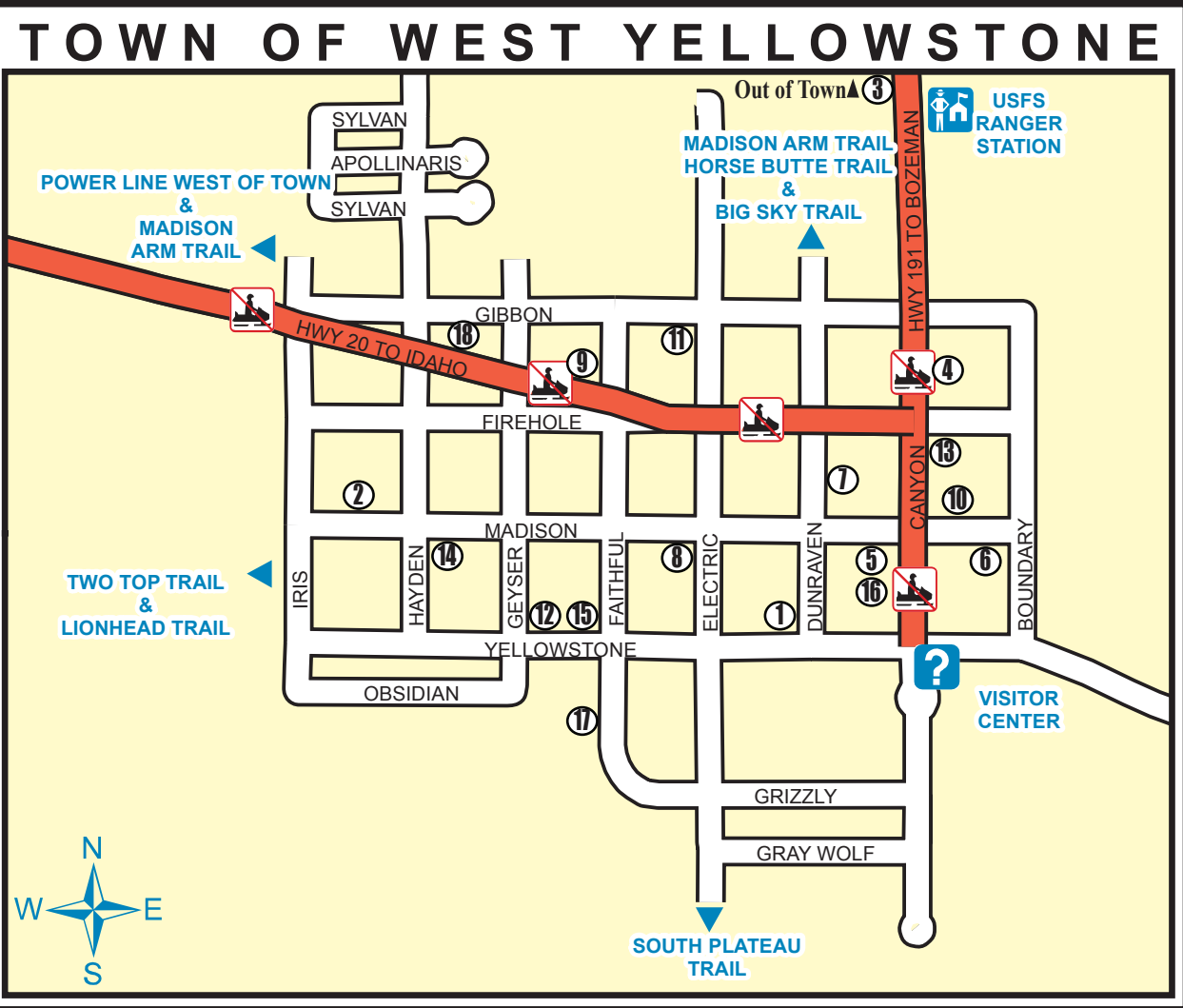




Montana and Idaho REQUIRE:
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to have a **non-resident license**.

