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FRIENDS OF



NEVADA  
WILDERNESS

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ASSEMBLY NATURAL RES., AGRICULTURE & MINING  
DATE: 5/5/03 ROOM: 3161 EXHIBIT 61-116  
SUBMITTED BY: Shauren Netherton

## **Friends of Nevada Wilderness**

Provided by: Shaaron Netherton, Executive Director

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# **KEY POINTS ABOUT THE 1964 WILDERNESS ACT**

## **1. CONGRESSIONAL INTENT FOR ESTABLISHING WILDERNESS: (Section 2(a))**

- Assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify, all areas in the United States.
- Areas should be designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition.
- Secure for present and future generations the benefits of wilderness.
- Only Federal lands can be designated wilderness.

## **2. DEFINITION OF WILDERNESS (Section 2(c))**

*Ideal:* Community of life untrammelled by people where people are visitors and do not remain; lands undisturbed retaining primeval character and influence and are without permanent improvements or human habitation; and, lands protected and managed to preserve natural conditions.

*Operational:* Generally appears affected by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; has least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size; and may contain ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

## **3. USES OF WILDERNESS**

- Administered for use and enjoyment of American people in a manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness. (Section 2(a))
- For gathering and disseminating information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness. (Section 2(a))
- Be devoted to the public purposes of recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation, and historical uses as wilderness. (Section 4(b))

## **4. THE "TEN PROHIBITIONS" WITHIN WILDERNESS (Section 4(c))**

Except as provided in the Act and subject to existing private rights, the Wilderness Act prohibits:

- A. Commercial uses,
- B. Permanent roads, and

Except as provided in the Act, subject to existing private rights, and except as necessary to meet the minimum requirements for administration of the area for purpose of Act, the Wilderness Act also prohibits:

- C. Temporary roads,
- D. Use of motor vehicles,
- E. Use of motorized equipment,
- F. Use of motorboats,
- G. Landing of aircraft,
- H. Mechanical transportation,
- I. Structures, or
- J. Installations.

## 5. EXCEPTIONS TO THE SECTION 4(c) PROHIBITIONS OR ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS

- A. **Existing private rights:** All prohibitions in the Act are subject to existing private rights. Examples include rights-of-ways, mining claims with discovery of valuable minerals, etc. (Sec. 4(c))
- B. **Agency Administration:** Six of the prohibitions ("C" thru "H" above) may not apply to the administering agency if they are the minimum requirement for the administration of the area for the purpose of the Act (including measures required in emergencies involving health and safety). (Sec. 4(c))
- C. **Aircraft or motorboat use:** Aircraft or motorboat use where established may be permitted subject to restrictions deemed desirable by administering agency. (Sec. 4(d)(1))
- D. **Fire, insects or diseases:** Measure may be taken as necessary for the control of fire, insects or diseases subject to restrictions deemed desirable by administering agency. (Sec. 4(d)(1))
- E. **Gathering information:** Gathering information about mineral or other resources (including prospecting) is allowed if compatible with the preservation of the area as wilderness. (Sec.4(d)(2))
- F. **Mining claims or mineral leases:** Until 12/31/83 or date of designation mining claims may be located or mineral leases may be issued. (Sec.4(d)(3))
- G. **President authorizations:** President may authorize prospecting for water resources, establishment and maintenance of reservoirs, water-conservation works, power projects, transmission lines, and other facilities needed in the public interest, including road construction and maintenance. (Sec.4(d)(4)(1))
- H. **Grazing of livestock:** Grazing of livestock where established prior to Act, shall be permitted to continue subject to such reasonable regulations as deemed by the Secretary of Interior/Agriculture. (Sec.4(d)(4)(2))
- I. **Boundary Water Canoe Area exceptions** [eliminated by later amendment](Sec.4(d)(5))
- J. **Commercial services:** Commercial services may be performed within wilderness areas to the extent necessary for realizing the recreational or other wilderness purposes of the area. (Sec.4(d)(6))
- K. **State Water Rights:** Nothing in Act shall constitute an expressed or implied claim or denial as to exemption from State water laws. (i.e., Wilderness Act is silent in regards to state water rights) (Sec.4(d)(7))
- L. **State Fish and Wildlife:** Nothing in Act shall be construed as affecting the jurisdiction or responsibilities of States with respect to wildlife and fish. (i.e., Wilderness Act is silent in regards to state fish/game jurisdiction) (Sec.4(d)(8))
- M. **Access to Inholdings:** Owners of State or owners of privately owned land (and their successors in interest) surrounded by wilderness shall be given such rights to assure adequate access. Those lands can be exchanged for lands outside the wilderness area. (Sec.5(a))
- N. **Access for Mining or Occupancies:** Subject to reasonable regulations consistent with the area being designated wilderness, valid mining claims or valid occupancies wholly within wilderness are permitted ingress and egress consistent with means customarily enjoyed with similar areas. (Sec.5(b))
- O. **Acquisition of Private Lands:** Agencies may acquire private lands in wilderness if owner concurs or if it is specifically authorized by Congress. (Sec.5(c))

