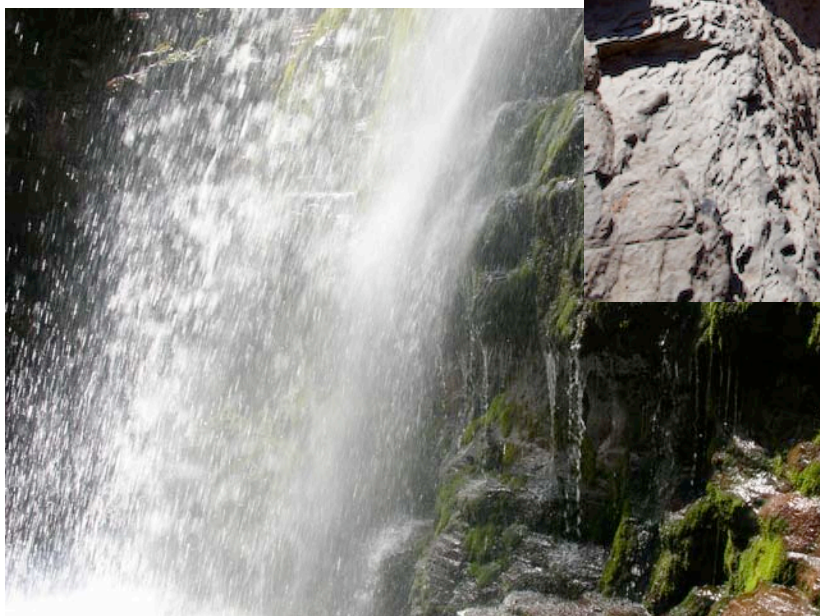


RENOWNED RIVERS

Protecting the most beloved rivers in Utah's national forests





Green River, Ian Goduti

January 2008

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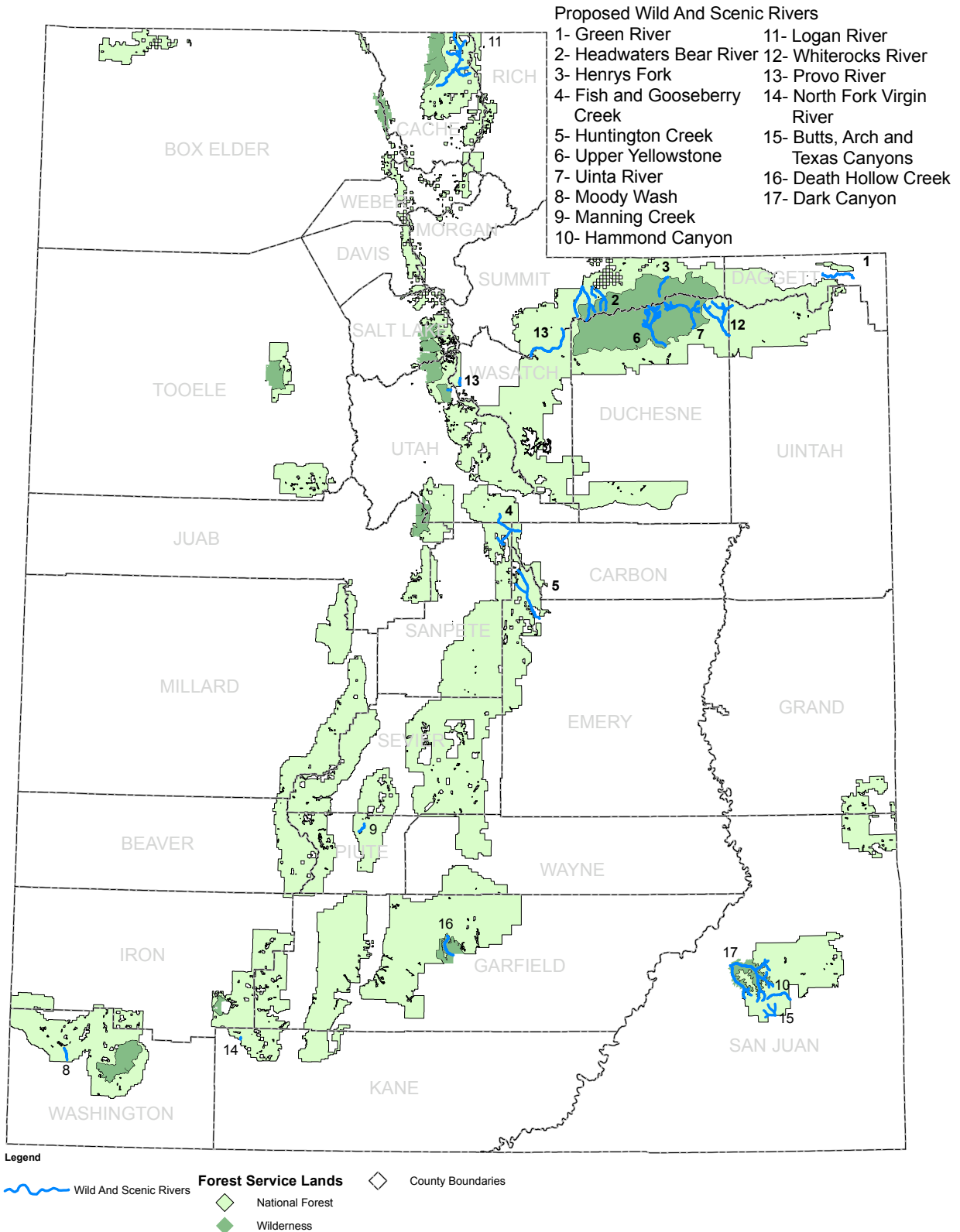
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Utah Rivers Council
protect • restore • explore

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Most Beloved Rivers in Utah's National Forests



INTRODUCTION

Do you love a Utah river? Do you fish the Red Canyon stretch of the Green? Hike along the small streams of the Uintas? Paddle the Virgin?

If you answered yes to any of those questions, there's a good chance that the fate of a river you love will be decided in the next few years – and you have a chance to be part of that fateful decision.

In 2007, the U.S. Forest Service launched a statewide review of their rivers in order to decide which rivers to nominate for protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The rivers to be reviewed under this process read like a who's who of Utah's rivers, including stretches of the Green River, the headwaters of the Bear, the North Fork of the Virgin, the Yellowstone, and the Logan.

This is truly the best chance in decades for real and permanent protection of Utah's most outstanding rivers.

For decades, rivers throughout Utah have been under siege by dam builders and others who wish to control our rivers. Today there are roughly 50,000 major dams in the United States, which harm hundreds of thousands of river miles. In 1968, Congress recognized this problem and passed the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to preserve the most outstanding rivers in the country. Designating a river as Wild and Scenic ensures the river will flow freely forever – no new dams or diversions are allowed.

Since the National Wild and Scenic River System was created, over 165 rivers in 38 states have been included in the system and are now protected in their free flowing state. Although Utah has many remarkably beautiful rivers, many of which are internationally known, currently not one Utah river is permanently protected as Wild and Scenic, subjecting all of our rivers to constant threats.

But that could change in the next few years. By the summer of 2008, the Forest Service's review will decide which of the 80-plus rivers under consideration are "suitable" for Wild and Scenic protection. Once a river is found suitable, the Forest Service passes their recommendation for protection on for Congressional action. Importantly, once a river is found suitable its outstanding values must be protected until Congress acts on the Forest Service's recommendation.

This is all so important because once designated a Wild and Scenic River, the river is protected from dams and diversions – forever. In addition, a river corridor of ¼ mile on each side of the river is protected from activities that would harm the river's outstanding values. Most human uses of the river and the river corridor are allowed to continue, as long as

those uses do not damage the values for which the river was protected.

Yet the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is also extremely flexible. Rivers are granted varying types of protection

based on the existing development along the river. A river-specific plan is then developed to protect the existing outstandingly remarkable values of the river. Most uses are allowed, as long as they do not harm the river's value. For example, some existing Wild and Scenic Rivers have roads, farmland, intense recreational uses, and more – this is not a cookie cutter approach to conservation.

In this report, we highlight just a handful of the outstanding Forest Service rivers deserving of Wild and Scenic protection. Read on to learn more about these gems, and how you can explore them. We hope you'll then be inspired to speak out for Wild and Scenic protection of these truly remarkable river resources!

"...currently not one Utah river is permanently protected as Wild and Scenic..."

BUTTS, ARCH AND TEXAS CANYONS



The creeks flowing through Butts, Arch, and Texas canyons are a prime example of the most outstanding canyon creeks in southern Utah. These canyons

represent the best of a small group of rivers unique to southern Utah, with their dramatic scenery and geology and rich archeological history. The Forest Service has found 18.65 miles of creeks in these canyons eligible for Wild and Scenic status.

The canyons' creeks flow through the dramatic arid lands of southeastern Utah to Comb Wash, which then flows on to the San Juan River. In this harsh landscape, intermittent or ephemeral creeks and rivers are critical to the survival of wildlife and the scenic values of the area. Butts, Arch, and Texas canyons, with their intermittent flows, are incredibly important for the entire area. The water that flows is vital for the survival of the vegetation and the local wildlife.

Further evidence of the importance of the water in the rivers is the presence of numerous cultural sites, demonstrating the importance of the river to ancient communities. These communities could have lived anywhere, but they chose to live near the rivers for their important life-sustaining water. Trails.com describes the area this way: "The Ancestral Puebloan Indians found the area ideal, and most south-facing alcoves contain evidence of their culture, from petroglyphs and three-bushel granaries to multilevel apartments and kivas."¹

Many of the canyons' sites are eligible to be added to the National Register of

Historic Places. It is estimated there are about 20 sites per linear mile and there is an extremely high potential for major sites in significant quantities in the canyons.² Yet there has never been a comprehensive survey of the area, so there are many unknown/undiscovered archaeological sites in the canyons.

The cultural resources in the canyons remain largely unstudied, and so have significant potential to yield important information about Ancestral Puebloan adaptations to higher elevation environments adjoining the Cedar Mesa, how environmental changes through time facilitated or constrained human occupations of these regions, and the concurrent social factors that led to population expansion into marginal environments and the subsequent collapse of these farming societies.³

"Further evidence of the importance of the water in the rivers is the presence of numerous cultural sites, demonstrating the importance of the river to ancient communities."

The canyons are more than a locally important cultural resource. They are part of the Cedar Mesa archaeological phenomenon, which is recognized throughout the nation by the general public and by professionals as a significant national resource.⁴ The prehistoric properties in the Cedar Mesa and adjacent higher drainages originating in the Abajo Mountains have

long been recognized by visitors from throughout the nation for their spectacular architectural integrity.

This region has been the focus of scores of popular magazine feature articles and guidebooks that have brought these resources to a national audience of hikers, off-road vehicle users and archaeological enthusiasts. Likewise, archaeologists have recognized the scientific significance of this region, having studied the resources here for more than a century. Indeed, artifacts recovered from this region are currently displayed at museums around the nation.⁵

As mentioned earlier, the canyons are also an important wildlife area. Nesting Mexican spotted owls have been documented on the Forest in Texas Canyon and foraging in Arch Canyon. In February of 2001 critical habitat for the Mexican spotted owl was designated for an area including Arch Canyon.⁶ In addition, the BLM portion of Arch Canyon just downstream from the eligible Forest Service stretches provides habitat for the flannelmouth sucker, listed as a Species of Special Concern by the State of Utah.⁷

The scenic and geologic values of the canyons are incredible. Two large arches (Angel Arch and Cathedral Arch) are located within ¼ mile of the river.⁸ In addition, hikers can easily access dramatic vistas by climbing within the canyon.⁹ Trails.com describes the area as offering outstanding scenery and numerous ruins.¹⁰ Vertical cliff walls, rim rock, outcrops, spires, alcoves, arches, deep gorges and narrow valley floors are located in the canyons.¹¹ Arch and Texas Canyons are listed as a geologic point of interest for the Forest, and are described as having sculptured sandstone pinnacles.¹²

EXPLORING TEXAS, ARCH AND BUTTS CANYONS



Hiking Arch Canyon. Hikers can enjoy a 7-mile trail up Arch Canyon which passes by archaeological sites and interesting rock formations, including two arches. At the 7-mile mark, the Texas Canyon tributary joins Arch Canyon (this is also the Forest Service/BLM boundary). Slightly farther up Arch Canyon, Butts Canyon joins the main Arch Canyon. The smaller canyons (Texas and Butts) do not have marked trails, but are hike-able by the determined. To reach the trailhead, take Highway 95 west from Blanding and turn north on the road at Comb Wash. Follow this road to a marked trailhead.

