

GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK – DESIRED CONDITIONS BY MANAGEMENT AREA

Management Area	Road 1	Road 2	Frontcountry 1	Frontcountry 2
<p>Management Area Description</p>	<p>Road corridors in this management area would prioritize the free flow of pass-through traffic. Scenic driving would be a secondary use but still a fundamental value of the park that could be experienced here.</p> <p>The road management area includes the designed road prism, associated pullouts, and parallel pathways.</p> <p>These roads would be maintained for year-round use.</p>	<p>Road corridors in this management area would prioritize scenic auto touring and/or access to non-National Park Service (NPS) lands. The free flow of pass-through traffic would be a secondary priority, though traffic should continue relatively unabated.</p> <p>The road management area would include the designed road prism, associated pullouts and trailheads, and parallel pathways.</p> <p>These roads may or may not be maintained for year-round use.</p>	<p>Lands in this management area would serve all manner of visitor needs, from information and orientation to accommodation, food, and supplies.</p> <p>These lands would be readily accessible both to the park’s primary transportation corridor and key resource destinations—they could serve as a launch point into other management areas.</p>	<p>Lands and waters in this management area would emphasize visitor recreation, and as visitors move through, they would experience a transition from developed and densely visited areas to more rustic, wild-feeling, and contemplative settings.</p> <p>These lands and waters could be easily reached from the park’s primary transportation corridor, though visitors would get the feeling of being farther “out” and immersed into primary resource destinations.</p>
<p>Visitor Experience Summary</p>	<p>Visitors would find a social setting with limited expectation for solitude and constant encounters with other vehicles, as well as other visitors at roadside destinations during typical visitation periods.</p> <p>Visitors would not need any outdoor experience or skill to visit, should expect little-to-no physical exertion, and would require minimal preparation.</p> <p>Primary visitor uses would include traveling, scenic driving, photography, bicycling, wildlife viewing (generally at a distance), as well as enjoying waysides and brief visits to roadside destinations.</p>	<p>Visitors would find a social setting with limited expectation for solitude and constant encounters with other vehicles, as well as other visitors at roadside destinations during typical visitation periods.</p> <p>Visitors would not need any outdoor experience or skill to visit, should expect little-to-no physical exertion, and would require minimal preparation.</p> <p>Primary visitor uses would include scenic driving, photography, bicycling, wildlife viewing (including roadside wildlife jams), enjoying waysides and brief visits to roadside destinations, accessing trailheads, and accessing US Forest Service and private lands.</p>	<p>Visitors would find a highly social setting with limited expectation for solitude and large congregations of people concentrated in pockets during typical visitation periods.</p> <p>Visitors would not need any outdoor experience or skill to visit, should expect a low level of physical exertion, and would need minimal preparation. Navigation and orientation would be generally straightforward.</p> <p>Primary visitor uses would include overnight lodging, camping, dining, groceries, using restrooms, convening commercially guided activities, orientation, interpretive programming, and shopping.</p>	<p>Along trail and river corridors and on lakes in this management area:</p> <p>Visitors would find a highly social setting with minimal opportunities for solitude at peak times and locations but may begin to experience pockets of solitude at other times and locations in this management area.</p> <p>Visitors would need basic outdoor experience or skill to visit, as hazardous terrain may be encountered. Visitors should expect a low-to-moderate level of physical exertion and should be prepared to be self-sufficient in the outdoors for a few hours. Navigation and orientation would be generally straightforward.</p> <p>Primary visitor uses would include hiking, boating, accessing and orienting to the backcountry, wildlife viewing, interpretive and educational programming, and photography.</p>
