|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **File Code:** | 2320 |
| Date: | Month X, 200X |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name  Address |  |

Dear XXX:

Thank you for your request for information regarding the current Sawtooth Wilderness regulations and backcountry camping. It was good to speak with you and I know your scouts will enjoy their trip to this special place!

I have enclosed a packet of information that you should find helpful in planning your future trip as well as the permit for your trip per our conversation. Please read the regulations on the back carefully, fill in your itinerary, have the group leader sign and return the white copy to Liese Dean, HC 64, Box 9900, Stanley ID 83278. Group leaders must have their permits with them and are responsible for insuring that all members of the group obey regulations. Be aware that you can expect to encounter the challenges and risks of changing weather, rugged geography and other phenomena inherent to wilderness. Please plan accordingly; your safety is your responsibility.

We discussed that your groups will need to be separated by a day or drainage. The group size restrictions have been put in place to protect the integrity of the Wilderness and the wilderness experience for all users. Solitude is an important quality that wilderness protects along with clean air, clean water, wildlife, and historical artifacts. Large groups can spoil the solitude for other visitors as well as the members of the group. Research has also shown that large groups have long-lasting impacts on campsites and other resources in the Wilderness. I am sure that you can see why it is so important to protect such a special and beautiful area for these unique qualities.

As I mentioned, we do offer a free Leave No Trace/Wilderness program. One of our ranger/educators can bring the basics of low impact camping and safety to life in a fun format. We are happy to work around your needs and we can meet you either at your campsite or the trailhead once you arrive. Our Wildlands Education Coordinator, Greg Dusic, will contact you to make arrangements for a program.

Please don’t hesitate to call if you have further questions. My direct number is 208-774-3017.

Sincerely,

NAME

Title