

Wilderness Regulations Related to Fourteeners

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.

These general prohibitions have been implemented for all national forest wildernesses 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

Mt. Evans Wilderness: Mount Evans, Mount Bierstadt

ALL VISITORS

- Group size is limited to no more than 15 people.
- Do not shortcut switchbacks.
- Dogs must be leashed at all times.
- All campfires are prohibited within 100 feet of trails, lakes, or streams.
- Mechanical transportation (including wagons, game carts, or other vehicles) is prohibited.

OVERNIGHT VISITORS

- Camping is prohibited within 100 feet of trails, lakes, or streams.

STOCK USERS

- Using more than 10 head of pack or saddle stock in any group is prohibited.
- Hitching, hobbling, or tethering pack or saddle stock within 100 feet of trails, lakes, or streams is prohibited.
- Possessing, storing, or transporting unprocessed feed for pack or saddle stock is prohibited.

Uncompahgre Wilderness: Wetterhorn, Uncompahgre

ALL VISITORS

- Unless otherwise specified, no motorized equipment or mechanical transport, with the exception of wheelchairs, is allowed. This includes, but is not limited to: chainsaws, ATVs, motorcycles, mountain bikes, e-bikes, game carts, wagons, cars, trucks and other vehicles. This includes vehicles, bicycles, carts, and chainsaws.
- Group size is limited to 25 heartbeats in the Bureau of Land Management portions of the wilderness and 15 persons and/or 25 heartbeats, including pack and saddle stock, in the Forest Service portions of the wilderness. Larger groups must separate into smaller groups and remain at least one mile apart at all times.
- Special use permits are required for all commercial outfitters operating within the wilderness.
- Do not build a campfire within 100 feet of water, designated trails or above treeline.
- Dogs should be under control (leash or direct verbal control) at all times.
- Failing to properly dispose of all garbage (pack it out) and leaving human waste in an exposed or unsanitary manner. Shortcutting a switchback in a trail.
- Collecting or harming butterflies in any stage of their life cycle is prohibited from June 1 to August 30.
- Do not damage natural feature. This includes, but is not limited to: falling or damaging trees, trenching, and vandalism. The defacement or removal of anything historical or archaeological in nature is prohibited.
- Builds structures or improvements is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: hitchrails, camp furniture, and shelters.

OVERNIGHT VISITORS

- Do not camp within 100 feet of a water source or designated trail.

STOCK USERS

- Do not restrain saddle or pack animal within 100 feet of water or designated trails. Animals must not be permitted to damage trees, soil, or vegetation.

La Garita Wilderness: San Luis

ALL VISITORS

- Group size is limited to no more than 15 people.
- Campfires are prohibited at the following locations:
 1. within 100 feet of any lake, stream, or trail
 2. above treeline
 3. within 300 feet of Machin Lake
 4. within the Wheeler Geologic area
- Caching equipment, personal property, or supplies for longer than 7 days is prohibited.
- Dogs must be under direct verbal control or leashed at all times.
- Do not cut switchbacks.

OVERNIGHT VISITORS

-- Camping is prohibited within 300 feet of Machin Lake, in the Wheeler Geological Area, and within 100 feet of any lake, stream, or trail.

STOCK USERS

-- Group size is limited to no more than 25 heartbeats, including people and pack or saddle stock, with no more than 15 people.

-- Certified weed-free forage (hay, pellets, processed grains) is required.

-- Confining stock (including picketing, corralling, and high-lining) is prohibited within 300 feet of Machin Lake, or 100 feet of any lake, stream, or trail.

-- Tying stock directly to trees, except during loading and unloading, is prohibited.

Mount Sneffels Wilderness (only the summit of Mt. Sneffels is in wilderness) The main approach from Yankee Boy Basin is outside wilderness.

ALL VISITORS

-- Group size is limited to no more than 15 people.

-- Camping is prohibited within 100 feet of any lake, stream, or trail.