Montana non-resident snowmobile and snowbike licenses cost **\$35.00**

Idaho non-resident 1-year snowmobile licenses cost **\$59.50**

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Montana REQUIRES:
ALL residents with "mechanized equipment",
including snowmobiles, fat-tire bikes, dog sleds and converted motorized
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Montana Resident Groomed Trail Pass costs **\$20.00 - Pass good for two years**

Licenses and groomed trail passes are available
at authorized snowmobile vendors and the
West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center
(30 Yellowstone Avenue - West Yellowstone, MT)

State of Montana Snowmobiler's Responsibility & Liability Law

23-2-651. Purpose. The legislature finds that snowmobiling is a major recreational sport and a major industry in this state and recognizes that among the attractions of the sport are risks, inherent and otherwise. The state has a legitimate interest in:

- (1) maintaining the economic viability of the snowmobiling industry by discouraging claims based on damages resulting from risks inherent in the sport;
- (2) clarifying what the inherent risks of snowmobiling are; and
- (3) establishing the duties of snowmobilers and snowmobile area operators.

History: En. Sec. 1, Ch. 440, L. 1987; and, Sec. 1, Ch. 145, L. 1999.

23-2-654. Snowmobiler's assumption of responsibility -- duties.

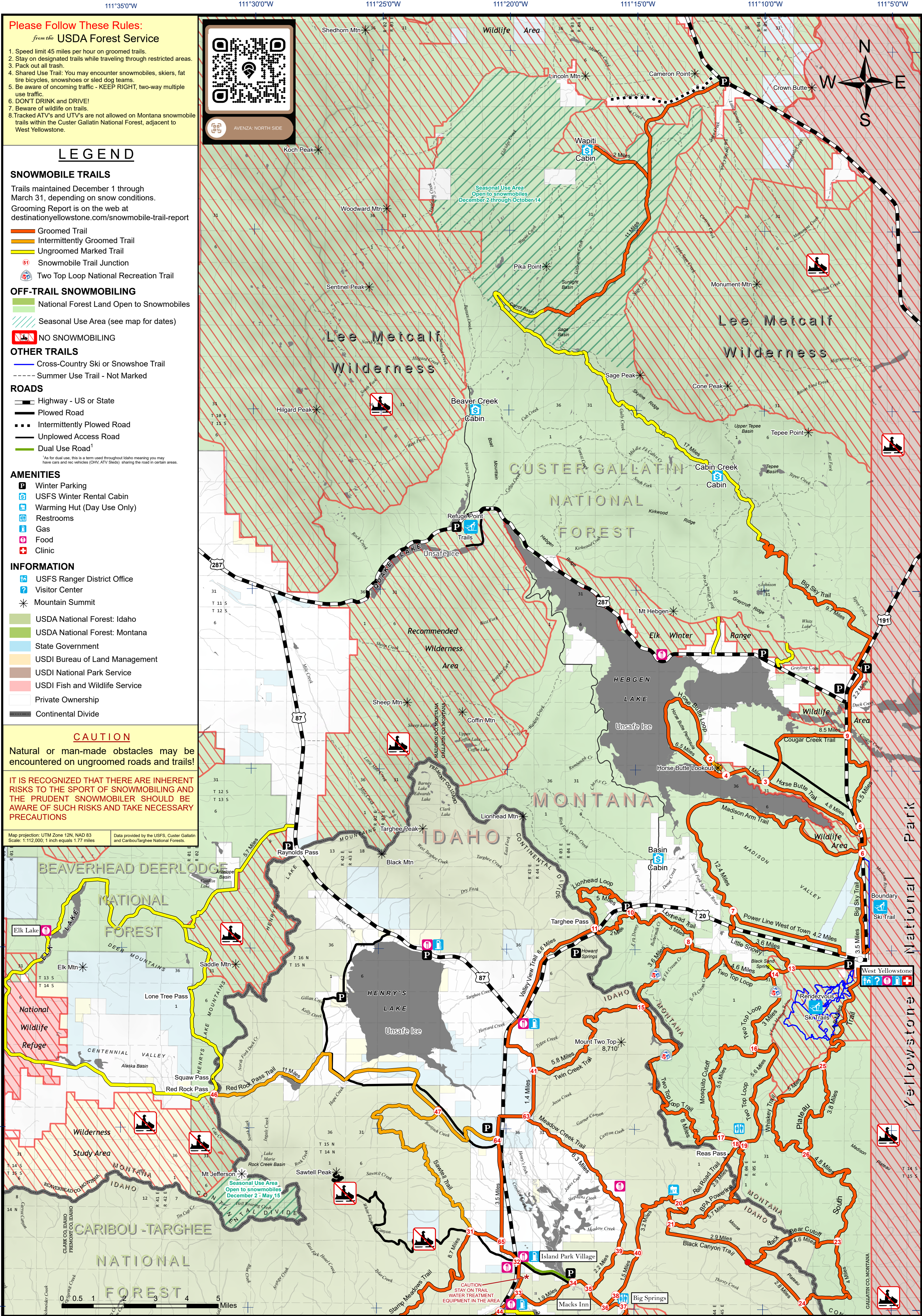
- (1) A snowmobiler shall operate a snowmobile at all times in a manner that avoids injury to self and others and must be aware of the inherent risks in the sport of snowmobiling.
- (2) A snowmobiler shall:

