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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Shelter at Emerald Lake was built between 1957 and 1959. Mountain goats were introduced from Washington State in 1981. The Shelter is more a part of Timp than the goats, historically speaking, and should be rebuilt and preserved. I was born in Utah, grew up in Utah, and I'm raising my kids here. I gaze up at Mount Timpanogos and wake to it's shadow every single day. I'm often recreating in it's canyons. I love this mountain. I've been hiking Timp since 1992. As a member of the Timpanogos Emergency Response Team, I hiked to the peak 2 days ago, spending significant time at the site of the Shelter. It is so sad to see it's gradual decline. The Shelter at Emerald Lake is and was absolutely iconic. I have so many memories of sheltering there during sudden storms with other hikers. I remember the conversations we would have, thrown together by the beautiful and powerful storms conjured up by the mountain itself, it seemed, just huddled with fellow humans dwarfed by the majesty of the mountain. This space allowed that contemplation and sometimes literal salvation. It has had historical and practical utility. Mine isn't the only story of safety at 10,000 feet - this is generational. I share similar memories with so many in my community in Utah - those who hiked up not in lightweight quick-dry hiking shorts and a camelback, but in big 'ol leather boots, Levi Jeans, flannel shirt and a tin cup which they used to sample the water all the way up and back. These old-timers are eventually leaving the planet. Fewer and fewer will know what that shelter is, was, and how it brought people together. It is absolutely a part of the Timpanogos history and heritage. The Forest Service has such an amazing opportunity to restore a classic part of Classic Timpanogos iconography and should do it. I fully support this initiative!