-- Campfires are prohibited at the following locations:

1. within 100 feet of any lake, stream, or trail

2. above treeline

3. within the East Dallas Creek Drainage T.43N., R.9W, NMPM, Section 11 and portions of Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and T.44N, R.9W., NMPM, portions of Sections 34, 35 4.

-- Caching equipment, personal property, or supplies for longer than 7 days is prohibited.

-- Dogs must be under direct verbal control or leashed at all times.

STOCK USERS

-- Group size is limited to no more than 25 heartbeats, including people and pack or saddle stock, with no more than 15 people.

-- Confining stock (including picketing, corralling, and high-lining) is prohibited within 100 feet of any lake, stream, or trail.

Lizard Head Wilderness: Wilson Peak, Mount Wilson, El Diente

ALL VISITORS

-- Group size is limited to no more than 15 people.

-- Camping is prohibited within 100 feet of lakes, streams, and trails, except within Navajo Basin.

-- Campfires are prohibited at the following locations within 100 feet of any lake, stream, or trail; above treeline;

and within Navajo Basin.

- Caching equipment, personal property, or supplies for longer than 7 days is prohibited.
- Dogs must be under direct verbal control or leashed at all times.
- Do not shortcut switchbacks.

STOCK USERS

-- Group size is limited to no more than 25 heartbeats, including people and pack or saddle stock, with no more than 15 people.

-- Confining stock (including picketing, corralling, hitching, tethering, and high-lining) is prohibited within 100 feet of any lake, stream, or trail.

Tying stock directly to trees is prohibited, except when loading or unloading.

Weminuche Wilderness: Sunlight, Eolus, Windom

ALL VISITORS

- Group size is limited to no more than 15 people per party.
- Camping is prohibited within 100 feet of any water source.
- Camping and all campfires are prohibited at the following locations:
 1. within 200 feet of Archuleta Lake, Fourmile Lake, and West Ute Lake
 2. within 1/2 mile of the north shore and 1/4 mile of other shores of Emerald Lake
 3. within 1/4 mile of Little Emerald Lake
 4. between the shore and Flint and La Osa Trails at Flint Lake; and within 200 feet of the west and north shores
 5. in Needle Creek drainage at Twin Lakes
 6. in the hot springs area at West Fork (Rainbow)
- Campfires are also prohibited in all of Needle Creek Drainage (including Chicago Basin) and Vestal Basin.
- Do not shortcut switchbacks.
- Pets must be under verbal control or leashed at all times.
- Disposal of human waste and wash water is prohibited within 100 feet of any water source.
- As with all designated wilderness areas, mechanical transportation (including wagons, game carts, wheelbarrows, bicycles, or other vehicles) is prohibited.

STOCK USERS

-- Group size is limited to no more than a combination of 25 people and pack or saddle stock, with no more than 15 people per party.

-- All feed must be weed-free certified in Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Wyoming, or Utah and be marked with certified twine, packing, or transit certificate. Only the following are allowed: weed-free baled hay, cubed or pelletized hay, steamed grain in a processor's stamped bag, and weed-free baled mulch made from tree fibers or steamed material.

-- Pack or saddle stock are prohibited from being restrained within 100 feet lakeshore, stream, or riparian area.

-- Hitching or tethering pack or saddle stock is prohibited at the following locations:

1. within 200 feet of Archuleta Lake and Fourmile Lake

2. within 1/2 mile of the north shore and 1/4 mile of other shores of Emerald Lake

3. within 1/4 mile of Little Emerald Lake

4. between the shore and Flint and La Osa Trails at Flint Lake; and within 200 feet of the west and north shores

-- Hitching or tethering pack or saddle stock is also prohibited within 200 feet of West Ute Lake.

Collegiate Peaks Wilderness: Mt. Belford, Mt. Oxford, La Plata Peak, Huron Peak, Missouri Mountain, Mt. Harvard, Mt. Columbia, Mt. Yale

ALL VISITORS

-- Permits are not required. However, all commercial and non-profit groups are required to obtain a Special Use Permit through the local ranger district office in advance of their trip. If you are using the services of an outfitter-guide, be sure they are licensed and have a Forest Service Permit.

-- Group size is limited to 15 people.

