



According to the Wyoming Office of Outdoor Recreation's annual report, the WONDER Map had more than 13,900 users and received 39,500 page views from July 2022 through June 2023. The top five most viewed outdoor recreation layers were Guides and Ranches, OHV Trails, State and National Parks, Game and Fish Access, and Federal Recreation Areas.

Use these online tools to plan your next outdoor adventure in Wyoming

W Wyoming's wide-open spaces and striking landscapes attract both residents and visitors looking for opportunities to get outside. However, especially if you are new to the area or just visiting, it can be challenging to find the specific opportunities you're looking for. While you can always contact a local outdoor retailer or find an enthusiast group on social media, you can also make use of several online resources curated by the Wyoming Office of Outdoor Recreation.

In 2021, the Office of Outdoor Recreation launched two new tools to help connect users with outdoor recreation opportunities and events around the state.

The **WONDER Map** (Wyoming's Outdoor Navigation Destination Exploration Recreation Map) provides an interactive online experience to help locate sites best suited to your favorite activity, while the **Outdoor Recreation Events Calendar** connects users with upcoming events across the state. Whether you like to hike, ski, hunt, climb, or paddle—or are looking for other ways to explore the many wonders of Wyoming—these new resources can help you start planning your next adventure!

The WONDER Map

As the tenth largest state in the U.S., Wyoming

encompasses nearly 98,000 square miles, more than half of which is dedicated to public use. If you are looking for a one-stop shop for finding outdoor recreation areas across Wyoming, the WONDER Map is a great place to start. Created in partnership with the Wyoming Office of Tourism, the map offers an interactive guide to statewide recreation, travel, and sightseeing opportunities.

The Wyoming Office of Outdoor Recreation and Office of Tourism worked directly with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Wyoming State Parks and Trails, Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, National Park Service, and other partners to collect and display public recreation data and map public use areas. Activities currently listed on the map include:

- State and national parks
- EV charging stations
- Federal recreation areas
- Campgrounds
- Guides and ranches
- Game and fish access
- Tourism partners
- Hiking trails
- Climbing
- Bicycling (including paved and dirt paths/trails)
- Winter activities
- Target ranges
- Horse motels
- Fishing and boating
- Snowmobile trails
- Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) trails

The map also includes information on recreation opportunities that meet ADA standards; activities can be sorted specifically based on ADA availability. Locations and activities are added regularly, so be sure to check back to see what new opportunities are available! Also be sure to check when places are open for specific activities, especially for locations that may have seasonal closures.

To access the map, visit wyorec.com/wondermap. If you would like to recommend additions to the WONDER Map, please visit wyorec.info/contactus or contact outreach coordinator Laurel Stephens at laurel.stephens@wyo.gov.

Wyoming Outdoor Recreation Events Calendar

One of the biggest challenges for any event organizer is getting the word out to interested participants—and for those looking for something to do, it can be tough to find the perfect event. The Outdoor Recreation Events Calendar helps bridge this gap.

With more than 1,000 events listed over the past year, the calendar has become a reliable resource for outdoor recreation events across Wyoming. Whether you are looking for a trail race, bike race, corn maze, historic site interpretive event, or details on the upcoming meteor shower, this calendar has it all! Visit wyorec.info/events to check it out.

Event planners can submit their events for hosting on the calendar by visiting wyorec.info/events or contacting Stephens at laurel.stephens@wyo.gov.



A Wyoming Pathfinder visiting with a local recreationalist about hiking and biking trails in Bighorn National Forest. Pathfinders attend outdoor recreation events across the state to visit with recreationalists about Wyoming's abundant outdoor recreation opportunities. Photo courtesy of the Wyoming Office of Outdoor Recreation.

The Pathfinder Program

The Wyoming Pathfinder program connects outdoor recreationists with local experts who are passionate about helping others find opportunities to explore Wyoming. The program is geared toward getting people active and promoting appropriate outdoor recreation.

If you are looking for a more personalized experience in learning about specific outdoor recreation opportunities, Pathfinders can answer your questions. Wyoming Pathfinders also visit trailheads and other recreational sites. They attend local events to survey, interact with, and educate users about outdoor skills and ethics.

Whether you're new to outdoor recreation or a seasoned recreationalist, the Pathfinder program can help you discover new opportunities and promote ethical enjoyment of Wyoming's great outdoors. To connect with a Pathfinder, contact SPCR-wyopathfinders@wyo.gov or visit wyorec.info/pathfinders.

The Pathfinder program also produces the *Wyoming Pathway to Adventure* podcast, another great way to learn about outdoor recreation opportunities. Its how-to segments are specially designed to help those new to the outdoors feel comfortable tackling their next adventure. To check out the podcast, visit wyorec.info/podcast.

Let's get outside!

Wherever you live or play in Wyoming, Wyoming's Office of Outdoor Recreation can help make your next outing a success.

Remember, the best communication goes both ways. Feel free to reach out if you have questions or suggestions for activities or events that have not yet been captured. Together, we can help develop the best resources for outdoor recreation activities and events in Wyoming.

Whether you're a Wyoming resident or visitor, **Laurel Stephens** and **Caleb Carter** encourage you to get outside and explore the state. Stephens is the outreach coordinator for Wyoming's Office of Outdoor Recreation and can be reached at laurel.stephens@wyo.gov. Carter is district manager of the Weston County Natural Resource District and can be contacted at ccarter.wcnrd@gmail.com or (307) 746-3264.



The Mobile Adventure Trail Truck (MATT) camping at Buffalo Bill State Park over the 4th of July weekend to interact with visitors traveling through the area. If you see MATT during your Wyoming travels, stop by to talk about all things outdoor recreation with our Pathfinder team! Photo courtesy of the Wyoming Office of Outdoor Recreation.

Want to get involved?

Wyoming's Office of Outdoor Recreation aims to diversify Wyoming's economy by expanding, enhancing, and promoting responsible recreational opportunities throughout the state. To further this mission, the office organizes and facilitates Outdoor Recreation Collaboratives across Wyoming. These initiatives bring together local community members; recreation stakeholders; businesses; conservation groups; local, state, and federal agencies; elected officials; and a variety of interest groups to identify and prioritize opportunities in their respective regions.

Many of the collaboratives have completed and continue to lead several projects at a time. Examples include creating, linking, and/or improving an existing trail system; improving river access; addressing signage; and improving travel routes, infrastructure, and other outdoor recreation areas on local, state, federal, and private lands. To learn more, visit wyorec.info/collaboratives.