

Wilderness.net's High Schells Wilderness Fact Sheet



Introduction

The United States Congress designated the High Schells Wilderness in 2006 and it now has a total of 121,467 acres. All of the wilderness is in Nevada and is managed by the Forest Service.

Description

The High Schells Wilderness contains some of the most dramatic scenery in Eastern Nevada. There are many high windswept peaks over 11,500 feet. Deep

Glaciated valleys flow from the high peaks which are snowy for much of the year. Many of the valleys contain vast aspen stands and perennial streams. Ancient Bristlecone and large Limber pines are present in the higher elevation forests. Hikers and equestrian enjoy the primitive trails in most valleys and back country skiers explore the area in winter and spring. This Mountain Range supports diverse wildlife and is an important North- South corridor of uninterrupted wild land. The area lies just east of Ely in Eastern Nevada.

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 High Schells 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 High Schells 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 High Schells 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 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 for more specific information about the regulations listed.

ALL VISITORS

- Do not shortcut switchbacks.
- Pack out all debris, garbage, or other waste. Leave No Trace!
- As with all designated Wilderness, mechanical transportation (including wagons, game carts, and other vehicles) is prohibited.

Contacts

Ely Ranger District

Phone: 775-289-3031

825 AVENUE EAST
ELY, NV 89301

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 109-432	December 20, 2006	121,497

Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 - Public law 109-432 (12/20/2006) To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend expiring provisions, and for other purposes.

NOTE: This act contains the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act of 2006 which designated 12 new wilderness areas in Southern Nevada and added acreage to 2 existing ones.

 [download 109-432](#) - Relevant legislation found on page(s): 110-117.