Area Description

The Mount Stirling Wilderness Study Area (WSA) is located about 45 air miles west of Las Vegas. Its 69,650 acres cover the northernmost portion of the Spring Mountain Range and is jointly managed by the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service. With abundant natural beauty and pockets of cultural resources, the Mount Stirling WSA is a place where the high desert truly comes to life.

Marked by intensely rugged terrain, dense vegetation, and forest cover, the Mount Stirling WSA provides endless settings for solitude and enjoyment of the outdoors. Rich in both natural and cultural history, adventurous visitors may encounter one of the charcoal kilns listed in the National Register of Historic Places in the southern portion of the WSA.

A keen eye may spot Rocky Mountain Elk in the region, as the only herd in Clark County makes part of its home in the WSA. To the north, two corrals and a developed spring are among the few visible impacts of human presence in the area. As the mountains relent, the land runs out toward the northern border of the WSA across a broad bajada.

Directions

The Mount Stirling WSA is located east of the junction of U.S. Highway 95 and State Highway 160. Wheeler Wash Road provides access along the south-southeast boundary from Pahrump, Nevada. Butch Cassidy Pass provides access to the western border of the WSA, which runs south along the base of the Spring Mountain Range.

Recreation

Ambitious hikers will find spectacular views from atop Wheeler Peak and Mount Stirling itself. Striking views can also be found from the rugged outcroppings and numerous drainages throughout the Mount Stirling WSA. Inquisitive visitors will delight in the exploration of fossil formations, petroglyph sites, pine nut milling, encampment sites, and charcoal kilns.

Maps

USGS 7.5 Quadrangle Maps: Mount Schrader, Mount Stirling, Willow Peak, Horse Springs, Wheeler Well.

Additional Information

- Please limit group sizes to 12 members.
- Maximum length of stay: 14 days.
- Campfires are allowed, except during regional fire restrictions. Visitors are encouraged to only use camp stoves.
- Non-commercial hunting and trapping is permitted subject to applicable state regulation.
- Other than incidental browsing, riding and pack stock animals may be fed only packed-in, certified, weed-free feed.
Mount Stirling Wilderness Study Area

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