Hiking the rim of Texas Canyon. The Texas Flat Trail (FS #003) traverses the rim of Texas Canyon. This trail has spectacular views of Texas and Arch Canyons, but does not actually drop down into the canyon. The trail is not well maintained, but is not too difficult to follow. The easiest way to access the trailhead is to take Highway 95 west from Blanding to Highway 275 West/North. Take the Bears Ears Forest Access road (#088), turning west (right) at the T (corrals at intersection), Road 347 will be on your right, look for Forest Service signs. This road makes a big loop with the signed trailhead at the end of a spur road at the apex of loop.

DARK CANYON



he Forest Service has found 79 miles of creeks throughout the Dark Canyon complex eligible for Wild and Scenic status, including: Upper Peavine, Kigalia and Horse

Pasture canyons in Upper Dark Canyon; and Poison, Deadman, Woodensho and Cherry canyons in Lower Dark Canyon. Protecting these creeks will preserve an incredible geologic and scenic resource, as well as a rich trove of cultural sites.

Much of the Dark Canyon complex of creeks lies within the Dark Canyon Wilderness Area in southeastern Utah. Many rivers in the area are intermittent or ephemeral, which makes the Dark Canyon

“...the steep narrow canyon areas are unique representations of six sequential geologic formations.”

complex of creeks with their stable flows incredibly important for the entire area. The water that flows in these canyons is vital for the survival of vegetation and local wildlife. Evidence of the importance of the water in the rivers is the presence of numerous cultural sites in the canyons. These ancient communities could have lived anywhere, but they chose to live near the rivers for their important life sustaining water.

The scenic values of the creeks and their canyons are well known. As one hiker describes the area, “The view from the rim of Dark Canyon is awesome. The canyon is 1,280 feet deep at this point, and the sensation is not unlike the feeling one gets



when looking into the Grand Canyon: a feeling of grandeur, a feeling of immensity, and most of all a feeling of personal insignificance.”¹³

The less-poetic Forest Service described the creeks’ scenic values as follows:

“Views are unobstructed and expansive. Vertical cliff walls, rim rock, outcrops, spires, alcoves, arches, moderately deep gorges, and narrow valley floors provide outstanding visual experiences. Significant variations in color are associated with the light and dark greens of mixed conifer/mountain brush vegetative cover.”¹⁴

The Dark Canyon area is also rich in geology.¹⁵ The Canyon possesses some classic channel head cutting and gullies in the alluvial material of the lower reaches.¹⁶ These represent excellent examples and would be great for use as educational and scientific interpretation. Additionally, the steep narrow canyon areas are unique representations of six sequential geologic formations.¹⁷ Rivers such as Dark Canyon that represent textbook examples of common features are of higher value.¹⁸

Dark Canyon cuts into the 300-million-year-old Honaker Trail Formation, one of the oldest rock layers exposed in southern Utah. This formation's mixed limestones, shales, and sandstones and the overlying Halgaito Shale and Cedar Mesa Sandstone form the cliffs and talus slopes of Dark, Gypsum and Bowdie canyons.¹⁹

In contrast, the upper cliffs of Woodenshoe Canyon are composed of the Cedar Mesa Sandstone.²⁰ The lower part of Woodenshoe Canyon, as one approaches the confluence with Dark Canyon, is characterized by ledges of fossil-bearing limestone, belonging to the Elephant Canyon Formation. These are mostly marine fossils, such as brachiopods and crinoids. Both the limestone and the overlaying sandstone were deposited during the Permian age, over 230 million years ago.²¹

The cultural resources in Dark Canyon span 6,000 years. These include different cultures such as archaic and ancestral Puebloans.²² Dark Canyon is part of the Cedar Mesa archaeological phenomenon. The Cedar Mesa archaeological phenomenon is recognized throughout the nation by the general public and by professionals as a significant national resource.²³

The resources found in the Dark Canyon complex, which remain largely unstudied, have significant potential to yield important information about Ancestral Puebloan adaptations to higher elevation environments adjoining the Cedar Mesa, how environmental changes through time facilitated or constrained human occupations of these regions, and the concurrent social factors that led to population expansion into marginal environments and the subsequent collapse of these farming societies.²⁴

EXPLORING DARK CANYON



Sundance Trail into Dark Canyon. Many different hiking options are available in Dark Canyon. The Sundance Trailhead is the starting point for a relatively short 2-day backpacking option. The hike is doable in spring, summer and fall, and although the trail's descent into the canyon is steep, no technical climbing skills are required. For more information, visit www.blm.gov/utah/monticello (includes directions to the trailhead) or read about the hike in *Utah's Favorite Hiking Trails*.

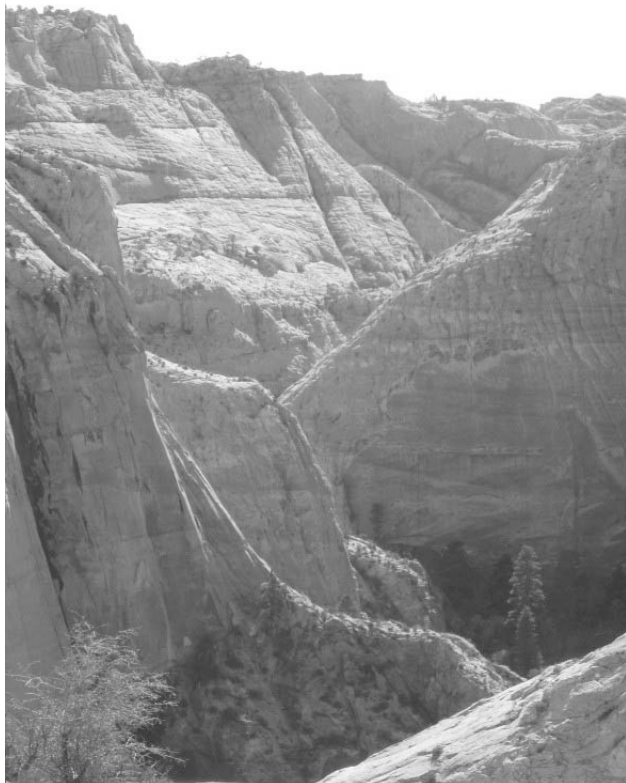


DEATH HOLLOW CREEK



Eight and a half miles of Death Hollow Creek were found eligible for Wild and Scenic status by the Forest Service. Protection of Death Hollow Creek will preserve an incredible array of river values, as the Forest Service found the Creek eligible for its scenic, recreational, cultural, wildlife, paleontological and ecological values.²⁵

Death Hollow Creek, located in south-central Utah, passes through the Box Death Hollow Wilderness area and then flows into the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument. The Box Death Hollow Wilderness is a rugged, remote area. Death Hollow Creek is located just east of the area known as the Box and is located in a gently dipping monocline. This creek



is unique in Utah due to its remote and rugged nature as it passes through the amazing red rock worlds of Southern Utah. As one visitor to the area states,

“Death Hollow is one of the great canyons of the Colorado Plateau. The healthy riparian zone has lush vegetation growing right down to the waterline, without cut banks, erosion or grazing damage. A rare experience in the modern Southwest!”²⁶

“This creek is unique in Utah due to its remote and rugged nature as it passes through the amazing red rock worlds of Southern Utah.”

The scenery along Death Hollow Creek is fabulous. One visitor describes it as, “...a deep, wild, and watery canyon with scenery that is often spectacular.”²⁷ The area is rugged and spectacular with a variety of features. This area is a haven for adventurous hikers and backpackers. The creek starts in a shallow valley then steadily deepens as it winds its way down and has lengthy narrows sections.²⁸

The area was used by ancient peoples for thousands of years. There are many prehistoric sites located in the river corridor. Additionally, the area has a history of mining and ranching. On top of these already high qualifications, lucky visitors with a sharp eye can even find dinosaur tracks in the sedimentary rocks of

the watershed.

Death Hollow Creek deserves Wild and Scenic protection in order to protect this rugged river as it flows through the remote, rugged Box Death Hollow Wilderness.

EXPLORING DEATH HOLLOW CREEK



Backpacking in Death Hollow.

There are no maintained trails along Death Hollow Creek, although the creek can be followed all the way to the Escalante River for a distance of 21 miles. This is a multi-day backpack trip for adventurous individuals with experience in wilderness travel. The route requires swimming, rock climbing, and advanced navigation skills. Brown and rainbow trout can be found in the creek. Access to Death Hollow Creek is at the Hells Backbone Bridge off the Hells Backbone Road (Forest Road 153), which can be located off UT 12.



FISH AND GOOSEBERRY CREEKS



The Forest Service has found 13.25 miles of Fish Creek and 9.75 miles of Gooseberry Creek eligible for Wild and Scenic Rivers status. These rivers are unique for their incredible riparian habitat, fish and wildlife values, and importance in maintaining water quality for Scofield Reservoir, located just downstream.

Gooseberry and Fish creeks are headwater tributaries to the Price River, which is a tributary to the Green River in Utah. The two creeks begin high on the Wasatch Plateau and flow through broad canyons with slopes lined with aspen and spruce. The creeks meander, creating broad meadows dotted with healthy wetlands.

Recreational uses include fishing, hunting, hiking and camping. The uniqueness and popularity of the area has led the trail that parallels the creeks to be named a National Recreation Trail.²⁹ Guidebooks describe the hike as a gentle walk along a mountain stream. This hike is the author's favorite in the entire state - so good that an overnight backpack is an annual event.

Fish and Gooseberry creeks are prized destinations for anglers.³⁰ Upper Fish Creek is described as a pleasant stream to fish, especially if you favor beaver dams. Upper Fish Creek holds mostly 12- to 20-inch wild cutthroats, and a few rainbows, while Gooseberry Creek has wild cutthroats that average 9-12 inches.³¹ The Creeks are particularly beloved because they are accessible to anglers of all ages and abilities. Because of the densely vegetated stream banks and the cover they provide, large fish are abundant.

The creeks' riparian habitat is very healthy

and supports a diverse variety of birds and wildlife, including the largest breeding population of willow flycatchers in Utah.³² The creeks are home to at least 54 species of birds, including the red-napped sapsucker, northern goshawk, broad-tailed hummingbird, willow flycatcher, golden eagles, red-tailed hawks, and yellow-breasted chat.³³ Beaver use the riparian habitat extensively, and bear frequent the corridors of the watercourses.³⁴ The area also provides high-quality summer and fall habitat for mule deer and elk, including habitat for fawning, calving and rearing. Hunting in the area is very popular, especially due to the abundance of deer and elk.³⁵

"The creeks are particularly beloved because they are accessible to anglers of all ages and abilities."

Designating Fish and Gooseberry creeks as Wild and Scenic would provide a priceless benefit to Carbon County - source water protection for their primary drinking water supply, Scofield Reservoir. By protecting the creeks and associated corridor land from future development, the county can ensure their water supply remains clean and healthy.

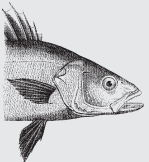
Wild and Scenic protection for Fish and Gooseberry creek would protect one of the most outstanding pieces of riparian habitat remaining in our state. As the Forest Service itself states: "... good riparian habitat, as found in the Upper Fish Creek drainage, is important ... Riparian habitat, especially 'good riparian habitat,' is one of the rarest habitat types in Utah and currently occupies less than 1 percent of the state's land cover."³⁶

EXPLORING FISH AND GOOSEBERRY CREEKS



Hiking Fish Creek. The Fish Creek trail is an easily accessible day hike or overnight backpack trip. Day hikers can head up Fish Creek to the confluence with Gooseberry Creek (2.6 miles one-way) for a moderate day hike. Backpackers can continue up the canyon as far as the Upper Fish Creek trailhead (9 miles one-way) or stop anywhere in between for a lovely night in a streamside meadow. The trail is fairly moderate and well-maintained, although it does have a few rough spots as you get higher up the canyon. One caution: Shade is limited on the canyon floor so plan accordingly.

