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Comments: The Forest Service's foremost responsibility is to preserve the wild character of the Mount Timpanogos Wilderness. According to its own wilderness management policy, the agency acknowledges that structures are not necessary for visitor use. Instead, visitors are expected to be self-reliant and prepared to face "inherent risks of adverse weather conditions, isolation, physical hazards, and lack of rapid communications," understanding that search and rescue may not be as immediate as in urban settings.

In line with this policy, the Forest Service must analyze and adopt an alternative that allows the Mount Timpanogos Wilderness to remain wild - either by letting the metal remnants of the Quonset hut fade naturally over time, or by using wilderness-compatible methods for removal. The existing rock and cement foundation could be safely dismantled and left to blend back into the landscape. The suggestion that the structure cannot be removed or repaired using traditional, non-mechanized tools is inaccurate - the hut was originally constructed without the use of motorized equipment.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) fails to provide critical details, such as the number of helicopter flights required or the expected project duration. It merely asserts, without evidence, that the use of pack stock is impractical, based on the claims of unnamed individuals who allegedly declined to bring their animals to the site. Notably, the Forest Service owns its own wilderness-capable stock, yet there is no indication that internal resources or personnel were consulted.

Given the scale and invasive nature of the proposed activities - which include helicopter use, motorized equipment, jackhammers, cement mixers, and other mechanized tools - a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not only warranted, it is essential. This level of intrusion in designated Wilderness demands thorough environmental analysis and public accountability.