

Brigham Young University
M.L. Bean Life Science Museum – Department of Biology and
College of Life Sciences Scheduling Information, Use Policies and
Procedures, and Fee Schedules For the Lytle Ranch Preserve Approved
and Implemented: 15 September 2010; Amended: 11 October 2018

Mission Statement:

The Lytle Ranch Preserve is a field station located at the convergence of the Great Basin, Colorado Plateau, and Mojave Desert bio-geographical regions. This unique convergence of life zones together with flowing water endows the preserve with an unusually rich biodiversity. The preserve is dedicated to providing students, scientists, and visitors with an opportunity to experience the flora, fauna, and ecological complexities of this living system. Brigham Young University is committed to the care and preservation of this natural resource so that future generations can enjoy and experience firsthand the biological and historical features of the Lytle Ranch Preserve.

This document defines the policies, procedures, and fees related to the scheduling and use of the Lytle Ranch Preserve (hereafter “preserve”) and/or its resources. Entities in these categories include but may not be limited to:

1. Birding and other nature groups
 - a. Day visitors
 - b. Overnight visitors (campgrounds only)
2. Educational groups – secondary and higher education
 - a. BYU – College of Life Sciences faculty and/or students
 - b. BYU – Outside of the College of Life Sciences faculty and/or students
 - c. Non-BYU groups
3. Researchers
 - a. BYU – College of Life Sciences faculty and/or students
 - b. BYU – Outside of the College of Life Sciences faculty and/or students
 - c. Non-BYU researchers

General guidelines for visiting/staying at the Preserve

1. Other than day visitors, all individuals/groups must make reservations prior to using the preserve. All reservations must be made at www.mlbean.byu.edu/lytle. Facilities cannot be scheduled more than six months in advance. All requests must be reviewed and approved by the preserve coordinator, who has oversight responsibility for all users. Please allow at least 48 hours for a response to any online use request.
2. **All visitors** must check in and out with the on-site preserve manager – Heriberto Madrigal:
 - a. All visitors – are responsible for reviewing key elements of the use document and read and sign a general liability waiver. These forms are available at

www.mlbean.byu.edu/lytle.

- b. Day visitors – are responsible for determining any issues or access limitations for the day.
 - c. Scheduled visitors – are responsible for becoming oriented to the preserve and its resources, performance expectations, and any access-related issues.
3. All visitors to the preserve are expected to:
- a. Use developed paths and roads
 - b. Haul out or properly bag* and deposit all garbage in the garbage dump trailer before departure. Do not place **any** un-bagged garbage in the dump trailer. **Note: If possible, please haul out what you haul in – that will save on garbage disposal-related expenses to the preserve.**
*Secured in heavy duty plastic garbage bags
 - c. Abstain from using any tobacco products or alcoholic beverages
 - d. Abstain from using illegal drugs
 - e. Adhere to posted rules related to use of all facilities
 - f. Properly clean all indoor areas as per posted instructions and pick up garbage and debris from outside areas during visit.
4. Use of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV) by non-BYU visitors to the preserve is not permitted . BYU employees or students using ATVs, at a minimum, shall comply with state law and the College of Life Sciences field safety manual. In addition, DOT-approved helmets for all riders, regardless of age, must be used when operating an ATV. No tandem riding is allowed as per manufacturer's instructions. No other individuals accessing the property shall be allowed to use BYU ATVs or bring their own ATVs to be used on the property.
5. No firearms allowed – the only exceptions are:
- a. The on-site manager
 - b. Lytle research scientists, when the use of a firearm is a required element of their research program which has been reviewed and approved by the BYU Office of Research and Creative Activity and the Campus Police.
6. Open Water: There are open reservoirs as well as an open stream bed on the preserve. Swimming, floating or boating is not allowed. Horseplay around open water is also prohibited.
7. Travel Restrictions: BYU's travel policy prohibits BYU employees and students from driving between the hours of 12:00 am and 6:00 am. If research-related travel on the preserve property is required during hours restricted by the University's travel policy, an approved exemption should be obtained.
8. Fires are allowed only in fire pits located in designated camping areas. During certain times of the year, fires may be prohibited (consult the manager)
9. Camp only in approved areas (check with the preserve manager for details)
10. Park only in designated areas (check with the preserve manager for details)

