

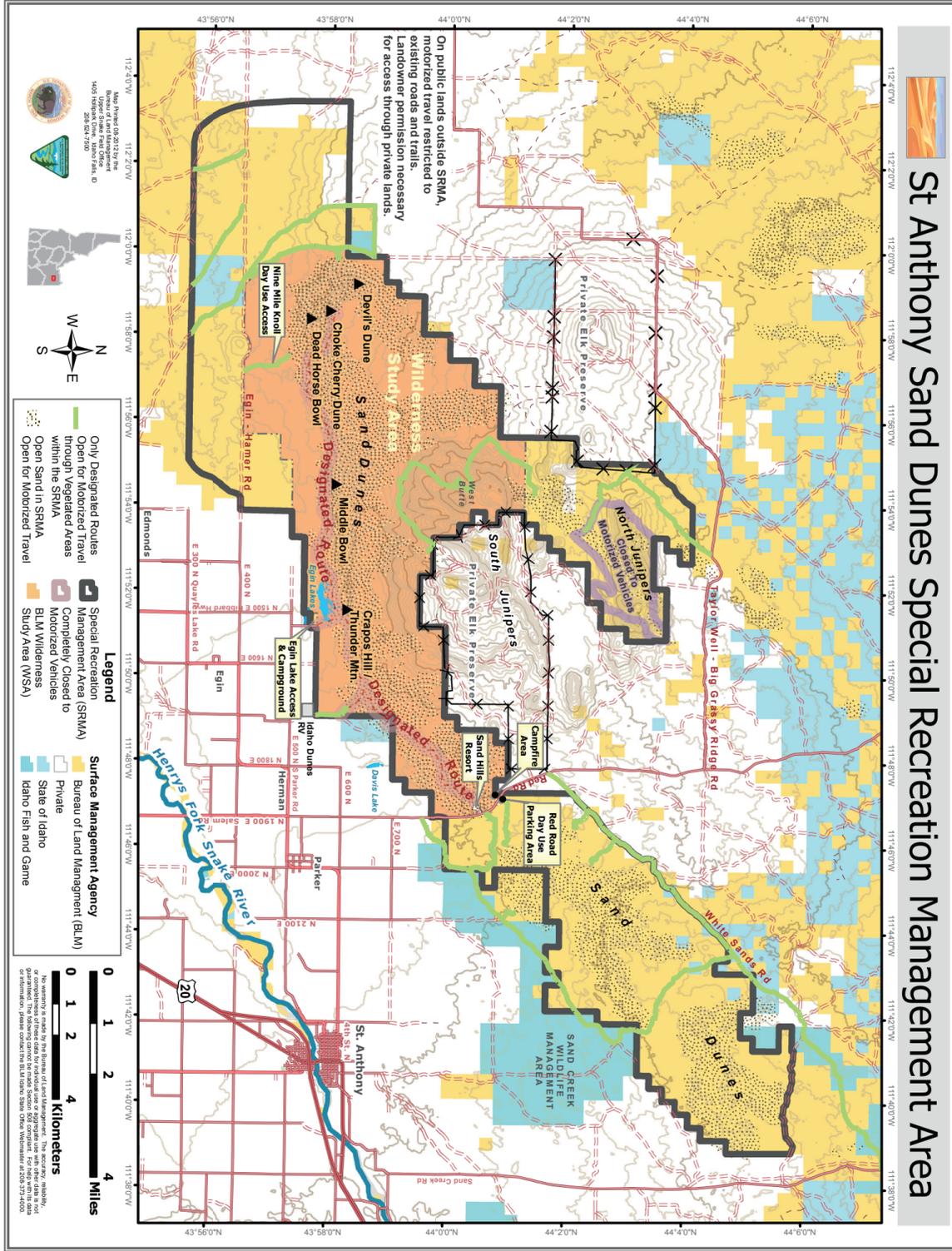


St. Anthony Sand Dunes

Photography © Duneratt, LLC



St Anthony Sand Dunes Special Recreation Management Area



Recreational Paradise of White Quartz Sand Dunes

Located far from any ocean, the St. Anthony Sand Dunes appears as a rolling sea of sand on the eastern edge of Idaho's volcanic Snake River Plain. These vast dunes are the largest in Idaho. They blanket an area approximately 35 miles long and 5 wide, and range from 50 to 500 feet high.

These white quartz sand dunes are a unique and popular recreational playground for Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) enthusiasts, hikers and equestrians. Picnicking, snowmobiling, wildlife viewing and camping opportunities are also available here. The best time to visit is spring through fall. Summer temperatures cause sands to reach over 100 degrees.

The area features Deadhorse Bowl, a popular OHV sand bowl one-mile in circumference and 400 feet deep, located in the western section of the dune complex.

