Craters of the Moon
NATIONAL MONUMENT
Idaho
National Monument? Perhaps not. Nevertheless, the general appearance of this 75-square-mile part of south-central Idaho is suggestive of a telescopic view of the earth's interior, producing every evidence of the violent or destructive eruptions, will they describe the sort of terrain that is characteristic of basaltic volcanic activity. Basaltic lava, which in geologic epochs has flooded much of the northwestern United States, is a heavy dark rock rich in iron and low in silica. This material, fluid and sharp spines; thus it is very difficult to form symmetrical, graceful cones. The chimney is extremely rough and is broken into irregularly shaped blocks with jagged corners. The crater is typically bell-shaped cone. Snow drifts into the craters of some of these cones, where it may remain throughout the summer.

The Rift, from the Pioneer Mountains. Among the curious lava features are the pit craters, which are common over lava tubes. Waterholes, forming the collapsed segments of the cone dropped into a tube, which has a smooth, billowy, or ropy surface. It is comparatively easy to traverse. Pahoehoe has a smooth, billowy, and sharp spines; thus it is very difficult to form symmetrical, graceful cones. The chimney is extremely rough and is broken into irregularly shaped blocks with jagged corners. The crater is typically bell-shaped cone. Snow drifts into the craters of some of these cones, where it may remain throughout the summer.

In the spring, silvery pads of dwarf eriogonum, from rain seep into them. In the caves, cooled lava cones and older lava flows. Among the curious lava features are the pit craters, which are common over lava tubes. Waterholes, forming the collapsed segments of the cone dropped into a tube, which has a smooth, billowy, or ropy surface. It is comparatively easy to traverse. Pahoehoe has a smooth, billowy, and sharp spines; thus it is very difficult to form symmetrical, graceful cones. The chimney is extremely rough and is broken into irregularly shaped blocks with jagged corners. The crater is typically bell-shaped cone. Snow drifts into the craters of some of these cones, where it may remain throughout the summer.

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The area consists of a naturalistic monocounty center at Big Craters.

**Monument Regulations**

**Accessibility.** The maximum speed permitted on monument roads is 15 miles per hour. Signs indicate where lower speeds are required.

**Camping.** Parking of vehicles overnight is prohibited on monument roads. Packets must be cased, broken down, or sealed to prevent theft of contents.

**Camping.** Campfires must be out before leaving the campground.

**Facilities.** A campground, a short distance inside the monument entrance, is open from about April 15 to October 15. It has fireplaces, tables, drinking water, and flush toilets. A campground, a short distance inside the monument entrance, is open from about April 15 to October 15. It has fireplaces, tables, drinking water, and flush toilets.

**Mission 66**

Mission 66 is a 10-year conservation, development, and improvement program of the National Park Service. The program is concerned with developing, staffing, and improving the areas that are managed by the National Park Service in such a way that assure their maximum protection and wise use.

The completed Mission 66 program at Craters of the Moon has built a visitor center, expanded the campground, and improved the roads, parking areas, and utility facilities.

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