<p>Desired Resource Condition Summary</p>	<p>Resources have been impacted due to the dominant nature of the built environment, and continuing resource stressors would be expected but should be minimized whenever possible. In particular, impacts on the natural movement of wildlife and the free-flowing nature of waterways should be minimized. This area would provide outstanding scenic views of natural resources and access to historic sites.</p>	<p>Resources have been impacted due to the dominant nature of the built environment, and continuing resource stressors would be expected but should be minimized whenever possible. In particular, impacts on the natural movement of wildlife and the free-flowing nature of waterways should be minimized. This area would provide outstanding scenic views of natural resources and access to historic sites. Historic properties in this zone would be managed according to the park’s historic properties management plan.</p>	<p>Resources have been impacted due to the dominant nature of the built environment, and continuing resource stressors would be expected but should be minimized whenever possible.</p> <p>Native vegetation would be maintained and managed to support facilities’ landscaping. Vegetation would provide functional habitat for some wildlife species. Bears would be discouraged from lingering in these areas; other wildlife would exhibit natural behaviors.</p> <p>This area may include historic sites and buildings; historic properties would be managed according to the park’s historic properties management plan. In cultural landscapes, some nonnative vegetation would be maintained.</p>	<p>Impacts of facilities and visitor use on native wildlife, vegetation, and water resources would be avoided to the greatest extent possible.</p> <p>Native wildlife populations would exhibit their natural abundances, diversities, dynamics, distributions, and behaviors.</p> <p>In some places, native vegetation may be managed adjacent to a facility; otherwise, native vegetation would be maintained in a natural condition, exhibiting a healthy, productive, diverse population of native plant species and functional disturbance processes.</p> <p>Natural hydrologic systems may be lightly modified by creek-crossing structures but otherwise are left unimpeded.</p> <p>This area may include historic sites and buildings; historic properties would be managed according to the park’s historic properties management plan.</p>
<p>Appropriate Level of Development, Facilities, and Services Summary</p>	<p>The area would appear developed and intentionally designed in nature.</p> <p>Modern facilities, including wide, paved roads; scenic pullouts; paved pathways; and signage, would provide higher-speed transportation and scenic driving opportunities.</p> <p>Other infrastructure may include basic orientation and wayfinding information, restrooms and waste receptacles, and recreation infrastructure such as picnic tables.</p>	<p>The area would appear developed and intentionally designed in nature.</p> <p>Modern and rustic facilities, including narrower, paved and unpaved roads; scenic pullouts and trailhead parking areas; paved pathways; and signage would provide lower-speed transportation and scenic driving opportunities.</p> <p>Other infrastructure may include basic orientation and wayfinding information, restrooms and waste receptacles, and recreation infrastructure such as picnic tables.</p>	<p>The area would appear fully developed in nature, as human-made structures would dominate the landscape.</p> <p>Managerial presence would be high, as all manner of services and conveniences, including lodging, camping, dining, shopping, and information facilities would be readily available.</p> <p>These spaces are built to sustainably accommodate large accumulations of people on durable or paved surfaces like sidewalks.</p> <p>Limited NPS maintenance and residential facilities may be located in this management area.</p>	<p>This area would appear minimally developed, with most development related to high-standard, well-maintained trails and boat launches.</p> <p>Use in these locations would be prescribed with rock work, masonry, sitting areas, and similar intentional visitor destinations. Other development would include rustic log bridges, trail structures, wayfinding and regulatory signage, rustic designated campsites, bear boxes, and little else. Construction may include exposed steel, nonnative boulders, and rock placements.</p> <p>Limited NPS maintenance and residential facilities may be located in this management area.</p>

Management Area	Backcountry 1	Backcountry 2	Backcountry 3	Backcountry 4
Management Area Description	The developed trail corridors and popular climbing/mountaineering routes in this management area would introduce visitors to the backcountry of the park, with more contemplative settings, connection with nature, and the potential for solitude possible as visitors travel further in. The trappings of modern society would be present but less evident to the casual observer.	The primitive trail corridors in this management area would facilitate access to more solitary experiences in the park's backcountry. Visitors to this management area would find opportunities to connect with nature, experience frequent solitude, and "escape" modern society.	Lands in this management area would emphasize resource protection. Visitor access would not be facilitated and may require substantial effort or considerable risk. Visitors to these areas would find very few or no other people, providing prime opportunities for solitude and "escape" from modern society.	Lands in this management area would emphasize resource protection; however, their use and development would reflect the unique history and compromises that led to the eventual inclusion of Jackson Hole within the park. Evidence of historic and modern human uses would be present, though solitude may be possible.
