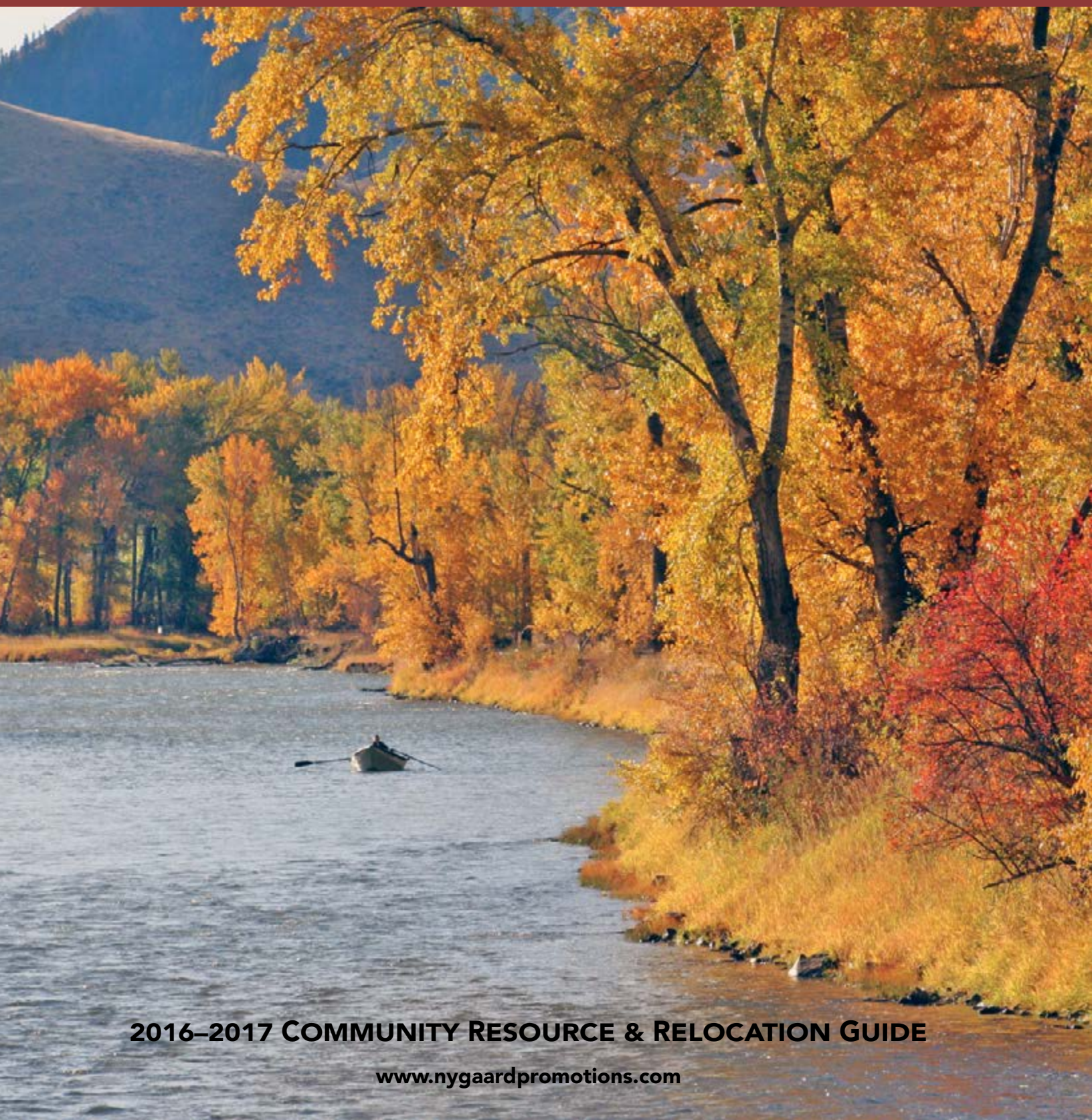


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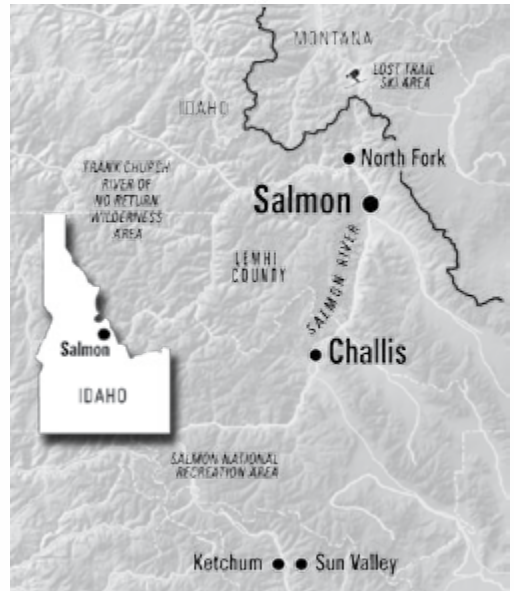




## WELCOME TO SALMON RIVER COUNTRY

\*\*\*\*\*

The setting for this part of Idaho is perhaps one of the most scenic and spectacular areas in the Northwest, with acres of vast rolling high-country meadows, rugged mountain peaks, shimmering aspens, and clear running creeks and rivers. Some of the sights of this untamed land are the bighorn sheep, mountain goats, elk, deer, bald eagles, and wild horses. The Salmon River is the main focus in the Salmon Valley; it not only waters the land, but provides an abundance of pleasure for fly fishing, white water rafting, swimming or just floating the river, and watching the wildlife and scenery. **Salmon** sits in the heart of the Salmon Valley at the junctions of US Highway 93 and Highway 28 at an elevation of 4,000 feet. **Challis** is situated in Round Valley at the junctions of State Highways 93 and 75 at an elevation of 5,280 feet.



### CLIMATE & TOPOGRAPHY

The surrounding mountains of the Salmon Valley rise to over 10,000 feet, thus forming a natural barrier to the elements. Storms may rage around the area, but the worst is kept from breaking through by the protection provided by the mountains, thus giving this valley a mild climate.

Elevation and precipitation are major factors that enable the Salmon Valley to have four distinct seasons with the temperatures ranging from below zero in the winter months to an occasional 95–100 degrees in the heat of the summer. There are on the average, 33 days a year where the temperatures reach ninety degrees or higher and an average of seventeen days a year where the temperatures fall below zero or lower. This allows for an average growing season of 130 days a year.

Salmon Valley is cowboy country. Cattle ranches are being worked much the same way they were a hundred years ago. Over time, more and more people are attracted to this earthy way of life. Numerous outfitters are headquartered here in the form of guest ranches using authentic working cattle ranches as resorts, as this is not only the “Gateway to Idaho’s Wilderness,” but also the “White Water Capital of the World.”

### WEATHER STATISTICS

AVG. ANNUAL PRECIPITATION	9.93 in.
AVG. ANNUAL SNOWFALL	27.0 in.
AVG. DAILY TEMPERATURE	
Lowest Min.	January 9.4°
Highest Max.	July 88.8°
AVG. HUMIDITY	July 24%
	January 71%
HOTTEST MONTH	July
DRIEST MONTH	March
COLDEST MONTH	January
WETTEST MONTH	June

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## SALMON COMMUNITY PROFILE

.....

**T**HE CITY OF SALMON sits at the forks of the Salmon and Lemhi Rivers in the heart of the Salmon Valley, a land of cattle ranches and timber. This small, isolated but self-contained community of Salmon is the county seat of Lemhi County. The community offers all the services of a larger center, which includes a variety of shopping and medical facilities, educational institutions, preschool to high school, and most types of entertainment and recreational facilities such as theater, a bowling alley, swimming pool, hockey rink, a golf course, library, and a museum along with several great restaurants. Most residents have a love of the outdoors with fishing, hunting, bird watching, rafting, wildlife viewing, and horseback riding, to mention a few, at their back door. Salmon is often known as the white water recreation capital of the world. Local guide services and individual rafters and kayakers will often launch trips here on the famous "River of No Return." This fertile river country has produced many fine horse and cattle ranches. Agriculture, timber, mining, wholesale and retail trade along with miscellaneous services, comprise the local economy. Government plays an important role in the economy.

This untouched "Idaho Treasure" is rich in history, natural resources and folklore. Sacagawea, interpreter for the Lewis and Clark Expedition, a member of the Lemhi Shoshone Tribe, was born near Tendoy, not far from Salmon. Historic relics dot the landscape in the valley with remains of once booming towns, mining camps, and historic trails. Along with the magnificent setting, moderate climate, abundant wildlife, recreation, and a well-developed community, are the friendly country folks who call this valley home. A warm welcome awaits you in this "gem" of a community.

### THE IDAHO GEM COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Sponsored by the Idaho Department of Commerce, this program is designed to help communities identify community needs, set goals and objectives, and develop specific plans to achieve these goals. Both Salmon and Challis are members of this program. Past and planned accomplishments are truly community efforts which succeed only because of the support and hard work of citizen organizations and local governments.



