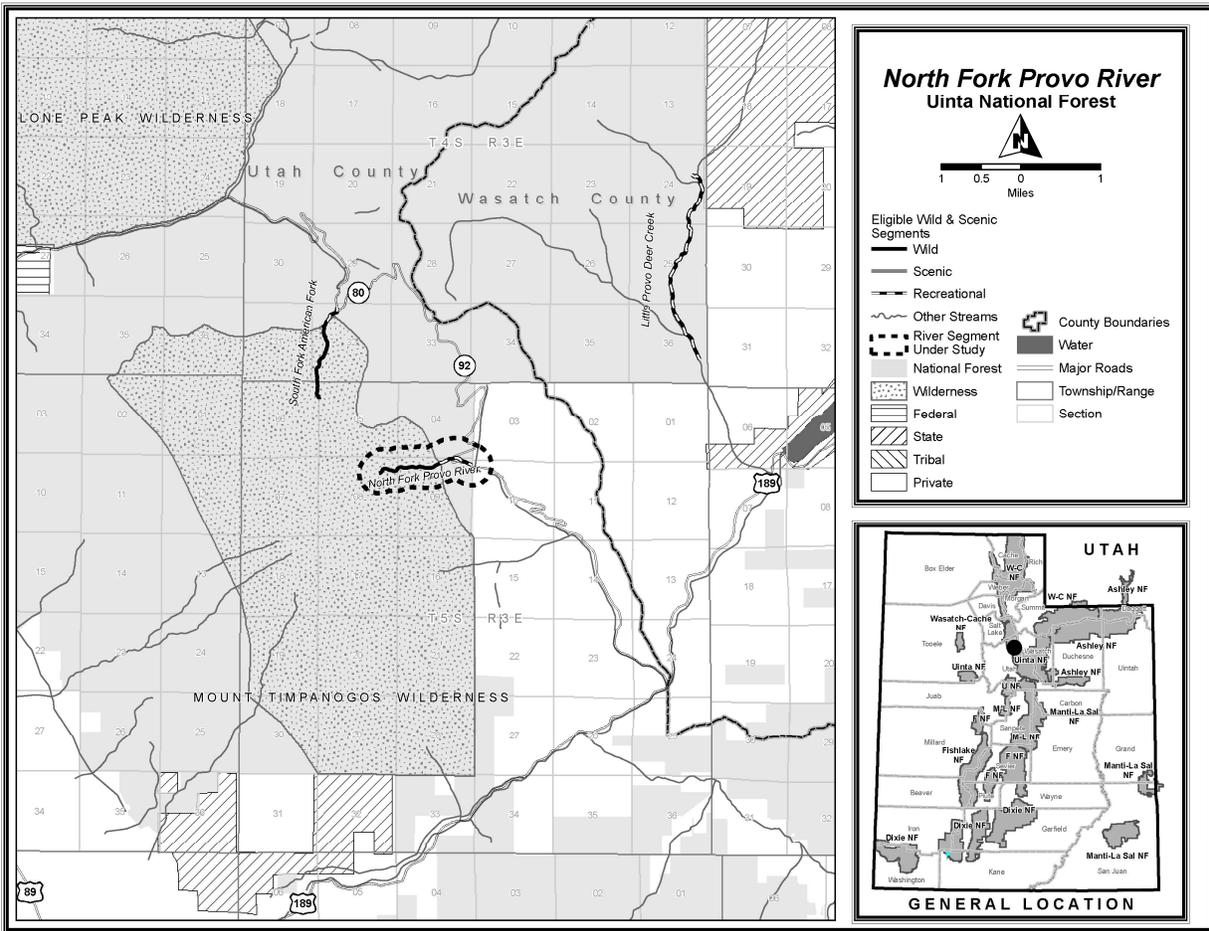


North Fork Provo River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: North Fork Provo River

River Mileage:

Studied: 1.3 miles from the confluence near the National Forest boundary and Mt. Timpanogos Campground to the headwater spring in Section 8.

Eligible: Same

Location:

North Fork Provo River	Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Pleasant Grove Ranger District, Utah County, Utah		Congressional District 3	
	Start – Legal Description	End - Legal Description	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NE ¼ NE ¼, Sect. 8, T5S, R3E	NW ¼ NE ¼, Sect. 9, T5S, R3E	Wild	0.9
Segment 2	NW ¼ NE ¼, Sect. 9, T5S, R3E	NW ¼ NW ¼, Sect. 10, T5S, R3E	Recreational	0.4

Segment 1 - Confluence with another North Fork tributary just above the National Forest Boundary and just below Mount Timpanogos Campground, to the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness boundary, as a recreational river (0.4 miles)

Segment 2 - From Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness boundary to headwater spring in Section 8, as

a wild river (0.9 miles)

