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Comments: The Forest Service has a clear and primary duty to preserve the wild character of the Mount Timpanogos Wilderness. Its own wilderness policy acknowledges that visitors should come prepared to handle the natural challenges of the area-including unpredictable weather, isolation, and limited communication-without the expectation of quick rescues or modern infrastructure. This reinforces the idea that constructed facilities like the Quonset hut are not essential for visitor use and are, in fact, contrary to the intent of designated Wilderness.

In light of this, the agency should fully evaluate and adopt an alternative that honors the Wilderness Act by allowing the remnants of the Quonset hut to naturally deteriorate, or by removing them using non-motorized, wilderness-appropriate methods. The rock and cement still present could be carefully dismantled and left to blend back into the landscape. The claim that traditional tools are insufficient to do the job is unsubstantiated-after all, the Forest Service originally built the structure without the use of helicopters or motorized machinery.

The current environmental assessment lacks transparency and critical details. It does not specify how many helicopter flights would occur, how long the project would last, or what exactly would be involved. Instead, it vaguely asserts that using pack animals isn't feasible based on unnamed stock users' opinions. Yet the Forest Service itself has access to wilderness stock and offers no evidence that it consulted its own resources before dismissing that option.

Given the scale and intensity of the proposed work-which includes helicopters, motorized equipment, jackhammers, and cement mixers-a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is necessary. This level of intervention in a protected Wilderness area demands a more thorough analysis, broader public input, and a stronger commitment to the preservation of the land's natural and undeveloped state.