- (a) know the range of the snowmobiler's ability and the snowmobiler's equipment so as to negotiate any section of terrain or snowmobile trail safely and without injury or damage. A snowmobiler must be aware that the snowmobiler's ability may vary because of terrain or trail changes caused by weather, grooming changes, or snowmobile use;
- (b) maintain control of speed and course at all times while snowmobiling so as to prevent injury to self and others;
- (c) heed all posted warnings;
- (d) refrain from acting in a manner that may cause or contribute to the injury of anyone;

- (3) A snowmobiler shall accept all legal responsibility for injury or damage of any kind to the extent that the injury or damage results from risks inherent in the sport of snowmobiling. Risks inherent in the sport of snowmobiling are: (a) variations in terrain, including surface or subsurface snow or ice conditions naturally occurring or resulting from weather changes, snowmobile use, or grooming or snow making operations; (b) bare spots or thin snow cover caused by limited snowfall, melting, wind erosion, snowmobile action, grooming, or unconsolidated base; (c) rocks, trees, or other forms of forest growth or debris; (d) clearly visible or plainly marked improvements or trail maintenance equipment; and (e) avalanches.
- (4) The provisions of this section do not affect a products liability cause of action based upon the design or manufacture of snowmobile equipment or products or safety equipment used incidental to the operation of a snowmobile.

History: En. Sec. 4, Ch. 440, L. 1987; and, Sec. 11, Ch. 351, L. 1993; and, Sec. 4, Ch. 145, L. 1999.

Trails Maintained December 1 through March 31.



PROTECT YOUR RIGHT TO RIDE
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AREA RESTRICTIONS
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YEARLONG VIOLATION PENALTY

TRAIL JUNCTIONS

MONTANA ONLY:

TRACKED ATVs & SIDE/SIDE'S
ARE NOT ALLOWED
ON GROOMED SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Only motorized snow vehicles, defined as, driven with a track, cleared with skis and less than 36" in total width are allowed on groomed snowmobile trails.
18 USC 3602R 24.14

Custer Gallatin National Forest

2025-2026 Snowmobile Patches Available

\$5.00 for 25/26 patches.
\$3.00 for older stock.
Available at the Chamber/Visitor Center

2025-2026 WEST YELLOWSTONE, MT

This map is for informational purposes only.

The Gallatin National Forest Over Snow Vehicle Use Map is the regulatory map for snowmobile use on the Gallatin National Forest.

Go to www.fs.usda.gov/main/gallatin/maps-pubs or visit the Hebgen Lake Ranger District for more information.

CAUTION! Pay close attention to the Yellowstone Park Ranger District's "Zero Tolerance" policy in effect for official riding within the Park.