### POPULATION & ECONOMIC TRENDS

Lemhi County showed a population growth in the past decade; its population has risen to 7,909. In the 1990 census Lemhi County had 6,899. In 1995 the population showed a 16.0% decline from the previous census. Lemhi County increased to 8,004 and peaked in 1997 at 8,064. Since then, the numbers have shown and experienced many swings in its population. These swings were mainly caused by activities in the mining industry. The lumber industry had a major impact during the early years. The county is working overtime in order to stabilize this pattern by diversifying their economy into many different industrial areas. Tourism has played an active part in the economy over the past decade. Once people discover the serenity and solitude of the area, along with the hunting and fishing, the temptation to return will be too great to resist.

SOURCE Idaho Commerce and Labor

### COMMUNICATIONS

Salmon has an AM-FM radio station, KSRA, a Christian station broadcasting from Boise. There are UHF Television Channels from Pocatello and Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Missoula, Montana. Cable is available in the city of Salmon. Salmon has one local newspaper. *The Recorder Herald*, 208-756-2221

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### POPULATION

	2000	ESTIMATED 2013
City of Salmon	3,122	3,027
Lemhi County	7,806	7,712
Per square mile	1.6	1.7

SOURCE U.S. Census Bureau. Population figures are estimates; accurate numbers will be available with the next U.S. census.

### COUNTY GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

Incorporated Towns	1
City Mayors	1
County Seat	Salmon
County Commissioners	3
Elected Clerk of the District Court	
Assessor • Coroner • Treasurer	
County Attorney • Sheriff	

## CITY SERVICES

[www.cityofsalmon.com](http://www.cityofsalmon.com)

City Hall	208-756-3214
City of Salmon	Mayor/Council (6)
Master Plan	Yes
City Zoning Ordinance	Yes
Disposal Service	Yes
Public Library	Yes
Police Department	6 Full-time



## ECONOMY & INDUSTRY

The major non-agricultural industries are tourism, mining, and logging. Federal and state activities have a major influence upon the local economy. Employment throughout the area is seasonal. The lumber industry is one of the main industries in the area.

Outfitted recreation, as a "stand alone" industry is quite easily qualified by use of USFS reports. However, the industry obviously has additional effects on the economy as clients make local purchases of goods and services in conjunction with their outfitting experience. Approximately eighty percent of outfitted recreation sales in Central Idaho come from whitewater rafting. Hunting and fishing make up the majority of the other twenty percent.

Agriculture, primarily cattle ranching, remains the largest industry for Lemhi County. Ninety-two percent of the land in Lemhi County is federally or state owned. Somewhere in the neighborhood of one-half of the cattlemen have permits to graze their livestock on Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands, during the summer months. This means taking the animals to the lower elevations and valleys in the winter season. Most ranches in the county are family owned and operated. A typical ranch runs 150–250 cattle. About ninety-four percent of the agricultural sales can be attributed to the livestock industry. Cattle ranchers rely on public lands for about thirty percent of their grazing and food base. Public ranges in Lemhi County are primarily native grasses and shrubs. Almost no reseeding or manipulation of vegetation or plant species has occurred. A recent BLM study concludes that "public ranges in the Lemhi Resource Area are in the best condition of the past 100 years."



## THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

The government sector employs almost almost forty percent of workers in Lemhi County. Over ninety percent of the land in the county is owned by the federal government. Over the past ten years, the government sector has increased jobs twenty-one percent. Many people are employed in the agricultural sector, with the cattle industry and crops equally important. Leisure and hospitality employ about fifteen percent. Trade, which includes food stores, eating and drinking establishments, and auto dealerships serve a large geographical area and employ about twenty percent of the labor force.

### LABOR FORCE

	MAY 2014
Civilian Labor Force	3,293
Total Employment	3,047
Lemhi County Unemployed	7.5%
State of Idaho Unemployed	4.9%
United States Unemployed	6.3%

SOURCE Idaho Commerce and Labor

### AVERAGE STARTING HOURLY WAGES

Agriculture	\$8.52
Farm Workers	15.75
Nurses	17.27
Health Practitioners	27.23
Production Services	14.28
Retail Sales	8.96



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## **SALMON VALLEY BUSINESS INNOVATION CENTER**

803 Monroe • Salmon, Idaho, 83467 • 208-756-1505

The center is a cooperative effort funded by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, Idaho Department of Commerce, and the City of Salmon. Located in a new 15,000 square foot building, this innovation and incubation center was created to encourage new business growth and employment in the community, specializing in capital cost reduction for business in the start-up phase.

The facility offers a computer center, EITC and ISU distance learning, business space for rent, industrial bays, offices, conference room, and a large open workspace. Also housed in the facility are the offices of the Custer Economic Development Association and the Lemhi County Economic Development Association.

## **LARGEST EMPLOYERS**

Discovery Care Center	Lemhi County
Q.B. Corporation	Salmon Public School #291
Saveway Market	Steele Memorial Medical Center
U. S. Government	Idaho Department of Fish & Game

## **TRANSPORTATION**

The Lemhi County Airport, elevation of 4,035 feet, is located about four miles south of Salmon, on Hwy 93. The airport features a 5,150 foot airstrip, capable of handling small jets. Night lighting, full services year-around. Charter services available to all locations throughout the U.S. Year-around commuter flights service to Boise. Rental cars, limited small bus service available year-around and public transportation services available through Lemhi Ride (208-756-1875). Airport serviced by McCall Aviation (208-756-6211) and Gem Air (208-756-7382).

## **UTILITIES**

### **Electric Power supplied by:**

Idaho Power & Light Company 208-756-2523

**Propane:** Salmon River Propane 208-756-2811

### **Telephone Service provided by:**

Century Telephone of Idaho, Inc. 208-756-2000

## **HOUSING**

Average May 2011–May 2013

Average Sale Price \$124,767

Median rent in Salmon \$491–525

SOURCE City-Data.com/city/Salmon-Idaho.html



# LEMHI RIDE

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Bailey's Diesel Service Center located at 27 Rambling Way (behind Round Valley Supply) offers a full-service diesel center for your semi trucks/trailers, farm equipment and RVs. We also offer our full detail service for all vehicles. We do complete electrical wiring and rewiring on trailers. We also offer 24-hour roadside assistance. For that service call (775) 426-8477.



## SALMON EDUCATION

\*\*\*\*\*

There are approximately 1,077 students in the Salmon School District. Salmon High School offers a comprehensive program in academic and vocational courses. Students are required to complete fifty-six credits of coursework for graduation. The school district uses ISAT tests and the students generally rank above the national average.

### Salmon School District 291

907 Sharkey Street • Salmon, ID 83467  
208-756-4271

The Salmon School District has established a **Charter School** for grades K-8, Upper Carmen School.

### Idaho Standards Achievement Tests—Spring 2013

Total Percent Proficient and Above

	READING	LANGUAGE	MATH
Grade 4	97.2	93.2	96.0
Grade 7	95.0	88.1	87.9
Grade 10	100	95.6	92.6

SOURCE Idaho State Board of Education

### Private Schools

Seventh Day Adventist, Grades 1-8,  
400 Fairmont Street • Salmon, ID 83467, 208-756-4439

### Home Schools

Approximately 35 families, for further information start with [www.iche-idaho.org](http://www.iche-idaho.org).

### Colleges, Universities, and

#### Technical Schools

	MILES FROM SALMON
University of Montana, Missoula, MT	145
BYU, Idaho, Rexburg, ID	157
Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID	207

### LEMHI EDUCATION PROJECT

803 Monroe • Salmon, ID 83467, 208-756-1551 [www.lemhied.com](http://www.lemhied.com)

The Lemhi Education Project provides free services to area residents who are pursuing post-secondary training and education, including a computer lab with Wi-Fi, test administration and proctoring, college/career advising, and assistance applying to programs. They also facilitate community education courses, partnerships with state colleges, and local mentorships and tutoring.

Since 2011 the non-profit Lemhi Education Project has served the people of geographically isolated Lemhi County in their efforts to secure post-secondary education and job training. No town in the state is farther from a state university, college, tech school, or outreach center than Salmon is, but with free services and support Lemhi Ed is improving accessibility to education.

The Lemhi Education Project cooperates with local service organizations, schools, and public assistance departments to connect people with critical resources and help them maximize their investments in education.

Area residents pursuing online degrees can count on guidance in program selection and the registration process, placement testing and test proctoring, free access to a Wi-Fi computer lab, and mentoring throughout their program.

Several times a year Lemhi Ed facilitates “live” instruction in Salmon. Training for certified nursing assistants, phlebotomists, commercial truck drivers, and welders are just some of the courses they have made available.

The Lemhi Education Project is a sub-committee of the Lemhi County Economic Development Association. Additional information for students and pro-education supporters can be found at [www.lemhied.org](http://www.lemhied.org) or by calling (208) 756-1551.



