

Lee Metcalf Wilderness-Specific Regulations

Wilderness managers often need to take action to limit the impacts caused by visitor activities in order to protect the natural conditions of wilderness as required by the Wilderness Act of 1964. Managers typically implement 'indirect' types of actions such as information and education measures before selecting more restrictive measures. When regulations are necessary, they are implemented with the specific intent of balancing the need to preserve the character of the wilderness while providing for the use and enjoyment of wilderness.

The following wilderness regulations are in effect for this area. Not all regulations are in effect for every wilderness. Contact the Forest Service for more specific information about the regulations listed.

AREA CLOSURE

The following acts are prohibited while occupying or using lands within the grizzly bear recovery zone in the Greater Yellowstone Area from April 1 through December 1: 1. possessing or leaving unattended any animal carcass unless the carcass is (a) at least 1/2 mile from any sleeping area, trail or recreation site or (b) at least 100 yards from any sleeping area, trail or recreation site and acceptably stored, or (c) being eaten, being prepared for eating or being transported; 2. possessing or leaving unattended any food during the period 1/2 hour after sunset until 1/2 hour before sunrise unless such food is (a) acceptably stored, (b) being eaten, being prepared for eating or being transported; 3. possessing any food during the period 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset unless it is (a) acceptably stored or (b) being attended and acceptable storage methods are present and can be shown to a Federal, State or local law enforcement officer; 4. camping within 1/2 mile of any animal carcass or within 100 yards of any acceptably stored animal carcass except when such carcass is being eaten, being prepared for eating, or being transported. "Food" means any nourishing substance, solid or liquid (excluding water and hay) or refuse thereof, that is not native to the immediate area, which is or may be eaten or otherwise taken into the body to sustain life, provide energy, or promote growth of any person or animal. "Acceptable storage" means: (a) stored in locked agency approved bear resistant container, (b) stored in a closed hardsided vehicle, (c) suspended at least 10 feet clear of the ground at all points and 4 feet horizontally from any supporting tree or pole. The grizzly bear recovery zone is described on maps which can be found at local Ranger District Offices.

CACHING OF EQUIPMENT PROHIBITED

Storing equipment, personal property or supplies is prohibited in the Lee Metcalf Wilderness.

CAMPFIRES PROHIBITED

LAVA LAKE : Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire or campfire (except camp stoves) is prohibited within 1/2 mile of Lava Lake, located in the Spanish Peaks Unit of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness.

CAMPSITE RESTRICTION - MANDATORY SETBACK FROM WATER : 200 FEET

Camping within 200 feet of any lake in the Lee Metcalf Wilderness is prohibited.

DISPOSING OF DEBRIS, GARBAGE PROHIBITED

Disposing of debris, garbage or other waste is prohibited.

MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE : 15 MEMBERS

Party size throughout the Lee Metcalf is limited to no more than 15 people per party. Larger groups must split into two or more smaller groups and camp a minimum of 1/2 mile apart.

MAXIMUM LENGTH OF STAY : 16 DAYS

Camping or otherwise occupying a single location for a period longer than 16 consecutive days is prohibited. The term "location" means the occupied undeveloped campsite and the lands within a five mile radius of the campsite. After leaving a location, a minimum of seven days is required before any group or person (s) from that group may reoccupy their original location.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF STOCK : 15 HEAD OF STOCK

SPANISH PEAKS UNIT : Using more than 15 head of stock in any group is prohibited in the Spanish Peaks Unit of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF STOCK : 20 HEAD OF STOCK

MONUMENT MOUNTAIN UNIT : Using more than 20 head of stock in any group is prohibited in the Monument Mountain Unit of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness.

TAYLOR HILGARD UNIT : Using more than 20 head of stock in any group is prohibited in the Taylor Hilgard Unit of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness.

SALTING PROHIBITED

Entering or being in the Lee Metcalf Wilderness in possession of or for the purpose of placement of salt for attracting wildlife is prohibited. Persons providing salt to pack and saddle stock in approved corrals or other approved livestock feeding locations in the immediate vicinity of camp are exempt from this provision.

SHORTCUTTING SWITCHBACKS PROHIBITED

Shortcutting a switchback in a trail is prohibited.

STOCK FEED RESTRICTED

Possessing, storing, or transporting forage except for certified pelletized feed, grains or certified weed free hay is prohibited. All feed, straw, hay must be certified as weed seed free by an authorized Federal, State or County Officer. Each individual bale or container must be tagged or labeled as weed seed free and reference the written certification.

STOCK USE RESTRICTION - MANDATORY SETBACK FROM WATER : 200

FEET

Hitching, tethering, or picketing horses or other livestock in violation of posted trailhead instructions, within 200 feet of a lake or 100 feet of a stream or free-flowing water is prohibited.

STOCK USE RESTRICTION - NO FREE TRAILING

Free trailing of pack or saddle stock is prohibited.

WAGON, CART OR OTHER VEHICLES PROHIBITED

Possessing or using a wagon, cart, bicycle or other vehicle (including game carts) is prohibited. Persons using a wheelchair as a necessary medical appliance are exempt from this prohibition.