

Nestled among the Rocky Mountains in the Snake River Plain along the Snake River, beneath the shadow of the Grand Teton, Idaho Falls is a place worth exploring and living. Idaho Falls has all the features of big city living, while embracing a small town charm. The Nation's most famous park, Yellowstone, is right out our backyard. Several ski resorts and rivers are within an hour's drive. With western hospitality, a booming economic base, a diverse arts community and a backyard filled with recreational opportunities, Idaho Falls is a great place for a career and to raise a family. As the regional center for healthcare, shopping, and entertainment, Idaho Falls is attractive to small and large businesses alike and consistently finds itself listed in the top ten rankings of many prestigious magazines, newspapers and professional community research publications as one of the "best places to live."



As of the 2010 census there were 56,813 people living within the city borders. Idaho Falls experiences all four seasons with averages in the low 30's in the winter to mid to upper 80's in the summer. On average, Idaho Falls receives 14 inches of precipitation a year.

The Idaho Falls District BLM is a true multiple resource district, hosting everything from the largest phosphate mining program in the nation to a solid wild horse and burro program. A wide array of land uses occur on the District, which stretches from the Utah border north to Montana, west to Craters of the Moon and east to the Wyoming border. Over 130 permanent and career seasonal employees work within the District – when the summer temporaries are hired for fire – we are closer to 180 employees.

The District is composed 3.7 million acres and broken down into four field offices: Challis (799,000 acres); Pocatello (557,000 acres); Salmon (493,000 acres) and the Upper Snake (1,854,000 acres). Major activities on the district include grazing, recreation, mining, fisheries, fire and realty. The District authorizes over 1400 Right of Ways for various commercial and private activities. Several Realty Specialists work together to complete multiple high priority projects and increasingly heavy workloads. The District is responsible for subsurface minerals throughout the area and is particularly active in the phosphate leases near Soda Springs, Idaho and the molybdenum Mine near Challis, Idaho.

The Idaho Falls District has a vast fire program, staffing 18 engine crews, one Tanker Base, two dozers, two interagency dispatch centers, nine fire stations and the 20-person Snake



River Hotshot crew; it is a busy place in the summer. While the 2014 fire season was relatively quiet for the District that is not the norm. The 30-year average is approximately 149 fires per year and about 65,350 acres a year with a 50/50 split between human and lightning fires.

Each field office comes with its unique challenges. Upper Snake offers one of the most dynamic and complex

recreation programs in the BLM. With over 250,000 visitors a summer, the South Fork of the Snake River is one of the most sought after fishing excursions. Likewise, the St. Anthony Sand Dunes offers over 10,000 acres of continuous sand dunes for those interested in recreating on land. The Dunes also see approximately 250,000 visitors a year. Upper Snake manages 350 allotments and has several exceptional range staff that oversee its impressive range program.

BLM-Idaho's Pocatello Field Office (PFO) and Caribou National Forest is situated in the heart of America's largest remaining phosphate deposit – the western phosphate field. The leasing and mine oversight program is BLM's largest and most complex non-energy leasable minerals program. Southeast Idaho open-pit phosphate mines supply about 15 percent of the Nation's and 4 percent of the world's phosphate. Pocatello also manages the beautiful Blackfoot river and deals with the complex issues of managing isolated tracts of BLM lands through a wide geographic area.

Challis is home to the Challis Herd Management Area where approximately 200 horses run free on some of the most breath taking country this nation has to offer. Thompson Creek Mine, located just miles outside of Challis is the fourth largest primary molybdenum mine in the world and is the largest employer in Custer County, typically with some 400 employees. The BLM is currently working on releasing a final environmental impact statement for a modified mining plan operation. Challis deals with a variety of T&E fish issues and works hard to ensure its riparian areas are suitable for the several listed fish species within its jurisdiction.

Salmon, as its names suggests, also deals with several T&E fish issues. Fish biologists are actively engaged in created suitable habitat and removing fish passage barriers along several integral stream networks in the Lemhi valley drainage. Discovery Hill area, located right outside the town, is an up and coming recreation site



offering a podcast tour, mountain biking, disc golf and everything in between. The office is currently working on finishing their travel management planning for the South Half of the field office.

These examples highlight only a few of the unique and diverse challenges the Idaho Falls Districts works with on a daily basis. The location, along with the resources and positive staff, makes it an exceptional place to learn, grow and experience Idaho.

