

AMERICAN FORK CANYON and the ALPINE LOOP SCENIC BACKWAY



United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Intermountain Region
Uinta National Forest



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Timpanogos Cave National Monument

WELCOME

Welcome to the Uinta National Forest and Timpanogos Cave National Monument.

The following passes are available for purchase at the entrance stations and self-service fee tubes:

The Uinta National Forest is located in the Wasatch Mountains, about 45 minutes south of metropolitan Salt Lake City. American Fork Canyon is one of the most beautiful canyons and scenic drives in northern Utah. From the 11,750 ft. Mt. Timpanogos to the flowing waters of Cascade Springs, the area has something for everyone.

3 Day.....	\$3.00
14 Day.....	\$10.00
12 Month.....	\$25.00

Golden Eagle, Golden Age, and Golden Access passports are honored. Campground and cave tour fees are separate.

The American Fork Canyon—Alpine Loop Scenic Backway is more popular than ever. It is estimated that over a million people visit the canyon annually. Due to heavy use, the recreational areas and natural and cultural resources of the canyon are being impacted. As part of the Recreation Fee Demonstration Project, the fees collected at the entrance stations remain in the area to improve visitor services, maintain recreation facilities, enhance wildlife habitat, and protect natural resources.



Timpanogos Cave National Monument

Surrounded by the Uinta National Forest, Timpanogos Cave National Monument contains three small, but highly decorated limestone caves. National Park Rangers conduct interpretive tours through the three interconnected caves.

credit card by calling 801-756-5238. Advance tickets may also be purchased at the visitor center. The day of the tour, tickets may be purchased until the tours are sold out.

The caves are open daily for frequent tours, usually from mid-May through October. The caves are closed when snow makes hiking to them difficult and dangerous. Tour tickets may be purchased up to 30 days in advance with a

To reach Timpanogos Cave, visitors hike 1.5 miles of mountain trail. The hard-surfaced trail rises 1,065 feet and is a strenuous hike. For visitor's safety, pets and wheeled vehicles (including baby strollers) are not allowed on the trail. Allow 3 hours for the round trip and come prepared with a light jacket (cave temperatures are forty-five degrees) and plenty of drinking water.



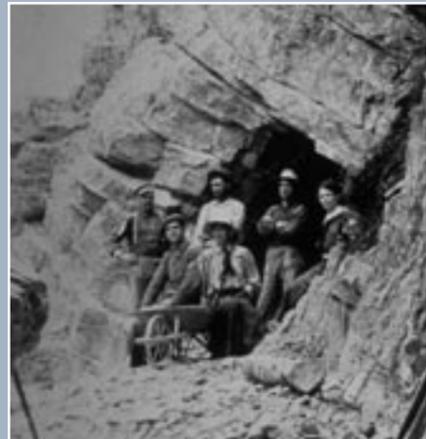
Brochures, books, exhibits, orientation film, and restrooms are available.

A snack bar and gift shop, located next to the visitor center, are open during the cave tour season. The snack bar sells sandwiches, beverages, and snacks. The gift shop sells film, sweatshirts, and other gifts.

For more information write: Timpanogos Cave National Monument, R.R. 3 Box 200, American Fork, Utah 84003; or call 801-756-5239. You can also learn more about the park at <http://www.nps.gov/tica/>.

History of American Fork Canyon

For 8,000 years, Native Americans from Utah Valley collected essential mountain plants and animals, and held ceremonies in the canyon. After 1850, pioneers depended on its water, livestock, forage, and timber. An 1871 mining boom changed the canyon most, when dozens of lead and silver mines swung into operation. Miners operated a railroad to Tibble Fork in the 1870's, and later built a 4-mile long aerial tram down to Tibble Fork that carried ore (and miners) 1,000 feet above the canyon floor. Some mines operated until the 1950's. Recreation became the canyon's main attraction in the 1930's, when young men from the Civilian Conservation Corps built its campgrounds and picnic areas.



SEASONS OF THE CANYON . . . *The Uinta National Forest's scenic beauty offers recreational opportunities any season of the year*

Spring

PLANTS AND FLOWERS: As you drive through the canyon you will notice the diverse plant life. In the lower portions of the canyon, oak and maple dominate the slopes as well as mahogany, cliffrose, bitterbrush and other shrub species. As you travel up the canyon, you will see more aspen, especially in the open, rolling country at mid-levels. The canyon is home to several rare plant species including the King woody aster, with its delicate pinkish-white

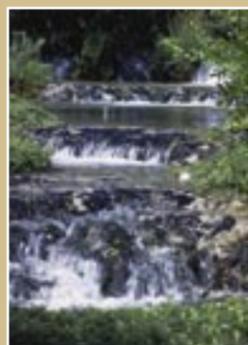
daisy-like flowers and the Wasatch Jamesia, a shrub with white flowers and foliage that drapes over the edges of the rocks.

