

# Wilderness Areas

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lake Mead National Recreation Area



## Celebrating 50 Years of American Wilderness

Designated wilderness is the highest level of conservation protection for federal lands



Muddy Mountains Wilderness Area (NPS Photo by Andy Cattoir)

### The Wilderness Act



The Wilderness Act, signed into law Sept. 3, 1964, created the National Wilderness Preservation System and recognized wilderness as 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.

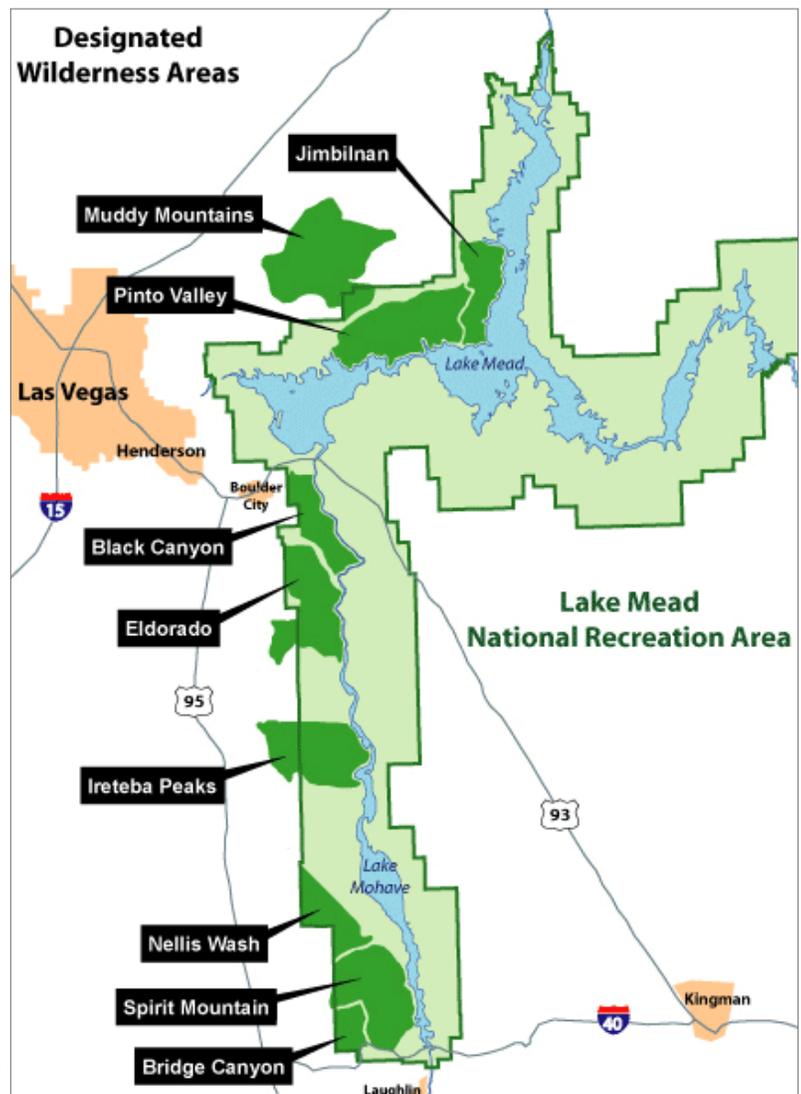
[WWW.NPS.GOV/LAKE/WILDERNESS50.HTM](http://WWW.NPS.GOV/LAKE/WILDERNESS50.HTM)

### Wilderness in National Parks

- 757 Wilderness Areas
- 109,511,966 Acres
- Visitors can have their own experiences wherever they live
- Wilderness experiences range from hiking to exploring online videos and enjoying clean drinking water

### Lake Mead NRA Wilderness

- 9 designated wilderness areas
- 185,080 acres designated wilderness
- 342,068 acres of suitable wilderness



# Recreate in the Wild



## Wilderness is everyone's to enjoy and share

Wilderness areas are managed by encouraging primitive recreation, minimal tool allowances and enhancing the naturalness of an area. At Lake Mead NRA, people are welcome to hike, camp, hunt, fish and horseback ride with minor restrictions.

## Leave No Trace Principles

### Plan Ahead and Prepare

Travel and camp on durable surfaces

Dispose of waste properly

Leave what you find

Minimize campfire impacts

Respect wildlife

Be considerate to other visitors



## Wilderness is closer than you think

Enjoying wilderness doesn't have to mean a long road trip. Some of Lake Mead's most beautiful wilderness areas are only 30 miles from Las Vegas. Spirit Mountain is less than 15 miles from Laughlin, Nev., and Bullhead City, Ariz.

*Motorized vehicles and bicycles are only allowed on approved backcountry roads signed with a yellow arrow. Many roads provide access to wilderness areas.*

## Jimbilnan

Size: 18,900 acres

Location: Nevada

Managed By: NPS

Mountainous terrain and colorful sand dunes with the rare Beaver Dam milkvetch and sticky buckwheat.

## Muddy Mountains

Size: 3,550 acres

Location: Nevada

Managed By: NPS and BLM

Shadowy slot canyons, mind-bending geological formations and expansive views of Lake Mead with creosote bush, black brush, yucca, Joshua tree and desert willow.

## Pinto Valley

Size: 39,330 acres

Location: Nevada

Managed By: NPS

Guardian Peak, rugged hills and scenic valleys with the rare Las Vegas bear poppy plant.

## Black Canyon

Size: 17,320 acres

Location: Nevada

Managed By: NPS

Mostly formed by volcanism, this area contains remnants of past mining, petroglyphs, lithic scatters.

## Eldorado

Size: 26,220 acres

Location: Nevada

Managed By: NPS and BLM

A web of peaks and side canyons with craggy cliffs and a prime desert bighorn sheep habitat.

## Ireteba Peaks

Size: 22,200 acres

Location: Nevada

Managed By: NPS and BLM

Rugged mountains, secluded valleys and flat alluvial fans with teddy bear cholla, desert tortoise and Townsend's west-ern big-eared bats.

## Nellis Wash

Size: 16,680 acres

Location: Nevada

Managed By: NPS

Fingerlike drainages and alluvial fans extend eastward from the mountains toward Lake Mohave. Some mining occurred in the area.

## Spirit

## Mountain

Size: 32,990 acres

Location: Nevada

Managed By: NPS and BLM

A place held sacred by the Native American people from this area. The mountain plays a prominent role in the religion of the Yuman speaking tribes of the lower Colorado River. They believe it is their spiritual birthplace.

## Bridge

## Canyon

Size: 7,890 acres

Location: Nevada

Managed By: NPS

Imposing mountains with rugged granite boulders, steep canyons and intermittent springs with cottonwood trees, petroglyphs and desert bighorn sheep.