Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/9/2024 7:56:03 PM

First name: Debra Last name: Ashton Organization:

Title:

Comments: I strongly urge you to act in a manner that lets the Wilderness be wild by allowing the hut in question to fade with time. If you must remove it, use wilderness-compatible means to remove the hut's remnants.

The proposal as it stands includes using helicopter flights, motorized equipment, cement mixers, and other motorized tools -- completely disruptive to nature and wilderness!! Supposedly the original hut was built without helicopters or motorized access, and most supplies were packed in, and if you're going to remove it, it should be done the same way. Have consideration for the wildlife that live in this area.

The Forest Service's first responsibility is to protect the wild character of the Mount Timpanogos Wilderness, rather than any structures such as the Quinoset hut, which degrades the area and is not necessary to administer the Wilderness.

Wilderness policy recognizes that a structure is not needed for visitor use, stating that visitors must be prepared on their own to face "inherent risks of adverse weather conditions, isolation, physical hazards, and lack of rapid communications, and that search and rescue may not be as rapid as expected in an urban setting."

The Forest Service's proposal to use helicopters and build a new improved structure goes totally against what wilderness is. The Wilderness Act precludes structures; therefore, it's anti-Wilderness to declare such a structure is part of the wilderness character of the area.

The Forest Service must adopt an alternative that lets the Mount Timpanogos Wilderness be wild by allowing the metal remnants of the Quonset hut to fade with time, or by using wilderness-compatible means, such as non-motorized/non-mechanized tools, to remove it.