Physical Description of River Segment: North Fork Provo River is a small high mountain stream originating from a series of springs located in glacial cirques high on Mt. Timpanogos. The stream descends through a series of glacial cirques, down steep exposed glacial headwall cliffs, into a glacially carved valley below. Upper reaches of the stream are extremely steep with several waterfalls. Exposed rock strata and steep cliffs common in the area. Elevations range from about 8,160 feet at the headwaters in Section 8 to about 6,870 feet at the lower end of the segment in Section 10. The stream's course, particularly in the upper half of the segment, is steep; dropping 1,290 feet over the 1.3 mile segment length. The lower portion (about half) of the river traverses through a glacial valley and is not as steep. At high flows the entire length of the study segment flows water. However, when flows are lower the stream disappears into the coarse cobble and gravel glacial, colluvial, and alluvial materials in the valley floor. The point at which this occurs varies depending upon the stream flow, ranging from just above the Wilderness boundary to a few hundred yards further upstream. The valley floor is subject to avalanches and debris flows which periodically modify the stream channel here. The river forks into multiple channels as it traverses through the valley bottom. Two primary channels exist: one following the northern side of the valley bottom and the other the following the southern side of the valley. The southern channel, currently only flows when water is collected from the adjacent slopes (to the south) and during very high runoff periods. The southern channel and associated side-channels are crossed by the Stewart-Cascade Trail (#056) via fords and rock and log culverts, a trail accessing Theater-in-the-Pines Picnic Site (bridges and a culvert), and the Theater-in-the-Pines Amphitheater (culvert) and group site. The southern channel leaves National Forest System (NFS) lands just below the Theater-in-the-Pines Group Site parking area. The northern channel (which is identified as the river for this study) is currently the primary North Fork channel. This channel is crossed by the Aspen Grove (Mt. Timpanogos) Trail (#052) via a bridge and culvert (on a side channel), State Route 92 (culvert), and Mount Timpanogos Campground Road (#70140). This channel joins another North Fork tributary on NFS lands just below Mount Timpanogos Campground and just above the Forest Service/private property boundary.

ELIGIBILITY

This segment of North Fork Provo River is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as it is free-flowing and has outstandingly remarkable scenic value. The portion of segment within Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness is eligible as a wild river, while the portion below the Wilderness boundary is eligible as a recreational river.

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: *Final Inventory of Rivers on the Uinta National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, January 1998.*

Determination of Free-flow: The North Fork Provo River is free of major channel modification, and is free of major structures, and thus is free-flowing. This portion of the North Fork Provo River is mostly unaltered from a hydrological perspective. Debris from a 2004 avalanche clogged the northern valley bottom channel and destroyed a trail bridge. The few yards of channel affected were recently cleared. As described above, the lower reaches of the river segment are intermittent due to coarse channel substrate and streamflows are generated only during snowmelt and high intensity storm events. Some springs in the corridor have been developed and diverted, but there are no water diversions from the channel. The trails in the corridor do not impinge on or affect the stream's hydrologic character.

Determination of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic Value – The stream and features in the entire viewshed contribute significantly to the overall scenic quality of the segment. The stream is steep, traversing from its alpine headwaters on Mt. Timpanogos through the forest below. There is a wide variety of vegetation in the corridor and along the stream including alpine grasses, forbs and wildflowers in the upper reaches; to riparian cottonwood,

oak/maple, Douglas-fir, spruce-fir, and aspen forests with diverse grass, forb and wildflower understories at the lower reaches. Similar vegetation communities and diversity can be found both within the corridor and on other mountain slopes adjoining the corridor and in the vicinity. In the fall, this diversity of vegetation communities is especially attractive with its mosaic of yellow, orange, red, browns and greens. This fall color attracts thousands of viewers to the Aspen Grove (Mt. Timpanogos) National Recreation Trail and American Fork Scenic Backway which cross through the corridor. Mt. Timpanogos is also widely known for its wild flowers. Each summer thousands of visitors traverse the Mt. Timpanogos National Recreation Trail to view wildflowers in the meadows and on the slopes in, adjacent to, and above the corridor. Lower reaches of the stream are intermittent, but the intermittent water still supports mesic plants such as cottonwood, willow, grasses, forbes and wildflowers which contribute to the scenic diversity. The upper half or so of the segment is perennial and is characterized by steep cascading runs and several short waterfalls. These are visible in several places from the stream and trail below. The Mt. Timpanogos National Recreation Trail passes under or next to some of these, which contributes greatly to the aesthetic and recreational appeal. The stream plunges from the heights of Mt. Timpanogos through a glacial cirque and into the glacial valley below. The exposed geologic strata and steep cliffs along the stream, in the corridor, and on nearby mountain slopes contribute to the scenic diversity and quality of the scenery. The summit of Mt. Timpanogos, located outside the corridor, provides a not too distant majestic scenic focal point for viewers located along the stream and trail. This combination of features and access are unusual in northern Utah. The eligibility inventory rated this segment as scenic, regionally significant, with a high value in diversity of view, high value in special features and high value in seasonal variation. Cultural modification is highly appropriate.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River Segment: Segment 1—Recreational; Segment 2—Wild
 The portion of the stream within the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness is eligible as a wild river, fully meeting the wild criteria. The portion below the wilderness boundary is eligible as a recreational river as it is readily accessible by road.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The corridor for the 1.3 mile-long river segment encompasses about 461 acres, and all of this is on National Forest System (NFS) lands administered by the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. Privately-owned property directly adjoins the river segment to the east, but no private lands occur within the corridor. The *2003 Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan* (Uinta Forest Plan) made the following land allocations for this area:

Uinta Forest Plan Management Allocations				
Management Area	Overlying Management Prescription Allocation		Underlying Management Prescription Allocation	
Lower Provo	2.1 – Wild and Scenic Rivers – Wild	317 acres	1.4 - Wilderness	317 acres
	2.3 – Wild and Scenic Rivers – Recreation	144 acres	3.1 - Aquatic, Terrestrial and Aquatic Resource Emphasis	84 acres
			4.4 - Dispersed Recreation Emphasis	40 acres
			4.5 - Dispersed Recreation Emphasis	20 acres

The entire North Fork Provo River corridor lies in Utah County, Utah, and all of it lies within the

“Mountain Resort and Recreation Zone” identified in the 1997 Utah County General Plan. The intent and purpose of this zone includes carefully utilizing the resources of the watershed, wildlife, soils, vegetation, and scenic beauty while considering the delicate nature of the land; preserving the aesthetic appearance of the landscape; and protect water influence areas, flood plains, vital big game winter range, ground water recharge areas, and other sensitive lands from incompatible development.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no existing salable, locatable, or leasable mineral and energy resources development occurring in the corridor or adjacent area. This area is considered to have low potential for oil and gas resources. At this time, no lands within the corridor have been identified as available and suitable for leasing. The wild segment within the wilderness would not be open to leasing. An oil and gas leasing analysis is underway (decision anticipated winter 2008-2009), and this would determine the availability and suitability of the recreation segment for leasing. Due to the retention visual quality objective, Alpine Loop Scenic Backway, Mount Timpanogos Campground and Theater-in-the-Pine Site the proposed action for this leasing analysis the recreation segment would make this segment available for leasing with No Surface Occupancy and Controlled Surface Use stipulations.

Water Resources Development – This portion of the North Fork Provo River has little alteration from a hydrological perspective. There are no historic, current, or known planned Federal Energy Regulatory Commission permits or license applications for this corridor. Downstream from this segment, the BOR has withdrawn lands to support its Provo River /CUP project, Bonneville Unit. Designation into the National Wild and Scenic River System does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Three trails, one State highway, the Timpanogos Emergency Response Team (TERT) shed, and several Forest campground roads are within the corridor. The Aspen Grove (Mt. Timpanogos) Trail, #052, is a very popular non-motorized trail accessing Mt. Timpanogos from Mt. Timpanogos Campground and a large paved trailhead (with restrooms). The lower reaches of this trail are paved. About 0.3 miles of this trail below the Wilderness boundary, and 1.6 miles above the wilderness boundary lie within the river corridor. This trail crosses the stream via a culvert and wooden bridge, and in one place goes under a waterfall. The Lame Horse Trail (#055), a section of the Great Western Trail, is open to motorcycles and extends from the Aspen Grove Trail north out of the corridor. The Stewart-Cascade Trail, #056, is a non-motorized trail running from Aspen Grove parking lot out of the corridor to the south and east.

About 0.6 miles of Utah State Highway 92 crosses through the east end of the corridor. This very popular paved National Scenic Backway is well-known for its spectacular scenery, particularly in the fall. The Backway runs from Provo Canyon to and thru American Fork Canyon. Sundance Ski Area, BYU’s Aspen Grove facility, and the North Fork Provo community are located on private land just to the east and south of the corridor. Theater-in-the-Pines, a CCC-constructed amphitheater/Group Site, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The Aspen Grove (Mt. Timpanogos) National Recreation Trail (#052) crosses the stream in places; in one location via a bridge. This trail bridge was crushed by a 2004 avalanche in the drainage and rocks and gravel collected behind the bridge. This section of trail and bridge have been relocated. The Stewart-Cascade Trail (#056) crosses the secondary southern stream channel with rock and log culverts and fords, and does not affect the stream’s hydrologic character.