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## SALMON HEALTH CARE

**S**ALMON SUPPORTS AN 18-bed primary and secondary care hospital facility. Health care professionals also in residence include dentists, optometrists, physical therapists, chiropractors, and home health agencies, just to name a few. The spectrum of care ranges from a local child development center, adult handicap center, and nursing homes for elder care.

### STEELE MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

203 South Daisy Street  
Salmon, Idaho 83467  
208-756-5600

Relying upon funds generously provided by the residents of Lemhi County, donations and a large

contribution made by Eleanor and Emmett Reese in the memory of Eleanor's father, Charles Steele, construction on the original facility for Steele Memorial Hospital began in 1949. After completion of construction in 1950, Steele Memorial Hospital, opened its doors for patients on Monday, February 27, 1950 and immediately began fulfilling the needs of the local residents of Salmon, Idaho.

Over 52 years later in November 2002, the citizens of Lemhi County passed a General Obligation Bond to help support construction of a replacement hospital facility. This bond combined with a \$3 million grant pledge to the Steele Memorial Foundation from the Steele-Reese Foundation made construction of a new hospital a reality. Construction of the new hospital began in May 2003. The new facility, officially renamed Steele Memorial Medical Center, held its grand opening on October 22, 2004.

In March 2003, the Steele Memorial Medical Center Board of Directors identified a need for administrative services and contracted with Quorum Health Resources (QHR). Relying upon QHR's vast resources for healthcare leadership, industry expertise, consulting services and training opportunities for board members, department managers and staff, Steele Memorial Medical Center has grown and expanded to provide and offer various healthcare services to our local community.

Today, Steele Memorial Medical Center (SMMC) is a Medicare Certified, not-for-profit, 18-bed Critical Access Hospital (CAH) with an associated Rural Health Clinic, providing comprehensive healthcare for the residents and visitors of the Salmon and Lemhi River valleys and surrounding areas. SMMC is driven by a vision of service



Photo courtesy Steele Memorial Hospital

and organizational excellence. SMMC's highly skilled providers and employees are committed to delivering compassionate healthcare to each and every patient. Our organization consists of: 3 Family Practice Physicians, 1 OB/GYN Physician, 1 General Surgeon, 1 Orthopedic Surgeon, 1 Orthopedic Physician Assistant, 2 Nurse Practitioners, and 2 Physicians Assistants..

Our services include: General Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Gynecological Surgery, Plastic Surgery, OB/GYN, Laboratory, Medical Imaging, Rehabilitation, and Emergency care. In addition, our outpatient clinic offers the following specialties: Cardiology, Dermatology, Oncology, Ophthalmology, Urology, Otolaryngology (ENT) Podiatry, and Psychiatry.

#### AWARDS SMMC HAS RECEIVED IN THE LAST 18 MONTHS:

- 2015 National Rural Health Day Performance Leadership Award
- 2015 NRHA Top 20 Critical Access Hospital
- 2015 Studer Group Excellence in Patient Care Award
- 2015 iVantage Top 100 Critical Access Hospital
- 2015 iVantage HEALTHSTRONG
- 2015 Jeff Hill, CEO named Becker's 50 Rural Hospital CEOs to Know
- 2014 Studer Group What's Right in Healthcare presenter: Driving Operational Efficiencies Through Evidence Based Leadership
- 2014 Studer Group Rural Healthcare Organization of the Month award





## SALMON VALLEY HISTORY

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**S**ALMON HAS A RICH cultural heritage in mining, logging, and agriculture. The first white men to come to the Lemhi Valley were members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. On August 12, 1805, Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, a French trapper named Charbonneau, and his Shoshoni wife Sacajawea crossed the Continental Divide. The explorers were seeking a contact with the Shoshoni Indians in order to obtain horses for the mountain crossing. Sacajawea, who had been born into the Shoshoni tribe, recognized the place of her birth and her people. She also recognized her brother, who was now Chief of the Shoshoni people. This coincidence made it possible for the expedition to be supplied with horses for their journey.

At that time, the Indians made no distinction between the two rivers of this valley but called them Ag-gi-pah, which means "fishwater," the water that supplied much of their food. Since the fish were salmon, white men called the river by that name.

The Indians told Lewis and Clark that going down the Salmon was impossible. After exploring it for seventy miles downstream, they realized the Indians were right and abandoned this route and instead chose the Lolo Pass through the Bitterroot Valley.

The first crossing over the Rocky Mountains by wagon was made by Captain B.L.E. Bonneville, who wintered near the mouth of Carmen Creek in 1832. In 1855 a Mormon missionary colony was sent from Salt Lake City and settled on the river that was later named Lemhi River. A fort was built on the large open space that the Indians had always used as pasture for their horses. The mission was abandoned in 1858 because of trouble with the Indians.

A few years later, in 1866, five Montana prospectors discovered rich gold deposits about fourteen miles west of Salmon. This started a gold rush and development of the mining town of Leesburg. This community soon grew to a population of 3,000, and sparked the creation of Salmon City in 1867 and the organization of Lemhi County in 1869. Miners were first ferried across the Salmon River to the gold fields, followed by a toll bridge which served for many years.

The first house in Salmon was the Van Dreff house on the corner east of the museum. The entire block from the museum corner to the river was once Chinatown, occupied by Chinese miners from Leesburg wintering in Salmon.

As soon as Salmon City was laid out in 1867, a log school house was built where Havemann's Warehouse stands. Then came Salmon's first church, followed by several brick buildings which are still standing.

A real work of art is the quaint and beautiful old Episcopal Church built of stone quarried at the old Shoup quarry west of Salmon in 1903. The same stone was used to build the Catholic Church in 1908.

A point of interest is the Statue of Justice which sits atop the courthouse, built in 1911. This statue was put in place with an ordinary derrick before the days of modern equipment.

The Lemhi County Historical Museum was built by the Historical Society, the Salmon Jaycees, and the people and friends of Lemhi County as a memorial to the pioneers and in honor of the Idaho Territorial Centennial. It was dedicated March 4, 1963, 100 years to the day after President Abraham Lincoln signed the bill creating the Territory of Idaho.

SOURCE Lemhi County Historical Museum



Dustin Jones, O.D. — Scott B. Taylor, O.D.

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## ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & CULTURAL EVENTS



### COMMUNITY EVENTS

A generous menu of entertainment is offered to residents and visitors by many active organizations in the Salmon River Valley. Seldom does a week go by that there is not some event to amuse or interest every age group.

#### Spring

Easter Egg Hunt  
Student Art Show Begins  
Rocky Mountain Shindig  
Salmon Select Mule Sale  
Salmon Select Horse Sale  
Salmon High School Rodeo  
Motocross Races  
Fun Fly—Radio Flyers  
Cowboy Poetry

#### Summer

Antique & Custom Car Show  
Salmon Valley Art Show  
Salmon River Days  
Too Slim and the Taildraggers—July 3  
Blues, Brews, and BBQ  
Lemhi County Fair  
& PRCA Rodeo  
Stock Car Races  
Baseball/Softball Tournaments  
Children's Art in the Park



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### SALMON ARTS COUNCIL

The Lemhi Valley is not only filled with natural beauty, it is home to many talented artists. During your visit, be sure to take advantage of the opportunity to experience many different forms of fine art. Several area galleries and showrooms as well as the stores and restaurants have local artists' work on display.

The Salmon Arts Council (SAC), a non-profit organization managed by a thirteen-member volunteer board of directors, has been providing art education and experiences for the community since 1978. With a mission statement of: "Fostering the growth, quality, and awareness of the arts and humanities," they present fifteen to twenty programs per year.

For more information call 208-756-2987.

[www.salmonartscouncil.org](http://www.salmonartscouncil.org)



Shakespeare in the Park

Hiking & Mountain Biking in the Park at Town Square

#### Fall

Gibbonsville Bluegrass Festival  
Heritage Days  
Merchants' Trick or Treat  
Salmon Marathon (Boston Qualifier, Post Race Concert/Celebration)  
Art Council Dinner Theater  
Missoula Children's Theater  
Hunters' Ball

#### Winter

Parade of Lights  
Cheerleader's Bazaar  
Kids' Ice Fishing Derby  
Community Ski Program  
Robert Burns Night  
Hockey Tournaments





## CHALLIS COMMUNITY PROFILE

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**C**HALLIS IS NESTLED in the heart of the largest wilderness area in the lower 48 states, the Frank Church Wilderness. This "mile high" small town has a rich history in keeping with its Wild West location.

The first human inhabitants were members of the Shoshone and Nez Perce tribes. The rugged terrain discouraged white men from exploring the area until 1822, when an adventurer named Michael Bourdon led a fur-trapping party into the Round Valley in search of beaver pelts. Other hardy souls followed, settling in the valley to hunt, trap and raise cattle.

