**FOR ALL CUSTOMERS: WILDERNESS ETIQUETTE AND LEAVE NO TRACE**

Wilderness provides a unique and wild experience for most of us, but our responsibilities as outdoor enthusiasts have changed from earlier days because of an increasing population, increased use in wilderness areas and an increased awareness of our impacts to these wild places. Backcountry visitors are coming to the realization that some of our favorite spots in the wilderness are being “loved to death”. The “Leave No Trace” ethic you project as a wilderness visitor may influence the wild nature of wilderness along with the behavior of other visitors. Leave No Trace is a set of principles and practices developed by instructors of the National Outdoor Leadership School in conjunction with the U.S. Forest Service. These practices will help to minimize the impacts we see in our favorite areas of wilderness.

Leave No Trace information is also available at many commercial recreation equipment and tack outlets, and the Wallowa Mountains Visitor Center offers videos, slide shows and printed materials. The information below describes some of these principles and practices. For more information, see the pamphlet, “Pacific Northwest Skills and Ethics” available from the National Outdoor Leadership School and Leave No Trace, Inc.

**Plan Ahead and Prepare:**

* Get information about your trip and route of travel from land managers.
* Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you plan to visit, purchase a map.
* Repackage food into reusable and lightweight containers
* Proper planning and preparation will reduce impacts on the ground.

**Travel:**

* In high use areas, walk or ride on established trails when possible.
* Prevent erosion, trail widening and/or multiple trails from forming by using existing tread.
* Please don’t cut across switchbacks.
* In remote areas, prevent the development of trails by traveling cross-country.
* When passing a large group or pack string, pull off the trail on the downhill side.
* If traveling with dogs, keep them under control at all times.

**Campsites: “A Good Campsite is Found, Not Made!”**

* A good campsite is found, not made. Use existing campsites in high use areas, 100+ feet from lakes, streams or trails.
* Choose sites that are well-drained such as: dry grass, exposed bedrock and sandy areas.
* In very remote areas, spread activities out (tents, kitchen, etc.); move camp each night.
* Camp at least 100 feet away from watering holes, lakes, and if possible, streams.
* Naturalize the campsite before you leave:
	+ Remove all structures such as meat poles, extra fire rings, hitching rails, etc.

**Fishing and Hunting:**

* In high use areas, bury fish entrails in a cat hole, away from campsite.
* If fishing for just the day, clean the fish at home.
* In remote areas, fish entrails can be spread widely, out of sight.
* If you are a hunter, field dress game animals well away from trails, water and campsite.

**Pack It In, Pack It Out:**

* Pack out everything you brought in with you.
* Protect your food and wildlife by storing rations securely.
* Remember: Aluminum Foil won’t burn completely and animals dig up burned trash.

**Sanitation 200 feet from Streams:**

* Bury human waste in holes 6 – 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp and trails.
* Cover and disguise used cat holes. Do not leave used toilet paper on the ground.
* Bathe and wash at least 200 feet from all water sources. Use only small amounts of biodegradable soap.
* Scatter dishwater away from lakes and streams after all food particles have been removed.

**Campfires:**

* Stoves may be the best option. Campfires, fire rings, and wood collection can scar the back country. Some areas are now closed to campfires due to heavy use and the impacts caused by gathering firewood.
* If you choose to build a fire, use an established fire ring.
* If no fire ring exists, use a fire pan, a fire cloth, or build a mound fire.
* Collect only dead and down wood, or bring your own. Burn wood entirely.
* Remove unburned trash from the fire ring and pack it out.

**Leave What You Find:**

* Allow others a sense of discovery by leaving rocks, plants, and archeological artifacts where you find them.
* Avoid damaging live trees by not hammering nails into trees or hacking at them.

**FOR OUR HUNTERS:**

Cornucopia Wilderness Lodge, LLC cannot guarantee any hunter a successful hunt. Big game’s movement, weather, and the hunter’s ability are all beyond our ability to control. We will work very hard to provide you with an enjoyable hunt but hunting the game is up to you. We cannot always change the date you are booked to go into, or come out from, the hunting camp. Just leaving a message asking to come out early is not always within our ability to do. Get confirmation before you count on changing your dates.

The designated packer for each trip is responsible for the safety of equipment and livestock on his/her trip. His/her decision is final. This is especially important in the decision of how to remove harvested animals from particular areas. Also be aware that horseback riding in the dark is require during some of our hunts, due to the distances to be covered and shortness of daylight hours.

Cell phone coverage is very limited in our operating area, so do not plan on using cell phones for communications during your hunt. Rent a satellite phone to increase your ability to contact us.