11. No collecting of biological or cultural resources is allowed without permission from the administration of the M. L. Bean Life Science Museum (MLBM). In addition, all appropriate permits are required as dictated by local, state and/or federal authorities.
12. No hunting is allowed on the preserve.
13. There are dogs on the preserve for security purposes and dogs traveling with visitors often cause difficulties. Therefore, no dogs are allowed on the preserve without prior approval.
14. Photos are allowed. If images of the preserve are published or electronically posted, the preserve must be acknowledged.
15. Historically, various crop plants have been cultivated on the preserve. Today, the preserve has fruit and nut trees as well as a limited amount of hay and other field crops. These cash crops are used to help cover some of the expenses at the preserve. If a visit to the preserve coincides with the ripening of some of the fruits or nuts, visitors are welcome to pick a limited amount for a modest fee. Please check with the preserve manager for details.
16. Do not tamper with research plots or equipment/infrastructure.
17. Campers are typically limited to no more than seven nights per visit.
18. Quiet hours are from 11:00 pm to 6:00 am
19. Preserve hours of operation are 6:00 am to 9:00 pm
20. Be **conscientious** and **conservative** with the use of electricity and water!

Preserve Facilities (Check schedule for user categories and approved fees):

The Lytle Ranch Preserve, located in southwestern Utah, **is a remote field station with limited communication options**. It is owned and operated by Brigham Young University. The MLBM has direct administrative responsibility for the preserve and is responsible for scheduling and coordinating all activities. The preserve coordinator is Skip Skidmore (801-422-4621 or 801-857-4336 or wesley_skidmore@byu.edu). All scheduling of visitors to the preserve is handled online at www.mlbean.byu.edu/lytle.

The preserve has a full-time on-site manager – Heriberto Madrigal. Visitors who fail to follow preserve rules and meet general performance expectations will forfeit their access to preserve facilities.

Preserve Scheduling priorities are:

1. BYU College of Life Sciences personnel and students
2. Other BYU groups
3. Non-BYU groups

This prioritization is on a first- come-first serve basis. All facilities must be scheduled online (www.mlbean.byu.edu/lytle) at least one week in advance. Facility fees must be paid in full prior to Lytle visit or the reservation will be cancelled.

Campgrounds:

The preserve has a small camping area with three camp sites, a small group pavilion, and **shared**

access to the bathroom facilities near the preserve manager’s residence – **Note:** Scheduling of the campground **does not include** access to either the “Bunkhouse” or “Pit” facilities. These facilities are scheduled separately. Please plan accordingly. The three campground sites can accommodate a total of about 20-30 people.

The preserve also has two indoor facilities:

The “Bunkhouse”: The “Bunkhouse” provides sleeping accommodations for as many as 24 people with **separate** male and female sleeping areas (12 people in each) and bathrooms. **Note:** By BYU university policy, there is **no** shared use of the sleeping spaces or bathrooms by men and women. ***This expectation will be strictly enforced.*** **Guests must provide** their own bedding and toiletries. The “Bunkhouse” also includes a kitchen, a commons area, a classroom/lab, a pantry, and a wash room. Rules for use of the “Bunkhouse” and cleaning expectations are posted in the facility.

The “Pit”: The “Pit” provides sleeping accommodations for as many as four people. **Note:** By university policy, there is **no** shared use of the “Pit” facility by men and women. ***This expectation will be strictly enforced.*** **Guests must provide** their own bedding and toiletries. The “Pit” also includes a kitchenette and a small bathroom. Rules for use of the “Pit” and cleaning expectations are posted in the facility.