-- Do not cut switchbacks. Doing so can cause severe erosion.

-- Alpine tundra is very susceptible to damage. Walk on durable routes of rock or talus. In the spring, travel on snow and rocks, or plan your trip during drier conditions.

-- When camping, please take time to find the most appropriate site for you and your group. Choose a site that is protected, not visible from the trail, and is at least 100 feet from trails, lakes, streams or any water source. To minimize impacts please use an existing site.

-- Dogs must be under control at all times and leashed within 100 feet of any National Forest System Trail. Owners whose dog is disturbing wildlife, people, or their property can be cited.

WASTE-

-- Soap, even biodegradable, pollutes the water. Dispose of wash water at least 100 feet away from any water source.

-- Bury human waste in a hole 6 inches deep and 200 feet away from any water source, trail, or campsite.

-- Pack out toilet paper, tampons, and left over food; animals will dig it up.

FIRES-

Campfires are a tradition, but please consider their impacts:

- Dead and downed wood is an important component of the ecosystem.
- Large hot fires or concentrations of charcoal and ash can sterilize soils, leaving them unable to sustain plant life.
- Many visitors consider fire-rings an eyesore.

If you choose to have a campfire consider the following:

- Please keep fires small in size and limited to evening and early morning hours.
- Do not build new fire-rings. Instead, build fires in existing fire-rings that are at least 100 feet from water.
- Avoid having fires within 1/4 mile of, or above treeline. Dead wood removed from Krummholz (dwarf trees near timberline) affects their survival.

STOCK USERS

- Groups possessing pack and saddle stock are limited to a maximum combination of 25 animals and people, with a maximum of 15 people.
- Secure animals 100-200 feet away from lakes, streams and trails. A picket line is less damaging to trees than direct tying. Move stock often when picketing to prevent resource damage.

Mount Massive Wilderness: Mount Massive

ALL VISITORS

- Unless otherwise specified, no motorized equipment or mechanical transport, with the exception of wheelchairs, is allowed. This includes, but is not limited to: chainsaws, ATVs, motorcycles, mountain bikes, e-bikes, game carts, wagons, cars, trucks and other vehicles.
- Permits are not required. However, all commercial and non-profit groups are required to obtain a Special Use Permit through the local ranger district office in advance of their trip. If you are using the services of an outfitter-guide, be sure they are licensed and have a Forest Service Permit.
- Group size is limited to 15 people.
- Do not cut switchbacks. Doing so can cause severe erosion. In alpine areas, walk on durable routes including rock, talus or snow.
- Dogs, except working stock dogs and hunting dogs, must be leashed at all times.

WASTE-

- Soap, even biodegradable, pollutes the water. Dispose of wash water at least 100 feet away from any water source.
- Bury human waste in a hole 6 inches deep and 200 feet away from any water source, trail, or campsite.
- Pack out toilet paper, tampons, and left over food; animals will dig it up.

FIRES-

Consider using a campstove or camp light instead of a campfire. If you choose to have a campfire:

- Keep fires small in size and limited to evening and early morning hours.
- Do not build new fire-rings. Instead, build fires in existing fire-rings that are at least 100 feet from water and trails. Use a fire blanket or a fire pan.
- Avoid having fires within 1/4 mile of, or above treeline. Dead wood removed from Krummholz (dwarf trees near timberline) affects their survival.

OVERNIGHT VISITORS

-- When camping, choose a site that is protected, not visible from the trail, and is at least 100 feet from trails, lakes, streams or any water source. To minimize impacts, use an existing site.

STOCK USERS

- Groups possessing pack and saddle stock are limited to a maximum combination of 25 animals and people, with a maximum of 15 people.
- Secure animals 100-200 feet away from lakes, streams and trails. A picket line is less damaging to trees than direct tying. Move stock often when picketing to prevent resource damage.
- Restraining or grazing of recreational livestock is not permitted within 100 feet of lakes or streams.
- Only certified weed-free hay or pelletized food is allowed.