Two water developments exist within the corridor. A pipeline extends from 3 springs in a headwater tributary down-valley for domestic and irrigation use in the Mt. Timpanogos Campground and the North Fork Community. The pipeline is located beneath the old Mt. Timpanogos Trail alignment and includes a partially buried valve-box adjacent to the trail, approximately 0.25 miles above the trailhead. This valve-box separates US Forest Service and North Fork Special Service District water. Pipelines extend down-canyon from here to their points of use in and below the corridor. The North Fork Service District’s water

is routed to their treatment plant near the Aspen Grove facility below the Forest Boundary. The Forest Service portion is stored in a 10,000-gallon underground storage tank located a few feet north of the Aspen Grove Trail and just within the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness. The storage tank is scheduled to receive heavy maintenance, or to be relocated and replaced.

Grazing Activities – None of the corridor is within an open grazing allotment and no lands within the corridor are considered suitable for domestic livestock grazing.

Recreation Activities – Mt. Timpanogos Trail (#052) runs along the river corridor. The stream segment is not the primary draw of the area for hikers; rather it is the wilderness setting and scenic hiking experiences that pull in most users. An estimated 13,000 visitors use this corridor each year to access the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness, and portions of the corridor are accessible year-round. The area has an unusually high percent of visitors from outside the region due to the proximity of Sundance Ski Area and Brigham Young University's Aspen Grove facility. These two sources contribute approximately 30% of the use in the area. There is dispersed camping in the wilderness, and Mt. Timpanogos is designated as a wildlife viewing area. Developed camping occurs at the Theater-in-the-Pines Amphitheater/Group Site and in Mt. Timpanogos Campgrounds. Both of these are heavily used during the summer season, particularly on holidays and weekends. The Alpine Loop Scenic Backway (SR 92) is heavily used, especially during the fall, by bikers and motorists enjoying the scenery in the area. SR 92 is also groomed in the winter and receives considerable snowmobile use.

Other Resource Activities – No lands within the corridor are considered suitable for timber harvest, and there are no farming activities within the river corridor.

Special Designations – The Alpine Loop Scenic Backway (SR 92) are partly within the river corridor. The wild segment is within the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness. Mt. Timpanogos is also designated as a wildlife viewing area.

Socio-Economic Environment – The entire river segment is located in Utah County, Utah. 2006 Census data indicates the population of Utah County is 464,460, and about 1,389 of these work in the entertainment and recreation industries. Utah County is an urban county, with about 343,000 acres (about 25%) of the 1,370,000-acre county in farms. An estimated 13,000 visitors use this corridor each year to access the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness, and portions of the corridor are accessible year-around. This area receives an unusually high percent of visitors from outside the region than other areas of the Forest due to the proximity of Sundance Ski Area and Brigham Young University's (BYU) Aspen Grove facility. Sundance and BYUs Aspen Grove facility are located near/adjacent to, but not within the corridor. These facilities are major attractions that generate substantial economic contributions. The area has social ties to area communities; most visitors are within a 21 mile radius of Provo, Utah, and repeatedly return to the area (Recreation Facilities Master Plan).

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency is the USFS. The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation since 2001, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104) The North Fork Provo River would likely be a low or moderate complexity river.

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent to which the State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including costs, should it be proposed for inclusion in the National System.

The entire corridor, as delineated is in Utah County, Utah, on NFS lands administered by the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The lower end of the corridor as delineated was truncated at the ownership boundary rather than being extended a ¼-mile below the end of the delineated reach of river. If it had not been truncated, the corridor would have extended onto nearby private land.

Utah County supported inclusion of this segment in the NWSRS when it was inventoried, but more recently they question the manageability of this segment (due to its short length) and do not support its designation. The State of Utah has not committed whether they would support preservation and administration of the river segment. Considering this, it is unlikely either the County or State would participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river.

(2) The state/local government’s ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any local zoning and/or land use controls that appear to conflict with protection of river values.

Not applicable, as the entire river corridor encompasses approximately 461 acres, and all of this is located on NFS lands administered by the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. There are no non-federally managed lands within the corridor. Designation appears to be compatible with the zoning allocation (Mountain Resort and Recreation Zone) in the 1997 Utah County Plan.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Fourteen comment letters were received on the *Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Uinta National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (1997)*. One of these letters was from Utah County. The Utah County Planner supported the Forest’s findings and stated “At this time, I would agree that the four river segments chosen for recommendation as part of the NWSRS findings (North Fork of the Provo River, South Fork of the American Fork River, Fifth Water Creek, and Little Provo Deer Creek) are great examples of scenic and unique river segments in the United States. While human impacts have left little truly “wild” areas within this area of the state, these rivers do reflect the wild and scenic characteristics that, I believe, are the intent of this Federal designation.”

Additionally, three comments were received from the public on the *Draft Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement*. All three were in support of designation of river segments (2003 FEIS, Appendix L).