How the Dunes Were Formed

Ten thousand years ago, when the weather in eastern Idaho was much cooler and wetter than it is today, lush vegetation was grazed by one-humped camels, mammoths, pony-sized horses and large bison. These animals may have gone for a drink along the sandy shores of Mud and Market Lakes, which are located about 20 miles southwest of the dunes. Although Mud and Market Lakes still exist today, they shrank considerably when the climate warmed at the end of the last ice age. As the shoreline sands dried out, that sand, as well as sand from floodplain deposits of the Snake, Teton and other rivers, began to be blown eastward to form the St. Anthony Sand Dunes. This process continues today.

The Dunes Today – A Special Ecosystem

The dunes are an important environment for a variety of plants and animals. The sand dunes themselves may appear lifeless, but they harbor three unique and sensitive species: the Saint Anthony evening primrose and two species of beetle. The dunes are ringed by thousands of acres of native grasses, junipers and sagebrush that provide habitat for sage-grouse and critical winter range for elk, mule deer and moose.



Off-Highway-Vehicle Recreation

Rules for Motorized Use on the Dunes

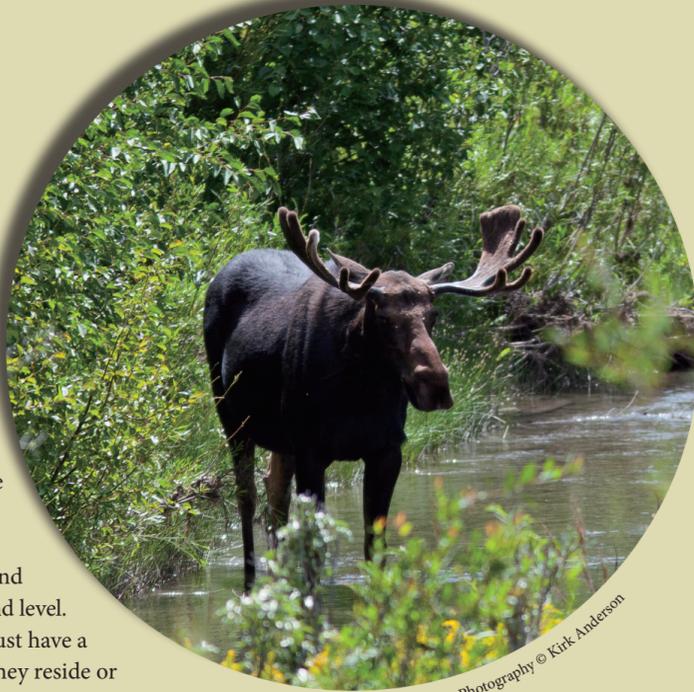
- All off-highway vehicle use must occur on the open sand areas or roads and trails displaying a "Designated Route" sign.
- STAY ON THE OPEN SAND AND AVOID ALL VEGETATED AREAS.
- All vehicles must be equipped with a minimum 8-foot above level ground whip mast and brightly colored flag.
- Idaho residents must display a valid Utility Type Vehicle (ATV) sticker on all off-road motorized vehicles.
- All OHVs are required to have spark arrestors and mufflers that meet the maximum 96 decibel sound level.
- Out of state off-road motorized vehicle users must have a valid registration sticker for the state in which they reside or purchase an Idaho "out of state registration sticker."
- Idaho law requires all riders under the age of 18 to wear helmets.
- Seasonal winter closures: January 1st –sunrise April 1 or sunrise May 1 annually. The closure is a critical winter range for 2,500 elk, 1,500 mule deer and 500 moose. This area is home to the largest high desert wintering moose herds in North America.

Guidelines for a Safe Experience

1. Yield the right-of-way to uphill riders.
2. Check over dune crest before descending.
3. Watch for hikers, horse riders, sunbathers or those unfamiliar with surroundings such as children or beginners.
4. Be cautious until you know what the sands are like and how to read them.
5. If you are jumping, please have a spotter sit at the top of the dune you will be jumping.