Visitor Experience Summary	Along trail corridors and popular climbing routes in this management area: Visitors would find a social setting with steady, but not constant, encounters and only occasional opportunities for solitude at peak times and locations but may experience more consistent opportunities for solitude and intermittent encounters at other times and locations in this management area. Visitors would need basic outdoor experience or skill to visit safely due to technical challenges, hazardous terrain, wildlife, or weather; should expect a moderate-to-high level of physical exertion; and should be prepared to be self-sufficient in the outdoors for a day or longer. Navigation and orientation would be generally straightforward. Primary visitor uses would include hiking, overnight backpacking, climbing, and mountaineering. Away from trail corridors and popular climbing routes in this management area, the visitor experience would be akin to that found in the Backcountry 2 area.	Visitors would find a quiet setting with only intermittent encounters and frequent opportunities for solitude, even at peak times and locations, and constant opportunities for solitude and rare encounters at other times and locations. Visitors would generally need specialized outdoor experience or skill to mitigate risk due to technical challenges, navigation difficulty, hazardous terrain, wildlife, or weather; should expect a high to extremely high level of physical exertion; and should be prepared to be self-sufficient in the outdoors for a day or longer. Primary visitor uses would include hiking, overnight backpacking, climbing, and mountaineering.	Visitors would find a quiet setting with ample opportunities for solitude at all times and locations; encounters would be rare and may even be surprising. Visitors would generally need specialized outdoor experience or skill to access this area and mitigate risk once there due to challenging access points, navigation difficulty, technical climbing, hazardous terrain, wildlife, or weather; should expect a moderate to extremely high level of physical exertion; and should be prepared to be self-sufficient in the outdoors for a day or longer. This area would not be primarily for visitor use, but common uses could include hiking, backpacking, climbing, mountaineering, and wildlife watching.	Visitors would find a unique setting with some opportunities for solitude and infrequent direct encounters with others; however, due to unobstructed sightlines, visitors may see and hear traffic and other visitors at a distance, possibly preventing feelings of contemplation and "escape" from modern society. Visitors would generally need specialized experience or skill in navigating high-clearance and/or 4x4 roads, should expect a moderate degree of physical exertion, and should be prepared to be self-sufficient for a few hours. This area would not be primarily for visitor use, but common uses could include hiking, wildlife watching, and scenic driving.
Desired Resource Condition Summary	Impacts of facilities and visitor use on native wildlife, vegetation, and water resources would be avoided to the greatest extent possible. Native wildlife populations would exhibit their natural abundances, diversities, dynamics, distributions, and behaviors. In some places, native vegetation may be lightly modified and manipulated to accommodate development; otherwise, native vegetation would be maintained in a natural condition, exhibiting a healthy, productive, diverse population of native plant species and functional disturbance processes. Natural hydrologic systems may be lightly modified by creek-crossing structures but otherwise would be left unimpeded. This area may include historic sites and buildings; historic properties would be managed according to the park's historic properties management plan.	Impacts of facilities and visitor use on native wildlife, vegetation, and water resources are avoided to the greatest extent possible. Native wildlife populations exhibit their natural abundances, diversities, dynamics, distributions, and behaviors. In some places, native vegetation may be lightly modified and manipulated to accommodate development; otherwise, native vegetation is maintained in a natural condition, exhibiting a healthy, productive, diverse population of native plant species and functional disturbance processes. Natural hydrologic systems and processes would be left unimpeded. This area may include historic sites and buildings; historic properties are managed according to the park's historic properties management plan.	Native wildlife populations would exhibit their natural abundances, diversities, dynamics, distributions, and behaviors. Native vegetation would be maintained in a natural condition, exhibiting a healthy, productive, diverse population of native plant species and functional disturbance processes. Natural processes would predominate. Natural hydrologic systems and processes would be left unimpeded. This area may include historic sites and buildings; historic properties would be managed according to the park's historic properties management plan.	Native wildlife populations would be present, many exhibiting natural abundances, dynamics, distributions, and behaviors. Some native wildlife populations may be modified or manipulated by human activity. In limited places, native vegetation may be highly modified or manipulated by human activity; otherwise, native vegetation would be maintained in a natural condition, exhibiting a healthy, productive diverse population of native plant species and functioning disturbance processes. Natural hydrologic systems and processes may have been impacted due to irrigation ditches, dams, and other human-made structures, and continuing resource stressors are to be expected but should be minimized whenever possible. This area may include historic sites and buildings; historic properties would be managed according to the park's historic properties management plan.
Appropriate Level of Development, Facilities, and Services Summary	This area would appear minimally developed, with most development related to high-standard, well-maintained trails. Other development would include rustic log bridges with nonvisible steel underlays, trail structures, backcountry cabins for administrative use, rustic designated backcountry campsites, bear boxes, wayfinding and regulatory signage, and little else.	This area would appear mostly undeveloped, with only low-standard, low-maintenance primitive trails present. Few points of access would be provided. With few exceptions, no designated campsites, bridges, or other trail structures would be present except for historic backcountry cabins; signage is limited.	This area would appear completely undeveloped. No development would occur, and no maintained trails would be present. Few points of access would be provided.	This area would appear minimally developed due to past and ongoing uses, but no new development would occur. Managerial presence would be moderate, with sporadic and primitive roads, buildings, irrigation ditches, and fences present. Transportation infrastructure generally would provide a low standard of service. Limited NPS maintenance and residential facilities may be located in this management area.