In response to scoping for the State-wide EIS, 5 comments specific to North Fork Provo River were received. The Mountainland Association of Governments and Utah County both questioned if it was wise to designate such short river segments considering the potential cost associated with management and that existing policies (i.e., wilderness designation) are in place to protect these segments. The Brigham Young University (BYU) Aspen Grove facility was not in favor of designation. They also commented that if this segment is designated, they would like to have the designated segment end at the campground boundary about ¼-mile above the property boundary as they are planning on building a number of new improvements and would prefer not to be guided by federal land use and resource management objectives. American Rivers and Utah Rivers Council/Center for Biological Diversity supported designation and commented that the segment has one of the most incredible, jaw dropping views along the Wasatch Front and receives a lot of visitor use.

In the recent State-wide DEIS comment period, the Forest Service received approximately 375 original responses and 2,183 organized campaign responses for a total of 2,558 total responses. The 2,183 organized campaign responses support a positive suitability finding and designation, as follows:

- ◆ There were six requests that the Forest Service designate about 20 rivers/river systems, including the

North Fork Provo River and Little Provo Deer Creek.

- ◆ There were 737 responses that support a positive suitability finding for all outstanding rivers in Utah's National Forests. This organized campaign response identified several rivers/river systems, including North Fork Provo River and Little Provo Deer Creek, as "the best of the best" in Utah's National Forests, especially deserving of the Wild and Scenic designation.
- ◆ There were 1,440 responses that support a positive suitability finding for all 86 eligible rivers in Utah's National Forests, listing about 40 (including North Fork Provo and Little Provo Deer Creek) that especially possess qualities that place them at the top of the list of rivers to be included.

Of the 375 original responses received on the State-wide DEIS, 13 related specifically and 3 generally related to river segments on the Uinta portion of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The general responses supported suitability for all rivers in the study. Four of the 375 original responses specifically commented on North Fork Provo River. The Utah Rivers Council and two individuals supported suitability for all study rivers, and especially for some including this river. Utah Rivers Council also noted that thousands of others also supported this. The North Fork Special District opposed suitability, noting designation could severely impact the operation of their water system and that increasing the protection was unnecessarily.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

All of this segment lies on NFS lands managed by the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, and all of this river segment lies within Utah County, Utah. Designation is consistent with the 2003 Uinta Forest Plan direction. Designation appears to be compatible with the zoning allocation (Mountain Resort and Recreation Zone) in the 1997 Utah County Plan. The State of Utah, Division of Water Resources, expressed no concerns with designation of this segment when they commented on the 1997 Draft Inventory.

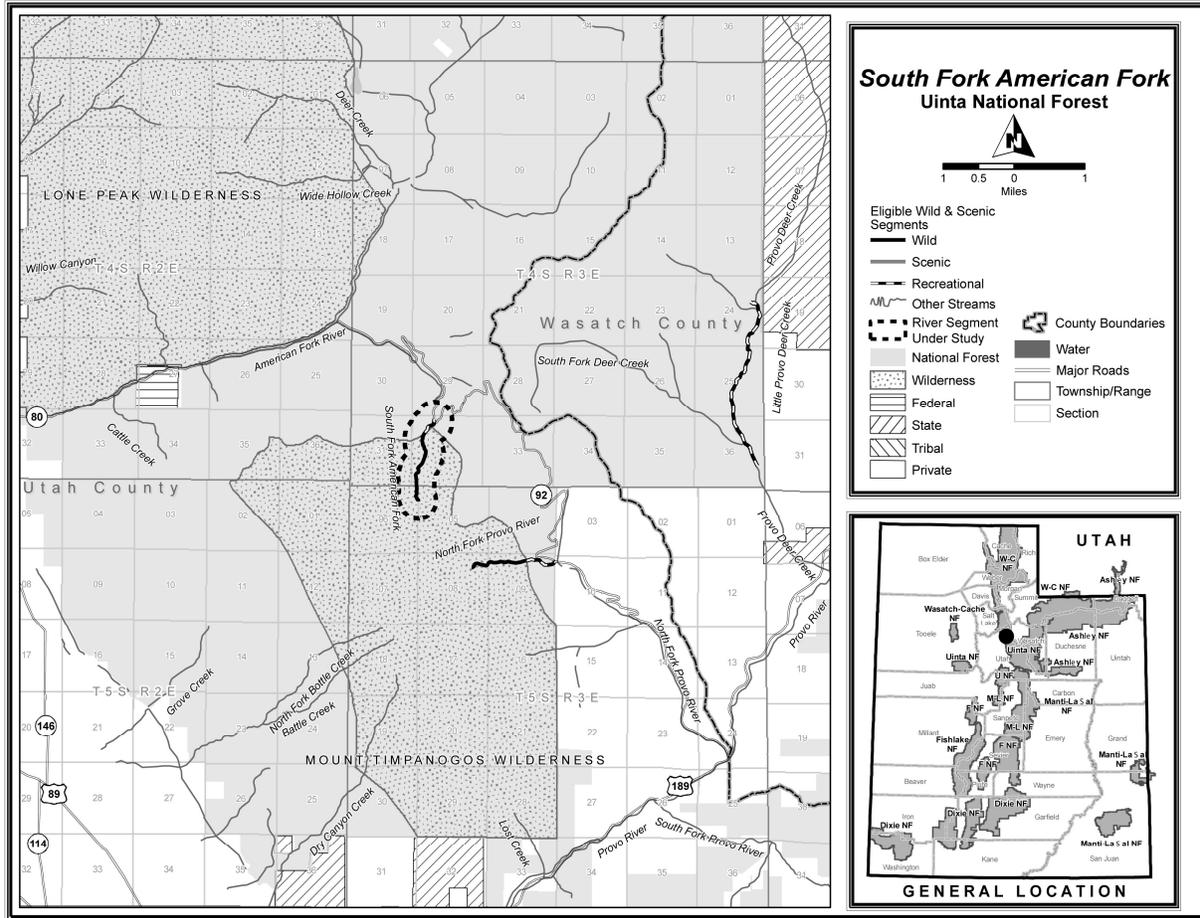
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the basin integrity as it incorporates the source of the North Fork Provo River. The majority of this segment is within the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness Area, so designation of this stream segment would provide additional but similar protection to the stream. This 1.3-mile long segment would have more basin integrity if the segment was longer (e.g., it extended an additional 5.2 miles to the North Fork's confluence with the Provo River); however, the lower 5.2-mile reach is intermittent in places and was not found to have any outstandingly remarkable values.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

