



OLD-GROWTH FOREST NETWORK

Tony Grove Recreation Area & Mount Naomi Wilderness get nationally recognized for beauty and biodiversity

Logan, Utah,—The Tony Grove Recreation Area & Mount Naomi Wilderness are being nationally recognized for their beauty and biodiversity by being formally inducted into the Old-Growth Forest Network during a ceremony at the backcountry trailhead on Tony Grove Lake Road at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 27th, 2025.

Community and media members are invited to attend the brief ceremony with remarks by Bridgerland Audubon Society and Old-Growth Forest Network staff. The ceremony will be followed by a 30-minute relaxing forest bathing activity with the Old-Growth Forest Network.

Tony Grove Lake Recreation Area and Mount Naomi Wilderness Trailhead are located 19 miles from Logan, Utah, to the northeast on US Highway 89. From the turnoff to Tony Grove Lake, drive about 7 miles. Free parking is available at the backcountry trailhead below the campground. Additional parking is available for a fee at the Tony Grove Lake Day Use Area at the end of the road.

Prior to the dedication on Sunday, the Old-growth Forest Network will give a presentation about their work and how Utah volunteers can help at the Stokes Nature Center at 11:00 am – 12:00pm on Saturday, July 26th as part of their Canyon Conversations Series. All are welcome. [RSVP here](#).

The Tony Grove Recreation Area & Mount Naomi Wilderness are the 2nd location to be recognized in the state of Utah for outstanding old-growth forest qualities and will join more than 300 forests nationwide recognized in the Old-Growth Forest Network. The Network's goal is to identify and ensure the preservation and recognition of at least one forest in every forested county in the United States, creating a roadmap of family-friendly hikes that showcase the beauty, complexity and diversity of our nation's oldest forests. A full list and map of OGFN forests may be viewed at www.oldgrowthforest.net.

“ Often referred to as the "Crown Jewel" of the US Forest Service Logan Ranger District, Tony Grove has a long list of superlatives. At 8000 feet elevation with soaring glacial carved cliffs above a beautiful subalpine lake wearing a resplendent garland of wildflowers, the Crown Jewel title is well deserved. Old-growth spruce and fir forests with pockets of aspen add to the rich tapestry of life it has to offer.”— Former Wilderness Ranger Jack Greene

"Tony Grove is cool in every sense of the word and a feast for all the senses: the temperature is cool due to the high elevation and the moist soils, and there's nothing cooler than the breathtaking expanse of rich blue sky, densely forested mountain sides, the sparkling-blue lake, and endless fields of colorful wildflowers hosting butterflies and hummingbirds. From the eye-catching bright yellow Monkeyflower to the charming pink miniature Elephantheads, and by way of the distinctive, helmet-shaped deep purple flowers of Monkshood, this mountain meadow ecosystem is abuzz with intricate entertaining features and rich folklore," says Hilary Shughart of the local Bridgerland Audubon Society. Indeed, another cool fact is that old-growth forests store carbon and help lower surface temperatures of the Earth.



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The Tony Grove area includes the [National Champion Engelmann Spruce](#) estimated to be between 400 and 800 years old, and a close runner up. With over 12 system trails totaling approximately 73 miles, including the Mount Naomi National Recreation Trail, and an ADA-accessible picnic area at the lake, this area provides inspiration and recreation opportunities for all abilities.

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For more information, please contact:

Bridgerland Audubon Society: Hilary Shughart, Board President – <https://bridgerlandaudubon.org/>

Old-Growth Forest Network: Ashley Martens, Intermountain West Regional Manager, 208-883-4998 or ashley@oldgrowthforest.net.