In the 1860's, prospectors enticed by tales of gold nuggets lying in river beds began to explore the large tributary of the Salmon River they called the Yankee Fork. Gold was discovered in 1873 and others flooded the area to seek their fortune. The tent cities that popped up along the river became mining towns. The first settlement, called Bonanza, was followed by Custer and Bayhorse.

An entrepreneur by the name of Alvah P. Challis recognized the opportunity presented by development in the valley and along the river and established a supply base to service both the mining towns and the ranches operating on the valley floor in 1876. Originally called "The Station," the town of Challis was named after its founder in 1878.

A toll road, the Custer Motorway, constructed from Challis through the mountains to the mining towns provided a supply route by which the mule trains could reach those remote areas. Challis flourished along with the boom towns through the 1870s again in 1895 and lastly, in the early 1900s. By 1910, lower grade ore and rising production costs forced the mines to close, leaving behind a history of boom and bust along the Yankee Fork.

Challis survived the demise of the gold towns and with a population today of about 1,000 is the seat of Custer County. Mining is still part of the local economy but the products are molybdenum and beautiful, multi-colored landscape rock. Ranchers, farmers and a collection of enterprising small business owners contribute to the economic base. The surrounding irrigated lands support cattle, hay, grain and seed potatoes.

The 21st century has brought "new" pioneers to Challis. This crop of explorers has discovered air so clean and clear that NASA is building an observatory just outside of city limits. Recreational opportunities



abound given the location of the city on the edge of the Frank Church. These newcomers enjoy all the area has to offer and remain "plugged in" via fiber optics provided by the progressive infrastructure supported by the local telephone cooperative.

Whether you are hiking, fishing, river rafting, playing golf at the high-altitude golf course, visiting those old ghost towns, touring the museum, or just enjoying the spectacular surrounding mountains and rivers, a visit to Challis is enough to convince potential residents that there is still a wealth of riches in the Round Valley!

### SERVICES

**Newspaper:** *The Challis Messenger*, 208-879-4445

**Post Office:** To reserve a post office box 208-879-2705. There is mail delivery to certain locations in town and rural routes.

**Radio:** A semi-local station transmits from Salmon.

**Cable TV:** Available in the city.

**Job Service:** 208-756-2234

**Drivers Licenses:** 208-879-2232

**City Offices:** 208-879-2386

**County Offices:** 208-879-2325

**Garbage Pick up:** Private

# Challis

## INSURANCE AGENCY

Before you buy insurance, call your Independent Agent at

**208-879-4200** [challisins@custertel.net](mailto:challisins@custertel.net)

- |                         |                |                   |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| ✓ Auto                  | ✓ Home         | ✓ Health          |
| ✓ Life                  | ✓ Commercial   | ✓ Renters         |
| ✓ Long-Term Care        | ✓ Farm & Ranch | ✓ Workers Comp    |
| ✓ Recreational Vehicles | ✓ Bonds        | ✓ Senior Products |

**WE'RE YOUR MORE-THAN-ONE-COMPANY AGENCY** 810 E. MAIN CHALLIS

## Challis Area Chamber of Commerce

**208-879-2771**

[challischamber@custertel.net](mailto:challischamber@custertel.net)

[www.challischamber.com](http://www.challischamber.com)

632 Main Street • Challis, Idaho 83226



## ECONOMY & INDUSTRY

The largest employment sectors within Custer County are government, agriculture and mining, respectively. Agriculture has the most economic impact on the majority of residents' lives but mining remains the largest source of tax revenue for the county. The area's rich history and natural beauty attract local, regional and international visitors and many locals are employed in businesses directly impacted by this service economy. The agricultural sector is dominated by range livestock operators. Elevation and a short growing season mean that other irrigated lands support hay, seed potatoes and grasses.

The molybdenum mine, one of the area's largest employers, has ramped up production during 2007 and the resulting surge in employment has brought new residents to the county. The Thompson Creek mine, in production since 1983, has recently been purchased by Canadian headquarter Blue Pearl Mining, Ltd.

Attracted by the areas' natural beauty, small-town friendliness, and reasonable real estate prices, people purchasing second homes have begun to have an impact on the population in the valley. The same attractions along with the infrastructure provided by the telephone cooperative have also inspired telecommuters to move to the area.

The county continues to focus on ways to diversify and become less dependent on agriculture and mining while maintaining its coveted rural lifestyle.

## WEATHER

Average Minimum Temp. January	10.4°
Average Maximum Temp. July	86.6°
Average Annual Snowfall	6.93 inches

## MEDICAL FACILITIES

### Clinics

The Challis Area Health Clinic • 208-879-4351  
Full-time physician assistant and part-time doctors

### Hospitals

Steele Memorial, Salmon, Idaho, 60 miles  
St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center, Hailey, ID, 113 miles  
Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center, Idaho Falls, 150 miles

### Pharmacies

Village Square Pharmacy • 208-879-4600

### Eye Center • Dental Clinic

### Chiropractic Office • 24-Hour Ambulance



On-Location Portraits      Business Cards \* Brochures  
Special Occasions & Reunions      Filers \* Promotional Cards  
Photo Restoration \* Passport Photos      Greeting Cards \* Postcards

## Photo & Printing Services Available

Whether you want to capture your family milestone or get striking products to market your company, you can rely on *Breezley Photography & Design* to make it happen.

HC 63 Box 1824 \* Challis ID 83226 \* (208) 833-6841

cora@breezleyphotography.com      www.breezleyphotography.com



# Local Resources in Salmon & Challis

## AUTO PARTS, SERVICE, TIRES

Bailey's Service Centers  
1301 Hwy 93 South  
208-879-2919  
27 Rambling Way  
208-879-3100  
775-426-8477 Roadside Service  
See our ads on p. 4 and 13  
Map location No. 29



## BANKING

Bank of Idaho  
[www.bankofidaho.com](http://www.bankofidaho.com)  
Various branch  
locations throughout  
Eastern Idaho  
208-236-2961  
See our ad on front inside cover



## CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Challis Area Chamber  
of Commerce  
632 Main Street,  
Challis, ID  
208-879-2771  
[www.challischamber.com](http://www.challischamber.com)  
See our ad on p. 9 • Map location No. 21



## CONCRETE

Dahle's Red-E-Mix  
522 River Street  
Salmon, ID  
208-756-2481  
See our ad on p. 18 • Map location No. 3

## HARDWARE & LUMBER

Lemhi Lumber Company  
720 South Challis  
Salmon, ID  
208-756-3322  
[www.lemhilumber.com](http://www.lemhilumber.com)  
See our ad on p. 3 • Map location No. 5

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Lemhi County Economic Development  
803 Monroe Street  
Salmon, ID  
208-756-1567  
See our ad inside front cover  
Map location No. 1

Lemhi Ride  
208-756-1875  
Please call us for more information

## GLASS

Miner's Glass  
111 South Church  
Salmon, ID  
208-756-2497 (work)  
208-756-7676 (cell)  
See our ad on p. 21 • Map location No. 4

## GROCERY

Lamb's Market  
1307E Highway 93 South  
Challis, ID  
208-879-4456  
See our ad on p. 14 • Map location No. 22

## INSURANCE

Challis Insurance Agency  
810 E. Main Street  
Challis, ID  
208-879-4200  
See our ad on p. 9 • Map location No. 23

## LODGING

The Stagecoach Inn  
201 Riverfront Drive  
Salmon, ID  
208-756-2919  
[www.stagecoachinnmotel.com](http://www.stagecoachinnmotel.com)  
See our ad on p. 17 • Map location No. 7



The Village Inn Motel & Restaurant  
310 S Highway 93  
Challis, ID  
208-879-2239  
[www.challisvillageinn.com](http://www.challisvillageinn.com)  
See our ad on p. 15  
Map location No. 24

## MEDICAL

Salmon River Vision Clinic  
1301 Main Street, #10  
Salmon, ID  
208-756-2020  
See our ad on p. 7  
Map location No. 8



Steel Memorial Medical Center  
*Clinic:* 805 Main Street, Salmon, ID  
208-756-6212  
Map location No. 9  
*Hospital:* 203 S Daisy Street, Salmon, ID  
208-756-5600  
Map location No. 10  
[www.steelemh.org](http://www.steelemh.org)  
See our ad on the back cover

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Breezley Photography & Design  
HC 63 Box 1824, Challis, ID  
208-879-2771  
[www.breezleyphotography.com](http://www.breezleyphotography.com)  
See our ad on p. 10 • Map location No. 25

## REAL ESTATE

A Dream Away Realty  
1305 E Hwy 93 South, Challis, ID  
208-879-4663  
[www.adreamawayrealty.com](http://www.adreamawayrealty.com)  
See our ad on page 16  
Map location No. 26

Lee Bilger, Realtor  
Salmon Real Estate  
818 Main Street, Salmon, ID  
208-940-0251  
[www.salmonrealestate.net](http://www.salmonrealestate.net)  
See our ad on p. 5  
Map location No. 12