No commitment has been expressed to date. Brigham Young University's (BYU) Aspen Grove facility, which is located directly adjacent to but not within the corridor, and the North Fork Water Conservancy District, who uses water diverted from within the corridor, have expressed concern about designation. These two entities are highly influential, and with their concerns it is unlikely Utah County or the State would commit resources for management of this corridor. The nearby Sundance Ski Area might potentially be interested, but to date they have not commented. The Pleasant Grove Ranger District which manages this river has a long history of high volunteerism. It is likely that, regardless of the support or potential lack of support by the entities named above, volunteers would come forward or could be found to help with management of the river segment. It is less likely partners for funding management of this river segment would step forward.

South Fork, American Fork Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: South Fork American Fork

River Mileage:

Segment 1 - South Fork American Fork

Studied: 0.3 miles, from confluence below Timpooneke Campground and State Road 92 to Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness boundary

Eligible: Same

Segment 2 - South Fork American Fork

Studied: 1.1 miles, from Wilderness boundary to Scout Falls Spring

Eligible: Same

Location:

South Fork American Fork	Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Pleasant Grove Ranger District, Utah County, Utah		Congressional District 3	
	Start – Legal Description	End – Legal Description	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 6, T5S, R3E	NE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 6, T5S, R3E	Wild	1.1
Segment 2	NW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 32, T4S, R3E	NE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 32, T4S, R3E	Recreational	0.3

Physical Description of River Segment: South Fork American Fork is a high mountain stream originates from a series of springs located in glacial cirques high on Mt. Timpanogos. The stream descends through a series of glacial cirques, down steep exposed glacial headwall cliffs, into a glacially carved valley below. Upper reaches of the stream are extremely steep with waterfalls in some places, the most prominent and well known being Scout Falls. The lower reaches have a gentler gradient. Most of the stream and its corridor is natural appearing and undisturbed except for trails, State Road 92 crossing, and Timpooneke Campground and trailhead located at the lower-most end of this river segment. Elevations along the segment range from about 7160 to 8200 feet.

ELIGIBILITY

This segment of South Fork American Fork is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as it is free flowing and has outstandingly remarkable scenic value. The portion of the stream within the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness is potentially eligible as a wild river, while the portion below the wilderness boundary is eligible as a recreational river.

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: *Final Inventory of Rivers on the Uinta National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, January 1998.*

