

(2) *May I operate a snowmobile in Yellowstone National Park?* You may operate a snowmobile in Yellowstone National Park in compliance with use limits and entry passes, guiding requirements, operating dates, equipment, and operating conditions established in this section. The Superintendent may establish additional operating conditions and shall provide notice of those conditions in accordance with § 1.7(a) of this chapter.

(3) *May I operate a snowcoach in Yellowstone National Park?* Commercial snowcoaches may be operated in Yellowstone National Park under a concessions contract. Non-commercial snowcoaches may be operated if authorized by the Superintendent. Snowcoach operation is subject to the conditions stated in the concessions contract and all other conditions identified in this section:

(i) Beginning with the winter of 2005–2006, all non-historic snowcoaches must meet NPS emissions requirements. These requirements are the EPA's emission standards for the vehicle at the time it was manufactured.

(ii) Any pollution control equipment that has exceeded its useful life must be replaced.

(iii) Tampering with or disabling a snowcoach's original pollution control equipment is prohibited except for maintenance purposes.

(iv) Individual snowcoaches will be periodically inspected tested to determine compliance with the requirements of paragraphs (l)(3)(i) through (l)(3)(iii) of this section.

(v) Beginning with the winter of 2008–2009, all non-historic snowcoaches must meet NPS sound requirements. Snowcoaches must operate at or below 75 dB(A) as measured at 25 mph on the A-weighted scale at 50 feet using test procedures similar to Society of Automotive Engineers J1161 (revised 1983).

(vi) Historic snowcoaches (Bombardier snowcoaches manufactured in 1983 or earlier) are not initially required to meet air or sound requirements.

(4) *Must I operate a certain model of snowmobile?* Only commercially available snowmobiles that meet NPS air and sound emissions requirements may be operated in Yellowstone National Park. The park will identify snowmobile makes, models, and year of manufacture that meet those requirements. Any snowmobile not so identified by the NPS may not be operated in the park.

(i) Snowmobiles must achieve air emissions below 15 g/kW-hr for

hydrocarbons and 120 g/kW-hr for carbon monoxide as tested using a 5-mode engine dynamometer in accordance with the test cycle identified by EPA's snowmobile regulations in 40 CFR parts 1051 and 1065.

(ii) For sound emissions snowmobiles must operate at or below 73dB(A) as measured at full throttle according to Society of Automotive Engineers J192 test procedures (revised 1985).

(iii) Snowmobiles not operating under a concessions contract do not have to meet air and sound requirements for the winter 2003–2004 only.

(5) *Where must I operate my snowmobile in Yellowstone National Park?* You must operate your snowmobile only upon designated oversnow routes established within the park. The following oversnow routes are designated for snowmobile use:

(i) The Grand Loop Road from its junction with Terrace Springs Drive to Norris Junction.

(ii) Norris Junction to Canyon Junction.

(iii) The Grand Loop Road from Norris Junction to Madison Junction.

(iv) The West Entrance Road from the park boundary at West Yellowstone to Madison Junction.

(v) The Grand Loop Road from Madison Junction to West Thumb.

(vi) The South Entrance Road from the South Entrance to West Thumb.

(vii) The Grand Loop Road from West Thumb to its junction with the East Entrance Road.

(viii) The East Entrance Road from the East Entrance to its junction with the Grand Loop Road.

(ix) The Grand Loop Road from its junction with the East Entrance Road to Canyon Junction.

(x) The South Canyon Rim Drive.

(xi) Lake Butte Road.

(xii) In the developed areas of Madison Junction, Old Faithful, Grant Village, Lake, Fishing Bridge, Canyon, Indian Creek, and Norris.

(xiii) The Superintendent may designate additional oversnow routes for snowmobiles only when the use is consistent with the park's natural, cultural, scenic and aesthetic values, safety considerations, park management objectives, and will not disturb wildlife or damage park resources.

(xiv) The Superintendent may open or close these or other routes, or portions thereof, after taking into consideration the location of wintering wildlife, appropriate snow cover, public safety, and other factors. Notice of such opening or closing shall be provided by one or more of the methods listed in § 1.7(a) of this chapter.

(xv) Maps detailing the designated oversnow routes will be available from Park Headquarters.

(6) *What routes are designated for snowcoach use?* Authorized snowcoaches may only be operated on the routes designated for snowmobile use in paragraphs (l)(5)(i) through (l)(5)(xii) of this section and the following additional oversnow routes:

(i) Firehole Canyon Drive.

(ii) Fountain Flat Road.

(iii) Virginia Cascades Drive.

(iv) North Canyon Rim Drive.

(v) Riverside Drive.

(vi) That portion of the Grand Loop Road from Canyon Junction to Washburn Hot Springs overlook.

(vii) The Superintendent may designate or close these or other oversnow routes for snowcoach travel. Notice of such opening or closing shall be provided by one or more of the methods listed in § 1.7(a) of this chapter.

(7) *Will I be required to use a guide while snowmobiling in Yellowstone?* Beginning in the winter of 2004–2005, all recreational snowmobile operators must be accompanied by a guide that has successfully completed an NPS-approved training program.

(8) *What other requirements apply to the use of snowmobile guides?* During the winter of 2003–2004 only, eighty percent (80%) of the authorized daily snowmobile entries are allocated under concessions contracts for commercial guiding services, while the remaining twenty percent (20%) of the authorized daily snowmobile entries are allocated to the general public and do not require a guide. Beginning the winter of 2004–2005, eighty percent (80%) of the authorized daily snowmobile entries for each entrance are allocated for commercially guided parties, while the remaining twenty percent (20%) of the authorized daily snowmobile entries are allocated for non-commercially guided parties.

(i) Non-commercial guides will be required to successfully complete a training program approved by the Superintendent to include training on park rules, safety considerations, and appropriate actions to minimize impacts to wildlife and other park resources.

(ii) Snowmobile parties must travel in a group of at least two snowmobiles but no more than 11 snowmobiles, including that of the guide.

(iii) It is prohibited for non-commercial guides, or anyone else, to receive fees or other forms of compensation for non-commercial guiding services.

(iv) Guided parties must travel together within a maximum of one-third