

## PROTECT YOURSELF AND JUMP CREEK CANYON

- **Don't climb or stand near rock cliffs.** Cliffs can crumble at any time.
- **Drive only on gravel roadways.** Help protect plants and wildlife.
- **Hike only on existing trails.** Canyon slopes are slippery and unstable.
- **Beware of poison ivy.** This bright green, shiny-leaf plant with whitish berries grows along the entire trail.
- **Pack out what you pack in.** Help preserve this beautiful area.
- **Report vandals.** Call the Bureau of Land Management at 208-384-3300.

#### ACCESS TO JUMP CREEK RECREATION SITE

**From Marsing** - go west on Highway 55 about 1.5 miles past the Highway 95 intersection. Turn left onto Cemetery Road. Travel about 1.5 miles farther where Cemetery Road intersects South Jump Creek Road. Turn left (south) and head for the mouth of the canyon which is visible in the distance.

**From Homedale** - travel south on Highway 95; turn right (south) onto South Jump Creek Road.

**The final stretch** - about 1.5 miles before reaching the canyon, the road surface turns to gravel. Continue on the gravel road through the cattleguard, across the creek and up the hill to the right.

Please stay on maintained gravel roadways. Off-road vehicle use is prohibited within the recreation site.

# JUMP CREEK RECREATION SITE

## JUMP CREEK FALLS TRAIL

- **The trail** less than 1/4-mile long, runs alongside and eventually crosses the creek.
- **Rock crevices** have provided shelter for people as long as 12,000 years ago.
- Jump Creek meanders through the canyon and under large boulders providing water for trees and shrubs. Water-birch and red-osier dogwood line the creek to form an uncommonly lush riparian community for southwest Idaho. Syringa - Idaho's State Flower - grows under the forest canopy in the upper canyon, while sagebrush and bunchgrass cover the canyon slopes.
- **The cliffs** are formed from volcanic rock and reach as high as 600 feet. Thousands of empty volcanic gas pockets provide nesting sites for bats, pigeons, cliff swallows and hawks.

## JUMP CREEK FALLS

- Originating from a number of springs in the upper canyon, Jump Creek cascades over a series of falls hidden beneath the riparian forest canopy.
- Near the canyon's mouth, Jump Creek flows over a 60-foot cliff into a large pool. This is the largest falls in the canyon.
- A short, very steep trail leading up the east slope from the base of the cliff allows a spectacular view of the falls and upper canyon. Please stay on the path and be cautious--it can be slippery.

### JUMP CREEK ATTRACTIONS

- **Hiking** Jump Creek Falls Trail offers walkers an easy hike. From the trail, hikers can view rock crevices and enjoy the meandering stream. **Please note** - the stream crossing can be slippery and high water can make the crossing unsafe.
- **Picnicking** Visitors can enjoy their lunch either at the trailhead or next to the falls and pool at the end of the trail. Please remember to take your trash home with you!
- **Swimming** The large pool at the base of the falls offers a refreshing swim.
- **Desert scenery** Jump Creek Canyon offers desert scenery at its finest with wildflowers in the spring, sagebrush growing on the hillsides, and the lush green growth found along the creek. Critter lovers can spot lizards, snakes and an occasional deer. Hawks are regularly seen soaring high overhead while cliff swallows perform aerobatics near the cliffs.

#### **PUBLIC ADVISORY**

To the west of the falls, some people scramble up the slope and along a rock crevice known as the "Devil's Ladder" to reach the upper canyon. This climb is dangerous and discouraged.

Unfortunately, visits to Jump Creek Recreation Site can be unpleasant and potentially unsafe after dark when unruly groups have been known to vandalize the area and discharge firearms.