Determination of Free-flow: The South Fork American Fork has no diversions or other structures within this segment, and thus is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic Value – The stream course and features in the entire watershed contribute significantly to the overall scenic quality of the segment. The stream course is steep, traversing from its alpine headwaters on Mt. Timpanogos through the forest below. There is a wide variety of vegetation in the corridor and along the stream including alpine grasses, forbs and wildflowers in the upper reaches; to riparian cottonwood, oak/maple, Douglas-fir, spruce-fir, and aspen forests with rich grass, forb and wildflower understories at the lower reaches. Similar vegetation communities and diversity can be found both within the corridor and on other mountain slopes adjoining the corridor and in the vicinity. In the fall, this diversity of vegetation communities is especially attractive with its mosaic of yellow, orange, red, browns and greens. This fall color attracts thousands of viewers to the American Fork Scenic Backway which crosses the very lower end of the corridor. Mt. Timpanogos is also widely known for its wild flowers. Each summer thousands of visitors traverse the Giant Staircase-Timpooneke Trail, a portion of a National Recreation Trail, through the corridor to view wildflowers found on the alpine meadows and slopes in, adjacent to, and above the corridor. The stream though small, is characterized by steep cascading runs and short waterfalls. Scout Falls, located at the very upper end of this segment, is a well-known and relatively popular local attraction. The Giant Staircase-Timpooneke Trail is generally not located immediately adjacent to the stream, but does lie within and extends the length of the corridor. Distant (but still within the corridor) views of the stream and falls contribute to the aesthetic and recreational appeal of this very heavily used trail. The stream descends from the heights of Mt. Timpanogos through a glacial cirque and valley. The exposed geologic strata and steep cliffs along the stream, in the corridor, and on nearby mountain slopes contribute to the scenic diversity and quality of the scenery. The summit of Mt. Timpanogos, located outside the corridor, provides a not to distant majestic scenic focal point for the scenery observed from the stream and trail. The Inventory rated this segment as scenic, regionally significant, with a high value in diversity of view, special features and seasonal variation. Cultural modification is highly appropriate.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River Segment: Segment 1—Recreational; Segment 2—Wild
The portion of the stream within the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness is eligible as a wild river, fully meeting

the wild criteria, while the portion below the wilderness boundary is eligible as a recreational river as there is substantial evidence of human activity and is mostly adjacent to roads.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The entire 1.4 mile-long river corridor encompasses approximately 471 acres, and all of this is located on National Forest System (NFS) lands administered by the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The 2003 Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Uinta Forest Plan) made the following land allocations for this area:

Uinta Forest Plan Management Allocations				
Management Area	Overlying Management Prescription Allocation		Underlying Management Prescription Allocation	
American Fork	2.1 – Wild and Scenic Rivers – Wild	383 acres	1.4 - Wilderness	383 acres
	2.3 – Wild and Scenic Rivers – Recreation	151 acres	3.1 - Aquatic, Terrestrial and Aquatic Resource Emphasis	7 acres
			3.2 – Watershed Emphasis	9 acres
			4.4 - Dispersed Recreation Emphasis	45 acres
			4.5 - Dispersed Recreation Emphasis	26 acres

The entire South Fork American Fork river corridor is within the Critical Environmental Zone Planning Area of the Utah County General Plan. The intent and purpose of this zone includes conserving the water resource in a way that will assure a continued supply of pure water in the streams, springs, and wells which sustains the civilization occupying the valley floor of the county; most effectively use the wildlife resources found in the area; and conserve and use the valuable tourism and scenic resources of the county’s uplands.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no existing salable, locatable, or leasable mineral and energy resources development occurring in the corridor or adjacent area. This area is considered to have low potential for oil and gas resources. At this time, no lands within the corridor have been identified as available and suitable for leasing. The wild segment within the wilderness would not be open to leasing. An oil and gas leasing analysis is underway (decision anticipated winter 2008-2009), and this would determine the availability and suitability of the recreation segment for leasing. Due to the retention visual quality objective, Alpine Loop Scenic Backway, Timpooneke Campground and Altamont Campground the proposed action for this leasing analysis the recreation segment would make this segment available for leasing with No Surface Occupancy and Controlled Surface Use stipulations.

Water Resources Development – There are no historic, current or known Federal Energy Regulatory Commission permits or license applications filed for this segment. Designation into the National Wild and Scenic River System does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Access to the river corridor is via Utah State Highway (SR) 92. This is a narrow paved highway that is open seasonally. SR 92 is a Scenic Backway. The only diversions or other structures on this river segment are two trail/road crossings located in the lower 0.3 miles of the corridor. These consist of a culvert crossing (3 small [~12”] culverts) for Utah State Road (SR) 92 and a bridge crossing (2 wooden bridges) where Trail #150 crosses the river.

Three trails pass through the corridor. The Giant Staircase-Timpooneke Trail, Forest Trail #053, is a well developed connecting the trailhead by SR 92 and Timpooneke Campground (CG) with the upper elevations and Aspen Grove (Mt. Timpanogos) Trail on Mt. Timpanogos. This trail is part of the Mt. Timpanogos National Recreation Trail. The Giant Staircase-Timpooneke Trail is heavily used, and is open to non-motorized, non-mechanized use. This trail follows the river for its length, though in most places the river is not directly adjacent to or visible from the trail. The trailhead has a parking lot with restrooms. The Timpooneke-Chris Flats section of the Great Western Trail, Forest Trail #151, connects Trail #053 and Timpooneke CG with other trails and points west. Forest Trail #150, another section of the GWT, connects Trail #053 and Timpooneke CG with other trails and points northeast. A bridge (2 wooden structures crossing the twin channels) on this portion of the GWT crosses, but does not impede, the stream. Both of these sections of the GWT are open to nonmotorized and single-track motorized (motorcycle) use.