Hiking Gooseberry Creek. Access to the Wild and Scenic eligible stretch of Gooseberry is easiest via Fish Creek. Hike up Fish to the confluence with Gooseberry (well-signed). Cross Fish Creek at a fairly easy but not bridged crossing and follow the trail into the Gooseberry drainage. This is a moderate hike, although the trail is not as well-maintained as Fish Creek's trail and may require some mild scrambling in high water. Unless you set up a shuttle, this will be an out-and-back hike, so day hikers and backpackers can simply hike as far in as your legs will take you. A hike of about 2 miles from the confluence crossing will provide you with a nice high point to look up Gooseberry drainage.



Fishing the Creeks. Fish and Gooseberry Creeks are closed to fishing from January 1 to 6 a.m. on the second Saturday in July (see the annual Fishing Proclamation for details) to protect spawners. Opening day of Fish Creek is busy, and the big fish are rumored to not last long after opening. Fish Creek mainly holds wild cutthroats and a few rainbows, while Gooseberry is home to smaller wild cutthroats. For more on fishing both creeks, read up in the *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah*, which describes the creeks under "Upper Fish Creek."

Accessing all of the above: From U.S. 6, turn right onto Highway 96 toward Scofield. You will travel 11.9 miles before you cross a dam on the east end (arm) of the reservoir. From the dam, you will travel 5.2 miles to the intersection between Hwy 96 and Front Street in the town of Scofield. There is a gas station/convenience store at this intersection. Turn right on Front Street and travel a short distance (over RR tracks) to Myrtle Street, where you will again turn right. At Church Street, make a third right and travel north 3.7 miles until you reach a dirt road. Travel 1.9 miles down the dirt road until you reach the Fish Creek trailhead and campground. This is a dead end, so you can't miss it. The dirt road is appropriate for 2WD vehicles driven sensibly.



GREEN RIVER



The Green River is one of the defining features of Utah's landscape, and deserves Wild and Scenic protection in order to preserve the best of what Utah has to offer.

The Forest Service manages just one 12-mile stretch of the Green River, and has found that stretch eligible for Wild and Scenic status.

The stretch of the Green under consideration begins at the base of Flaming Gorge dam in northeastern Utah and flows east for 12 miles to the Ashley National Forest's boundary. This stretch of the Green is outstanding for its fish and wildlife values, recreational opportunities, historic and cultural sites, scenic views, geologic diversity and more.

The Red Canyon stretch of the Green is perhaps best known for its amazing fishery and a diverse array of wildlife. The section below Flaming Gorge is known as a world-class fishery, and is designated as a state "blue-ribbon" fishery.³⁷ Wildlife species in



the stretch's corridor include bighorn sheep, mule deer, elk, moose, mountain lions, bobcats, black bear, river otters, beaver, and many more.³⁸ Bird species include sandhill cranes, great blue herons, bald eagles, golden eagles, kestrels, burrowing owls, ospreys and more.³⁹

"The scenic and geologic values of the Green River defy written description."

Recreational opportunities along the Green River draw people from around Utah, and around the world. Again, the stretch is best known for angling opportunities. Local guide books call the stretch "... arguably the most prolific trout stream in the United

States."⁴⁰ According to the Forest Service, fish densities on the river are among the highest in the world, and fish size is exceptional.⁴¹ In fact, brown trout up to 18 pounds have been caught in the stretch, with browns over 21 inches commonplace.⁴²

The Green offers a range of other recreational activities, most of which are popular year-round. Mild whitewater rafting and easy paddling opportunities are very popular. Hiking and biking are popular along the river corridor, with the Little Hole National Recreation Trail providing a well-maintained route right along the river. Camping opportunities range from primitive to developed sites. The ease of access to the river and related sites means that individuals, families, and groups such as scouts enjoy everything from picnics to running rapids.⁴³

The historic and cultural values of the Green River in this area are truly outstanding. Such sites along the corridor include Paleo-Indian, archaic, Fremont, late-prehistoric and pioneer-era sites. For example, John Wesley Powell's journeys down the Green are the subject of much research and popular interest, and his camp sites at Little Hole and Red Creek are still identifiable.⁴⁴ The Forest Service also says, "[a]n incredible number of prehistoric sites exist along this section of the river."⁴⁵ The sites represent multiple time periods and many are in excellent condition.

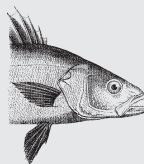


The scenic and geologic values of the Green River defy written description. All along this stretch the bright, clear water of the river contrasts with brilliant red canyon walls. Sandstone spires, escarpments of 400 to 800 feet, and rock outcrops line the canyon. The riparian vegetation also provides changing beauty throughout the year – from the rich greens of spring to the golds of fall – all contrasting with the bright red canyon walls. The diversity of scenic views and geologic drama along the Green is second to none.⁴⁶

EXPLORING THE GREEN



Hiking to Little Hole. Starting just below Flaming Gorge Dam, the Little Hole trail follows the river for 6.9 miles right through the drama of Red Canyon. This easy hike allows you to view the canyon's brilliant colors, watch anglers ply the waters, and see boaters run through rapids with names like Rollercoaster and Mother-in-Law. The trail is not a loop, so either plan an out-and-back hike or set up a car shuttle by leaving a car at the Little Hole end of the trail. For a more detailed description, see *Utah's Favorite Hiking Trails* (David Day, 2nd edition).



Fishing Red Canyon. We cannot do justice to fishing this stretch of the Green in this short report. The *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah* devotes 26 pages to describing the joys of fishing the river. Suffice it to say that the stretch is a must-fish territory for any devoted angler. Special rules apply to fishing this stretch of the Green – review and comply with Utah's Fishing Proclamation. For more information, read the *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah* and visit the Division of Wildlife Resource's fishing site at <http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/fishing/>.



Boating Red Canyon. According to the *River Runners' Guide to Utah*, this is one of the most popular short river trips in Utah. The run is Class 1 and 2 until Browns Park, and then flat water below. June, July and August are usually the best months for this trip, but the flows vary directly with releases from the dam. For more information on the trip, including put-ins and take-outs, check out the *River Runners' Guide to Utah*.

HAMMOND CANYON



he Forest Service found 9.7 miles of Hammond Canyon eligible for Wild and Scenic protection. Hammond Canyon, located in southeastern Utah west of

Blanding, is an outstanding example of the scenic, geologic and cultural values of the rivers of the dramatic red rock country.

Hammond Canyon is home to the type of scenic splendor that draws visitors from around the country to southern Utah. Hammond Canyon possesses steep, vertical sandstone spires, deep gorges, and cliffs of 400-800 feet.⁴⁷ Visitors to the canyon are rewarded with expansive and unobstructed views of the geology of the canyon.

In addition, the mix of vegetation types means the view constantly changes as you move up the canyon – from pinyon-juniper, cottonwoods and others in the lower elevations to birch and willows in the higher elevations.

The canyon watercourse is gorgeous, with numerous small waterfalls and springs.⁴⁸ The river channel is mainly exposed bedrock, so water flows in sheets over the stone. The river is intermittent, but supports a riparian zone of cottonwoods, sedges, grasses and forbs – a rich oasis in the otherwise starkly dry scenery of the area.⁴⁹

The geology of Hammond Canyon is simply incredible. The Forest Service ranked the canyon “high” for feature abundance and diversity,⁵⁰ and features Hammond on its list of Geologic Points of Interest.⁵¹ The Forest Service described some of the features of Hammond:

- o “Steep, vertical sandstone spires, escarpments of 400-800 feet, deep gorges, and flat narrow valley bottoms characterize this watercourse.”
- o “Erosion has produced highly scenic rock outcrops and alcoves along the canyon walls.”
- o “This watercourse has steep, vertical spires and large alcove features along the base of 400- to 800-foot escarpments of the Organ Rock formation.”
- o “The watercourse has down cut through the sandstones of Navajo, Chinle, Moenkopi, Cutler and Rico formations, creating a steep narrow canyon and side canyons.”⁵²

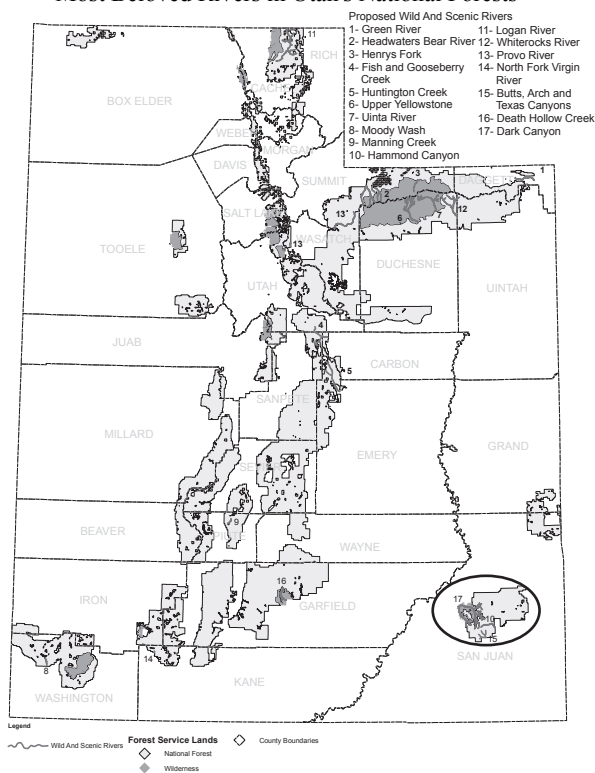
“...habitation in the canyon has covered a long time frame – from archaic through pueblos to use by the White Mesa Ute Tribe and Navajo Nation.”

But it may be the cultural values of Hammond Canyon that draw the most visitors. The Forest Service states that habitation in the canyon has covered a long time frame – from archaic through pueblos to use by the White Mesa Ute Tribe and Navajo Nation.⁵³ The Forest Service also describes the cultural architectural features – which include dwellings, shelters, rock art and granaries – as outstanding.⁵⁴

The most well-known of the ruins in the canyon is likely the "Three Fingers Ruin." This ruin was built by the Anasazi between A.D. 900 and 1200, and originally included nine rooms, four of which are still well preserved.⁵⁵ Numerous other ruins dot the canyon, including the well-known BB Ruin.

Preserving Hammond Canyon will preserve the rich legacy of historical and cultural sites in the Canyon, while also protecting incredible scenic values and geologic values.

Most Beloved Rivers in Utah's National Forests



Hammond Canyon is located near Blanding.

EXPLORING HAMMOND CANYON



Hiking Hammond Canyon. A relatively easy hike into a fabulous canyon! For those of us not ready to rappel ourselves into a deep canyon, Hammond offers a great option. Suitable for day hikes as well as multiple day backpack trips. The trailhead is 45 miles southwest of Blanding on Hwy 261.



Viewing ruins in Hammond Canyon. As described above, Hammond is home to numerous Anasazi ruins, including the famous Three Fingers Ruin. Follow the instructions for hiking (above), and then keep an eye on the high cliff walls.

Scenic overlook of canyon. Not ready to hike into the desert? You can still get a taste of the geologic and scenic values of Hammond Canyon from your car via a scenic overlook. Begin 25 miles west of Blanding, UT near the junction of Highways 95 and 275. Take Forest Road 088. When road forks, continue north on road 088 about 1.5 miles to overlook.⁵⁶

HEADWATERS OF THE BEAR, INCLUDING STILLWATER FORK AND EAST FORK OF THE BEAR RIVER



The Forest Service has found 41 miles of stream in the Bear River headwaters eligible for Wild and Scenic protection. This includes stretches of Hayden Fork, Stillwater Fork, Ostler Fork, and the Left, Right, and East Forks of Bear River.