## **Grazing in Wilderness**

### **Some Commonly Asked Questions**

#### **What is wilderness?**

The Wilderness Act of 1964 defines Wilderness as "... an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions ..."

#### **Why are wilderness areas established?**

Only Congress can designate a wilderness area. Since Congress passed the Wilderness Act in 1964, over 100 individual acts have been passed designating over 600 wilderness areas managed by four Federal agencies (the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Forest Service, and the National Park Service). As of 1999, approximately 104 million acres have been designated wilderness in all but six states. Slightly less than 3% of the land in the lower 48 states is designated as wilderness.

#### **Is wilderness a part of BLM's multiple-use mandate?**

Yes. With the passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) in 1976, Congress gave BLM a comprehensive mandate for management of the public lands. The law established a policy of retaining public lands and directed the BLM to manage them under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield. Under FLPMA, wilderness preservation is part of BLM's multiple-use mandate and wilderness values are recognized as part of the spectrum of resource values. Wilderness is a multiple use, both in fact and in law: "The term 'multiple use' means ... the use of some land for less than all of the resources; ... takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for ... resources including, but not limited to, recreation, ... watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historical values; ... with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return ..." [FLPMA, Public Law 94-579, Section 103 (c)] The multiple uses of wilderness include the protection of watersheds; the maintenance of soil and water quality, ecological stability, plant and animal gene pools, and habitat for wildlife; and continued livestock grazing in areas where grazing was established prior to wilderness designation. Wilderness provides opportunities for outdoor recreation including hunting, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, and camping. Wilderness also provides for the exercise of prior valid existing rights such as water rights, mineral leases, and rights-of-way.

\*\*\*\*\*  
*(Some statements in the following answers refer to the 1980 Congressional Grazing Guidelines found in the Conference Report on S. 2009 (House Report 96-1126). These congressional guidelines on the management of grazing activities in wilderness are incorporated verbatim into BLM's Wilderness Management Policy at 43 CFR 8560.)*

**Is grazing permitted?**

Yes. Grazing is permitted by the Wilderness Act in areas where permits existed prior to the area being designated as wilderness. According to the Congressional Grazing Guidelines, "[T]here shall be no curtailment of grazing in wilderness areas simply because an area is, or has been designated as wilderness, nor should wilderness designation be used . . . to slowly 'phase out' grazing . . . . [T]he general rule of thumb on grazing management in wilderness should be that activities or facilities established prior to the date of an area's designation as wilderness should be allowed to remain in place and may be replaced when necessary . . . ."

**Can livestock numbers be increased or decreased?**

The Congressional Grazing Guidelines state: "Any adjustments in the numbers of livestock permitted to graze in wilderness areas should be made as a result of revisions in the normal grazing and land management planning . . . process, giving consideration to legal mandates, range condition, and the protection of the range resource from deterioration. It is anticipated that the numbers of livestock permitted to graze in wilderness would remain at the approximate levels existing at the time an area enters the wilderness system. If land management plans reveal conclusively that increased livestock numbers . . . could be made available with no adverse impact on wilderness values such as plant communities, primitive recreation, and wildlife populations or habitat, some increases in AUM's may be permissible. This is not to imply, however, that wilderness lends itself to . . . livestock increases and construction of substantial new facilities that might be appropriate for intensive grazing management in non-wilderness areas."