Lytle Ranch Preserve

User Categories, Scheduling Priorities, and Fee Schedule

(Note: Scheduling of all preserve facilities must be submitted, with time for approval and payment received at least one week in advance)

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- **Nature/educational groups (non-BYU)** - no fee for day use; overnight accommodations (as available with fee) require advanced reservations.
- **Educational groups (BYU-related)** - no fee for day use; overnight accommodations (as available with fee) require advanced reservations.
- **Note:** Due to liability-related issues, preserve facilities are **not** available for family reunions, vacations, or personal use.
- **Scheduling priorities (see above) and fee schedule for use of preserve facilities –**
 - o **Campground (three camp sites)** – Faculty and students from the BYU College of Life Sciences and other BYU related groups at a rate of \$15/group/camp site/night. **All other user groups** will be scheduled at a rate of \$20/group/camp site/night.
 - o The **“Pit”** – Faculty and students from the BYU College of Life Sciences and other BYU related groups at a rate of \$10/individual/bed/night. **All other user groups** will be scheduled at a rate of \$15/individual/night.

The **“Bunkhouse”** – Faculty and students from the BYU College of Life Sciences and other BYU related groups at a rate of \$15/individual/bed/night. **All other user groups** will be scheduled at a rate of \$20/individual/night, **Note regarding payment of fees** – Failure to charge all users the specific user rates for all facilities will result in the preserve losing the right to charge federally and

state funded research projects for use of the preserve's facilities. These fees are used to maintain and/or upgrade the preserve's facilities and are absolutely essential to the operation of the preserve. Therefore, all user fees are absolute and not negotiable.

- **Fee payment** – All fees must be paid in full at least one week prior to the scheduled visit.

Preserve-related Research

The MLBM administration requires a research proposal (see below) prior to granting approval to conduct research on the preserve. Projects that are approved may be assessed a facilities usage fee depending on the nature and extent of the research. Any adjustments to the original research plan that involve shifts in resource use (e.g., new or expanded experimental plots) must be submitted in writing and approved by the museum administration before the changes are implemented. In addition, please comply with the following expectations:

1. General expectations – all researchers using preserve property must:
 - a. Submit a research proposal (no more than three–four pages in length) for review and feedback/approval by the preserve management. Please include specific research goals, methods, resource requirements, expected outcomes, schedule, recovery/restoration plans, budget, and needs related to preserve resources.
 - b. Provide details concerning proposed research plots and study sites on preserve property for review and feedback/approval by the preserve management.
 - c. Obtain appropriate permits (general catch and release), from local, state, and/or federal entities prior to initiating research projects (a copy of all relevant permits must be submitted to the preserve management before final project approval is granted).
 - d. Avoid conflict or interference with other active research projects.
 - e. Minimize impact to the preserve and its resources.
 - f. Limit research activity to projects that fall within the scope and mission of the preserve
 - g. Negotiate a reasonable usage fee with the museum administration prior to initiating the proposed research project. Fees will be payable annually or as funds are received by the researcher(s).
2. The preserve management reserves the right to reject/terminate any research project that does not meet the mission of the preserve, fails to abide by preserve rules or expectations, or is not properly managed. Researchers will be notified before any research project is terminated.
3. Research proposal format:
 - a. A description of proposed research project must include:
 - i. Research goals
 - ii. Methods
 - iii. Resource requirements

- iv. Proposed location of study plots
 - v. Resource recovery/restoration plans
 - vi. Budget
4. All research groups must provide a brief annual report (one–two pages) by 31 December of each year. The report should include a description of project outcomes/accomplishments, several images relevant to the research, and journal citations of publications resulting from work conducted at the preserve in that year. These reports and images will be used to update the Lytle Ranch Preserve web page and will be included in the MLBM’s annual report.
 5. Acknowledge the Lytle Ranch Preserve in all publications
 6. All sites and plots must be reclaimed and restored to the satisfaction of the preserve coordinator at the end of the research project.
 7. Use fees for research projects will be determined as proposals are considered by the museum administration. Use fees will be applied to camping/lodging accommodations (as per the above fee schedule), use of preserve equipment, and allocation of space for research plots.

Note: All user fees are used to maintain the preserve’s resources in order to responsibly address the needs of our guests (within the inherent constraints of the remote location and mission of the preserve).