Mountain West Real Estate  
701 Main Street, Salmon, ID  
208-756-1800  
[www.mtnwestrealestate.com](http://www.mtnwestrealestate.com)  
See our ad back inside cover  
Map location No. 13

Robie Real Estate  
531 Main Street, Salmon, ID  
208-756-4159  
[www.salmonidahoproperty.com](http://www.salmonidahoproperty.com)  
See our ad on p. 2 • Map location No. 14

Way Out West Realty  
1303 HWY 93 South, Challis, ID  
208-879-2211  
[www.awayoutwest.com](http://www.awayoutwest.com)  
See our ad on p. 16 • Map location No. 27

## RETAIL

McPherson's  
301 Main Street, Salmon, ID  
208-756-3232  
[www.mcphersononline.com](http://www.mcphersononline.com)  
See our ad inside front cover  
Map location No. 15

## RESTAURANTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Bertram's Salmon Valley Brewery  
Corner of Main & Andrews  
Salmon, ID • 208-756-3391  
[www.bertramsbrewery.com](http://www.bertramsbrewery.com)  
See our ad on p. 7  
Map location No. 16

Bux's Place  
Main Street  
Challis, ID  
208-879-4464  
See our ad on p. 14  
Map location No. 28

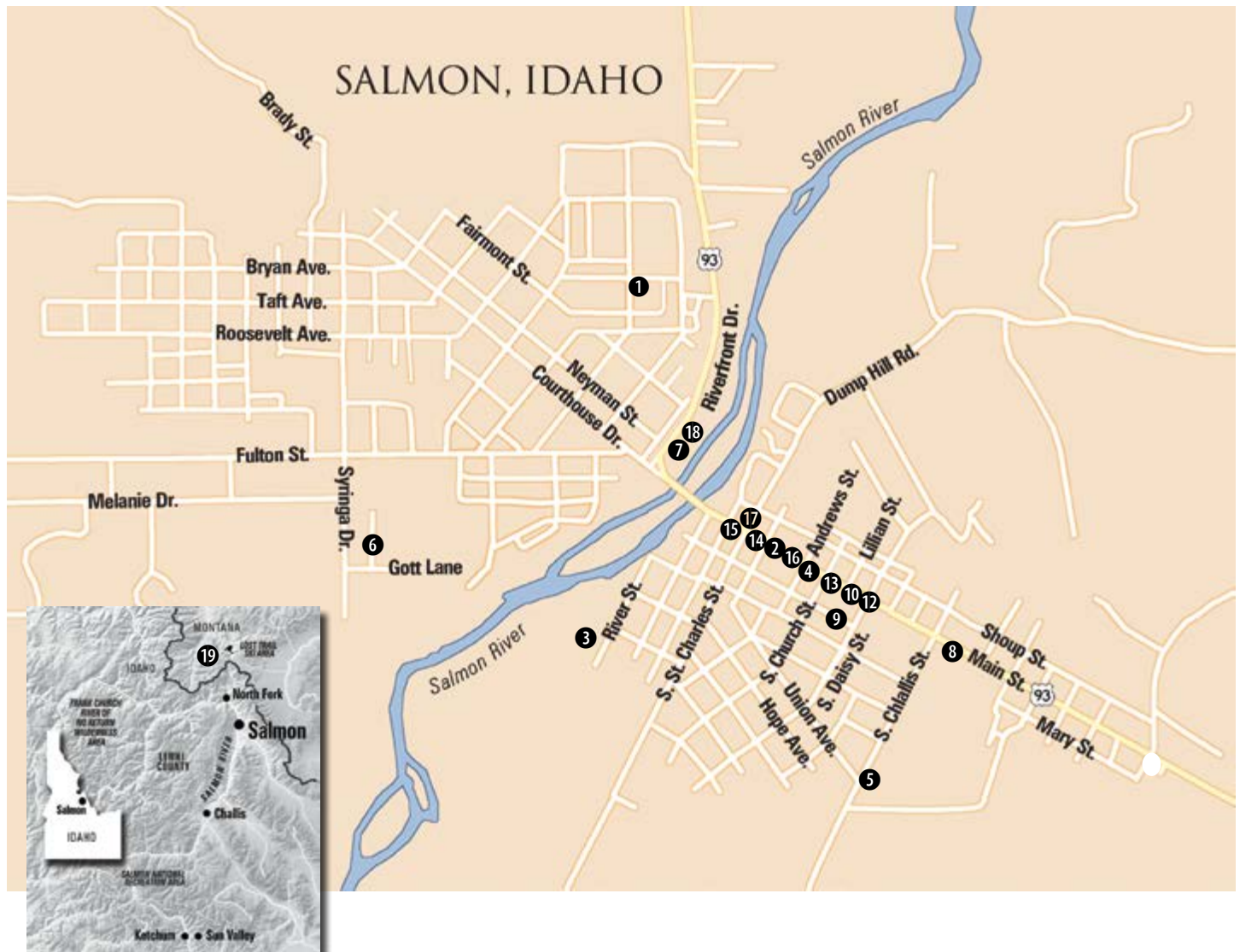
Dave's Pizza  
509 Main Street  
Salmon, ID  
208-756-4565  
See our ad on p. 8  
Map location No. 17



Shady Nook  
501 Riverfront Drive  
Salmon, ID  
208-756-4182  
[www.theshadynook.com](http://www.theshadynook.com)  
See our ad on p. 20  
Map location No. 18

## SKI RESORTS

Lost Trail Powder Mountain  
South of Sula, Darby, MT  
406-821-3211  
[www.losttrail.com](http://www.losttrail.com)  
See our ad on p. 23  
Map location No. 19



## Business Location Guide for Salmon, Idaho

- |                                     |  |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 Lemhi County Economic Development | 8 Salmon River Vision Clinic             | 15 McPherson's                     |
| 2 Oeding Real Estate                | 9 Steel Memorial Medical Center Hospital | 16 Bertram's Salmon Valley Brewery |
| 3 Dahl's Red-E-Mix Concrete         | 10 Steel Memorial Medical Center Clinic  | 17 Dave's Pizza                    |
| 4 Miner's Glass                     | 12 Lee Bilger, Realtor                   | 18 Shady Nook                      |
| 5 Lemhi Lumber Company              | 13 Mountain West Real Estate             | 19 Lost Trail Powder Mountain      |
| 6 Syringa Lodge Bed and Breakfast   | 14 Robie Real Estate                     |                                    |
| 7 The Stagecoach Inn                |  |                                    |





## Bailey's SERVICE CENTERS TRUCK • AUTO • DIESEL

1301 Hwy 93 South • 27 Rambling Way • Challis ID 83226  
(208) 879-2919 • (208) 879-3100 • (775) 426-8477 roadside service



Bailey's has 2 locations to serve you. Our Service Center at 1301 Hwy 93 South has a CarQuest Auto Parts store along with a complete tire shop for pretty much anything that rolls. Also at this location we have a full-service auto repair and lube shop, along with windshield replacement and chip repair. We also build custom hydraulic hoses and sell new pumps and rams.

Bailey's Diesel Service Center located at 27 Rambling Way (behind Round Valley Supply) offers a full-service diesel center for your semi trucks/trailers, farm equipment and RVs. We also offer our full detail service for all vehicles. We do complete electrical wiring and rewiring on trailers. We also offer 24-hour roadside assistance. For that service call (775) 426-8477.



### Business Location Guide for Challis, Idaho

- |    |                                    |    |                         |
|----|------------------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 21 | Challis Chamber of Commerce        | 26 | A Dream Away Realty     |
| 22 | Lamb's Market                      | 27 | Way Out West Realty     |
| 23 | Challis Insurance Agency           | 28 | Bux's Place             |
| 24 | The Village Inn Motel & Restaurant | 29 | Bailey's Service Center |
| 25 | Breezley Photography & Design      |    |                         |

## EDUCATION

All school facilities are new since 1978. The school district is accredited with an A3 rating for athletes. Extracurricular activities include interscholastic athletics, music, and other related activities. The Idaho Standardized Achievement Test (ISAT) is administered and students generally place above the national average. Approximately 80% of the graduating students attend college.

### Challis Joint School Dist. #181

950 Bluff Ave., Challis ID 83226 • 208-879-4231  
Grades: PK-12 • [www.d181.k12.id.us](http://www.d181.k12.id.us)

### Idaho Standards Achievement Test—Spring 2013

Total Percent Proficient and Above

	READING	LANGUAGE	MATH
Grade 4	100	96	100
Grade 7	92.3	94.7	92.3
Grade 10	97.3	97.3	97.4

SOURCE Idaho State Board of Education

### Colleges, Universities, and Technical Schools

Eastern Idaho Technical College, Idaho Falls	145 MILES FROM CHALLIS
Idaho State University, Pocatello	147
Brigham Young University—Idaho, Rexburg	166



## HOUSING

Typical value of home in town	\$95,000–200,000
Typical value of home in county	\$200,000–325,000
Typical property tax rate	1.0723519%

SOURCE City-Data.com/Challis-Idaho.html

## GOVERNMENT

Challis has a mayor and four city council members as its city government. It is also the county seat of Custer County. The county offices are located in the court house on Main Street. There are three elected county commissioners, and one city police and sheriff's department. The city has a master plan and zoning ordinances.