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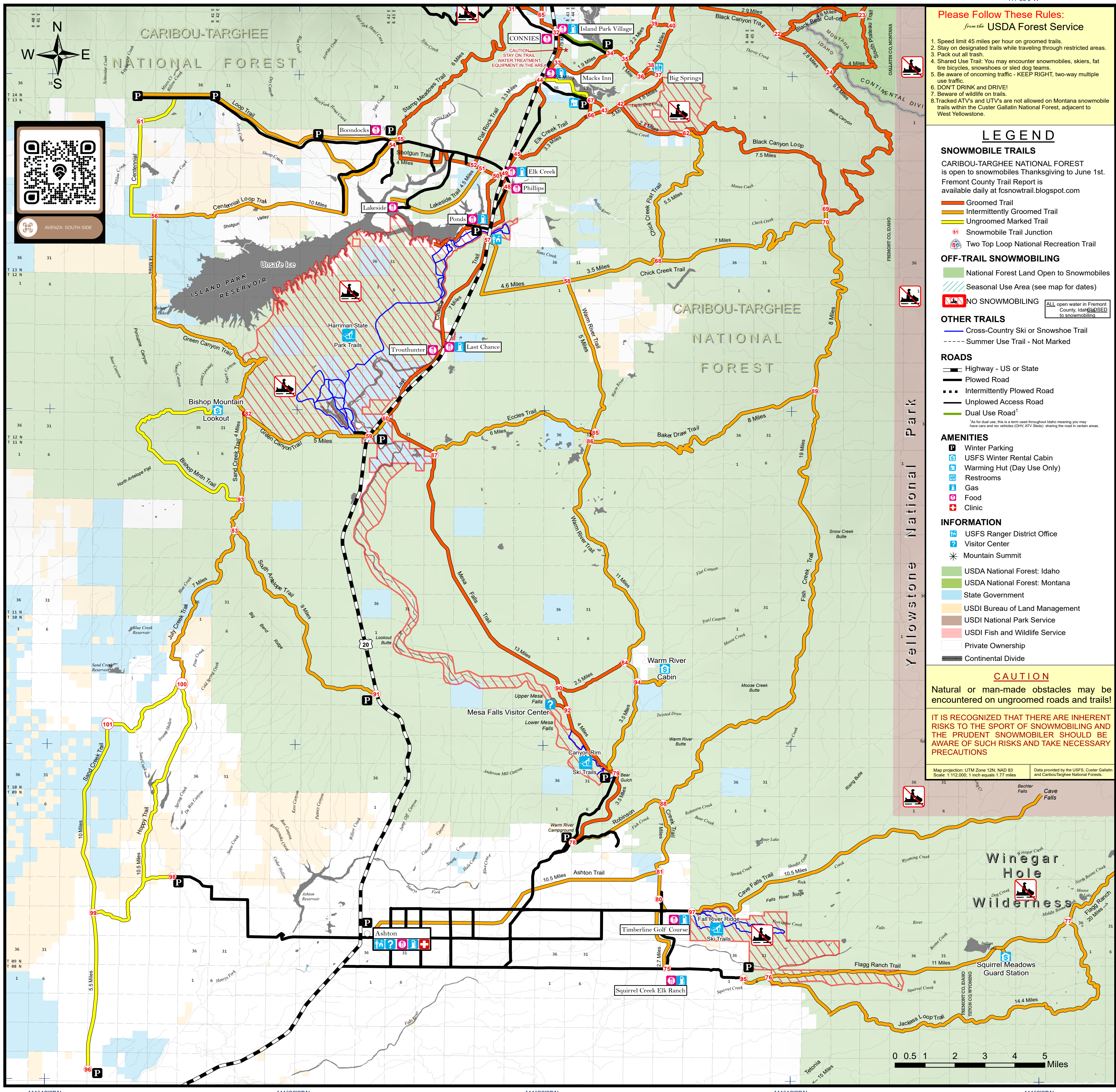
LOVE OUR TRAILS?
Please consider donating to help support the grooming of the trails in West Yellowstone.


Don't Hope For Snow... Come To West Yellowstone



WINTER EVENTS
Enjoy a special Day in West Yellowstone, MT filled full of fun activities for kids, parents and grandparents too!
2025-2026
December 20, 2025
January 3, 2026
February 7, 2026
February 28, 2026
KIDS IN THE SNOW
WEST YELLOWSTONE-MT
WWW.KIDSNSNOW.ORG • WWW.DESTINATIONYELLOWSTONE.COM/CALENDAR

Nov 22	Ski Swap
Nov 22-29	Yellowstone Ski Festival
Nov 25	Try It Biathlon
Nov 26	Biathlon
Dec 5	Moonlight Ski & Snowshoe
Dec 13	Spam Cup & Biathlon
Dec 15	West Entrance to Yellowstone Park Opens
Dec 19	Annual Christmas Stroll
Dec 20	Kids N Snow & Kids Ice Fishing Camp
Jan 3	Kids N Snow & Kids Ice Fishing Camp
Jan 10	Free Ski Day and Try It Biathlon
Jan 11	Biathlon
Jan 17-18	Sled Dog Fun Run Races
Jan 17	West Yellowstone Ice Fishing Tournament
Jan 30	Yellowstone Special Sled Dog Races
Jan 30	Moonlight Ski & Snowshoe
Feb 7	Kids N Snow & Kids Ice Fishing Camp
Feb 14	Taste of the Trails
Feb 15	Spam Cup and Biathlon
Feb 27	Moonlight Ski & Snowshoe
Feb 28	Kids N Snow & Kids Ice Fishing Camp
Mar 7	Rendezvous Ski Race
Mar 15	West Entrance to Yellowstone Park Closes



PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE
The Town of West Yellowstone observes quiet hours from 10 PM - 7 AM. Please avoid riding snowmobiles during these hours. Thank You.
NOISE ORDINANCE IS ENFORCED.

