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Comments: I would like to urge the Forest Service to adopt an alternative plan that lets the Wilderness be wild by allowing the hut to fade with time, or that uses wilderness-compatible means to remove the hut's remnants.

According to what I have read, the metal Quonset hut with a cemented rock retaining wall was finished in 1960, and the Mount Timpanogos Scenic Area was established in 1961. In 1984, Congress designated the Mount Timpanogos Wilderness. Once this designation occurred, the Forest Service became responsible for ensuring that the area remain wild and primarily shaped by nature.

The Wilderness Act prohibits structures, with a very narrow exception for those that are the minimum necessary to preserve Wilderness. This out-of-place hut not only detracts from the Wilderness, but also fails to meet this Wilderness Act requirement.

I believe structures should be removed if that can be done in a manner consistent with wilderness principles and if the impact from removing the structure is less than the impact from leaving the structure. This hut is not listed on the national register of historic places, though it has been proposed for listing. Even if listed, it could be documented and allowed to fade into the Wilderness.