The headwater streams of the Bear River are an outstanding recreational resource due to their relative proximity to urban areas, the accessibility of the trailhead and the length of the recreational season (the trail is usually open well before many others in the High Uintas). These factors combined with the remote and wild nature of the hiking create a wonderful chance for the public to access a wild river easily - a rarity.

Despite the ease of accessing Stillwater Fork, the quality of the backcountry experience is incredible. Camping options are numerous, allowing backpackers to spread out and find a quiet place for retreat. Due to the numerous beautiful lakes in the Fork's headwaters, destinations are also numerous, allowing hikers to disperse so that even this popular trail feels lightly traveled.⁵⁷

“Any angler looking for a mix of great fishing, wonderful hiking, incredible scenery and wildlife viewing opportunities will rank the Bear’s headwaters among their favorites.”



Stillwater Fork is well-known as a recreational destination. One hiking guide describes the hike up Stillwater Fork and Ostler Fork as “... probably the most popular hike into the rugged, north-slope drainages of the High Uintas.”⁵⁸

The same guide stresses Stillwater’s popularity with anglers, describes extensive wildlife viewing options along the hike, and outlines the incredible scenic values of the basin.⁵⁹ The wildlife viewing opportunities of the Forks are also outstanding, with numerous sightings of moose, marmots and birds on any given hike.

The headwaters of the Bear are also outstanding fishing streams. The *Flyfisher’s Guide to Utah* calls Stillwater Fork the most popular of the headwater streams for fishing, but highlights the East Fork, West Fork, and Stillwater Fork.⁶⁰ The Guide describes Stillwater as “some of the best slow water” and suggests the East Fork for those who enjoy faster water.⁶¹ Although these streams aren’t “blue ribbon” streams with huge trout, any angler looking for a mix of great fishing, wonderful hiking, incredible

scenery and wildlife viewing opportunities will rank the Bear's headwaters among their favorites.

Wild and Scenic protection for all of the identified stretches of the headwaters of the Bear would protect an entire headwater system – something we rarely have the chance to do these days. The headwaters of the Bear are a functioning system, complete with high-quality habitat, functioning wetlands, and natural flow regimes.



EXPLORING THE BEAR



Stillwater Trail: This beautiful hike follows Stillwater Fork – a headwaters stream of the Bear – through gentle, lush terrain. Hiking options include day hiking anything from a few to 12 miles of relatively flat trail to a 2- to 3-day backpack trip involving some good elevation gain to one of several lakes in Stillwater's headwaters. Amethyst Lake is the most popular lake destination. Farther up the basin, Kermsuh Lake and Ryder Lake are highly recommended destinations for both hikers and anglers. The hike is best done between June and October.

From Mirror Lake Highway, take 057 (also known as Christmas Meadows Road) which turns off approximately 0.5 miles south of the Bear River Ranger Station. Follow 057 approximately 4.4 miles to the Stillwater trailhead (you'll pass through Christmas Meadows and the Christmas Meadows campground).

East Fork of the Bear River. This is a gentle hike along the river, with a spectacular waterfall as a good day hike turnaround point (at about 5 miles one way). The hike is a lovely mix of river, woods, meadows and wetlands. Hike along the river for about 4 miles – passing into the High Uinta Wilderness. After entering the Wilderness, you'll come to a fork in the trail, where you can choose between heading for Allsop Lake to the right or Norice and Priord lakes to the left. To see the East Fork falls, take the left-hand fork (to Norice and Priord lakes) and climb for just under a mile. The falls will be off to your right and are hard to miss due to the water's roar! Backpackers can continue on to the Lakes.

The trailhead is at 9,200 feet, so the hike is best done between June and October. The trailhead can be reached from a turnoff approximately 2 miles north of the Bear River Ranger Station on route 056. Take 056 approximately 2 miles to a fork in the road, bear right (signed for the trailhead) and go approximately 4 miles to a second fork, bear left (again, signed) and go ¼ mile to trailhead.

HENRYS FORK



The Forest Service has found 8 miles of Henrys Fork eligible for Wild and Scenic River protection. Henrys Fork is a case study of well-preserved riparian habitat

and backcountry recreational experience qualities. Protecting Henrys Fork will preserve a prime example of what the north slope Uinta mountain rivers have to offer: a combination of good fishing, great hiking/camping areas, prime wildlife habitat and amazing scenic beauty.

Henrys Fork originates on the flanks of Utah's highest mountain - Kings Peak. Flowing north off the north slope of the Uintas, the river crosses out of Utah and into Wyoming before emptying into the Green River.

Henrys Fork is a wonderful recreational resource. As the main trail approach to the Kings Peak climb, Henrys Fork basin receives approximately 5,000 visitors annually.⁶² One hiking guide explains the contribution of Henrys Fork to the hiking experience this way: "Many come for the express purpose of climbing Utah's highest mountain, but many more come just to



"Henrys Fork originates on the flanks of Utah's highest mountain - King's Peak."

enjoy the abundant scenic beauty of the area and perhaps do a little fishing ..."⁶³ Henrys Fork is also one of the few winter-accessible Uinta trailheads, so cross-country skiers enjoy exploring the snow-covered basin.⁶⁴

Because of the rich habitat along the river, birders also enjoy visiting Henrys Fork. *Birding Utah* says:

"Birding the headwaters of the Henry's (sic) Fork River is an exhilarating experience, and the scenery is unparalleled. This is one of the few places in Utah where alpine vegetation is relatively accessible, and here in this enormous glacial cirque, it is interspersed with spruce-fir forests, large expanses of meadows, and a willow-lined riparian corridor surrounding a blue-ribbon trout stream."⁶⁵

Birding Utah goes on to list the species to be found along the river. A small sampling includes: ruby-crowned kinglets, three-toed woodpeckers, hermit thrushes, Wilson's warblers, mountain bluebirds, black rosy-finches, and white-tailed ptarmigan.⁶⁶

The same habitat that attracts such a diversity of birds supports vibrant wildlife. Deer, elk, moose and rocky mountain bighorn sheep call the drainage home.⁶⁷ The basin also provides habitat

for wolverine, Canada lynx, boreal owl, goshawk, great gray owl and mountain goats.⁶⁸

The fish habitat quality matches the terrestrial. The creek is home to cutthroat, brook and rainbow trout. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources has designated Henrys Fork as a Class II water, which means it is of great importance.

This quality fisheries habitat leads to a great fishing experience. The *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah* says that Henrys Fork "rarely

fails to please" and is "loaded with 7-9 inch cutthroats that will take just about anything, well presented or not."⁶⁹ The Guide goes on to say, "New flyfishers or those needing a little boost in their confidence can go to the Henrys Fork and have success."⁷⁰ How can you not love a river that boosts your confidence?

Protecting Henrys Fork will protect the diverse recreational benefits of the river and its basin – from hiking to fishing to birding – and will preserve an excellent example of the north slope Uinta streams.

EXPLORING HENRY'S FORK



Fishing Henrys Fork. The *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah* describes the north slope of the Uintas as "one of the least exploited" fishing opportunities, but the accessibility of Henrys Fork makes it a popular destination. Still, an angler can find a quiet spot to fish on even the busiest summer weekend. Remember to comply with all fishing regulations.



Hiking Henrys Fork. Due to the popularity of climbing Kings Peak via the Henrys Fork route, nearly every Utah hiking book will describe this trip in detail. We highly recommend getting a good hiking book and a topographical map to support your visit. Visitors can do anything from a short day-hike to a three- or four-day backpack trip, as the trail is an out- and-back route. The trail departs from Henrys Fork campground and is a steady but not steep climb as far as Dollar Lake (roughly 10 miles in).



Birding Henrys Fork. As described in the river narrative, birding Henrys Fork is a wonderful experience. Because of the elevation and hence habitat changes as you hike up the basin, birders can see a diversity of species in a day or longer trip. For great advice on how to explore the different habitats and spot particular species, see *Birding Utah* (Falcon Press, 1998).

Directions to the Henrys Fork Campground trailhead for all of the explorations above: From Mountain View, WY head south on State Route 410. SR 410 will make a hard left after six miles, but stay headed due south towards Bridger Lake Guard Station for another approximately 12 miles. Then head east on Forest Service Road 077 for 11.5 miles. Turn west for three-quarters of a mile to Henrys Fork Campground and trailhead. Directions adapted from http://www.utah.com/hike/kings_peak.htm.

HUNTINGTON CREEK AND THE LOWER LEFT FORK OF HUNTINGTON CREEK



The Forest Service has found 19.66 miles of Huntington Creek and 4.49 miles of the Lower Left Fork of Huntington Creek eligible for Wild and Scenic Rivers status.

Huntington Creek represents an outstanding and accessible recreational fishery offering "... lovely scenery, year-round access and a mixed bag of browns, rainbows, and cutthroats."⁷¹

"The beauty of the riparian area and the canyon are underlined by the existence of the Huntington Canyon National Scenic Byway, which parallels the creek for its entire length."

Both creeks are designated a state Blue Ribbon Fishery – two of only 18 streams in Utah with Blue Ribbon Fishery status.⁷² The creeks are home to brook, rainbow, tiger, and Yellowstone cutthroat trout, and host a "significant brown trout sport fishery."⁷³ Very high quality habitat and abundant forage support this outstanding fishery.⁷⁴

Huntington Creek and the Left Fork support a diversity of wildlife species. The creeks offer important mule deer and elk habitat, and are also home to beaver, mountain lions, coyotes and bears.⁷⁵ The riparian lowlands and uplands of the watershed are both considered important habitat for neotropical migrant birds, and the area supports golden eagles, red tailed hawks, and northern goshawks.⁷⁶ The area also provides early winter habitat

for migrating bald eagles, and contains potential nesting habitat for peregrine falcons.⁷⁷

Beyond their fisheries and wildlife attributes, the creeks and adjacent areas support a thriving mix of recreational activities such as camping, hiking, horseback riding, all terrain vehicle use, scenic driving and rock climbing.⁷⁸ Numerous developed recreational sites support these uses, from campgrounds to picnic areas to fishing pullouts. According to the Forest Service, "... the beauty and diversity of these canyons attract thousands of visitors each year."⁷⁹

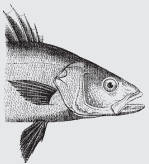
Huntington Canyon provides a beautiful setting for these recreational pursuits. The Forest Service describes both Huntington Creek and the Left Fork of Huntington Creek as home to "... lush vegetation along crystal clear streams ..." and as places where "... rock outcrops and ledges provide outstanding scenery in canyon environments."⁸⁰

The beauty of the riparian area and canyon are underlined by the existence of the Huntington Canyon National Scenic Byway, which parallels Huntington Creek for its entire length. The Scenic Byway designation is a nod to the area's special beauty, and the existence of the Scenic Byway allows all kinds of Utahns – not only backcountry aficionados – a chance to enjoy one of Utah's most outstanding creeks.

Protection for Huntington Creek and the Left Fork of Huntington will protect a recreational gem in the heart of Utah. By preserving the healthy riparian habitat of the creeks, we can be sure our children and grandchildren will continue to enjoy fishing, hunting and other activities in this beautiful canyon.



EXPLORING HUNTINGTON CREEK



Fishing Huntington. Fly-fishing anglers will likely want to head for the 4-mile flies-only section of Huntington Creek just below Electric Lake. According to the *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah*, this section "... is chock-full of fish that give new meaning to the term 'wild' browns."⁸¹ Anglers looking for a slightly more remote experience can try the Left Hand Fork, which rewards those who hike even a short distance up from the confluence with beautiful scenery and less-fished waters. For more on fishing Huntington, read up in the *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah*.



Hiking Huntington. Hiking options in the Huntington drainage range from brief walks to overnight backpack trips. A popular option is the 9.1-mile "Candland Mountain Loop" which begins at the Mill Canyon Trailhead off Highway 31 and ends at the confluence of the Left Fork of Huntington and the main Huntington Creek. This hike includes 4.2 miles along the Left Fork. For more information on the hike, including directions, visit: <http://www.utahtrails.com/candland.html>.



