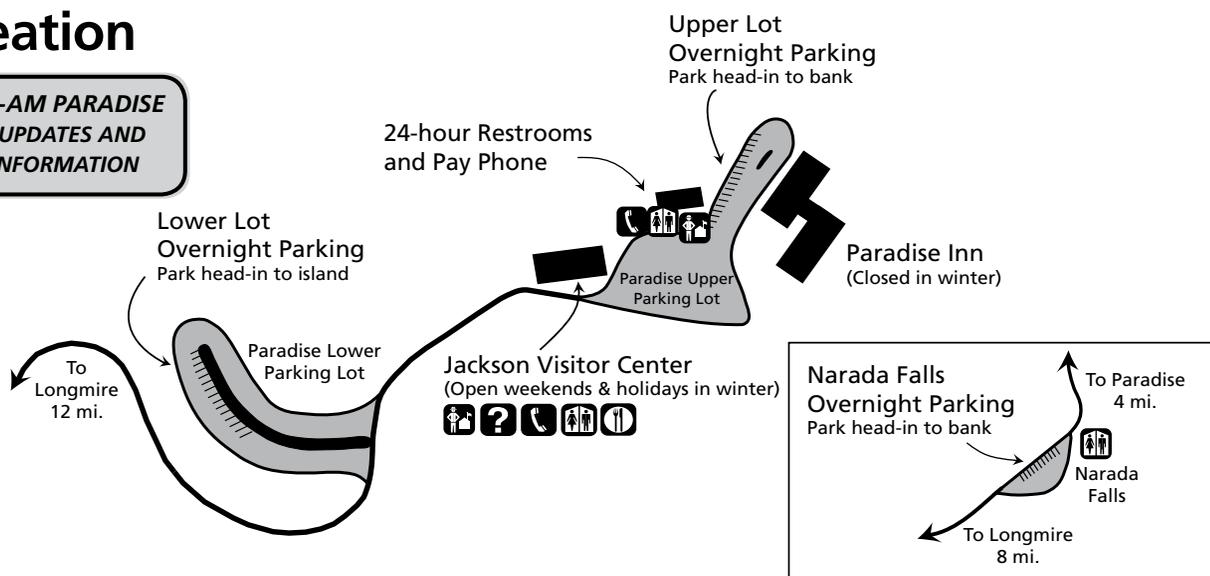
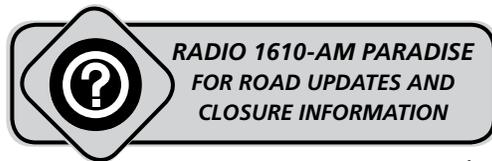


Winter Recreation



Safety First!

Hypothermia and frostbite are winter hazards which can lead to serious injury or death. If you are spending time outside, dress sensibly, drink lots of fluids, and take warm-up breaks indoors.

Keep a sharp eye out for snowplows. Never ski, snowshoe, or hike along plowed roads, even when they're closed. Snow plows can be working at any time.

Protect Your Park

- Remember to pack out all trash. Trash left behind melts out in early summer.
- Leashed pets are permitted only in picnic areas, campgrounds, parking lots, and along roads currently open to public vehicles.
- Use fuel stoves. Campfires are not permitted.
- Enjoy wildlife at a distance and keep human food properly stored.
- Dispose of human waste properly—use restrooms where available, or ask a ranger for a “blue bag”. Blue bags are for disposal of human waste when camping. Using blue bags keeps

- water clean, protects fragile vegetation from digging and allows more people to use this area without leaving impacts. To dispose of used blue bags, a blue bag barrel is available in the tunnel to the restrooms in the upper Paradise parking lot.
- Cutting of vegetation and collecting or gathering of wood is not permitted.
- Please do not dry clothing or gear in the restroom tunnel.
- Camping and cooking in any building or in the restroom tunnel is not permitted.

Sledding and Sliding

Sledding and sliding are permitted only in the designated snow play area at Paradise. Trees, tree wells, and cliffs make other areas dangerous.

For everyone's safety, use “soft” sliding devices—flexible sleds, inner tubes, and saucers. No hard toboggans or runner sleds.

Dangerous Terrain

Avalanches occur with frightening regularity. Check the map on the back of this handout for avalanche zones and ask a ranger for the forecast before you start. Backcountry travel is not recommended when

avalanche conditions are high to extreme. Carry the ten essentials and know how to use them. Notify a responsible person of your plans so they can contact rangers if you fail to return.

Skiing and Snowboarding

A minimum of 5' of snow is advised for skiing and snowboarding. Avoid damaging exposed vegetation. Obtain further information at the Jackson Visitor

Center at Paradise (weekends and holidays) and the Longmire Information Center.

Snow Camping

To snow camp, a minimum of 5' of snow at Paradise and 2' in other areas of the park is required to protect fragile subalpine vegetation. A minimum of 8' of snow is recommended to construct snow caves. If you encounter shrubs, trees, or bare ground while digging, choose a different spot.

Maximum group size is up to 12 people.

In selecting your campsite, choose a location that is a minimum of 300' from plowed roads and parking areas (to avoid being buried by snowplows), marked routes, trails, and buildings and at least 100' from water. For the safety of others, collapse igloos and snow caves before you leave. **Hard-sided food storage containers are required in all Paradise area winter camping zones.**

Backcountry Camping

Backcountry permits are required year-round. If you plan to winter camp in the backcountry, permits are available at the Longmire Information Center. On weekends and holidays permits can also be obtained

at the Jackson Visitor Center. Choose a campsite location that is a minimum of 300' from plowed roads and parking areas, marked routes, trails and buildings and at least 100' from water.

Group Campsites

Groups of 13-80 people may snow camp only at Paradise. Groups must camp in the designated group camping areas and are required to use restrooms to dispose of human waste. Due to limited group sites in winter, it is suggested that groups make reservations at least two weeks in advance by calling

360-569-6575, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon.-Fri. Reserved group site permits can be picked up at the Longmire Information Center by 4:00 p.m. on the day of arrival. **Hard-sided food storage containers are required for all groups.**

Winter Parking & Vehicle Safety

Vehicles parked overnight must be parked in the overnight parking areas at Paradise, Narada Falls or Longmire. If designated areas are full, contact a park ranger. See the map above for more details.

Overnight parking at Paradise is in the lower portion of the Paradise lower parking lot or directly

across from the Paradise Inn only.

Camping in vehicles is not permitted.

All vehicles are required to carry tire chains when traveling in the park. Know how to use them and obey the traction requirements.