**Can existing range management developments be maintained in wilderness areas?**

Yes. "The maintenance of supporting facilities, existing in an area prior to its classification as wilderness (including fences, line cabins, water wells and lines, stock tanks, etc.), is permissible in wilderness . . . . The replacement or reconstruction of deteriorated facilities . . . should not be required to be accomplished using 'natural materials' unless the material and labor costs of using natural materials are such that their use would not impose unreasonable additional costs on grazing permittees." (Congressional Grazing Guidelines)

**Can new range management projects be developed in wilderness areas?**

Yes. "The construction of new improvements . . . in wilderness is permissible if in accordance with those guidelines in management plans governing the area involved. However, the construction of new improvements should be primarily for the purpose of resource protection

and the more effective management of these resources rather than to accommodate increased numbers of livestock." (Congressional Grazing Guidelines)

**Can ranchers use motor vehicles to take hay, salt, and other feed to their livestock or to maintain existing developments such as stock ponds, tanks, or fences?**

"Where practical alternatives do not exist, maintenance or other activities may be accomplished through the occasional use of motorized equipment. This may include, for example, the use of backhoes to maintain stockponds, pickup trucks for major fence repairs, or specialized equipment to repair stock watering facilities. Such occasional use of motorized equipment should be expressly authorized in the grazing permits for the areas involved. The use of motorized equipment should be based on a rule of practical necessity and reasonableness. For example, motorized equipment need not be allowed for the placement of small quantities of salt or other activities . . . [that] can reasonably and practically be accomplished on horseback or foot. On the other hand, it may be appropriate to permit the occasional use of motorized equipment to haul large quantities of salt to distribution points . . . . Such motorized equipment uses will normally only be permitted to those portions of a wilderness area where they had occurred prior to the area's designation as wilderness or are established by prior agreement . . . [and] where . . . such use would not have a significant adverse effect on the natural environment." (Congressional Grazing Guidelines)

**Can motor vehicles be used in emergencies?**

Yes. "The use of motorized equipment for emergency purposes such as rescuing sick animals or the placement of feed in emergency situations is also permissible. This privilege is to be exercised only in true emergencies, and should not be abused by permittees." (Congressional Grazing Guidelines)

**How are specific management provisions developed for a particular wilderness area?**

Wilderness management plans are developed for each BLM-administered wilderness area. Each plan is tailored to the environmental setting, history of use, and other factors affecting each individual area. The plans are developed with input from state and local agencies, and local community input is encouraged. Once developed, plans are submitted for additional public review and undergo intense scrutiny prior to becoming final.



of the legislation as it was for the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990. Therefore, no effects on existing uses of current water rights would occur.

**How does wilderness designation affect air quality status?**

The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1977 designated wilderness areas existing at that time to be Class I Areas. Areas designated wilderness after 1977 are classified as Class II, unless they are additions to existing Class I areas. The Act also allowed the various states to designate future wilderness areas as Class I using normal state processes. All BLM wilderness areas are presently Class II, which allows some degradation associated with moderate industrial and population growth.

**How are specific management provisions developed for a particular wilderness area?**

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NEVADA'S HIDDEN TREASURE WORTH PRESERVING.

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# Foreward...

"FROM THE HIGH, FLAT TABLE THAT SHOULDERS MT. MORIAH, I DISCOVERED I COULD SEE FOREVER—"

- ANN RONALD

Just as this booklet assembles an array of scenic pictures, so my imagination layers memories of Nevada wilderness. First, the conventional places. As a newcomer to the Silver State, I sought picturesque spots that looked like the landscape I'd left behind. I drove up Lamoille Canyon past hanging valleys of green, then hiked to the beautiful stepping stone lakes of the Ruby Mountains. I was reminded of the high Sierra. I backpacked next in what then was Nevada's only wilderness area, and found the Jarbidge's high country as dotted with deer and as colorfully decorated with flowers as those mountain meadows I'd loved in the Pacific Northwest.

That was nearly thirty years ago, when I only saw wilderness through eyes trained on snow-capped peaks, glaciated streams, blue-green lakes, and hillsides of purple gentian. Before long, however, I was exploring real Nevada wilderness—the distances dry instead of wet, panoramic instead of picturesque, and so often brown instead of green. I was seeing something different, a spacious and rugged terrain I soon learned to respect and to love.

