

# WHAT'S NEW



## Devils Tower After Dark

America's National Park Service sites contain many cherished treasures. As darkness falls on Devils Tower, a different kind of light illuminates the night sky. That light comes from objects in deep space, and transforms the night from a place of darkness into a place of wonder. Oral histories about the Tower incorporate tribal star knowledge. Astronomers and night sky photographers seek out the darkness of parks like Devils Tower National Monument, islands of night in an ever-brighter world. What inspiration can you find as you enjoy the darker side of the first national monument? The park offers many great viewing locations as well as hosts night sky programs throughout the year.

## Flaming Gorge - Local Guide and NSB Program Addition 2021

Tranquil waters as far as the eye can see, towering rock formations from another time period and an abundance of wildlife can be found just south of Rock Springs and Green River. Flaming Gorge Country is a haven for anglers, mountain bikers, campers and any other outdoor enthusiast. Take a full-day tour of the national recreation area and stop at the nationally recognized scenic overlooks. On February 16, 2021 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) officials announced exciting news regarding the newest additions to the National Scenic Byways program. Created in 1991, this program is a collaborative effort that recognizes, enhances, and preserves the carefully selected roads throughout the United States. Chosen on archeological, historic, natural, cultural, and scenic qualities, the Flaming Gorge - Green River Basin Scenic Byway is a fantastic addition to this coveted list of breathtaking American roads.

## Yellowstone 150th Anniversary

2022 marks the 150th Anniversary of the establishment of Yellowstone as the world's first national park. With more than 10,000 hydrothermal features, of which 500 are geysers, and more than 200 species of animals, Yellowstone continues to inspire the national parks movement, conservation, the arts and wild and natural places. Old Faithful Inn, the largest log structure in the world and Lake Yellowstone Hotel, the oldest hotel in the park, continue to inspire architecture all over the world. Planning has begun for special events and opportunities to celebrate this historic event.



## The Backyard

The Backyard is the latest project from Sheridan County Travel & Tourism, debuting this summer as a YouTube exclusive streaming series. It showcases everyone in the community, and beyond the borders of Wyoming, what makes the great outdoors special, and why the Bighorns are the ultimate playground for those who choose to go outside and play. There is no place in the world more authentic than the mountains. For more information and to watch the latest episodes, visit: <https://www.sheridanwyoming.org/the-backyard/>





## Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area: Newest 2021 Additions

The Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area's very own Hidden Treasure Charters has announced some fantastic additions for visitors to enjoy in 2021 all directly bookable through their website at [www.hiddentreasurecharters.com](http://www.hiddentreasurecharters.com). Horseshoe Bend Marina has added scenic boat tours, rental pontoons, motorized boats, and several non-motorized rentals including kayaks, stand up paddle boards, and canoes. The Marina café and beer garden is open 7 days a week May 15 – September 30 along with a new and updated menu. Reservations for Horseshoe Bend Campground are now available for free independent travelers (FITs) and have reservation capabilities for groups of 100 or less for their Covered Pavilion Area for catering, weddings, etc.

## Wyoming State Capitol: Cheyenne

After being closed for a four-year restoration and rehabilitation project, the Wyoming Capitol is now open for self-guided tours 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday. The Capitol has undergone extensive rehabilitation to replace outdated building systems, add critical life safety infrastructure, and address public space needs, especially the need for larger meeting rooms. This invasive work also created the opportunity to restore the Capitol's historic features. The Chamber has been returned to its original size by eliminating a partition wall and reclaiming the two-story volume and public balcony; making it the largest meeting room in the Capitol. A large part of the Convention focused on women's suffrage, a right Wyoming

women had held since 1869. It was in this Chamber that representatives enshrined women's suffrage within the Wyoming State Constitution, becoming the first state to do so and making this one of the most historically significant chambers in the country.

## Wyoming Dinosaur Center: Thermopolis

Time Magazine listed the Wyoming Dinosaur Center & Dig Sites as one of the World's Coolest places of 2019. Located in Thermopolis, over 10,000 dinosaur bones have been found at their main dig site. Their museum lets you walk among the Dinosaurs that once called Wyoming home, and watch fossils being prepped in their lab. In the summer months, visitors of all ages can work alongside paleontologists on the Morrison Formation to find dinosaur bones and other ancient discoveries.



## Shell Falls Interpretive Site

This beautiful Visitor Center is the perfect stop along the Bighorn Scenic Byway. Look at Shell Falls and walk along the interpretive trail. Over the past million years, Shell Creek has incised a deep chasm through the sedimentary stone and ancient granite. The water of Shell Falls, dropping at a rate of 3,600 gallons per second, follows fractures in the resistant granite. Shell Canyon is named for the shell fossils found in the sedimentary canyon walls. For more in depth information, take a look at: [www.sheridanwyoming.org/escape-to-the-mountains/](http://www.sheridanwyoming.org/escape-to-the-mountains/)



James Scoon  
Director of Global  
Partnerships  
[james.scoon@wyo.gov](mailto:james.scoon@wyo.gov)  
307.777.2852