Suggested Equipment

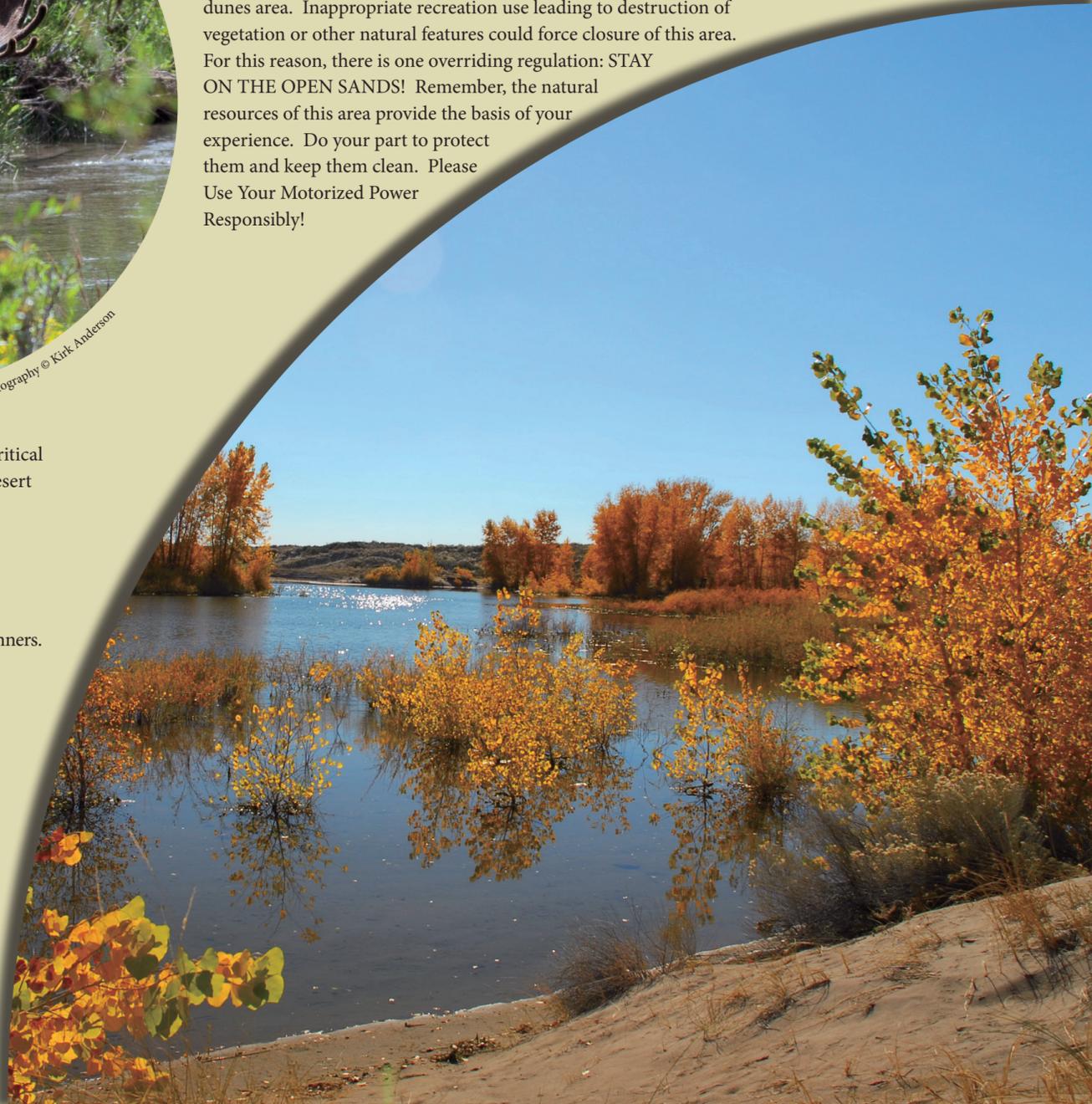
- Helmet
- Gloves
- Face Protection
- Boots
- Chest Protection
- Heavy Jersey
- Pants
- Goggles



Photography © Kirk Anderson

Help Protect this Special Area

Visitors to the Dunes have the power to sustain the unique natural landscape surrounding the dunes area. Inappropriate recreation use leading to destruction of vegetation or other natural features could force closure of this area. For this reason, there is one overriding regulation: **STAY ON THE OPEN SANDS!** Remember, the natural resources of this area provide the basis of your experience. Do your part to protect them and keep them clean. Please Use Your Motorized Power Responsibly!



Photography © Duncraft, LLC

Camping and Lodging

Egin Lakes Recreation Area

The Egin Lakes Recreation Access Area is a developed campground with 48 campsites. All of the sites have electricity. It features expanded day-use parking for a variety of recreation uses, a developed camping area with three different sizes of RV sites, and a visitor contact station including a store. Law Enforcement/Emergency Medical Service and BLM offices are also nearby. A free RV dump facility is available within the main day-use parking facility for campground users. The campground is closed from approximately November 1 to April 1 each year depending upon weather conditions. If you're unable to find a developed camping spot, dispersed camping is allowed along portions of the Red Road. Please call the local BLM office (208-524-7500) or Eastern Idaho Visitor Center (208-523-1012) for current usage and camping fees.

Other Camping Opportunities

Other private campgrounds are available near the dunes. Lodging is available in St. Anthony, located about ten miles east of the dunes, and in Rexburg, located about 11 miles south of the area.

Supplies

Food, supplies and ATV/Motorcycle rentals can be found in St. Anthony and Rexburg.

Please Play by the Rules

- Open campfires are prohibited except in designated Red Road Open Sand Campfire Areas and in existing metal fire rings.
- Burning any material, other than wood, charcoal or paper, is prohibited (no treated wood or pallets).
- No fireworks!
- Quiet hours are 11pm-7am within the Egin Lakes Access Site and Red Road Recreation Area.

For More Information

Rexburg Chamber of Commerce / 208-356-5700
Fremont County Sheriff / 208-624-4482
Eastern Idaho Visitor Information Center / 208-523-1012 / 866-365-6943
Bureau of Land Management Upper Snake Field Office / 208-524-7500

Web Sites

- stayontrails.com
- treadlightly.org
- www.blm.gov/id/st/en.html