From the high, flat table that shoulders Mt. Moriah, I discovered I could see forever—range after range of gnarled mountains shimmering in noontime haze, hued pink at sunrise and painted purple by the setting sun. Nearby bristlecone pines stood sentinel above the undulating tundra, while under my feet lay a carpet of yellow buckwheat, sweet daisies, and tiny phlox. Overhead, two hawks played the thermals in endless circles.

From the caked playa of the Black Rock Desert, I could see far enough to calculate the curvature of the earth. My campsite bent out of sight below the horizon while I made footprints in the dust. With only an occasional red-winged grasshopper for company, I felt like I was the only person on the planet. Even when I

tiptoed through the ghost town walls of Hardin City, there on the playa, or paused beside the hot springs that spelled sanctuary for the early pioneers, I still felt alone, though hardly lonely.

Closer to home, alongside Pyramid Lake, I watched pelicans glide effortlessly in the wind, then felt the ground rumble when a herd of wild horses thundered past. I climbed Toiyas Peak, Tule Peak, Pah Rah Peak, found an uncut grove of ancient pines and, in a nearby creek bed, nearly stepped on the biggest rattlesnake I've ever seen.

Farther to the south, below the line of Joshua trees that divides the Great Basin from the Mojave, I trailed bighorn sheep up limestone ledges, dropped back into an arid wash, and counted barrel cactus by the hundreds. A flash flood shoved sagebrush and boulders aside, and scoured the desert clean. The next day, trusting a cloudless sky, I lost myself in a labyrinthine canyon that secretly cut through red rocks and beige.

At Ash Meadows, I peered into what's called the Devil's Hole, where ancient pupfish hang onto a precarious existence. At Spirit Mountain, I watched the sun light up the limestone ridges of a peak that the ancient peoples call the birthplace of life. Reminders of distant pasts but also very much a part of today's Nevada, both spots spell enchantment for me. Even the Test Site, unfortunately off-limits to most people, models the magic of the Silver State—high plateaus and playa, rainbow rocks and rabbit brush yellow with pollen, sacred native sites and secret year-round streams.

No, the Silver State isn't at all what I first imagined. Seen from the air, it may look colorless and desolate; from a car, lifeless and drab. Seen up close, it's a place alive with the very things that comprise wilderness, the very values we seek to preserve. A marshy wetland, redolent with the songs of blackbirds and their mates. A hillside watercourse choked with flowered cliff rose. A bobcat, startled by the sound of my footsteps; a golden eagle, swooping down. An array of scarlet cactus reflecting the walls from a valley of flame-red canyons. A distant range of mountains dusted lightly by September snow. A place to be alone, but never lonely. Not only a Nevada of scenic scenes and memories, but a vibrant living bioregion worth saving, for our grandchildren, and for their children as well.

*Ann Ronald*  
Author of *Earthtones*  
University of Nevada, Reno-English Professor

# What Is Wilderness?

THE WEST OF WHICH I SPEAK IS BUT  
ANOTHER NAME FOR THE WILD...IN  
WILDERNESS IS THE PRESERVATION OF  
THE WORLD."

—FROM WALKING  
BY HENRY DAVID THOREAU

When Congress approved the Wilderness Act of 1964, the word wilderness was forever changed. No longer just a description or an idea, wilderness was now a legislative designation. Designated Wilderness would be a place "in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape... an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain." More specifically, Wilderness would have "outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation... [be] at least 5,000 acres, and may contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value." Wilderness would also be protected from human habitation, development, and destructive recreational use "to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness."

This legislative definition is eloquent as well as broad, but the essence of wilderness defies definition. For some, wilderness means a place where one can find respite from the stresses of modern life. For others, it means an

undeveloped watershed and clean water for downstream dwellers. It might also mean a place where one's sense of time and scale are larger, and adjusted to the rhythms of ancient peoples or geological processes. At its most expansive, wilderness exists largely undisturbed so there is a place—for human imagination, for wildlife habitat, for cultural memory and biological health—where interdependent ecological processes are allowed to continue.