## POPULATION

Custer County has a population of 4,249, ranking thirty-eighth in the state. The county showed its biggest peaks and valleys in population between 1993 and 1996. Most of the fluctuation in population is due to the mining industry. The county is in the process of diversifying itself so the mining industry does not have as great of an effect on the economy. They are attempting to attract new and different types of businesses and industry hoping to stabilize the economy.



# Bux's Place

Main Street  
Challis, ID  
208-879-4464

"Where Good Friends Meet"

# Lamb's Market

*"Friendliest Store in Town!"*

- Fresh Meat & Produce
- Bakery • Deli • Subway

**Scott & Doyle Lamb**, owners

**208-879-4456**

1307 E. Hwy. 93 South • Challis, ID 83226





**TRANSPORTATION**

The Challis Airport is located two miles north of town at an elevation of 5,070 feet. The runway is 4,600 feet long by sixty feet wide. It is paved and lighted. Fuel, repairs, and charters are available.

**POPULATION**

	1990	2005	2013
Challis	1,094	847	1,083
Custer County	4,133	4,090	4,249

The health and operation of the mines in the area still have an impact on population. Population has been on the upswing since 2007 due to an increase in the number of employees at the molybdenum mine and second home buyers.

**MAJOR EMPLOYERS, CUSTER COUNTY**

- Challis Joint School District #181
- Custer County
- US Government Agencies
- Thompson Creek Mining
- Village Square
- Lamb's Foodtown
- The Village Inn

**UTILITIES**

<b>Electric:</b> Salmon River Electric Co-Op	208-879-2283
<b>Propane:</b> Salmon River Propane	208-879-2283
<b>Telephone:</b> Custer Telephone Co-Op	208-879-2281

**AVERAGE STARTING WAGE**

Agricultural worker & laborers	\$14.74
Cashier	8.64
Excavating machine operator	17.61
Food service worker	7.77
Maid and house cleaner	8.30
Machine operator	14.23
Tourism and lodging	9.42
Retail sales worker	8.96

**Custer County Unemployment** (May 2014) 5.5%

SOURCE Idaho Commerce and Labor

**THE VILLAGE INN  
MOTEL & RESTAURANT**



Restaurant open 6am—10pm daily

52 Rooms: Kings, Queens, Kitchenettes  
Wifi, Cable TV, HBO, AC., Hot Tubs, Suite

310 S. Hwy 93, Challis ID 83226

**208.879.2239**

ChallisVillageInn@hotmail.com

visit our website: [www.challisvillageinn.com](http://www.challisvillageinn.com)



## CHALLIS RECREATION & COMMUNITY EVENTS

.....

**Challis Golf Course:** Top of Main Street, 9-holes,  
208-879-5440

**The Challis Community Outdoor Stage:** located on the driving range of the Challis Golf Course is the site of concerts throughout the summer and fall.

**City Centennial Park:** Adjacent to the high school on U.S. 93, tennis courts, ball fields, picnic pavilion, playground equipment, amphitheater, horseshoe pits, and picnic tables

**City Public Library:** 6th & Main, over 10,000 books

**North Custer Museum:** 11th and Main, permanent and traveling exhibits

**Bowling:** Challis Lanes has eight lanes with league play available for both men and women, either day or evening.

**Hot Springs:** Located approximately seven miles from Challis, the Challis Hot Springs offers year-around swimming in two pools with a natural flow from hot water springs.

**Fish Hatchery:** 18 miles north on U.S. 93, turn at Ellis on the Pahsimeroi River, view steelhead February, March, April.

**National Forests:** Challis National Forest and Salmon National Forest

**State Parks:** Land of the Yankee Fork

**Downhill Ski Areas:** Chipmunk Ski Hill (seven miles west on Main Street toward Garden Creek), Lost Trail, and Sun Valley

**Recreation Areas:** Sawtooth National Recreation Area and the Frank Church "River of No Return" Wilderness

**Challis Bison Jump:** A paved path beginning at the Land of the Yankee Fork Interpretive Center with wayside panels and benches lead to the site.

### ENJOY EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR IN CHALLIS, IN THE FOOTHILLS OF HEAVEN!

#### January

Christmas Tree Bonfire  
Sawtooth Outdoor Bonspiel

#### February

Challis Inv. Wrestling Tourn.  
Young Artist Show at MadDog Gallery

Mexican Mardi Gras  
Sweetheart Dance at Y  
Stanley-Sawtooth Winter Fest

#### March

Steelhead Derby  
Artists of Lemhi Co. at MadDog Gallery  
Idaho Shakespeare Festival  
Challis High School Prom

#### April

Steelhead Ball  
SMMC Health Fair  
MCT Aladdin at the CMSA  
Challis High School Rodeo

#### May

Wacky Tacky Tea Party  
NCHD—Challis Health Fair  
Challis Arts Council Fundraiser  
CHS Graduation  
Off the Wall, Art & Back Porch Sale at MadDog Gallery  
NCHS Museum Opening  
Clayton Museum Opening

#### June

Thurs. Night Music in the Park  
Concerts through August

Saturday Farmers Market through September  
Show & Shine Car Show  
Spank Martiny Memorial Broncs & Bulls

#### July

Wednesday Farmers Markets through September  
Choral Rendezvous Classical  
Custer Day at Yankee Fork  
Mt. Mama's Art Fair  
Choral Rendezvous POP  
Clayton Heritage Day  
Round Valley Horse Show

#### August

Custer County Fair  
Braun Brothers Reunion  
Concert Festival Weekend  
Ride the Bayhorse ATV Weekend

#### September

Dinner, Dance & Auction at Wm. Cobbly Sr. Center

#### October

CAC Fundraiser Dinner  
Harvest Dinner

#### November

Veteran's Day Dinner  
Holiday Bazaar at Am. Legion  
Thanksgiving Dinner at Sr. Center

#### December

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and Concert

early settlers and Native Americans. The roundup and adoption are held every other year, and horses can be seen occasionally on their



**208-879-4663**

**1305 E HWY 93 S**

**Challis Idaho 83226**

**[www.adreamawayrealty.com](http://www.adreamawayrealty.com)**

*Lisa Benson Owner Broker 208-833-7326*

*[lisab@adreamawayrealty.com](mailto:lisab@adreamawayrealty.com)*

*Tina Trusnovec Sales Associate 208-940-0927*

*[tinat@adreamawayrealty.com](mailto:tinat@adreamawayrealty.com)*

*Please let us show you all that the Challis Area has to offer.*

*We are here for all of your Real Estate needs!*







## THE SALMON RIVER

.....

**B**EWITCHING, ROMANTIC, DYNAMIC, relentless—the Salmon River is the lifeblood of the Salmon Valley. For some 8,500 years man has relied on the mighty Salmon for survival. The Sheepeater Indians, a small sub-band of the Shoshoni Bannock, have left us many reminders of their early presence in the canyon including pictographs, artifacts and shelters. In 1805 the tranquil waters of the Salmon lured Lewis and Clark as far as Pine Creek where the raging waters, near vertical rock canyon and impassible boulder fields in the river convinced them to seek an alternate route. It was a wise decision as Pine Creek rapid is but a sample of what lies ahead.

To this day no roads traverse the 2.4 million acres of the Frank Church “River of No Return” Wilderness, just one magnificent river that cuts through a canyon deeper than the Grand Canyon and as spectacular in its beauty.

### GUIDED TRIPS

- A half-day gentle float trip near Salmon or North Fork will leave you relaxed and inspired with some time left to explore more of the area.
- Fulfilled and rejuvenated after spending a full day on the whitewater stretch of the Salmon, you will reflect on your day traveling beyond Pine Creek, the point where Lewis and Clark turned back.
- If you need to get-away for a few days you can try an overnight (or two) river trips going further into the canyon by day, indulging in the serenity of a starlit sky and a warm campfire (or the comfort of riverside lodging) by night.

• For a real vacation, take a week-long river adventure through the vast wilderness on the “River of No Return,” and return home feeling content and invigorated, planning your return to this special place.

• If you want to see more of the river and its magnificent canyon in less time, try a jet boat trip. You will feel the power of a jet boat match the power of the wild Salmon and enjoy the pleasure of saying you “returned.”

• Although the Salmon has many significant tributaries, none rival the Middle Fork for truly exhilarating rapids, crystal clear water, stunning scenery, excellent trout fishing, pristine wilderness, and worldwide reputation. Most trips last a week in order to do justice to the 125 miles of navigable river but shorter trips are available.

There are many licensed and bonded outfitters to choose from, each with their own unique style in which to guide you safely through the canyon on the waters of the Salmon River. All of them are dedicated to providing you with the best possible experience.