Sangre De Cristo: Humboldt Peak, Crestone Needle, Crestone Peak, Kit Carson, Ellingwood Point (summit only, not main access route)

ALL VISITORS

- Unless otherwise specified, no motorized equipment or mechanical transport, with the exception of wheelchairs, is allowed. This includes, but is not limited to: chainsaws, ATVs, motorcycles, mountain bikes, e-bikes, game carts, wagons, cars, trucks and other vehicles.
- With increasing visitor use in the Sangre de Cristo Wilderness, the Forest Service is considering a self-issuing permit system. Please contact the San Carlos Ranger District (719) 269-8500. To access the portion of the wilderness within Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, a park entrance fee is required if you don't already have an Interagency Annual Pass, Interagency Senior Pass, or Interagency Access Pass. Otherwise, the fee is \$3.00 per person for everyone 16 years or older.
- In the Forest Service portion of the wilderness, group size is limited to 25, including pack and saddle stock, with no more than 15 people in any one party. In the National Park Service portion of the wilderness, group size is limited to 6 people.
- Do not cut switchbacks. Doing so can cause severe erosion.
- In the National Park Service portion of the wilderness, campfires are prohibited. Lightweight camp-stoves are recommended. In the Forest Service portion of the wilderness, where allowed, campfires should be at least 300 feet from lakes, streams, and trails and built in a manner that minimizes impact. Collect only dead and down wood, that is less than three inches in diameter (if you can't break it by hand, don't use it). Do not build a fire on exposed rock surfaces to prevent scarring. If possible, build fires on a fire blanket or a fire pan.

- Soap, even biodegradable, pollutes the water. Dispose of wash water at least 300 feet away from any water source.
- Pack out all garbage. It is NEVER acceptable to bury trash.
- Bury human waste in a 6 to 8 inch deep hole at least 300 feet away from any open water, trail, or campsite.
- In the National Park Service portion of the wilderness, dogs are allowed on a leash only within day-use areas.

OVERNIGHT VISITORS

- Camping is prohibited within 300 feet of lakes, 100 feet of streams or trails, and in popular day-use areas. Camping is prohibited within 1/4 mile of the Sand Ramp Trail or any park roads. Campsites beyond 1/4 mile must also be out of site from trails or roads. Obey posted signs prohibiting camping or other activities. Some campsites may be closed to allow the area to recover from overuse.
- Camping within Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve requires a free permit you can obtain at the visitor center.

STOCK USERS

- Groups with stock may have up to 6 animals per group in the National Park Service portion of the wilderness.
- All pack or saddle stock feed must be CERTIFIED WEED-FREE hay or pelletized food.
- Restraining or grazing of pack or saddle stock is not permitted within 300 feet of lakes or 100 feet of streams.
- Tie a highline between two trees and tether pack or saddle stock to it. Hobbling or loose grazing stock will prevent the "ring" appearance caused when stock are tied to trees.
- To minimize damage to vegetation and prevent erosion, keep pack or saddle stock in single file on the trail.

Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness: Capitol Peak, Pyramid Peak, Snowmass Mountain, Maroon Peak, North Maroon Peak, Castle Peak

ALL VISITORS

Permit Information

- **Overnight Permit Requirement:** Permits are required for overnight stays in **Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness permit zones (PDF map)**. Permits must be purchased in advance at **recreation.gov**.
- For all other trips to the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness outside of permit zones, registration is required at the trailhead. For more information, visit the **US Forest Service site for Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness**.

Restrictions

- **Food, refuse and any scented items must be stored in an IGBC approved bear resistant container.** Human food habituated bears are a threat to human safety. Visitors without approved bear resistant containers will be ticketed and required to leave.