And so "the enduring resource of wilderness" takes on varied meaning. Although only 1% of Nevada's vast public lands are currently designated Wilderness, the state is one of the few in the nation which remains largely undeveloped and wild. A gift to those who live here as well as those who visit, Nevada's wild lands mean economic, recreational, cultural, and spiritual opportunity; they also need legislative protection.

Wilderness guarantees wildlife in Nevada, which has one of the highest biodiversity indexes in the nation. Nevada's topography varies from low elevation in the Mojave Desert to the alpine tundra of the Ruby Mountains, and supports wildlife as majestic as the pronghorn antelope and desert bighorn sheep, as ancient as the bristlecone pine and Lahontan cutthroat trout, as unexpected as the white pelican or desert tortoise. Healthy wildlife habitat is vital not only to the creatures and plants that live there, but also to the state's hunting and fishing opportunities, the quality of its water (Reno depends upon water from the Mt. Rose Wilderness, and Las Vegas upon the Colorado's delivery of Rocky Mountain Wilderness water), and its long-range economic health.

The relationship between wilderness conservation and economic development is seldom recognized. Nevada's economy is largely dependent upon our gaming industry, but civic leaders are recognizing the need for a diversity of tourist attractions. Foremost among them is opportunity for recreation in Nevada's Lake Tahoe and high Sierra, and high desert canyons and playas. And, the fastest growing rural counties in the West have the most wilderness. Westerners are beginning to appreciate the relationship between wilderness and their own community health, be it quality of recreation, quality of water, or the quality of

their landscape's ability to inspire wonder or stewardship. The preservation of natural ecosystems has become the first step in sustainable development.

Finally, Wilderness designation is a certain way to preserve Nevada's cultural, geological, and historical heritage for future generations. By designating Wilderness, we preserve some of the awe-inspiring vistas of basin and range that John C. Frémont encountered as he led his western expedition of 1843 and 1844. We preserve the petroglyphs and pictographs of the Paiute and Shoshone people who lived in the Great Basin centuries before Frémont arrived. And, we preserve the Basin and Range itself, which records 4.5 billion years of the continental shift and collision that created it.

There are four federal land management agencies in Nevada whose lands are being considered for Wilderness designation. The Wilderness Act of 1964 established the procedure for designating Wilderness on Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service lands, which manage a combined total of 9 million acres in Nevada. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 extended the Act to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) which, with its 49 million acres in Nevada, manages most of the public land in the state. FLPMA required the BLM to survey its land for potential wilderness. These Wilderness Study Areas, or WSAs, are then protected until Congress acts to either designate or release them from consideration.

The BLM established 5.1 million acres in Nevada as WSAs, but recommended only 1.9 million acres for Wilderness designation. Nevada conservationists consider these numbers far too small and have rallied to educate themselves about Nevada's vulnerability and wilderness potential by exploring, mapping, photographing, and studying its quality of public land across agency boundaries.

As a result of these detailed studies, conservationists have their own Wilderness recommendation. The following map, photos, and text represent Nevada and its wildlife, culture, history, geology, solitude, wonder and potential—"the enduring resource of wilderness" that these conservationists defend.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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WILDERNESS

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HOUSE REPORT NO. 101-405  
February 21, 1990  
[To accompany H.R. 2570]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 2570) to provide for the designation of certain public lands as wilderness in the State of Arizona, having considered the same report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Page 1, line 3, strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following in lieu thereof:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990".

**APPENDIX A.-GRAZING GUIDELINES**

Section 4(d)(4)(2) of the Wilderness Act states: "the grazing of livestock, where established prior to the effective date of this Act, shall be permitted to continue subject to such reasonable regulations as are deemed necessary by the Secretary of Agriculture".

The legislative history of this language is very clear in its intent that livestock grazing, and activities and the necessary facilities to support a livestock grazing program, will be permitted to continue in National Forest wilderness areas, when such grazing was established prior to classification of an area as wilderness.

Including those areas designated in 1964 by the Wilderness Act, Congress has designated a large number of wilderness areas, including areas which are managed the Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Land Management. A number of these areas contain active grazing program, which are conducted pursuant to existing authorities. In all such cases, when enacting legislation classifying an area as wilderness, it has been the intent of the Congress that the cited language of the Wilderness Act would apply to grazing within wilderness areas administered by all Federal agencies.