—CONTRIBUTED BY DWINA NOESBAR



Photo by Joel McNeel

# The Stagecoach INN



## “On The Beautiful Salmon River”

**King And Queen Beds • Air Conditioning**  
**Continental Breakfast • Conference Rooms**  
**In-Room Wireless Internet • Voice Mail**  
**Direct Dial Phones • Patio or Balcony**  
**Heated Swimming Pool May to September**  
**Free Airport Shuttles • Winter Plug-Ins**  
**Motorcycle Friendly**

## 208-756-2919

**201 Riverfront Dr. Salmon, Idaho 83467**  
**[www.stagecoachinnmotel.com](http://www.stagecoachinnmotel.com)**



## HISTORIC SETTLEMENTS & ATTRACTIONS

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### YANKEE FORK HISTORIC AREA

Abandoned communities and treasured stories are scattered throughout the state of Idaho, yet none are more intriguing than those of the Yankee Fork. To commemorate the contribution of frontier mining to Idaho culture and preserve its history, the Yankee Fork Historic Area was established. Within the historic area you will discover the dreams and hear the stories of those resourceful people who grew to love this beautiful country, the land of the Yankee Fork. Prospectors first entered the region in the 1860s when a group of North-erners sought their fortune along a large tributary



of the Salmon River which they called the "Yankee Fork." By the 1870s the area regularly received hopeful prospectors and mining camps evolved into mining towns. Roads and processing mills were constructed, families moved in, and the area prospered. Prosperity, however, was fleeting and by 1910 the feverish activity along the Yankee Fork fell silent. Its

colorful residents disappeared, leaving behind the dreams they cherished and the country they loved.

To tour this area, begin at the Interpretive Center south of Challis where exhibits, audio-visual programs, mining art, and publications describe the frontier mining history of the region. Then proceed to visit the Sunbeam Dam site, the only dam ever constructed on the Salmon River. The Custer Motorway takes its traveler past numerous historic sites and scenic vistas between Custer and Challis. Up the Yankee Fork Road stand the remains of the once-booming towns of Custer and Bonanza. Interpretive Center 208-879-5244. [www.idahoparks.org](http://www.idahoparks.org)

### GIBBONSVILLE

"The Living Ghost Town," was founded in the 1870s and is located fifteen miles south of Lost Trail Pass on Highway 93. One of the early settlers was a German immigrant, George Kearns who established a local brewery in July, 1897. At its peak, Kearns Brewery supplied thirteen Gibbonsville and surrounding area taverns. Gibbonsville is a paradise for the sportsman and nature lover, with frequent sighting of elk and other big game.

The 100 plus locals look forward to the Old Timers Dinner, an annual event held the second Sunday of August.

### SHOUP

Located about forty miles downriver from Salmon—once prosperous and famous for all the mining done in the area—Shoup had a population of over six-hundred. At present not much of the old community can be found, except a few old cabins and the old post office. This post office was established in 1883 and still serves the residents who live up and down Salmon River Road. The settlement also continues to receive its power from the old Pelton wheel. Gas pumps that date back to 1930 still pump gas. One of the mines that operated in the early 1900s can still be seen just below Shoup. Another old mine still seen the way it was is the Gold Hill mine. Lemhi County Historical Society is restoring the old stamp mill.

### NORTH FORK

The gateway to the **Frank Church "River of No Return" Wilderness Area**, North Fork is located just twenty-two miles north of Salmon on Highway 93. North Fork is headquarters to many hunting and fishing guides, as well as white water rafting and float trips down the Salmon.



## Spas of Montana

Serving Western Montana

The Largest Hot Tub Inventory In the State



3916 Brooks Street  
Missoula, MT 59804  
(406) 251-6742

1140 Enterprise Dr.  
Helena, MT 59601  
(406) 442-4881

[www.spasofmontana.com](http://www.spasofmontana.com)



## DAHLE'S RED-E-MIX CONCRETE

- Septic Tanks
- Sand
- Gravel
- Road Material
- Parking Blocks

522 South River Steet  
Salmon, ID 83467

**208-756-2481**





## AREA ATTRACTIONS & RECREATION

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### LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION

In May 1804 Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and their Corps of Discovery departed Illinois on a mission to locate a navigable water route to the Pacific coast. The expedition traveled for fifteen months when they finally reached the headwaters of the Missouri River. They crossed the Continental Divide and traveled through Lemhi County between August 12 and September 3, 1805. This was a difficult journey where they endured many perils making the Corps short of supplies. Guided by Sacajawea they encountered the Lemhi Shoshone [both Shoshone and Shoshoni appear to be accepted spellings] Nation, which gave them much needed supplies and horses. For additional information contact Salmon-Challis National Forest, 208-756-5100 or Bureau of Land Management 208-756-5400.



### SACAJAWEA CENTER

Located approximately one mile east of Salmon, the birthplace of Sacajawea, off Highway 28, this 71-acre interpretive cultural and education center takes the visitor through the history and culture of Sacajawea and her people the Agai Dika (Shoshone). Sacajawea was born around 1788, and later became an integral part of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery. At approximately the age of twelve she was captured by the Arika Indians and taken to their Mandan village located in North Dakota. Sacajawea eventually married a French fur trader (Charbonneau) and had a child. In 1805 she and her husband joined the expedition. Sacajawea being the lone female, served as guide and Shoshone translator helping the expedition back to the Salmon River country, to her people and across the continent. As the expedition reached the Salmon River country she was able to guide them over Lemhi Pass and into her homeland where the expedition was given essential supplies, horses, and a guide to lead them across Lolo Pass.

The center offers visitors a chance to “walk into the past” on a one-mile interpretive trail. The visitor center highlights the Native American culture with a mixing of various tribes and the frontier men of the time. Also available is a gift shop, outdoor amphitheater, picnic facilities, research library, fishing access, and a striking bronze, life-size statue commemorating Sacajawea. Open May through October. For more information contact: 208-756-1188 or email: [info@sacajaweacenter.org](mailto:info@sacajaweacenter.org).





Photo courtesy Bob Gartner



### FISHING & HUNTING

Fishing is open virtually year-around in Salmon River country. Rainbow, cutthroat, brook, and steelhead trout are the most plentiful species found in nearby lakes and streams. The Salmon River is a popular mecca for Steelhead anglers from September through March. Although the average weight for this sea-run rainbow trout is between four to six pounds, some fifteen to twenty pound trophies have been taken.

The Middle Fork of the Salmon River provides excellent cutthroat trout fishing. However, this paradise can be reached only by boat or from one of several river resorts that are accessible only by chartered flights.

There are seventy-five high elevation lakes which can be reached on foot or horseback. The largest concentration of these is in the Bighorn Craggs where brook, rainbow, cutthroat, golden trout, and grayling can be fished from July through September. Nearby Williams Lake provides excellent ice fishing during the winter months. Catches of trophy-size rainbows are not infrequent in this beautiful mountain lake. In the Challis area, Bayhorse Lake is excellent for rainbow trout. Pahsimeroi, Yankee Fork, and the East Fork of the Salmon, including the headwaters, contain such wild species as chinook, brook, bull, cutthroat, rainbow, and white fish. Steelhead can also be found in the Yankee Fork and East Fork. In its 1992 survey, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game counted over 23,000 head of elk within a 100-mile radius of Salmon. Besides having one of the largest elk herds in the West, Salmon River Country has numerable white-tail and mule deer, black bear, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, antelope, cougar, and moose. Hunters wishing to take sheep, goat, cougar, or moose must apply for special permits.

Species of upland birds found here are blue, ruffed, Franklin's, and sage grouse, Chukar and Hungarian partridge, and mourning dove. Pheasant and turkey have been recently planted, but will not be hunted until their populations have stabilized.

The Salmon, Lemhi, and Round Valleys contain excellent habitat for mallard and teal. Canadian geese, in considerable numbers, winter in these valleys. For more information, contact the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Salmon) 208-756-2271. 99 Highway 93 North, Salmon, ID 83467, <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/>



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## CENTRAL IDAHO'S WILDERNESS AREAS

Idaho boasts more wilderness area and mountainous acreage than any other state outside Alaska, with over eighty recognized ranges. The Shoshone Indians called these lands Ee Da How "Behold the sun is coming down the mountains," echoing its massive towering peaks and rugged terrain. The state's highest peak, Mount Borah rises 12,662 feet above the steep sweeping plains surrounding it.

In the **Sawtooth Wilderness Area**, the peaks of the Boulder, White Cloud, and Sawtooth Mountains (called the American Alps) dominate the skies. The five lower lakes of the Sawtooth Wilderness—Alturas, Pettit, Little Redfish, Redfish, and Stanley—offer excellent trout fishing, sailing, and boating. Wildlife, such as elk, bear, mountain goats, deer, and bighorn sheep are abundant in these mountains. Winter recreation, such as snowmobiling and cross-country skiing are superb. Worthy of a visit is the Sawtooth National Fish Hatchery, the highest elevation hatchery in the nation, producing over three million chinook salmon each year. This extraordinary high country, Sawtooth area attracts backpackers, hikers and horseback riders, hungry for a genuine wilderness experience.