- **You must have a plan for human waste. Human waste bags (WAG) bags are highly recommended** and are available free of charge at the Conundrum Creek and Snowmass Lake trailheads. WAG bags must be packed out. If a WAG bag is not used, visitors are required to deposit solid human waste in holes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet (70 paces) from water, camp and trails.
- **Group size is limited to 10 with no more than 15 stock animals in one group.** Large groups multiply impacts to the wilderness and disrupt the solitude of others.
- **Dogs are prohibited** in the Conundrum Creek Valley from Silver Dollar Pond to Triangle Pass, including the hot springs. Everywhere else, dogs must be leashed.
- **Campfires are prohibited at all designated sites at Conundrum Hot Springs, within ¼ mile of Crater Lake and above 10,800 feet.** Campfires consume wood, accumulate trash, kill fragile alpine vegetation, sterilize the soil and scar the land.
- **Campers must camp in designated sites at Conundrum Hot Springs, Copper Lake, Crater Lake, Geneva Lake, and Capitol Lake.** Everywhere else campers should set up more than 100 feet from lakes, streams and trails and use previously impacted campsites. Help provide a feeling of solitude, camp out of sight of others and fragile areas.
- **As with all designated Wilderness, motorized and mechanized equipment is prohibited including bicycles, motorbikes, chainsaws, ATVs, carts, drones, hang gliders and paragliders.** This equipment is prohibited to provide visitors with a primitive recreational experience and to preserve outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Holy Cross Wilderness: Mount of the Holy Cross

ALL VISITORS

-- Group size is limited to no more than 15 people per group.

-- Campfires are prohibited in the following locations: within 100 feet of any lake, stream, or trail; above 11,000 feet in elevation; within the Missouri Lakes, Fancy Creek, and East Cross Creek watersheds.

-- Dogs or other animals must be under physical or voice control at all times and may not harass wildlife, people, or damage property.

-- Mechanical transportation (including wagons, game carts, wheelbarrows, bicycles, or other vehicles) is prohibited.

-- Do not cut switchbacks.

OVERNIGHT VISITORS

-- Overnight visitors must possess a valid wilderness use permit for each group or individual camping.

-- Camping is prohibited in the following locations:

1. within 100 feet of any lake, stream, trail, or “No Camping/Wilderness Restoration Site” sign
2. along the Halfmoon Trail (FDT 2009) within the East Cross Creek valley, except in designated sites
3. inside the Notch Mountain Shelter.

STOCK USERS

-- Group size is limited to no more than a combination of 25 people and pack or saddle stock, with the maximum number of people being 15.

-- Hay and straw is prohibited. Pack or saddle stock feed that has been processed through chemical or mechanical means in a manner that will destroy viable seeds including pelletized feed and rolled grains is allowed.

-- Hitching, tethering, or hobbling pack or saddle stock is prohibited within 100 feet of any lake, stream, or trail.

Why Regulations May Be Necessary in Wilderness

GENERALLY PROHIBITED USES IN WILDERNESS

The primary mandate of the Wilderness Act is to preserve wilderness character--the natural, untamed, undeveloped and primitive aspects that make wilderness worthy of its name. This means that uses within wilderness areas that directly degrade wilderness character, such as the following, are prohibited for both land managers and the public:

- commercial enterprise
- permanent road
- temporary road
- use of motor vehicles
- motorized equipment
- motorboats
- landing of aircraft
- mechanical transport
- structure or installation

Permanent rules against these things are enforced by the wilderness management agencies, but there are certain exceptions, such as commercial grazing and access to private inholdings (small parcels of privately-owned land that are sometimes found inside a wilderness).

RULES FOR VISITORS IN WILDERNESS

Wilderness is meant to be used and enjoyed, and “primitive recreation” is even part of the definition of wilderness in the Wilderness Act. Paradoxically, recreation can also result in

biophysical and social impacts that can potentially impair wilderness character. Therefore, agencies often establish visitor use regulations, or rules, in addition to the general prohibitions listed above, that help protect wilderness resources and opportunities for high-quality wilderness experiences. There are many common types of regulations. Use the [Find A Wilderness](#) search to learn about regulations that are in effect in the wilderness areas you'd like to visit.

Below is a list of common regulations, descriptions about why they exist, and information about what you can do before and during your visitor to adhere to them.

