

## **Forest Facts**

- The Forest Service was established in 1905 for the purpose of “providing for the greatest amount of good for the greatest amount of people in the long run”. Gifford Pinchot, first Chief of the Forest Service.
- The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.
- The most important project the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest provides are clean water and quality recreation opportunities.
- National Forest System lands are managed using a multiple-use approach.

## **Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Facts**

- 2.2 million acres spanning desert to high mountain peaks
- The oldest exposed rocks in Utah can be seen in outcrops near the mouth of Farmington Canyon.
- Jardine juniper trees found on the Logan Ranger District are over 1500 years old and are one of the oldest living trees in the Rocky Mountains.
- Where did the forest get its name?
  - Uinta – a Native American word meaning “pine tree” or “pine forest”
  - Wasatch- a Ute Indian word meaning “low place in high mountains”
  - Cache – a French word referring to the caves used by trappers to hide their furs
- A large portion of the drinking water for the Wasatch Front comes from adjacent canyons.
- Watershed management is an important and integral part of the forest. The forest manages 42 watersheds that deliver culinary, irrigation, and municipal water to neighboring communities.
- Wilderness is an area that is undeveloped and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive type of recreation.
- There are nine wilderness areas on the forest.
  - High Uintas Wilderness provides 545 miles of trail, and the highest summit in Utah (Kings Peak) that can be accessed from Kamas, Utah, and Evanston, Wyoming.
  - Mount Naomi Wilderness towers over Cache Valley with spectacular beauty and rugged landscape.
  - Wellsville Mountain Wilderness is located southwest of Logan in one of steepest mountain ranges in the Rockies.
  - Deseret Peak Wilderness is located in the Stansbury Mountains and is a favorite of hikers and equestrians.
  - Mount Olympus Wilderness, located southeast of Salt Lake City is a heavily visited destination for local residents.

- Twin Peaks Wilderness, southeast of Salt Lake City, has steep, rugged terrain, and is best accessed from Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons.
- Lone Peak Wilderness has very rugged terrain and strenuous trails and is a popular destination for local residents.
- Mount Nebo Wilderness is home to the highest peak in the Wasatch Mountain Range (Mt. Nebo) and beckons hikers, backpackers, and equestrians to explore its 23-mile trail system.
- Mount Timpanogos Wilderness is a favorite of photographers, with waterfalls, glacial cirques, rugged terrain, and wildflowers.
- There are six scenic byways on the forest to explore.
  - Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway – This 41 mile byway winds northeast through the national forest to Bear Lake spanning the Utah/Idaho border displaying unique geologic features.
  - Nebo Loop National Scenic Byway crosses the national forest between Nephi and Payson in a 38 mile route parallel to the Mount Nebo Wilderness.
  - Ogden River Scenic Byway follows a 44 mile route between Ogden and Woodruff that accesses excellent fishing and recreation destinations.
  - Big Cottonwood Canyon Scenic Byway is a breathtaking 15 mile corridor that offers views of spectacular alpine scenery.
  - Little Cottonwood Scenic Byway is a short 7 mile route that offers many year-round recreational opportunities.
  - Follow the 65 mile Mirror Lake Scenic Byway east from Kamas to Evanston, Wyoming and experience the rugged peaks of the High Uintas Wilderness.