To the north, the Salmon River and its forks serve as the only pathways into the **Frank Church "River of No Return" Wilderness Area**, the second largest single wilderness in the lower forty-eight states. Throughout these rugged mountains and grassy pine meadows



Photo by Joel McNee



Photo by Joel McNee

thrive deer and elk, black bear, mountain goats, bighorn sheep, along with hundreds of other species. Ancient shelters along the river gorges hold 8,000-year-old cave paintings.

This area is also a geologists paradise. Within this rugged region can be found such minerals as aquamarine, amethyst, topaz and smoky quartz.

### SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST

1206 South Challis Street  
Salmon, ID 83467  
(208) 756-5100

The Salmon-Challis National Forest covers over 4.3 million acres in east-central Idaho. Included within the boundaries of the Forest is 1.3 million acres of the **Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness Area**, the largest wilderness area in the Continental United States. Rugged and remote, this country offers adventure, solitude and breathtaking scenery. The Forest also contains **Borah Peak**, Idaho's tallest peak, the **Wild & Scenic Salmon River** and the **Middle**



**Fork of the Salmon River.** The area is a highly desired destination for hunting, fishing, white-water rafting and many other popular recreational pursuits.

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## WINTER SPORTS

The Salmon and Challis areas, quickly becoming hubs for winter recreation, have acres and acres of public land available for snowmobiling and cross-country skiing. The surrounding mountains average annual snowfall of about 150 to 200 inches, making for lots of opportunities for winter recreation. There are miles and miles of groomed trails, along with access to countless areas of ungroomed trails. The snowmobile registration for Area 30 helps to support the grooming program which is operated on a volunteer basis. For further snowmobiling information contact Salmon Ridgerunners Snowmobile Club at 208-756-2264.

## SNOWMOBILING & CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

One-hundred and eight miles of groomed trails await snowmobilers on public lands. Elevations, ranging from 5,000 to 9,000 feet. Trailheads are easily accessible on plowed roads not more than twenty-eight miles from Salmon. Snow conditions are usually suitable for snowmobiling from December to April. The Salmon National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management maintain these trails and can provide maps and additional information related to the conditions and difficulty of the trails.

Cross-country skiing lasts from December until April at elevations ranging from 4,000 to 10,000 feet. Mountain trails offer a variety of challenges in many locations with easy access from Salmon.

Cross Country skiing is popular in the area with many areas to ski in both the Salmon and Challis area. Many ski trails are groomed on a regular basis and there are hundreds of miles of forest trail available to the backcountry skier.



Photo courtesy Keith Amar

Rental cabins, huts and yurts are available for those skiers wanting to spend the night. The following is a list of some helpful web sites regarding skiing and snowmobiling in the area:

<http://www.losttrail.com/snowreport.asp>  
<http://home.custertel.net/~ckeene41/cksalxcski.htm>  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/sc/yankeefork/capehorn.shtml/>  
[http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/maps/brochures/rustic\\_cabins.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/maps/brochures/rustic_cabins.pdf)  
[www.bitterrootxcskiclub.net/](http://www.bitterrootxcskiclub.net/)  
[www.fmed.isu.edu/recreatn.html](http://www.fmed.isu.edu/recreatn.html)

## GHOST TOWNS

Lemhi County and Custer County are both inundated with ghost towns. The majority of these ghost towns had their beginnings in mining although a few were stage stops or bases for missionaries. For more information contact the local chambers of commerce, museums, and the Yankee Fork.

## CHALLIS RAPID REACTION OBSERVATORY

Challis Rapid Reaction Observatory, located five miles up Main Street, Challis, is a joint project between NASA, Boise State University, and the Custer Economic Development Association. Soon CRRO will install a sixteen-inch telescope and remote mount (built by BSU) to view the sky and specifically supernova explosions. Linked through NASA, these explosions will be visible through the telescope and a computer monitor at the Challis and Salmon schools. For more information contact the Salmon Innovation Center at 208-756-1505.

## MUSEUMS

These museums provide vast amounts of information regarding local history and pioneer life.

### Lemhi County Historical Museum

210 Main, Salmon, ID • 208-756-3342

### North Custer Museum

1205 South Main St., Challis, ID • 208-879-2846

### Clayton Museum

Clayton, ID • 208-879-2846 • [claytonidaho.org](http://claytonidaho.org)







## ALPINE SKI AREAS

### LOST TRAIL POWDER MOUNTAIN

The Lost Trail Ski Area is only forty-six miles north of the city of Salmon, on Highway 93, at the Idaho-Montana state line. Elevation at the top of runs is 8,200 feet. Five chair lifts, with a vertical lift of 1,800 feet take skiers to runs presenting challenges from beginners to expert. Two rope tows access more gentle slopes, for ski school classes and the less adventurous.

Ample parking is provided alongside the day lodge, which contains a snack bar, equipment rental, repair facilities, emergency first-aid, Ski Patrol, and the ski school. Overnight accommodations, restaurants, and hot springs are within close proximity to Lost Trail Pass. The average snow fall is 300 inches annually, with 85–90% sunny days. Conditions are generally good to excellent with frequent falls of fresh powder overnight, which provides outstanding conditions for all levels of skiers. For the downhill skier who wants to ski a variety of terrain and not spend most of their day waiting on a lift, Lost Trail Powder Mountain at Lost Trail Pass is a ski area that should not be overlooked.

Another Alpine Ski Area, within a few hours of Salmon and Challis is Sun Valley, Idaho. Sun Valley Company, Sun Valley, ID 83353, 800-635-8261. Vertical Drop: 3,400 Feet. Lifts: 7 quads, 5 double chairs, 7 triple chairs. Runs: 78



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## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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### RECREATION

Sawtooth National Recreation Area	208-756-5013
Salmon-Challis National Forests	208-756-5100
Challis Ranger District USFS	208-879-4321
Middle Fork Ranger District USFS	208-879-4101
Yankee Fork Ranger District	208-838-2201
North Fork Ranger District	208-865-2700
Salmon District Bureau of Land Management	208-756-5400
Redfish Lake Visitor Center (summer)	208-774-3376
Idaho Department of Fish & Game	208-334-3700
Idaho Department of Fish & Game, Salmon	208-756-2271
Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association	208-342-1919
Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation	208-334-4199
Challis Office	208-879-5244

### NEWSPAPERS

<i>The Challis Messenger</i>	208-879-4445
<i>Recorder Herald</i> (Salmon)	208-756-2221

### UTILITIES

#### Electric Companies

CHALLIS: Salmon River Electric	208-879-2283
SALMON: Salmon River Electric	208-756-2811
Idaho Power Company	800-488-6151

#### Garbage Collection

CHALLIS: Blue Mountain Refuse	208-879-2110
SALMON: Lemhi Sanitation	208-756-2080

#### Telephone

CHALLIS: Custer Telephone	208-879-2281
SALMON: Centurytel	800-202-4099
ATT	800-222-0300

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Challis School District	208-879-4231
Challis Elementary	208-879-2439
Challis Middle School	208-879-5063
Challis High School	208-879-2255
Salmon School District	208-756-4271

### Salmon Elementary

Brooklyn School	208-756-3186
Pioneer School	208-756-3663
Salmon Secondary	
Salmon Alternative School	208-756-6277
Salmon Junior High	208-756-2207
Salmon High School	208-756-2415

### CITY & COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Challis City Hall	208-879-2386
Custer County Assessor	208-879-2325
Custer County Motor Vehicles	208-879-2830
Custer County Treasurer	208-879-2330
Lemhi County Assessor/Motor Vehicles	208-756-2815#234
Lemhi County Assessor Clerk/Recording	208-756-2815#224
Lemhi County Commissioners	208-756-2815#265
Lemhi County Drivers License	208-756-2815#246
Lemhi County Treasurer	208-756-2815#227
Lemhi Emergency Dispatch	208-756-4201
Lemhi County Fair Grounds	208-756-2872
Lemhi County Solid Waste	208-756-6441
Salmon City Hall	208-756-3214
Salmon Municipal Golf Course	208-756-4734
Salmon Public Works	208-756-2414

### FIRE

Challis	208-879-2281
Salmon	208-756-6275

### POLICE

Challis	208-879-2232
Salmon	208-756-3214

### COUNTY SHERIFF

Custer	208-879-2232
Lemhi	208-756-8980

### POST OFFICES

Salmon	208-756-2410
Challis	208-879-2705

### LIBRARIES

Salmon	208-756-2311
Challis	208-879-4267
Chambers of Commerce	
Challis	208-879-2771
Salmon	208-756-2100

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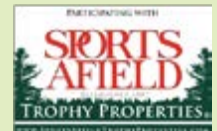
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Foundation— 203 S. Daisy St., Salmon (208) 756-5604



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