SNOW & TRAIL CONDITIONS:
(406) 646-7701
AVALANCHE SAFETY INFO:
(406) 587-6981
Idaho open to snowmobiling from Thanksgiving to June 1st.

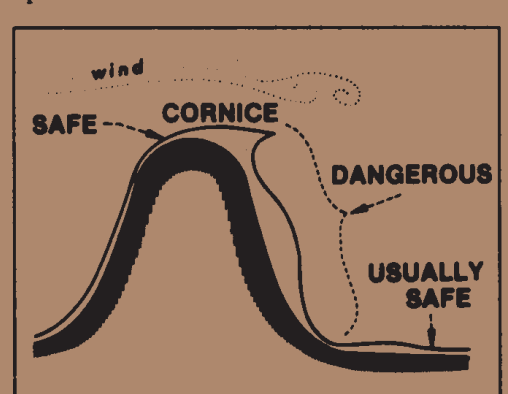
Always wear an approved helmet and eye protection
Observe all state and local laws
Respect others and wildlife
Observe trail speed limits and restricted areas
Ride within your capabilities
Allow extra time and plenty of distance for maneuvering
Stay off plowed roads

SNOWMOBILERS AND SKIERS BEWARE...
Travel over frozen lakes, rivers, and streams is not recommended! Traveling on ice is dangerous. If you choose to travel on frozen, lakes, rivers and streams, use extreme caution.
Snowmobiles are difficult to control on ice and fast stops are impossible.
Never travel on dark colored ice or ice covered with slush.
Areas with springs or currents erode ice and do not freeze solid.
EMERGENCY – DIAL 911

AVALANCHE
Avalanche danger cannot be taken too seriously because a wall of moving, suffocating snow leaves few survivors in its wake. The best way to avoid an avalanche is to be knowledgeable of avalanche conditions and reroute your trip to avoid them. Avalanches occur when loose snow or a slab of snow starts moving down a slope. Avalanches are triggered by a variety of slope, snow and weather conditions; many times they are triggered by human impact. Slope conditions to watch out for are steep slopes or smooth, open slopes. Short slopes can be as dangerous as long ones. Leeward slopes are dangerous because wind-deposited snow adds depth and may create unstable slabs of snow.
Avoid avalanches by staying away from mountainous terrain after heavy snowfall or prolonged periods of high wind. Avoid crossing steep side hills or entering narrow, steeply sided canyons. The safest routes are on ridgetops and on the windward side, away from cornices. The next safest route is out in the valley, far from the bottom of a slope.

AVALANCHE SURVIVAL
If you are caught in an avalanche:
Call out so other members of your party can track your location.
Discard all equipment and get away from your snowmobile.
Make swimming motions and try to stay on top; work your way to the side of the avalanche.
As you feel the avalanche slow, try to thrust your hand or any other part of your body above the surface.
Before the snow settles, slip your arm in front of your face to clear an air space.
Try not to panic; you need to preserve oxygen.
If you are a survivor, you are a victim's best hope of survival:
Mark the place where you last saw the victim and keep your eyes fixed on the moving mass of snow in which he is trapped.
Search for the victim directly downslope from the last sighted area when the snow stops moving. Use a ski pole or stick to probe the snow.
Stay with the victim unless help is only a few minutes away; after 30 minutes, the victim has only a 50 percent chance of survival.
If the victim is found, treat for hypothermia, suffocation and shock.

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST AVALANCHE CENTER ADVISORY HOTLINE
www.mtavalanche.com 587-6981



LOVE OUR TRAILS?
Please consider becoming a **Friend of the Trails**: Purchase a Friend of the Trails sticker for \$5.00 at the Chamber/Visitor Center. All proceeds go back to the West Yellowstone Trails Program for year-round trail maintenance and upkeep.

West Yellowstone Snowmobile Trails
Including Island Park (the Idaho area)

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MORE INFORMATION: DESTINATIONYELLOWSTONE.COM

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