Driving the Huntington Canyon National Scenic Byway. If you are just passing through or aren't an avid hiker, you can still experience the beauty of Huntington Creek on a scenic drive. Consider the one-day tour from Fairview to Huntington detailed on the Scenic Byway website at <http://www.byways.org/explore/byways/13831/itinerary/4139>. This site also provides a user-friendly map to the Byway and the area.

LOGAN RIVER



The Logan River system represents a rare chance to protect one of the last intact river systems in Utah – a system that is unregulated by dams. The Forest Service found 51 miles of the main stem of the Logan and tributaries such as Beaver Creek, Spawn Creek, Temple Fork, White Pine Creek, Bunchgrass Creek and Little Bear Creek eligible for Wild and Scenic protection.

Because the Logan system is still so well connected, its values are rich and numerous. For example, the Logan system possesses a unique and incredibly important meta-population of Bonneville Cutthroat Trout (BVCT).

The BVCT is a state-sensitive species and is also subject to an interstate Conservation Agreement. BVCT currently only occupy 33 percent of their historical range.⁸² A major cause of this reduction in range is habitat degradation, caused by water diversions, overgrazing and impoundments.

According to the Blue Ribbon Fishery Advisory Council, the Logan has good to excellent riparian habitat.⁸³ Another scientific study of the area found the Logan to be characterized by high-quality and connected habitat.⁸⁴ This quality habitat is what allows the BVCT population to thrive. The BVCT population in the Logan River system is a very healthy population of self-sustaining fish. Population density

of BVCT exceeded 1,500 trout per kilometer, which is substantially higher than most other reported densities of inland, stream-type cutthroat trout.⁸⁵

The scenery within the Logan River system is fantastic, including a narrow river gorge with towering limestone cliffs, rich riparian vegetation, snow-capped peaks in the distance, caves and roaring white water.

“The Logan is a wild river – a clear, fast-dropping river loaded with rapids ranging from Class 2 to 5.”

The remarkable scenery along this section has been recognized by the creation of a National Scenic Byway for Highway 89, which runs through the canyon. To quote the Wasatch-Cache Forest Service, “This scenery is diverse and variable, a scenic smorgasbord of this part of the Wasatch Range.”⁸⁶

The list of recreational opportunities on the Logan is long and includes kayaking, tubing, hiking, sight-seeing, rock climbing, biking and fishing. The Logan River is an incredibly important resource for citizens of the local communities as well as out-of-town visitors. Residents enjoy sneaking off to enjoy the river after work or on the weekends. There are lots of interpretive signs and recreational facilities located along the entire length of the Logan.

The Logan River provides exceptional kayaking. According to one local kayaker, the quality of kayaking on the Logan is renowned in other areas, even up into Idaho.⁸⁷ The Logan is a wild river – a clear,

fast-dropping river loaded with rapids ranging from Class 2 to 5.⁸⁸

Logan Canyon has several very popular and scenic hiking trails. Some of the trails head up to the towering peaks and beautiful lakes while others follow tributaries including Bunchgrass, White Pine, and Beaver creeks. The trail along Bunchgrass Creek is very remote, with little evidence of human activity other than a single-track foot path and is incredibly beautiful.⁸⁹

The Logan River and its tributaries offer great fly-fishing. One guidebook raves about the high-quality fishing experience in this scenic canyon, "If a magazine were to devote an issue to Utah fly-fishing, the Logan River could easily be chosen as the centerfold. The Logan offers great scenery, good fishing, and a sense of wilderness ..." ⁹⁰ The guide goes on to describe the quality of fishing along different sections of the main stem of the Logan and some of the tributaries including Temple Fork and Beaver Creek. The Logan River is one of only 15 rivers in the State of Utah to be designated as a Blue Ribbon Fishery, an indicator of the outstanding fishery value of the river system.



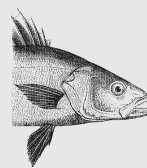
EXPLORING THE LOGAN



Boating the Logan. The main stem of the river is a wild ride, ranging from Class 2 to 5. Popular areas include the Logan Canyon stretch and a short run from the mouth of the canyon to Main Street in Logan. Both stretches include rapids and obstacles (diversion dams, etc.), so always scout your stretch and read up in the *River Runners' Guide to Utah* (Gary C. Nichols) before heading out.



Driving the Canyon. The Logan Canyon Scenic Byway stretches 41 miles between Logan and Garden City. The road parallels the river, allowing those of us not inclined to brave the rapids a chance to enjoy the river. The drive is beautiful in all seasons, but especially lovely in the fall, when the leaves are amazing. To learn more, visit: <http://www.byways.org/explore/byways/2001/>.



Fishing the Logan and tributaries. Anglers will find brown, rainbow, cutthroat and brook trout on the Logan, as well as whitefish. The *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah* describes access, fishing tips and more for the Logan, Temple Fork, and Beaver Creek. For a snapshot of fishing along the river, check out the Division of Wildlife's "Hot Spots" page at <http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/hotspots/>.

MANNING CREEK



he Forest Service found 9.5 miles of Manning Creek eligible for Wild and Scenic Status. Flowing off of the Sevier Plateau in south-central Utah, Manning Creek

represents an especially vibrant and healthy habitat for rare fish and sensitive wildlife.

Manning Creek has a self sustaining population of Bonneville Cutthroat Trout (BVCT). The fish in Manning Creek are a conservation population, which means that this population represents a pure strain of BVCT and is absolutely vital for the preservation of the species.⁹¹ BVCT streams are a special and limited resource on Fishlake. There are eight known populations of pure strain BVCT on the Fishlake NF, inhabiting approximately 38 miles of stream habitat, but Manning Creek has the longest section of occupied habitat on the entire Forest, at nearly 11 miles.⁹²

“The Monroe Mountain area, where Manning Creek is located, is one of the prime areas for elk in the entire state of Utah.”

Manning Creek is an especially productive BVCT stream – in monitored or inventoried streams on the forest between 1986 and 2002, Manning Creek had the highest average number of BVCT per mile at

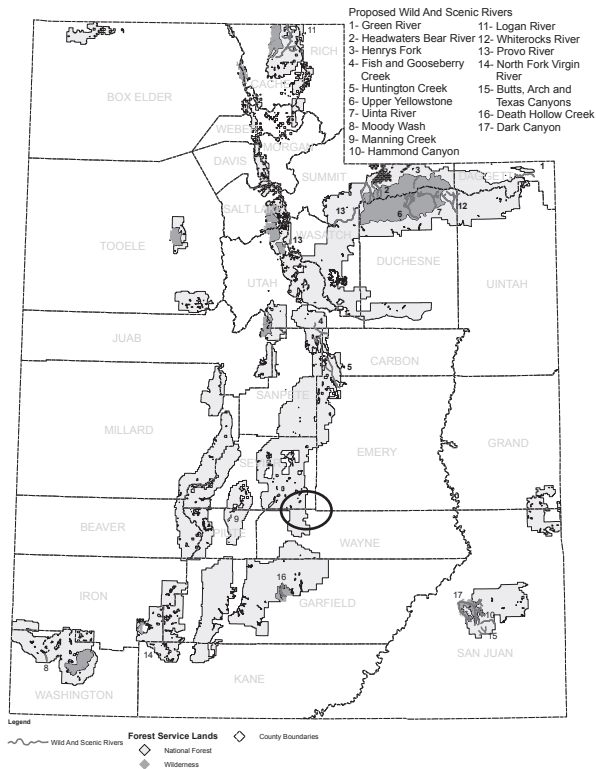
692 fish per mile.⁹³ Manning Creek has the second highest biomass (pounds per acre) of cutthroat of monitored streams in 2001-2002 with 61.6 lbs per acre. Manning was second in biomass only to one of its tributaries, Vale Creek, at 74.9 lbs per acre.⁹⁴

Expensive and intensive reintroduction efforts have been undertaken by the State Division of Wildlife Resources and the Fishlake Forest, highlighting the high value placed on the fish, and on streams capable of supporting the fish.⁹⁵ The Division of Wildlife Resources holds an instream flow right on Manning Creek – one of only three such rights held by the Division.

Manning Creek is also rich in wildlife values. For example, the watershed provides great habitat for deer and elk. The Monroe Mountain area (where Manning Creek is located) is one of the prime areas for elk in the entire state of Utah.⁹⁶

In addition, Manning Creek has a healthy population of arboreal toads, a species of concern that has been monitored for 13 years.⁹⁷

Most Beloved Rivers in Utah's National Forests

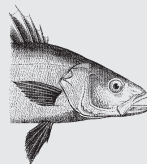


Manning Creek is located in Central Utah.

EXPLORING MANNING CREEK



Hiking the Creek. Hikers can enjoy about 8 miles of the creek via Forest Service trails 092 and 076. The trail follows along the path that Manning Creek takes, descending steep sections and passing into open meadows. The hike is an interesting mixture of steep sections and open meadows. The upper areas are aspens, pines, and cottonwoods, while towards the bottom is more of an oak brush environment.



Fishing the Creek. Manning Creek offers a less-traveled fishing option for those who don't mind hiking. Fishing along Manning Creek is entirely for native Bonneville Cutthroat Trout. The fish are all relatively small 6 - 12 inches. Access the creek via the trails referenced above. For more details, see the *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah*.

Directions for both activities: Access to the trail for hiking and fishing are both located at the same trailhead. From Marysvale there are several small roads you can follow. But the key is to follow the Marysvale loop of the Paiute ATV trail which circles from the bottom of Manning Creek around the gorge and then crosses the Creek at the top. The trailhead is at the top, where the trail crosses Manning Creek.

MOODY WASH



The Forest Service found seven miles of Moody Wash eligible for Wild and Scenic protection, based on its outstanding ecological and fisheries values. While most Utahns are unlikely to have heard of Moody Wash, it is an increasingly rare – and hence increasingly valuable – example of a fully functioning semi-arid desert stream.

Moody Wash is located in southwestern Utah, where it flows east and south out of the Bull Valley Mountains. Moody Wash is approximately 12 miles long, with 8 miles located in the Dixie National Forest and the last 4 miles flowing across a mix of Bureau of Land Management and private lands.

The ecological values of Moody Wash are unique. The stream supports a cottonwood and willow riparian plant community in an otherwise arid landscape. Moody Wash is home to both canyon tree frogs and Arizona toads, which is a state species of concern.⁹⁸

As pointed out by the Forest Service, Moody Wash is still a fully functioning semi-arid desert stream system, which is rare because these systems have been widely developed, modified, lost to groundwater pumping or altered by

invasive species.⁹⁹ According to the Forest Service:

“While occupying a very small percent of total land area, semi-arid and arid riparian habitats support an overwhelming majority of the biodiversity in the southwest U.S. Moody Wash is an increasingly rare example of a semi-arid system that is still functioning and supporting a diverse native ecosystem.”¹⁰⁰

Moody Wash’s outstanding fisheries value is related to the river’s ecological health.

Moody Wash’s flows support populations of Virgin spinedace, speckled dace, and desert sucker.¹⁰¹

In fact, the Forest Service calls Moody Wash a “very important refuge area for Virgin spinedace,” a state-sensitive species.¹⁰² Moody Wash is the only tributary in the Santa Clara River that

still supports Virgin spinedace throughout its historic range, and Moody Wash’s spinedace may be used to restock other areas.

The abundance of fish and the size and vigor of fish in Moody Wash are noteworthy. Moody Wash is unique in the area with respect to the density of Virgin spinedace.

“Moody Wash is still a fully functioning semi-arid desert stream system, which is rare because these systems have been widely developed, modified, lost to groundwater pumping or altered by invasive species.”

A 1993 report found the density of Virgin spinedace in Moody Wash was 27.9 per every 10 meters and 143.1 per every 100 meters.¹⁰³ This is the highest density of Virgin spinedace for every river included in the species' Conservation Agreement, which includes the Virgin River, North Creek, and others.

