

Wilderness.net's Mount Nebo Wilderness Fact Sheet



Introduction

The United States Congress designated the Mount Nebo Wilderness in 1984 and it now has a total of 27,057 acres. All of the wilderness is in Utah and is managed by the Forest Service.

Description

Credit:

Utah Wilderness Association

The centerpiece of the southern portion of this Wilderness, Mount Nebo rises to a majestic 11,928 feet the highest point in the entire Wasatch Range. The peak looms above a swatch of mountain scenery located between Interstate 15 and the Nebo Scenic Loop Byway. Wilderness elevation starts at 5,400 feet and climbs through mountain valleys and meadows broken by moderate to steep ridges. The climb will take you through great biological diversity, beginning with a sagebrush-cliffrose association, to mountain brush (oakbrush and mahogany), aspen, and white fir, then spruce and alpine fir, until you reach the timberline and an alpine zone with primrose, alpine moss, and tundra plants. Bobcats, mule deer, and elk are commonly seen here; black bears and mountain lions are more elusive. Numerous streams are rich with rainbow trout. Wildflowers abound in late spring and summer. Devil's Kitchen Geologic Site, adjacent to the eastern Wilderness boundary, will remind you of a miniature (but not as grand) Bryce Canyon. There are 4 Forest Service maintained trails, totaling approximately 21 miles in the Mount Nebo Wilderness. There are several other trails that border the Wilderness and allow access as well.

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 Mount Nebo 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 Mount Nebo 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 Mount Nebo 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

- Group size is limited to no more than 15 people.
- Do not shortcut switchbacks.
- Do not dispose of debris, garbage, or other waste in the Wilderness. Pack it out.

STOCK USERS

- Stock feed must be weed-free certified.

Contacts

Spanish Fork Ranger District
44 WEST 400 NORTH
SPANISH FORK, UT 84660

Phone: 801-798-3571

Phone: 801-999-2103

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
857 WEST SOUTH JORDAN PARKWAY
SOUTH JORDAN, UT 84095

Links to Other Websites

[Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Recreation Opportunities](#)

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 98-428	September 28, 1984	28,000

Utah Wilderness Act of 1984 - Public law 98-428 (9/28/1984) To designate certain national forest system lands in the state of Utah for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System to release other forest lands for multiple use management, and for other purposes

 [download 98-428](#)

Public Law 107-334	December 16, 2002	14
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Mount Nebo Boundary Adjustment Act - Public law 107-334 (12/20/2002) To make adjustments to the boundaries of the Mount Nebo Wilderness Area.

NOTE: Approximately 279.3 acres are removed and approximately 293.2 acres are added.

 [download 107-334](#)