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First name: Jeff

Last name: Somers

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to support the No Action Choice for this project. In this era of budget savings, this would be extremely wasteful spending of taxpayer money where no benefit would be achieved. In addition, the Forest Service's first responsibility is to protect the wild character of the Mount Timpanogos Wilderness. The agency's own policy recognizes that a structure is not needed for visitor use. It states 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 must analyze and adopt a solution 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 to remove it. The remaining rock and cement could be safely dismantled and allowed to fade back into the Wilderness. The claim that it can't be dismantled (or even repaired) using traditional means is false -- the Forest Service built the hut without motorized equipment.

The EA does not even detail the number of helicopters flights to be expected or the project's duration. It only claims, without proof, that non-mechanical means are impractical and unidentified livestock users said they wouldn't take their animals up there. The Forest Service has wilderness stock. There is no indication the agency asked its own people.

For such a massive undertaking, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is needed, especially because the Forest Service proposes a project in Wilderness involving helicopter flights, motorized equipment, jackhammers, cement mixers, and other motorized tools.