

FIRE LETTERBOX (~ 2 ½ miles)

This letterbox is the longest journey and its trail provides little protection from the elements. However you will see much of Soldiers Delight and the areas that have been restored with fire and sweat. Our burn zones change; see if you can spot the number signs along the trail marking past and future burn sites. We use fire to kill invasive plants that are choking out our rare endangered grassland plants. You will feel as the early settlers felt with the great barrens (as they called them) all around them.

Start at the Visitor Center on the Serpentine Trail. Head into the woods, rather than out onto the grassland. You'll turn right to follow the Serpentine Trail rather than head straight on towards Red Dog Lodge.

Stop #1

As you walk down the Serp, you'll

Clue: This stream runs and might even smoke as it crosses a trail. You will know you reached the right stream because you will see an old rusted car right in the middle of the stream that speaks of this place's old history. (**Please stay on the trail**). The car will be on your left, and you can see it as you cross by looking up the stream.

From the stream crossing continue north on the trail (use the compass rose on the map) up the hill. Right on the edge of the trail before the top of the hill you will see an odd looking white marker just a few inches off the ground. This odd looking "rock" is an old boundary marker. On the top of the marker will be a metal pin with some numbers and letters. Write down the three numbers you see in the order you find them for the rest of this "Key." Continue on the trail and it will take you to the Overlook and then on to the Visitor Center.

Letterbox is under the bulletin board next to the Visitor Center.

Key: 0 _____