Although Moody Wash is an intermittent stream in the Forest, it contributes nearly 4/5 of the annual flow to the lower portion of the river.¹⁰⁴ Thus, the portion of Moody Wash in the Forest serves a vital role in the overall river system. If dams or diversions were built on the portion of Moody Wash in the Forest it would greatly threaten the survival of all of the rare fish species on the portion of Moody Wash, including those outside the Forest boundary.

Moody Wash also possesses unique historical values. The old Spanish Trail traveled right along its banks. The trail traveled from Mountain Meadows down Moody Wash to the main Santa Clara River.¹⁰⁵ This is in addition to the mining and ranching activities that occurred throughout the area.

Designating Moody Wash as a Wild and Scenic River will protect a truly unique Utah river system, and will help protect native species. Even more importantly, it will preserve an increasingly rare example of a healthy native ecosystem in semi-arid southwestern Utah.

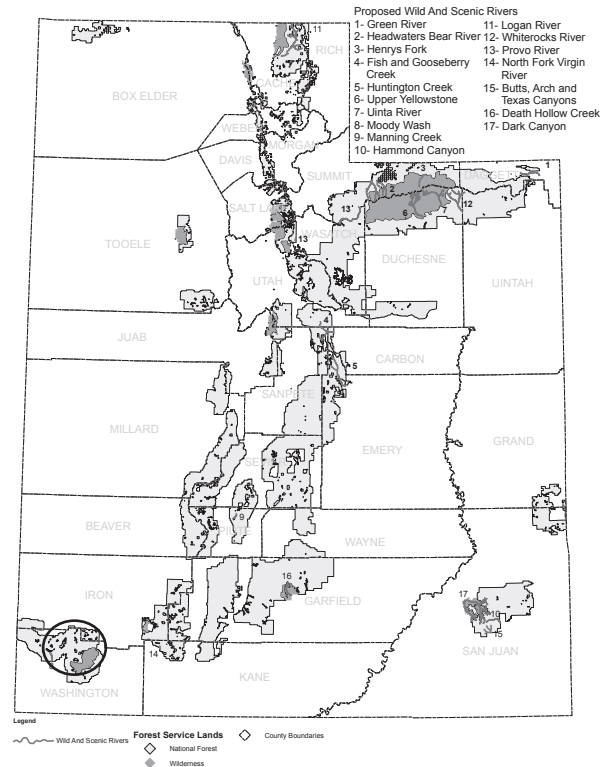
EXPLORING MOODY WASH



Hiking Moody Wash. A non-motorized trail parallels Moody Wash throughout the length of the stretch of Moody Wash under consideration.

This is approximately a five-mile hike. The trail can be reached by taking Highway 18 north from St. George to the town of Veyo, and take a left on the main road heading west. About five miles down the road look for Forest Service Road 30860 on the right. This road follows the lower two miles of Moody Wash and dead ends at the start of the trail.

Most Beloved Rivers in Utah's National Forests



Moody Wash is located in the Southwest corner of the state.

NORTH FORK OF THE VIRGIN RIVER



he North Fork of the Virgin is truly a world-class river. The stretch found eligible by the Forest Service is a 1.5 mile segment upstream of Zion National Park, where

the river has already been found eligible for Wild and Scenic protection. Designating the Forest Service stretch would allow for protection of the incredibly important headwaters of this river gem.

A healthy protected headwaters area provides protection to the river downstream by preventing poor water quality. Downstream, the North Fork of the Virgin flows into Zion National Park where the river flows through the world-famous Zion Narrows and later into the Virgin River proper.

A healthy headwaters area prevents erosion at the topmost point on the stream, thereby preventing scouring and heavy erosion on all portions of the river downstream, improving the downstream quality of the river and minimizing impacts to downstream portions of the river and treatment costs.

The North Fork of the Virgin begins at a spring which creates Cascade Falls. Cascade Falls is fed by water from Navajo Lake which flows through underground lava tubes and a limestone channel to surface at the Falls.¹⁰⁶ From the Pink Cliffs surrounding the Falls, the new-born river flows through the Grey Cliffs and then cuts through the Kolob Terrace.¹⁰⁷

The Cascade Falls National Recreation Trail provides easy access for visitors with a moderate, mile-long trip. According to the

Forest Service, the Cascade Falls National Recreation Trail is one of the most popular and heavily-used trails on the Dixie National Forest.¹⁰⁸ The views from the Falls looking down the North Fork of the Virgin River are absolutely spectacular. As one visitor notes, "Neither words nor pictures can fully describe the majesty and grandeur of views along the trail."¹⁰⁹

The landscapes around the river in this area provide numerous recreational opportunities, including hiking, fishing, sightseeing, photography and camping. The Forest Service states that the North Fork of the Virgin provides a "... unique recreational opportunity for hiking and sightseeing, and for studying the ecology of southern Utah."¹¹⁰

"Cascade Falls is fed by water from Navajo Lake which flows through underground lava tubes and a limestone channel to surface at the Falls."

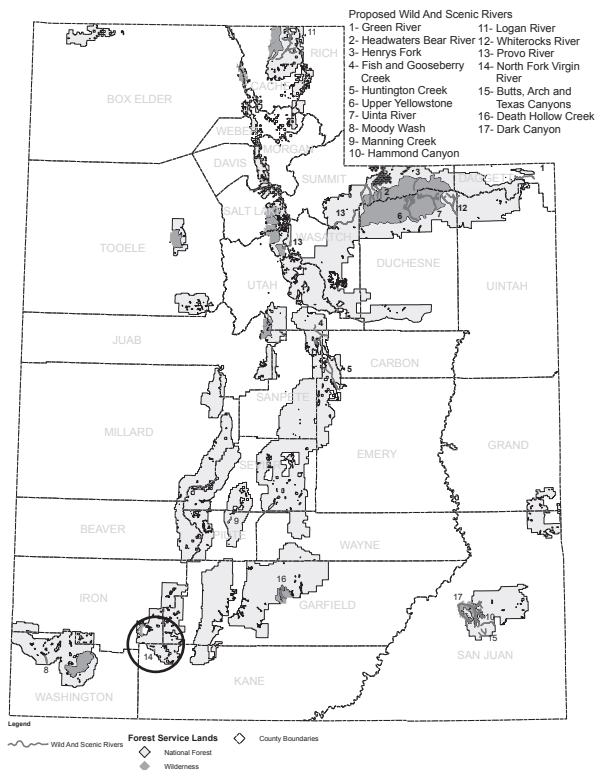
Although the river is best known for its scenic and geologic values, it is also an important ecological resource. According to the Forest Service, an important riparian zone exists along the North Fork.¹¹¹ As the river flows south and loses elevation, it "... creates an important vegetative transition zone, which is important for many species."¹¹² In other words, diversity of habitat leads to diversity of wildlife.

A rich array of wildlife is supported by the river. Birds utilizing the riparian area

include northern goshawk, peregrine falcon, eagle, hawk, neotropical migrant birds and upland game birds.¹¹³ Mexican spotted owls may use the higher elevation habitat.¹¹⁴ In addition, the watershed provides important habitat for big game, and "... small mammals and predators likely use the riparian corridor for primary and secondary habitats."¹¹⁵

Protecting this uppermost stretch of the North Fork of the Virgin would preserve the outstanding scenic and recreational values of the stretch, as well as protecting water quality and important habitat connections for the lower river stretches.

Most Beloved Rivers in Utah's National Forests



The North Fork of the Virgin River is located to the Northeast of Zion National Park, where many people are familiar with the Virgin River.

EXPLORING THE NORTH FORK OF THE VIRGIN



Hiking to Cascade Falls Overlook.

This relatively easy hike is only 1.25 miles round trip and rewards you with great views of the Falls and the famous Pink Cliffs of the area. The drive in includes 2 miles of dirt road, but a 4WD vehicle is not required. For a good hike description and directions to the trailhead, visit http://www.localhikes.com/Hikes/CascadeFalls_0000.asp or get *100 Hikes in Utah* (Mann and Olson).

Hiking Bristlecone Pine Trail. You won't be hiking along the river, but the trail offers great views of the Virgin while you walk through ancient Bristlecone Pines. It is only 0.6 miles long, so stop by for a quick view. Directions to the trailhead available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/dixie/recreation/hiking/d2/cc.shtml>.

OUTSTANDING SEGMENTS OF THE PROVO RIVER



The Forest Service has found three stretches of the famous Provo River eligible for Wild and Scenic protection – Provo River from Trial Lake to UT 35 (19.8 miles),

Little Provo Deer Creek (2.6 miles), and a stretch of the North Fork of the Provo (1.1 miles). Protecting these stretches under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act will protect an important drinking water source for Wasatch Front residents, while also protecting a vibrant recreational and ecological resource.

Although many residents do not know this, people along the Wasatch Front rely on the Provo River to meet their drinking water needs. All three of these segments play vital roles in helping to supply clean water to meet urban drinking water needs. Wild and Scenic River designation of these segments will ensure that these headwater segments are protected and will therefore help maintain a healthy, functioning watershed so that the river can continue to supply water to the urban population.

A healthy protected headwaters area provides protection to the river and to drinking water plants downstream by preventing poor water quality. Healthy headwaters prevent erosion at the topmost point on the stream, thereby preventing scouring and heavy erosion on all portions of the river downstream, improving the downstream quality of the river and minimizing impacts to downstream portions of the river and treatment costs.

In addition to the importance of the Provo for meeting urban water needs, the river has some of the best fishing in Utah. Two segments of the Provo River have been

designated Blue Ribbon Fisheries. While these do not include any of the segments under consideration, the segments under consideration play an important role in keeping those stretches high quality for fish habitat by contributing flows and clean water.

The Provo River is an incredibly beautiful mountain stream. The variety of scenery ranges from a crystal clear stream surrounded by the towering peaks of the Uinta Mountains and lodgepole pine to areas further downstream containing openings of sagebrush.

“Protecting these stretches under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act will protect an important drinking water source for Wasatch Front residents....”

For example, one of the most spectacular vistas in the entire Wasatch Front is located along the North Fork Provo River. This short segment flows off the towering, majestic form of Mt. Timpanogos down through a series of steep walls and cascades. Near the bottom of the segment the vista includes waterfalls, cascades, several large glacial cirques, steep cliffs and the snow-capped pinnacle of Mt. Timpanogos overlooking the entire scene.¹⁰⁶

Finally, the Provo River is a backyard river for Utahns who live along the Wasatch Front and for visitors. This river provides a unique recreational experience for visitors who are able to access it easily in an afternoon after work.



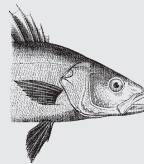
Mirror Lake highway is the main thoroughfare for residents of the Wasatch Front to visit the Uinta Mountains. The Provo parallels this road for several miles and the Forest Service has created a very popular interpretive site along the river at the Upper Provo River Falls.¹⁰⁷ Numerous other “pull-off” overlooks and interpretive sites make the Provo easy to access for all types of people – from retirees interested in a scenic drive to anglers to families out for a picnic. This accessible river will only become more important as the Salt Lake valley continues to grow.

The list of more active recreational opportunities along the Provo River is long, including kayaking, tubing, hiking, camping, fishing and sightseeing. The main stem of the Provo River from the headwaters to just below where the North Fork enters can be run by kayak and is ranked as a Class 2.¹⁰⁸ Hiking is also popular in the area. For example, the North Fork of the Provo River comes off the slopes of Mt. Timpanogos. The trail to the top follows along the river and Mt. Timpanogos is described as the most popular mountain climbing destination in Utah.¹⁰⁹ According to the Forest Service, over 13,000 visitors trek the trail annually.¹¹⁰

EXPLORING THE PROVO



Visiting the Upper Provo Falls. Wasatch Front residents can experience the wild beauty of the Upper Provo via a short (roughly 1 ¼ to 1 ½ hour) drive. A nice interpretive site is located just before mile 24 on the Mirror Lake Highway. No hiking is required and the site is well set up for a family picnic while you watch the river roar over several tiers of falls.



