

## **Human-Powered Travel in** Wilderness Areas Act

Congress passed The Wilderness Act of 1964 to secure an enduring resource for present and future generations of Americans. The Act prohibits motor vehicles, motorized equipment, and other forms of mechanical transport. Human-powered travel was not explicitly banned in the statute. However, the Department of Interior has incorrectly interpreted the Wilderness Act to include a ban on humanpowered travel, such as bicycles, strollers, and game carts. Utah is host to hundreds of thousands of acres of wilderness with endless options for recreation across vast landscapes. Many of these areas are remote and difficult to access without the assistance of human-powered travel.

Senator Lee introduced the Human-Powered Travel in Wilderness Areas Act so that people can fully enjoy recreation opportunities in Utah and America's pristine wilderness areas. This legislation reaffirms that the Wilderness Act was never intended to restrict nonmotorized travel. The bill also empowers local officials to determine whether, where, and when to allow nonmotorized travel in areas within their jurisdiction, ensuring flexibility for access and environmental stewardship.

## **Bill Specifics**

- This legislation amends the Wilderness Act to allow human-powered nonmotorized travel in wilderness areas on permitted routes.
- It grants local officials the authority to determine permissible forms of nonmotorized travel over permitted routes within their jurisdiction. Local officials may set rules to prevent undue environmental impacts, including party sizes, speed limits, and seasonal restrictions.