To avoid any possible confusion, however, the Committee believes it would appropriate to reiterate the guidelines and policies (which have been set out previously in the Committee's Report on H.R. 5487 of the 96th Congress, House Report N. 96-617) that are to be utilized by BLM in implementing the relevant provisions of the Wilderness Act with respect to livestock grazing in the wilderness areas designated by this bill. It is the intention of the Committee that these guidelines and policies be considered in the overall context of the purposes and direction of the Wilderness Act of 1964 and this bill, and that they be promptly, fully, and diligently implemented and made available to Bureau of Land Management personnel at all levels and to all holders of permits for grazing in the wilderness areas designated by this bill.

The guidelines and policies are as follows:

1. There shall be no curtailments of grazing in wilderness areas simply because an area is, or has been designated as wilderness, nor should wilderness designations be used as an excuse by administrators to slowly "phase out" grazing. Any adjustments in the numbers of livestock permitted to graze in wilderness areas should be made as a result of revisions in the normal grazing and land management planning and policy setting process, giving consideration to legal mandates, range condition, and the protection of the range resource from deterioration.

It is anticipated that the number of livestock permitted to graze in wilderness would remain at the approximate levels at the time an area enters the

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wilderness system. If land management plans reveal conclusively that increased livestock numbers or animal unit months (AUMs) could be made available with no adverse impact on wilderness values such as plant communities, primitive recreation, and wildlife populations or habitat, some increases in AUMs may be permissible. This is not to imply, however, that wilderness lends itself to AUM or livestock increases and construction of substantial new facilities that might be appropriate for intensive grazing management in non-wilderness areas.

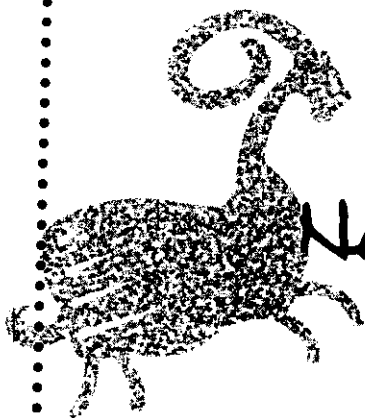
2. The maintenance of supporting facilities, existing in an area prior to its classification as wilderness (including fences, line cabins, water wells and lines, stock tanks, etc.), is permissible in wilderness. Where practical alternatives do not exist, maintenance or other activities may be accomplished through the occasional use of motorized equipment. This may include, for example, the use of backhoes to maintain stock ponds, pickup trucks for major fence repairs, or specialized equipment to repair stock watering facilities. Such occasional use of motorized equipment should be expressly authorized in the grazing permits for the area involved. The use of motorized equipment should be based on a rule of practical necessity and reasonableness. For example, motorized equipment need not be allowed for the placement of small quantities of salt or other activities where such activities can reasonably and practically be accomplished on horseback or foot. On the other hand, it may be appropriate to permit the occasional use of motorized equipment to haul large quantities of salt to distribution points. Moreover, under the rule of reasonableness, occasional use of motorized equipment should be permitted where practical alternatives are not available and such use would not have a significant adverse impact on the natural environment. Such motorized equipment uses will normally only be permitted in those portions of a wilderness area where they had occurred prior to the area's designation as wilderness or are established by prior agreement.

3. The replacement or reconstruction of deteriorated facilities or improvements should not be required to be accomplished using "natural materials", unless the material and labor costs of using natural materials are such that their use would not impose unreasonable additional costs on grazing permittees.

4. The construction or new improvements or replacement of deteriorated facilities in wilderness is permissible if in accordance with these guidelines and management plans governing the area involved. However, the construction of new improvements should be primarily for the purpose of resource protection and the more effective management of these resources rather than to accommodate increased numbers of livestock.

5. The use of motorized equipment for emergency purposes such as rescuing sick animals or the placement of feed in emergency situations is also permissible. This privilege is to be exercised only in true emergencies, and should not be abused by permittees.

