

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/11/2025 4:15:56 AM

First name: Shaun

Last name: Roundy

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service,

I am writing to express my support for the rebuilding of the Emerald Lake shelter. As an active Utah County Sheriff Search and Rescue volunteer for 25 years, I can't count how many times I have relied on that structure to protect patients and facilitate live-saving measures. Even that number is miniscule compared to the tens of thousands, if not more, hikers who have benefited from its existence during storms or hot weather with no other shelter nearby.

In 99% of other cases, my attitude toward wilderness area is to keep it as wild and unmarred as possible, but the Timpanogos backcountry is far from typical wilderness. HALF A MILLION PEOPLE hike that mountain every year! This one small concession is absolutely justified.

Add to that its historical nature. How many millions have benefited from it over the years, and made it part of their stories?

To some people's eyes, removing it would restore natural beauty. But to mine, it would make me sad every time I see the empty spot where it once stood.