Wilderness.net's Savage Run Wilderness Fact Sheet

Introduction

The United States Congress designated the Savage Run Wilderness in 1978 and it now has a total of 14,927 acres. All of the wilderness is in Wyoming and is managed by the Forest Service.

Description

Steep-sided canyons rest at the lower elevations (around 8,000 feet) of this forested Wilderness, which covers about 23 square miles on the west side of the Medicine Bow Range. The land rises to about 10,000 feet and rolling plateau-like terrain. At the tree line you'll find Engelmann spruce, ponderosa pine, limber pine, Douglas fir, subalpine fir, cottonwood, and quaking aspen. Anglers come for the creek's brook trout, while a resident elk population attracts hunters.

Savage Run Creek tumbles through the heart of the area in roughly an east-west direction. The "more difficult" Savage Run Trail follows the creek for about nine miles, with an elevation change of 2,400 feet. Along the way you'll pass through stands of virgin timber. The strenuous Cottonwood Trail enters from the southern boundary and travels two miles to join the Savage Run Trail.

Leave No Trace

How to follow the seven standard Leave No Trace principles differs in different parts of the country (desert vs. Rocky Mountains). Click on any of the principles listed below to learn more about how they apply in the Savage Run Wilderness.

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

For more information on Leave No Trace, Visit the Leave No Trace, Inc. website.

Area Management

The Savage Run Wilderness is part of the 110 million acre National Wilderness Preservation System. This System of lands provides clean air, water, and habitat critical for rare and endangered plants and animals. In wilderness, you can enjoy challenging recreational activities like hiking, backpacking, climbing, kayaking, canoeing, rafting, horse packing, bird watching, stargazing, and extraordinary opportunities for solitude. You play an important role in helping to *"secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness"* as called for by the Congress of the United States through the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Please follow the requirements outlined below and use Leave No Trace techniques when visiting the Savage Run Wilderness to ensure protection of this unique area.

General Wilderness Prohibitions

Motorized equipment and equipment used for mechanical transport is generally prohibited on all federal lands designated as wilderness. This includes the use of motor vehicles, motorboats, motorized equipment, bicycles, hang gliders, wagons, carts, portage wheels, and the landing of aircraft including helicopters, unless provided for in specific legislation.

In a few areas some exceptions allowing the use of motorized equipment or mechanical transport are described in the special regulations in effect for a specific area. Contact the Forest Service office or visit the websites listed below for more specific information.

These general prohibitions have been implemented for all national forest wildernesses in order to implement the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964. The Wilderness Act requires management of human-caused impacts and protection of the area's wilderness character to insure that it is "unimpaired for the future use and enjoyment as wilderness." Use of the equipment listed as prohibited in wilderness is inconsistent with the provision in the Wilderness Act which mandates opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation and that wilderness is a place that is in contrast with areas where people and their works are dominant.

Wilderness-Specific Regulations

Wilderness managers often need to take action to limit the impacts caused by visitor activities in order to protect the natural conditions of wilderness as required by the Wilderness Act of 1964. Managers typically implement 'indirect' types of actions such as information and education measures before selecting more restrictive measures. When regulations are necessary, they are implemented with the specific intent of balancing the need to preserve the character of the wilderness while providing for the use and enjoyment of wilderness.

The following wilderness regulations are in effect for this area. Not all regulations are in effect for every wilderness. Contact the Forest Service office or visit the websites listed on the 'Links' tab for more specific information about the regulations listed.

ALL VISITORS

Camping is prohibited within one hundred (100) feet of trails, lakes or streams.

Human waste must be deposited at least one hundred (100) feet from lakes, streams, trails or campsites. Use a shovel or trowel and bury waste at least 6 inches below ground.

Maximum group size allowed is twenty-five (25) heartbeats, with a maximum combined fifteen (15) persons and ten (10) horses/mules/lamas, etc. The maximum number of people allowed in any group is fifteen (15).

Dogs and other pets or animals must be under control at all times to prevent harassment or disturbance to wildlife, people, personal property and livestock.

Wagons, carts (including game carts and wheelbarrows), bicycles, and other motorized, mechanized, or wheeled vehicles are prohibited.

STOCK USERS

Only certified weed-free hay or supplemental feed (such as alfalfa pellets or treated grain) may used for feed or bedding. Note: Certified hay is required for all Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests lands.

OVERNIGHT VISITORS

Camping is limited to 21 consecutive days. After 21 days visitors must move themselves and all camping equipment, supplies and personal belongings off National Forest system lands for a period of three (3) consecutive days.

It is illegal to store or leave unattended any equipment, personal property, or supplies for more than 24 hours.

It is illegal to construct permanent camping structures. All temporary camp structures (e.g. Tent frames, meat poles, etc.) and camps must be completely dismantled after use and before leaving a campsite.

Contacts

Laramie Ranger District
2468 JACKSON STEET
LARAMIE, WY 82070

Phone: 307-745-2300

Links to Other Websites

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest Website

Links on Wilderness.net

National, Regional and Local Wilderness Organizations (NGOs)
A listing of societies, organizations, coalitions and other wilderness-related advocacy and stewardship groups.

Career and Volunteer Opportunities
A listing of sites providing information about wilderness- and environmentally-related career and volunteer opportunities.

Applicable Wilderness Law(s)

Law	Date	Acreage Change (in acres)
Public Law 95-237	**February 24, 1978**	**14,940**

Endangered American Wilderness Act - Public law 95-237 (2/24/1978) To designate certain endangered public lands for preservation as wilderness, and for other purposes

download 95-237