VISITOR USE LIMITS (PERMITS)

In some wilderness areas, regulations are in place to limit the number of people visiting at any given time. In some cases, certain types of visitors, such as people visiting for just the day or overnight users, may need permits. Limiting visitation helps ensure that people visiting wilderness have the opportunity to enjoy solitude.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Where visitor use-limiting permit systems are in place, ensure your opportunity for a high-quality wilderness experience by making advance reservations to obtain a permit.

GROUP SIZE LIMITS

The activities of large groups of people can affect the solitude of others and can increase impacts in and around campsites and near water. In some cases, smaller campsites simply can't accommodate large groups. Therefore, group size limits confine groups of people to manageable sizes.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Visit wilderness in smaller groups when possible.
- Large groups which have split to conform with group size limits should plan on traveling and camping separately.
- Make extra effort to minimize all unnecessary noise and impacts from large groups.

LENGTH OF STAY LIMITS

The Wilderness Act defines wilderness as a place where "man is a visitor who does not remain." Regulations may limit the number of nights camping in one campsite, one specific area, or in the wilderness as a whole, so that the wilderness experience can be available to others.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Plan your trip to conform with length-of-stay restrictions.

CAMPING SETBACKS FROM LAKES, STREAMS OR TRAILS

Aquatic habitats and riparian ecosystems immediately adjacent to water are sensitive to human-caused impacts and critical to the survival of native species in wilderness. Lakes and streams are enjoyed by both overnight and day users, and camps placed too close to the water can block access to others. Trail corridors are the means of travel for those seeking wilderness solitude, and camps placed alongside trails can add to a sense of crowding in popular areas.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Always camp away from lakes, streams, and trails.
- If specific setback distances are required, such as 1500 meters or 1/4 of a mile, know how to measure distances in the field to ensure your group conforms to required setbacks.

DESIGNATED CAMPSITES

Research studies indicate that impacts to camping areas are reduced if visitors use established campsites instead of creating new ones.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Use designated campsites, if required.
- In areas where campsites are not designated, use existing campsites.
- In more pristine areas or when traveling off-trail, choose durable campsites (according to Leave No Trace recommendations), limit the length of your stay and restore your campsite when departing to remove evidence of your visit.

CAMPFIRE RESTRICTIONS AND BANS

Certain ecosystems, such as high-elevation sub-alpine types, generate little downed and dead wood for campfires. In these same ecosystems, woody debris is an important part of the soil's nutrient recycling process to help maintain natural conditions. Where visitors' use of the firewood supply exceeds what is available, significant and long-term impacts can occur, such as cutting down live and dead trees, removing limbs and stripping bark from trees, and removing woody material used as habitat by wildlife. Evidence of campfires, such as blackening of rocks, is one of the longest lasting, most visible, human impacts in wilderness. During high-risk fire seasons, fire bans may be in place to prevent forest fires.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Use a stove, lantern or candle where and when campfires are prohibited.
- Where campfires are permitted, keep fires small, limit the use of firewood to just what is necessary, and gather at a distance from your site. As a rule of thumb, only use downed wood that you can break by hand.
- Use fire pans or fire blankets to reduce impacts from your campsite.

RECREATION LIVESTOCK RESTRICTIONS

Grazing by recreational livestock, such as horses, mules and pack goats, in sensitive, high-elevation vegetation types and adjacent to water can cause significant impacts such as loss of native vegetation and manure washed into lakes and streams. Placing salt blocks in wilderness, especially near water, degrades the natural conditions.

Stock confinement near water and in camps, and tying stock directly to trees causes impacts to campsites, water sources and can kill trees. Loss of riparian habitat, manure in the water, exposed tree roots, scarred and dead trees, and manure in camp areas are unnecessary and avoidable.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Graze pack animals in meadows at lower elevations and away from water.
- Don't place salt directly on the ground. Mix salt in the feed for stock and keep feed contained.
- Confine stock away from water.
- Avoid tying stock directly to trees, especially in camp areas, except for temporary loading and unloading.
- Properly use high-lines, hobbles, pickets, and electric fences to confine stock.

WEED FREE FEED REQUIREMENTS

Feed for pack and saddle stock can introduce seeds from non-native invasive plants and noxious weeds. Once established, these plants can out-compete native species and become a significant human-caused influence on the natural conditions.