WILDLIFE: The diverse environment in the canyon provides a great variety of wildlife habitat. Mule deer, moose, snowshoe hares, red squirrels, marmots and a variety of songbirds and raptors can often be seen from roadside overlooks and short walks along trails. You may even get to see a rare animal in Utah, the mountain goat.



CASCADE SPRINGS: Cascade Springs is located 7.5 miles off the Alpine Scenic Loop. This beautiful site consists of a leisurely walk along redwood boardwalks over springs cascading down the mountain slope in a series of limestone terraces and pools.

Although closed to fishing, brown trout can be easily seen in the clear spring fed pools.



Summer

CAMPING: Each campground site offers a table, grill, and access to water and restrooms during the summer. Some sites are first come, first serve, others are reservable by calling 1-877-444-6777, TDD 877-833-6777, or www.ReserveUSA.com on the Internet. All campgrounds have a fee. Group sites are available by reservation.

PICNIC AREAS: Picnic areas are available on a first come, first serve basis at Swinging Bridge, located at Timpanogos Cave National Monument,



and along North Fork, Route 114 to Tibble Fork Reservoir. All picnic sites have tables, grills, water and restrooms. Picnicking fees for these areas are included with the entrance fee.



Mountain biking, horseback riding and hiking trail maps are available at the Pleasant Grove Ranger Station and Timpanogos Cave National Monument's visitor center.

Autumn

Alpine Scenic Loop

During the fall the Alpine Loop Scenic Backway offers a unique photo opportunity with its brilliant colors. The 20-mile Alpine Loop offers stupendous views of Mt. Timpanogos and other glacier carved peaks. The narrow, winding route follows Highway 92 up American Fork Canyon and then continues on U.S. 189 through Provo Canyon. Entirely paved, the Alpine Scenic Loop is open from late May to mid-October, snow closes part of the road the rest of the year. It is recommended that motorhomes and trailers more than 30 feet long not travel the road.

There are opportunities for off-road vehicles on designated routes. Please check road conditions with the Pleasant Grove Ranger Station, road conditions change with inclement weather.

Hunting and Fishing

Hunting and fishing licenses are required for American Fork Canyon. Please check with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources for licenses and hunting regulations. Thousands of hatchery reared rainbow trout are stocked yearly in American Fork River, and Tibble Fork and Silver Lake Flat Reservoirs. The Pittsburgh, Silver and Silver Glance lakes offer an alpine setting with limited trout fishing. Native cutthroat trout are present in some waters and can be recognized from other trout by the red slashes under their jaws. The release of all cutthroat is encouraged.

Wilderness Areas

American Fork Canyon-Alpine Loop is home to two wilderness areas, Mt. Timpanogos and Lone Peak. We highly recommend visiting one of these two areas for a wilderness experience. You will find a primitive area without roads or other human-made features. Help us protect these beautiful areas by using a backpacking stove, staying on the trails, and respecting the space of animals. Mountain bikes and other mechanized vehicles or equipment is prohibited.



CROSS COUNTRY SKIING: Little Mill and Granite Flat campgrounds have groomed cross country skiing trails.

Check with local avalanche forecast centers (801-364-1581) for avalanche information.

Winter is a good time to catch a glance of the mountain goat. A nice viewing spot is the high cliffs above the parking lots of Timpanogos Cave National Monument.