Fishing near Soapstone Basin. Fishing all along the Provo is lovely. An easy spot to introduce yourself to the river is at the Soapstone Basin turnoff (between mile 14 and 15) on Mirror Lake Highway. Drop down a few hundred yards on the dirt road and cross the bridge to find parking on your right. People fish right from the bridge at times, but we recommend fishing your way upstream along the cobbled shores.



Hiking along the North Fork. The start of the trail is at the very popular Aspen Grove trailhead. The first mile or so of the trail is fairly flat, meandering its way up the bottom of this valley – which slowly starts narrowing. The trail stays up and away from the North Fork Provo for the most part, but at a few different spots the trail comes to some spectacular waterfalls and cascades. These are definitely highlights of the trip and are great resting spots for those intrepid hikers attempting to summit Mt. Timpanogos.

UPPER UINTA RIVER



The Forest Service has found 39.87 miles of the upper Uinta River and its tributaries as eligible for Wild and Scenic Rivers protection. These stretches deserve Wild and Scenic protection due to their outstanding values for scenery, geology, recreation and wildlife habitat.

The Uinta River drains a huge and gorgeous glacial basin. The North Fork tributary originates near the crest of the Uinta range, in the eastern shadow of Utah's highest mountain, Kings Peak. From glacial cirques and alpine meadows above 10,000 feet, to the forested lower floodplains of the Uinta Canyon, the Uinta River drains some of the most beautiful terrain in northern Utah.

The scenic diversity in the basin is tremendous. The headwaters of the Uinta and its tributaries begin above the tree line in dramatic cirque basins. The river and tributaries then flow through mixed scenery of broad or V-shaped valleys ranging from moderately steep to very steep canyons.¹²¹

Both still and cascading water are visible throughout the basin. For example, there are numerous small lakes in the upper basin, while segments of the river flow over bedrock with gradients of 3 to 15 percent.¹²²

The river and its tributaries are popular for hiking, camping and fishing, and the main Uinta offers boating. The Uinta basin is particularly famous for its hiking and camping opportunities. Nearly every hiking book we consulted lists Uinta basin hikes, and all rave about the mix of hiking and camping opportunities in the basin.

Hiking trails are numerous and provide access to many small lakes, features such as Kings Peak, and connections to other trail systems such as the Highline Trail. The camping experience offers opportunities for a diverse mix of campers, too - from the developed campsites at the Uinta Canyon and Wandin sites to true backcountry camping in the Upper Uinta.

“The headwaters of the Uinta and its tributaries begin above the tree line in dramatic cirque basins.”

According to a fly fishing guide, “... the Uinta River offers great roadside fishing and backcountry fishing.”¹²³ The same guide describes the extreme popularity of the Uinta as a fishing recreation area by saying, “The Uinta is a favorite of local people and, if crowds are an issue for you, should probably be avoided on holidays.”¹²⁴

The Uinta mainstem is runnable in May and June. The best section is reportedly an 8-mile stretch starting at Uinta Canyon campground.¹²⁵ The stretch is Class I to III.

The river and tributaries are home to a highly diverse wildlife and fish community. Mammal species include bighorn sheep, black bear, moose, elk, mule deer, mountain goat, river otter beaver, muskrat, pine martin and mink.¹²⁶ Bird species include many migratory birds, gold eagle, goshawk, bald eagle (winter), sage grouse, and ptarmigan.¹²⁷

The wildlife value is important due to the diversity of species, abundance of species, and the overall habitat quality, which is exceptionally high.

Fish species include mountain whitefish; mountain sucker; speckled dace; long nosed dace; and brook, brown, cutthroat and rainbow trout.¹²⁸ The river hosts self-

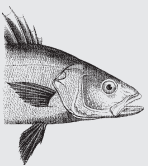
sustaining populations of three native trout species.¹²⁹

Protecting the Uinta River will protect an amazing array of wildlife, diverse recreational opportunities, and stunning scenic vistas in a wild but accessible basin.

EXPLORING THE UPPER UINTA



Hiking the Uinta. The Uinta offers numerous hiking options ranging from a quick day hike to multi-day backpacking trips. From the trailhead (see directions below), the trail climbs up the Uinta River drainage. About 3 miles up the trail splits in two, with the west fork leading away from the main stem up to Chain Lakes and the right fork continuing up the main stem for several more miles. It is possible to make this into a long loop hike, connecting the two forks by following the Highline trail.



Fishing the Uinta. This is a popular fishing river, so if you're looking for solitude plan on hiking up river a ways. The *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah* describes the river as full of nice holes and deep runs, and describes "good fishing" for rainbow and brown trout. Easy road access, plentiful camping and healthy habitat make this river a must-fish!

To reach the trailhead for all the activities above, take UT 40 to Roosevelt and then State Road 121 north out of Roosevelt and travel about 18 miles north to Forest Road 118. This road will take you to the Uinta Canyon and Wandin campgrounds at the edge of the High Uinta Wilderness Area.

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER



he Forest Service has found 33.46 miles of the upper Yellowstone River and a tributary known as Garfield Creek eligible for Wild and Scenic Rivers status. These

river stretches are among the true recreational gems of Utah, and provide critical wildlife and fish habitat deserving of protection.

The Yellowstone's headwaters collect from the jagged alpine cirques along the crest of the Uinta Mountains. The river then descends through one of the most picturesque basins in the Uintas. In the canyon of the Yellowstone, small waterfalls and cascades abound – often following one after another like a staircase. Beaver dams form deep pools throughout the canyons.

Wildflowers and lush riparian areas stretch along the length of the waterways.

The Yellowstone is well used and well loved for its hiking, fishing, equestrian and camping opportunities, and also offers kayaking possibilities.

Hiking in the Yellowstone Basin is phenomenal and popular. One hiking book describes the area this way: "Truly, the Yellowstone has everything ..." ¹³⁰ and: "... you are never without scenic mountain backdrops ..." ¹³¹ Another hiking guide describes the Yellowstone Creek Trail as a hike into "... an exceptionally lovely basin ...". On a recent hike up Swift Creek, we spotted a grandmother and grandson; a group of four teenage boys; a lone older hiker; and a determined fly-fisherman in the course of just a few hours. ¹³²

Fishing is excellent in the basin. The Yellowstone River is profiled in *The Flyfisher's Guide to Utah*, which highlights the fact that the river is home to cutthroats, rainbows, and browns. ¹³³ The Guide notes that fishing is great upstream and downstream of the Swift Creek confluence stating, "It is hard to give advice on a particular section of water to fish. There are miles of great water. Just start walking." ¹³⁴

The basin was also highly recommended as a destination by Jacob Ricks of Falcon's Ledge Flyfishing and Wingshooting Retreat, and Greg Slaughter of Jans Mountain Outfitters. ¹³⁵ Equestrians – both locals and tourists traveling with outfitters – use the area heavily.

"The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources lists the Yellowstone River as one of the few streams in Utah with a genetically pure, native strain of Colorado River cutthroat trout."

Camping in the upper Yellowstone basin is a wilderness experience in an exceptionally scenic canyon with access to fishing in numerous little lakes. Although the Yellowstone River area sees quite a bit of hiking traffic in season, solitude is still possible. One hiking guide went as far to aim that,

"Wherever trees form a windbreak, there are luxuriant campsites." ¹³⁶

Camping in the upper reaches of the basin is similarly beautiful, with good fishing and solitude. Downstream of the confluence with Swift Creek, the Yellowstone offers four popular developed campsites, allowing recreational access for a diverse spectrum of campers.

Below the confluence with Swift Creek, the Yellowstone River is runnable by kayak

in late May and early June.¹³⁷ The section above the reservoir is a Class II+ stream, making it suitable for a broad range of skill levels.¹³⁸

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources lists the Yellowstone River as one of the few streams in Utah with a genetically pure, native strain of Colorado River cutthroat trout. The Basin is also home to bear, mountain goats, and many other wildlife species. The area is especially notable for its active beaver population, which has turned parts of the

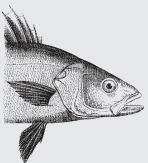
watershed into a wonderland of ponds, marshes, and side-channels which support luxurious wildflowers and healthy grasses while providing a safe haven for juvenile fish.

By protecting the Yellowstone under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, we can secure this haven for wildlife and native fish, while preserving the high quality recreational experiences of the basin. Designating the Yellowstone will conserve a casebook example of what Utahns love about our state.

EXPLORING THE YELLOWSTONE



Hiking the Yellowstone. Starting at the Swift Creek trailhead, you can hike upstream on the Yellowstone to your heart's content. The *Hiking Utah's High Uintas* (Probst and Probst) guide describes a 31-mile round trip to North Star Lake. A shorter hike could follow the Yellowstone for 8 miles before taking the Garfield Basin turnoff up Garfield Creek to Five Point Lake or Superior Lake. Alternately, a loop backpack trip could head up the Swift Creek trail from the trailhead and cross over Bluebell Pass to return heading downstream along the Yellowstone to the trailhead. Some people even use the Yellowstone Creek trail to head up to Kings Peak, although it is a longer approach than Henry's Fork.



Fishing the Yellowstone. The Yellowstone drainage offers something for everyone – backcountry or roadside fishing, stream or lake fishing, and more. For backcountry options, follow the river upstream from the Swift Creek campground; follow the river south if you don't mind being near the road and want an easier stroll. To access some great fishing lakes, head up the Swift Creek trail for access to White Miller, Farmers, Timothy Lakes, Carrol Lakes, X-24 and X-26. For more information, read up in the *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah*.



Boating the Yellowstone. It is possible to boat the Yellowstone, but only if you are skilled and maybe more than a bit adventurous. The main boatable stretch is below the Wild and Scenic stretch – from the Swift Creek campground to Reservoir campground. It is class 2 to 2+, and can be runnable in late May to early June. Check out the *River Runner's Guide to Utah*, which describes the stretch's challenges.

To reach the trailhead for all of the activities above, head north from Duchesne on UT-87 about 32 miles to the Swift Creek Campground.

WHITEROCKS RIVER



located in the far east of the Uintas, the Whiterocks River flows south and east out of high mountain peaks. The Whiterocks River's flows join the Uinta, which flows

into the Duchsene, which in turn enters the mighty Green. The Forest Service has found 34 miles of the Whiterocks system eligible for Wild and Scenic protection.

Although not as well known as some of its neighbor rivers such as the Uinta and the Green, the Whiterocks basin is outstanding for its scenic and recreational values. The Forest Service describes the basin as having beautiful views, particularly of the high peaks and ridgelines of the

“The basin provides summer range for deer and elk, and important migration corridors for mountain goats.”

Uinta Mountains.¹³⁹ The basin also has an excellent diversity of vegetation types due to the elevation contrasts of peaks and ridges and meadows, ranging from noble conifers to dense riparian growth to meadows and bogs.¹⁴⁰

Recreational use of the Whiterocks system is widely varied. The Whiterocks is special because visitors can reach the upper basin by car (unlike many of the surrounding Wilderness rivers) and easily attain access to the wild backcountry. Visitors fish, hunt, horseback ride, hike and camp throughout the system between late June and mid

October.¹⁴¹ Hundreds of visitors a year use the Upper Whiterocks River stretch alone for these activities.¹⁴² In addition, the basin is used by snowmobilers in the winter months – making the recreational season quite long for the Uinta Mountain area.¹⁴³ The Forest Service has noted the basin's “... outstanding backcountry scenery, solitude and fishing” and visitors seem to agree.¹⁴⁴

In addition to the basin's recreational and scenic values, the river system supports a diverse mix of fish and wildlife. The basin provides summer range for deer and elk, and important migration corridors for mountain goats. The system is home to boreal and great grey owls, which are both State Sensitive Species. In addition, the basin provides good habitat for less rare – but no less important – species such as ptarmigan, neotropical migratory bird species, beaver and more.

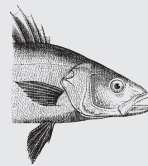
The Forest Service states that all of the eligible stretches have good habitat for fish, particularly due to the stretches' deep pools which provide over-wintering habitat.¹⁴⁵ The stretches are home to brook and rainbow trout, and have the potential to support Colorado River Cutthroat Trout.