Suggested action(s) for visitors

- When packing feed into the wilderness, only use certified, weed seed free feed.
- Switch stock to processed feed several days prior to entering wilderness.

CACHING PROHIBITIONS

Storage of gear and equipment in wilderness can detract from the experience of others and is inappropriate because it violates the spirit of the Wilderness Act, which identifies wilderness as a place where "man is a visitor who does not remain."

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Pack out what you pack in.
- Leave equipment unattended in wilderness only for the short-term periods in accordance with regulations.

AREA CLOSURES

In some cases, it may be necessary to temporarily or permanently close an area of wilderness to visitors to help protect wilderness-dependent plant or animal species,

ensure recovery of restoration efforts, reduce public safety risks from wildfire, or for other reasons.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Select alternate travel routes, if necessary, and respect closure orders.

PET RESTRICTIONS

Loose dogs can harass wildlife and pose a potential risk to other visitors and recreation livestock. In addition, loose dogs can get lost or injured or be attacked by predators.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Keep dogs on a leash, or if allowed, under strict voice control.
- Consider leaving your dog at home.

HUMAN WASTE DISPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Improperly disposed human waste can cause water pollution, harm fish and wildlife, and is a public safety hazard and eyesore to other visitors.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Bring the necessary and appropriate tools and equipment, such as a spade, small trowel, waste disposal bag (WAG bags), or portable toilet, to be able to dispose of waste properly. In some cases, you may be required to pack out all human waste.
- Locate 'cat holes' or group latrines away from water, camps, and trails.
- Never leave waste or toilet paper exposed on the ground.

LITTER DISPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Littering in wilderness affects the experiences of other visitors and the health of wildlife.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Pack out what you pack in.
- Help preserve wilderness character by packing out the litter of others too.

BOTTLE AND CAN PROHIBITIONS

Near water or hot springs or in high-use areas, glass bottles and cans left behind by visitors are both trash and safety hazards. Broken glass from bottles can cut hands and feet (of visitors, children, pets and wildlife).

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Avoid bringing glass of any kind and disposable containers into wilderness. Invest in reusable containers for water and other beverages and repackage food that comes in cans.
- Pack out what you pack in.

FOOD STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

Improper food storage practices can attract bears and other wildlife into camps and create an unsafe situation for visitors, recreation livestock, and the wildlife. Bears that become habituated to human food are often relocated or euthanized.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Hang all food, including toiletries and food-related trash, where possible. Food bags should be hung at least 10 feet above ground and at least 4 feet away from the tree trunk. Use bear poles, if available.
- Use bear-resistant food lockers, if available.
- Consider carrying bear-resistant food canisters. In some areas, these are now required.
- Do not bury food-related trash.

COMPETITIVE EVENT PROHIBITIONS

Competitive events are not allowed in wilderness because they typically are not a wilderness-dependent activity. These types of events are inconsistent with providing opportunities for primitive recreation or solitude, as required by the Wilderness Act, and there is potential for unnecessary increases in resource impacts from large groups that affect the wilderness experience of others.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Contact the wilderness area managing office to determine if there is a non-wilderness location that is instead suitable for competitive events.

SHORT-CUTTING SWITCHBACK PROHIBITIONS

Cutting switchbacks, or not staying on trails, causes unnecessary erosion and additional repair work for trail crews.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Where trails are provided, confine travel to existing routes and encourage others to do the same.

WAGON, CART, BICYCLE AND VEHICLE PROHIBITIONS

Wagons, carts, bicycles and other vehicles are considered forms of mechanical transport, which is explicitly prohibited by the Wilderness Act. The exclusion of mechanical transportation equipment is consistent with the concept of primitive recreation, meaning human or animal-powered transportation without the use of a wheel as a mechanical advantage. The one exception to this definition, by law, is wheel chairs. If they are suitable for indoor pedestrian use, they are allowed in wilderness.

Suggested action(s) for visitors:

- Plan to visit wilderness on foot, or with recreation livestock, skis, or non-motorized watercraft.