In summary, subject to the conditions and policies outlined in this report, the general rule of thumb on grazing management in wilderness should be that activities or facilities established prior to the date of an area's designation as wilderness should be allowed to remain in place and may be replaced when necessary for the permittee to properly administer the grazing program. Thus, if livestock grazing activities and facilities were established in an area at the time Congress determined that the area was suitable for wilderness and placed the specific area in the wilderness system, they should be allowed to continue. With respect to areas designated as wilderness prior to the date of this Act, these guidelines shall not be considered as a direction to reestablish uses where such uses have been discontinued.



# Nevada's Protected Wild Places

Friends of Nevada Wilderness members worked on every  
legislative bill to designate Wilderness in Nevada.  
Here are the results:

## Nevada Wilderness designated in the Wilderness Act of 1964

signed into law On September 3, 1964

Jarvis Wilderness

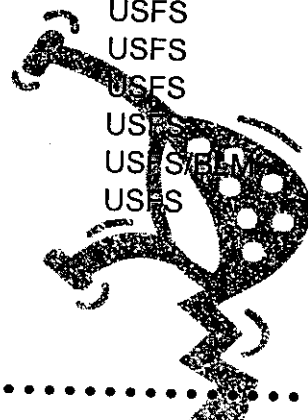
64,667 acres

USFS

## Nevada Wilderness designed in the Nevada Wilderness Protection Act of 1989

signed into law on December 5, 1989

Alta Toquima Wilderness	38,000 acres	USFS
Arc Dome Wilderness	115,000 acres	USFS
Boundary Peak Wilderness	10,000 acres	USFS
Currant Mountain Wilderness	36,000 acres	USFS
East Humboldt Wilderness	36,900 acres	USFS
Jarvis Wilderness Additions	48,500 acres	USFS
Mount Rose Wilderness	28,000 acres	USFS
Quinn Canyon Wilderness	27,000 acres	USFS
Ruby Mountain Wilderness	90,000 acres	USFS
Mount Charleston Wilderness	43,000 acres	USFS
Table Mountain Wilderness	98,000 acres	USFS
Grant Range Wilderness	50,000 acres	USFS
Mount Moriah Wilderness	82,000 acres	USFS
Santa Rosa Wilderness	31,000 acres	USFS





## Nevada Wilderness designed in the Black Rock Desert- High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area Act of 2000

signed into law December 21, 2000

Black Rock Desert Wilderness	315,700 acres	BLM
Pahute Peak Wilderness	57,400 acres	BLM
North Black Rock Range Wilderness	30,800 acres	BLM
East Fork High Rock Canyon Wilderness	52,800 acres	BLM
High Rock Lake Wilderness	59,300 acres	BLM
Little High Rock Canyon Wilderness	48,700 acres	BLM
High Rock Canyon Wilderness	46,600 acres	BLM
Calico Mountains Wilderness	65,400 acres	BLM
South Jackson Mountains Wilderness	56,800 acres	BLM
North Jackson Mountains Wilderness	24,000 acres	BLM

## Nevada Wilderness designated in Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002

signed into law on November 6, 2002

North McCullough Wilderness	14,763 acres	BLM
South McCullough Wilderness	44,245 acres	BLM
Wee Thump-Joshua Tree Wilderness	6,050 acres	BLM
El Dorado Wilderness	31,950 acres	NPS/BLM
Iretea Peaks Wilderness	32,745 acres	NPS/BLM
Jimbilnan Wilderness	18,879 acres	NPS
Nellis Wash Wilderness	16,423 acres	NPS
Spirit Mountain Wilderness	33,518 acres	NPS/BLM
Arrow Canyon Wilderness	27,530 acres	BLM
Bridge Canyon Wilderness	7,761 acres	NPS
Black Canyon Wilderness	17,220 acres	NPS/BLM
Pinto Valley Wilderness	39,173 acres	NPS
Muddy Mountains Wilderness	48,019 acres	BLM/NPS
Rainbow Mountain Wilderness	24,997 acres	USFS/BLM
Lime Canyon Wilderness	23,233 acres	BLM
Jumbo Springs Wilderness	4,631 acres	BLM
Mt. Charleston Additions	13,598 acres	USFS/BLM
La Madre Mountain Wilderness	47,180 acres	USFS/BLM

Total acres of Wilderness in Nevada: 2 million acres