



Why All The Rules?

**An explanation on
wilderness rules and
regulations.**

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Group Size Limitations

- “We don’t manage wilderness, we manage the public.” –Dr. Richard Knight, CSU, Author and Professor
- The Wilderness Act of 1964 has a specific statement about solitude in its definition of wilderness, which is: “...outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation...”
- Limiting group size limits the impact on the resources and provides others with a feeling of “solitude”.

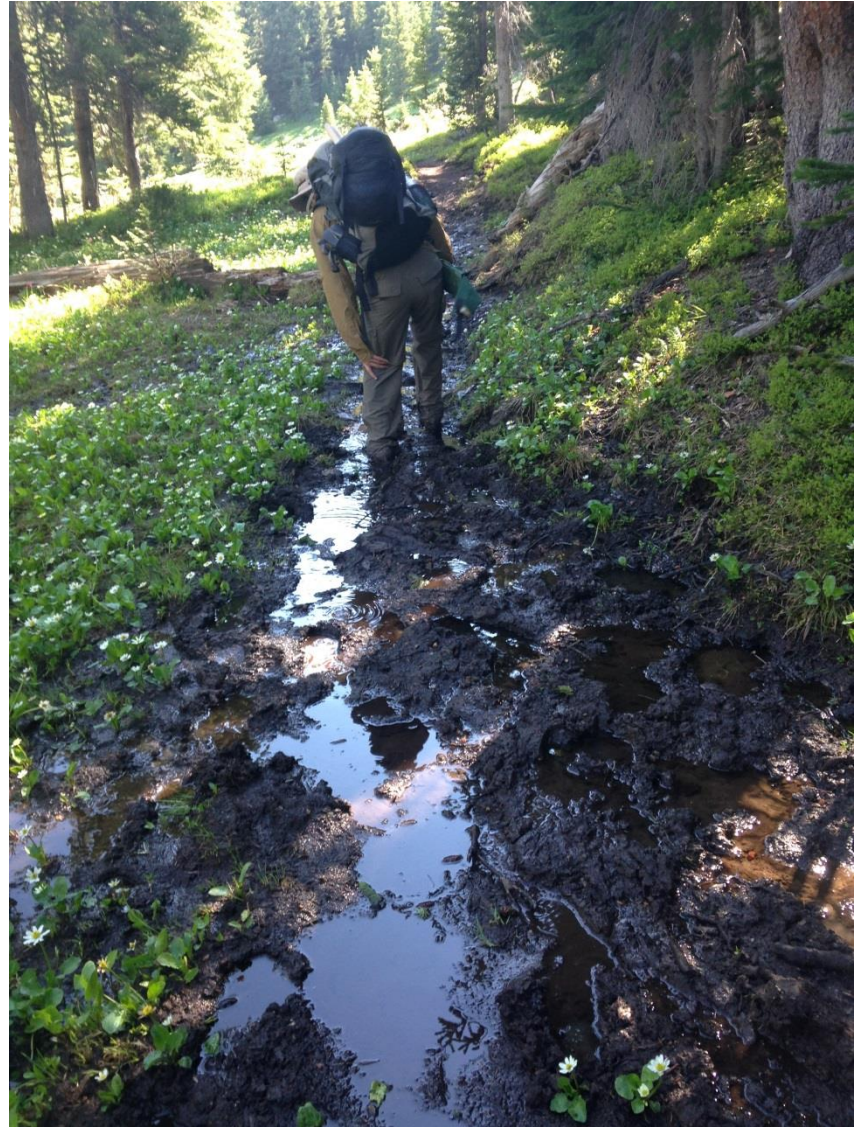
Permits in Indian Peaks Wilderness

- Permits are required for organized groups such as scouts, churches, schools, and hiking clubs, entering the Wilderness for day or overnight use year-round.
- Indian Peaks Wilderness (IPW) is one of the most heavily visited wildernesses in the USA
- Think about how many visitors sign in at Monarch Lake alone. (19,661 in 2014 and that's not including those who do not register.)

Horse Use vs. Bicycle Use

- Why are horses allowed in wilderness areas but not bicycles?
- There is evidence of domesticated horse use dating as far back as 3600 BC, while the bicycle dates back to only 1817 AD.
- Keeping with the definition of wilderness, primitive forms of travel are the only acceptable methods of travel...even though horses can have a huge impact on trails. (i.e. Horseshoe Trail in Byers Peak Wilderness.)

Horseshoe Trail to Horseshoe Lake



No Motorized or Mechanized Use

- “In order to assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the United States and its possessions, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.”
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=yqs7pgq1TAk
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQXZKv65p1Q&feature=player_detailpage

No Camping within 100' of Lake, Stream, or Trail...I mean it!

- When people set up camp they rarely (if ever) keep in mind, and look for, a good place to go to the bathroom.
- What **does** a 100 feet look like?
- Fecal matter causes disease as we all know, which is why it is important to keep it out of the water systems!
- Remember when I was talking about solitude?

Quotes for Thought

“Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that wilderness is a necessity...” –John Muir

“The further one gets into the Wilderness, the greater the attraction of its lonely freedom.” –President Theodore Roosevelt

“In Wilderness is the preservation of the world.”
–Henry David Thoreau

“Plans to protect air and water, wilderness and wildlife are in fact plans to protect man.” –Stewart Udall

“We must not only protect the country side and save it from destruction, we must restore what has been destroyed...once man can no longer walk with beauty or wonder at nature, his spirit will wither and his sustenance be wasted.” – President Lyndon Johnson