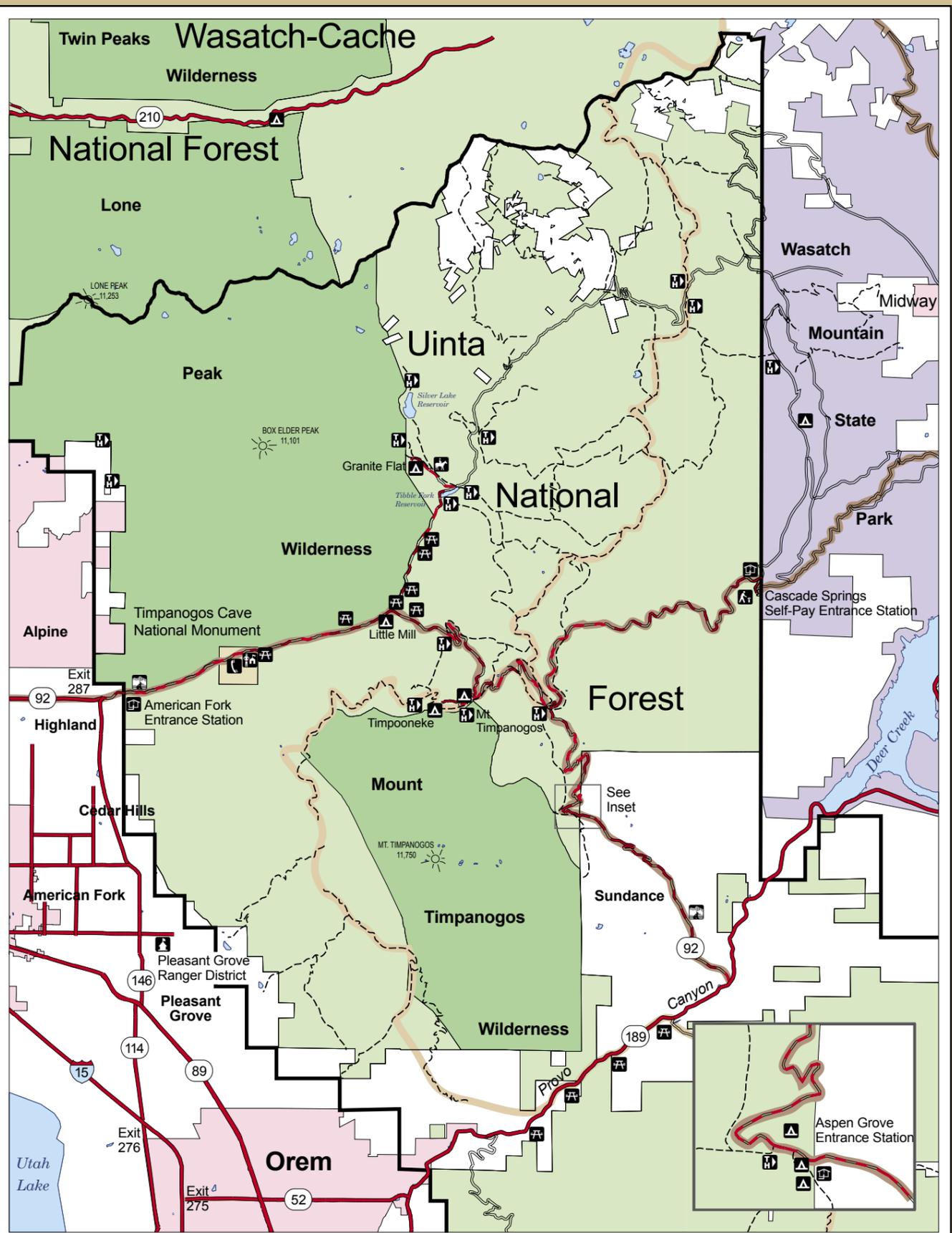
Winter

SNOWMOBILING: Snowmobile trails through Mineral Basin and Cascade Springs Road are groomed regularly throughout the winter.

A few campground sites are open for winter camping, no fee is charged at the campgrounds but a permit from the Pleasant Grove Ranger Station is required for overnight camping.

For Your Information

- ◆ Please enjoy and preserve the beauty of the canyon by keeping all sites clean. Protect resources by staying on designated roads and trails, packing out all trash, and respecting the vegetation, wildlife, and archaeological/historic sites.
- ◆ No fireworks of any kind are permitted on National Forest System or Park Service lands.
- ◆ Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness and the Silver Lake Basin of Lone Peak Wilderness are under year-round fire closure. No campfires or use of charcoal briquettes are allowed. Camp and backpack stoves are permitted. Be aware of fire restrictions before building a campfire.
- ◆ Please camp in designated campgrounds and use Leave No Trace practices.
- ◆ Recreation, wilderness and travel maps available at visitor center.
- ◆ When bringing livestock to the canyon, please use only weed free hay or forage during your visit.



American Fork Canyon - Alpine Loop Recreation Area Uinta National Forest - Timpanogos Cave National Monument - Wasatch Mtn. State Park

Uinta National Forest Boundary	Ranger District Office	Scenic Byway
Primary Highway	Entrance Station	Interpretive Site
Paved Road Within Recreation Area	Public Phone	Uinta National Forest
Dirt Road Within Recreation Area	Visitors Center	USDA Forest Service Wilderness
Trail	Campground	Timpanogos Cave National Monument
Great Western Trail	Picnic Site	State
Scenic Backway	Trailhead	Other Lands
	Horse Transfer Station	City Limits

Cover photo by Steven D. Garrett.

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