Reader Creek is especially important for fisheries habitat, as this is the only stretch in the system that supports Colorado River Cutthroat Trout.¹⁴⁶ The quality of habitat is so high and unaltered by man's activities that the stream is a reference reach used to evaluate stream habitat conditions on other streams.¹⁴⁷ In fact, Reader Creek serves as the epicenter for Colorado River Cutthroat Trout reintroduction. Due to the presence of the Colorado River Cutthroat Trout in Reader Creek, the entire Whiterocks River is managed to protect the native cutthroat trout.

The Whiterocks system deserves protection as a place where the best of Utah's mountain rivers can still be seen and restored. With its outstanding scenic and recreational values, the system is a resource for native Utahns and tourists. The fisheries and habitat values of the river make it a place where Colorado River Cutthroat Trout restoration has a real chance to take hold and bring back an important piece of Utah's heritage.

EXPLORING THE WHITEROCKS



Fishing the Whiterocks. The Whiterocks is described as "... a delightful little stream ..." with "... many characteristics that make it a truly fun place to dap a fly: access is good, the scenery is fine, and no great skill is required ...".¹⁴⁸ What more could you ask for? Access is via FR 117 out of the town of Whiterocks. For directions and fishing advice, see the *Flyfisher's Guide to Utah*.



Hiking the Whiterocks. The Whiterocks river system is full of hiking opportunities. From the trailhead at Chepeta Lake you can take one of three trails to hike downstream along the Upper Whiterocks or you can choose one of several trails to cross over to the East Fork of the Whiterocks. Another possibility is to hike Reader Creek from a trailhead located about ½ mile south of the end of Forest Service Road 110. Reader Creek offers excellent examples of glaciation. All of these trails make nice long day hikes or are great to explore on multi-day backpacking trips.

Access to all of these activities from Forest Service Road 110. Follow UT 40 to Roosevelt. Take 121 north towards the town of Whiterocks (note: 121 jogs right after about 10 miles – stay on 121!). Turn left (north) on Whiterocks Highway, passing through the town of Whiterocks. Follow this towards the end of the road and take Forest Service Road 117 towards the north-east. Forest Service Road becomes FR 110, which will take you to the trailhead.

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- ¹²⁵ Nichols, Gary. A River Runner's Guide to Utah and Adjacent Areas.
- ¹²⁶ Utah Rivers Council. A Citizen's Proposal to Protect the Wild Rivers of Utah. 1997.
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- ¹³¹ Ibid.
- ¹³² August 8, 2004 hike by author.
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- ¹³⁴ Ibid.
- ¹³⁵ August 2004 phone interviews with URC intern, Nala Rodgers.
- ¹³⁶ Hall, Dave. Hiking Utah. Falcon Publishing, 1991.
- ¹³⁷ Nichols, Gary. A River Runners' Guide to Utah and Adjacent Areas.
- ¹³⁸ Ibid
- ¹³⁹ Ashley National Forest. Final Eligibility of Wild and Scenic Rivers. July 2005.
- ¹⁴⁰ Ibid.
- ¹⁴¹ Ibid.
- ¹⁴² Ibid.
- ¹⁴³ Ibid.
- ¹⁴⁴ Ashley National Forest. Final Eligibility of Wild and Scenic Rivers. July 2005. Page 102.
- ¹⁴⁵ Ashley National Forest. Final Eligibility of Wild and Scenic Rivers. July 2005.
- ¹⁴⁶ Ibid.
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APPENDIX

Most Beloved Rivers in Utah's National Forests

River	Other Segments	Classification	Miles	County	Forest
Green River		Scenic	13	Daggett	Ashley
Logan River	1) Idaho state line to confluence with Beaver Creek 2) Confluence with Beaver Creek to bridge at Guinah-Malibu campground 3) Beaver Creek 4) White Pine Creek 5) Temple Fork 6) Spawn Creek 7) Bunchgrass Creek 8) Little Bear Creek	Scenic Recreational Recreational Wild Scenic Wild Scenic Scenic	7 19 3 1 6 4 5 1	Cache	Wasatch-Cache
Henrys Fork		Wild	8	Summit	Wasatch-Cache
North Fork Virgin River		Wild	1	Kane	Dixie
Uinta River	1) Upper Uinta River 2) Shale Creek	Wild Wild	40 10	Duchesne	Ashley
Headwaters of Bear River	1) Hayden Fork 2) Ostler Fork 3) Stillwater 4) East, Left, Right hand forks of East Fork of Bear 5) Boundary Creek	Recreational Wild Wild & Scenic Wild Wild	12 4 14 13 4	Summit	Wasatch-Cache
Whiterocks River	1) Upper Whiterocks 2) West Fork Whiterocks 3) East Fork Whiterocks 4) Reader Creek 5) Middle Main Whiterocks	Scenic Scenic Scenic Scenic Wild	4 11 4 6 9	Duchesne & Uintah	Ashley
Upper Yellowstone	1) Upper Yellowstone 2) Garfield Creek	Wild Wild	33 17	Duchesne	Ashley
Fish & Gooseberry Creek		Scenic & Recreational	21	Utah, Carbon & San Pete	Manti
Outstanding Segments of the Provo River	1) North Fork Provo River 2) Little Provo Deer Creek 3) Provo River (Trial Lake to UT-35 Bridge)	Recreational Recreational Recreational	1 3 20	Utah, Wasatch & Summit	Wasatch-Cache & Uinta
Huntington Creek	1) Huntington Creek 2) Lower Left Fork Huntington	Recreational Scenic	19 5	Emery	Manti
Butts, Arch, and Texas Canyons		Scenic	19	San Juan	Manti-La Sal
Hammond Canyon		Scenic	10	San Juan	Manti-La Sal
Dark Canyon		Wild & Recreational	67	San Juan	Manti-La Sal
Moody Wash		Recreational	5	Washington	Dixie
Death Hollow Creek		Wild	10	Garfield	Dixie
Manning Creek		Wild	4	Piute	Fishlake

RESOURCES

Additional Information

Utah Rivers Council

Lots of information about Wild and Scenic River and Utah specific information.
www.utahrivers.org

Interagency Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council

A council comprised of representatives of the Forest Service, National Park Service, and BLM. Tons of great, useful information and publications about Wild and Scenic Rivers.
http://www.rivers.gov/index.html

Forest Service Statewide Suitability Study Website

http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/rivers/

Utah National Forests

Ashley National Forest

355 North Vernal Ave.
Vernal, UT 84078
(435) 789-1181
http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/ashley/

Dixie National Forest

1789 North Wedgewood Lane
Cedar City, UT 84720
(435) 865-3700
http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/dixie/

Fishlake National Forest

115 E 900 N
Richfield, UT 84701
(435) 896-9233
http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/fishlake/

Manti-LaSal National Forest

599 W. Price River Drive
Price, UT 84501
(435) 637-2817
http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/mantilasal/

Uinta National Forest

88 West 100 North
PO Box 1428
Provo, UT 84601
(801) 342-5100
http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/uinta/

Wasatch-Cache National Forest

125 South State Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84138
(801) 236-3400
http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/wcnf/

State of Utah

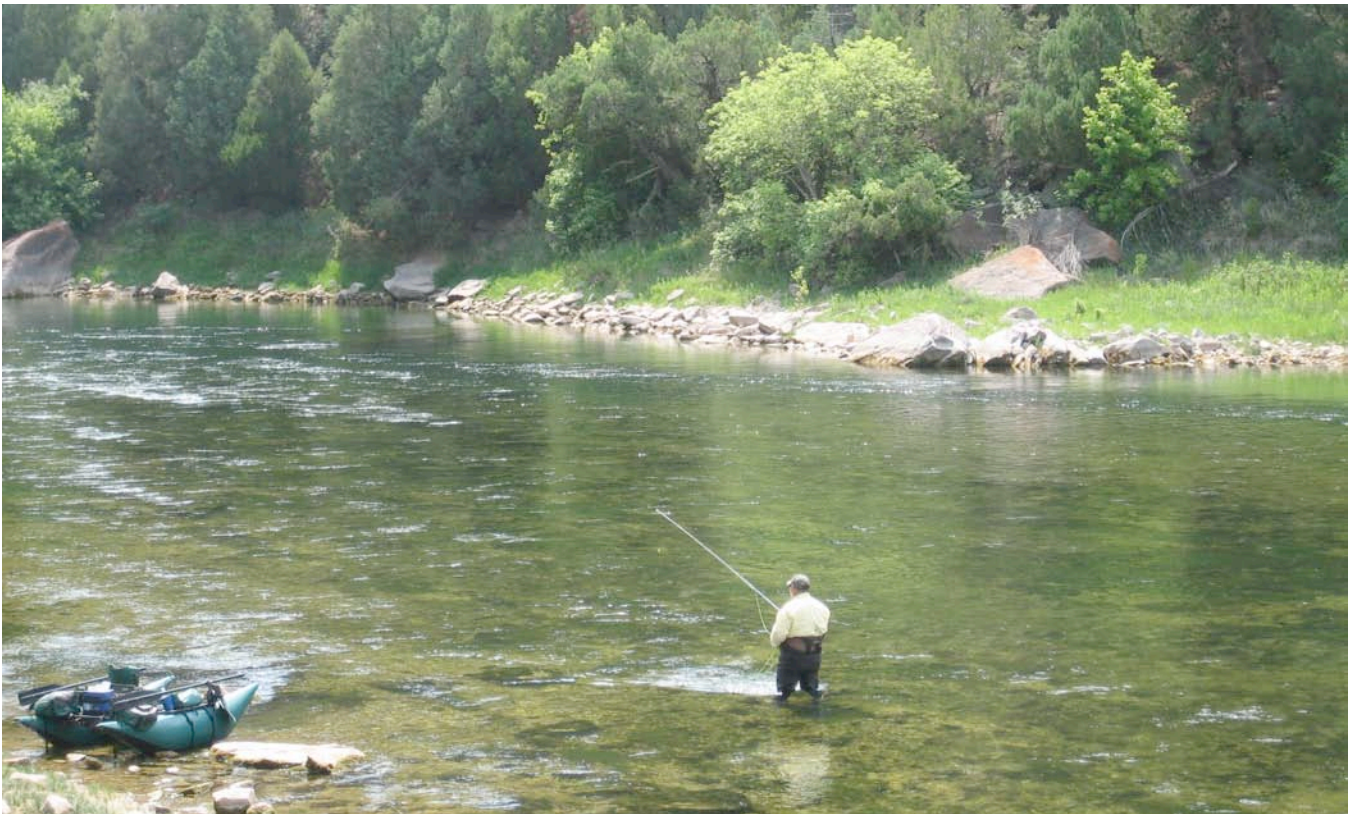
Governor's Public Lands Policy Coordination Office

5110 State Office Building
PO Box 141107
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-1107
(801) 537-9801
http://governor.utah.gov/publiclands/default.htm

PHOTOS



Boating and fishing on the Green River, Mark Danenhauer and Ian Goduti



PHOTOS



Death Hollow, Craig Sorensen



Gooseberry Creek, David Brown



The Death Hollow Canyon, K. Watts



Logan River, Scott Smith



Whiterocks River, US Forest Service

PHOTOS



Headwaters of the Bear River, Merritt Frey



Upper Provo River, Jeremy Christensen



Fish Creek, Mike Medberry



Henrys Fork, Eric Green



Huntington Creek, Bryan Brown



Arch Canyon, Ray Bloxham



Get Wild with a River!

Get involved with protecting your favorite river through the Council's Get Wild with a River campaign. This campaign will ensure Utah's most outstanding rivers on Forest Service land are protected under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. By 'adopting' a candidate river, you will help make sure outstanding rivers get the protection they deserve. This is your opportunity to speak out for your favorite river. To sign up to Get Wild with a River or learn more about what it entails visit: www.utahrivers.org and follow links to Get Wild with a River.

Utah Rivers Council
protect • restore • explore

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