

**File Code:** 2320**Date:** April 30, 2018**Route To:****Subject:** Organized Group Permits: Bridger Wilderness**To:** Permit Applicant

Dear Permit Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in visiting the Bridger Wilderness. Enclosed you will find an application for a free visitor permit. Permits are required for all organized groups (church, scouts and clubs), sponsored, and commercial groups for day trips and overnight trips inside the wilderness. In addition visitor permits are required for visitors using any type of pack or saddle stock for overnight trips inside the wilderness. Permits for wilderness use are granted on a first come, first serve basis. Please complete the enclosed application and return it to our office as soon as possible to avoid scheduling conflicts. Colleges, universities, groups for which a fee is paid for participation or groups with paid leaders must have their applications in our office at least 45 calendar days in advance of your scheduled departure date to receive consideration. All other groups must have their applications in our office at least 15 calendar days in advance of your scheduled departure date.

Please note that group size is limited to 15 individuals and 25 stock. This regulation is strictly enforced to protect the wilderness resource. If this presents a conflict with your current group size you may split up into smaller groups. Each group will then need to submit a separate application with a separate itinerary that adhere to the following requirements:

- **Each group must either leave from a separate trailhead OR leave from the same trailhead a minimum of two hours apart**
- **Each camp location on the trip itinerary must be at least 2 miles away from the associated group(s)**
- **Groups must not meet or pass each other during any portion of their trip (including having two groups hiking reverse directions on a loop hike)**

Great backcountry experiences, beautiful scenery, solitude and spectacular fishing are also available on our National Forest outside designated wilderness where group size limits do not apply.

The Bridger Wilderness receives a high amount of use during the summer and fall seasons. We strive to provide quality wilderness experiences for all visitors by promoting solitude and minimizing impacts to wilderness resources. Please note the following specified areas in the wilderness where organized groups will **not** be permitted to **camp**. These areas traditionally receive a higher amount of use and/or do not have the topography to provide low impact or legal campsites for larger groups. Please **do not** apply for campsites at the following locations:



Eklund Lake	Arrowhead Lake	Titcomb Basin	Clark Lake
Barbara Lake	Seneca Lake	Three Forks Park	North Lake
Hobbs Lake	Little Seneca Lake	Peak Lake	Glimpse Lake

**Due to high demand and very limited campsites, you may apply for ONE NIGHT ONLY in the following locations:**

Ethel Lake  
Island Lake

Should you apply to camp at areas where there has already been a visitor permit issued, my staff will contact you and discuss alternate campsite locations. You may wish to make a note of additional locations and trailheads you are interested in while applying.

We appreciate your time in completing this application and your willingness to meet our permit requirements. If you need any assistance or have any questions about the Bridger Wilderness or the Pinedale Ranger District, please contact my office at (307) 367-4326.

Sincerely,



ROB HOELSCHER  
District Ranger