

# Wilderness.net's Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness Fact Sheet



## Introduction

The United States Congress designated the Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness in 2015 and it now has a total of 116,955 acres. All of the wilderness is in Idaho and is managed by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service.

## Description

Located in the Salmon River Mountains, the Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness is a diverse area ranging from sagebrush steppe ecosystems, to north-facing mid-elevations dominated by Douglas fir, and elevations above 9,000 feet dominated by short stature grasses and shrubs. Predominantly an open shrub environment of broad rolling slopes, it is punctuated by stands of conifers and riparian areas, including willows and aspen, and occasional volcanic outcrops forming hoodoos and, in the higher terrain, rugged slopes. Several designated trails enter the wilderness, and a number of wildlife trails provide more primitive access for cross-country hiking and exploration. The Wilderness provides quality habitat for elk, mule deer, moose, mountain goat, bighorn sheep, pronghorn antelope, greater sage-grouse, bear, wolverine and wolves. The East Fork Salmon River and its tributaries support spawning and rearing habitats for Chinook salmon and steelhead trout and foster one of the longest, highest-elevation salmon migration routes in the world. Streams also sustain beaver and cutthroat and rainbow trout. Solitude is one of the area's greatest assets, as well as outstanding backcountry experiences such as hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing, backpacking, skiing, and horseback riding.

## 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 Jim McClure-Jerry Peak 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 Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness is part of the 109 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 Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness to ensure protection of this unique area.

## **Bureau of Land Management Information**

Unless otherwise specified, no motorized equipment or mechanical transport, with the exception of wheelchairs, is allowed. This is generally true for all federal lands managed as designated wilderness.

## **Forest Service Information**

### **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 national forest office or visit the websites listed on the 'Links' tab for

more specific information about the regulations listed.

## ALL VISITORS

-- Occupying a single location longer than 16 days is prohibited. After the 16-day period, a group or individual cannot occupy the original site or areas in a 5-mile radius for 30 days.

-- Do not shortcut switchbacks.

-- Pack out all debris, garbage, or other waste.

-- As with all designated Wilderness areas, mechanical vehicles (including wagons, game carts, bicycles, and other vehicles) is prohibited.

## STOCK USERS

-- All hay, grain, straw, cubes, pelletized feed, or mulch must be certified as being noxious weed free or noxious seed free by an authorized State of Department of Agriculture official or designated county official. Each individual bale or container must be tagged or marked as weed free and must reference the written certification.

## Links to Other Websites

[Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness Web Site](#)

## 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)
<b>Public Law 114-46</b>	<b>August 7, 2015</b>	<b>116,898</b>
Sawtooth National Recreation Area and Jerry Peak Wilderness Additions Act - Public law 114-46 (8/7/2015) To establish certain wilderness areas in central Idaho and to authorize various land conveyances involving National Forest System land and Bureau of Land Management land in central Idaho, and for other purposes.		

-- [download 114-46](#)