Part of Timpooneke Campground adjoins the river, and about 26 of the 55 acres of this campground are within the river corridor. This campground has 13 single family camp units, 7 double family camp units, 7 single family horse camp units, 1 group site, and 2 double family horse camp units. Facilities include 9 horse corrals, 2 stock watering troughs, 9 vault toilet buildings, 1 water system, 1 entry station, and 1 host site with sewer holding tank. The Altamont Group Site Campground also lies just below the river corridor and has a 100-person capacity. The site includes a pavilion and a flush toilet building with septic system. Both of these facilities are currently operated by concessionaire.

The Forest Service's Timpooneke Guard Station Administrative Site is also within the corridor. This site consists of a house, 2-stall garage and outhouse. This site is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and is used seasonally by Forest Service employees.

Grazing Activities – None of the corridor is within an open grazing allotment and no lands within the corridor are considered suitable for domestic livestock grazing.

Recreation Activities – Scenic views from the stream are very striking. Majestic views of Mt. Timpanogos and seasonal variability in the colors of aspen, wild flowers, and other vegetation add to the experience. Recognizing this attraction, the Mt. Timpanogos (including the Giant Staircase-Timpooneke trail) National Recreation Trail was designated and is partly within the river corridor. The trail is a popular route to Emerald Lake, to the summit of Mt. Timpanogos, and to Aspen Grove. Aside from this scenic viewing, most recreation use is focused on hiking and horseback riding, although there is some wilderness dispersed camping in the corridor. The stream is not the primary focus of recreation use, but it does add to the diversity of the overall backcountry experience. The season of use is about 4 months. The stream cannot support white-water recreation. An estimated 9,000 visitors use this corridor to access the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness each year, of whom an estimated 20% are from outside the region. The difficulty of the hike up Timpanogos keeps this level of use relatively moderate compared to use on some other local trails.

Developed camping occurs at the Altamont Group Site and in Timpooneke Campgrounds. Both of these are heavily used during the summer season, particularly on holidays and weekends. The Alpine Loop National Scenic Backway (SR 92) is heavily used, especially during the fall, by bikers and motorists enjoying the scenery in the area. SR 92 is also groomed in the winter and receives considerable snowmobile use.

Other Resource Activities – No lands within the corridor are considered suitable for timber harvest, and there are no farming activities within the river corridor.

Special Designations – The Giant Staircase-Timpooneke Trail section of the Mt. Timpanogos National Recreation Trail and Alpine Loop Scenic Backway (SR 92) are partly within the river corridor. The wild segment is within the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness. Mt. Timpanogos is also designated as a wildlife

viewing area.

Socio-Economic Environment – The entire river segment is located in Utah County, Utah. 2006 Census data indicates the population of Utah County is 464,460, and about 1,389 of these work in the entertainment and recreation industries. Utah County is an urban county, with about 343,000 acres (about 25%) of the 1,370,000-acre county in farms. An estimated 9,000 visitors use this corridor to access the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness each year, of whom an estimated 20% are from outside the region.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency is the USFS. The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation since 2001, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104) The South Fork American Fork River would likely be a low or moderate complexity river.

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent to which the State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including costs, should it be proposed for inclusion in the National System.

The entire corridor is located on NFS lands within Utah County, Utah. Utah County supported inclusion of this segment in the NWSRS when it was inventoried, but more recently they question the manageability of this segment (due to its short length) and do not support its designation. The State of Utah has not committed whether they would support preservation and administration of the river segment. Considering this, it is unlikely either the County or State would participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river. Neither Utah County nor the State commented on this in the recent State-wide DEIS comment period.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any local zoning and/or land use controls that appear to conflict with protection of river values.

Not applicable, as the entire river corridor encompasses approximately 471 acres, and all 471 acres are NFS lands administered by the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. Designation appears to be compatible with the zoning allocation (Critical Environmental Zone) in the 1997 Utah County Plan.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Fourteen comment letters were received on the *Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Uinta National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (1997)*. One of these letters was from Utah County. The Utah County Planner supported the Forest's findings and stated "At this time, would agree that the four river segments chosen for recommendation as part of the NWSRS findings (North Fork of the Provo River, South Fork of the American Fork River, Fifth Water Creek, and Little Provo Deer Creek) are great examples of scenic and unique river segments in the United States. While human impacts have left little truly "wild" areas within this area of the state, these rivers do reflect the wild and scenic characteristics that, I believe, are the intent of this Federal designation." The State of Utah, Division of Water Resources, had "no concerns". The Superintendent of Timpanogos Cave National Monument, National Park Service, commented that "We find the draft's discussion appropriate and concur with its findings".

Additionally, three comments were received from the public on the *Draft Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement*. All three were in support of designation of

river segments (2003 FEIS, Appendix L).

In response to scoping for the recent State-wide EIS, 2 comments specific to South Fork American Fork were received. The Mountainland Association of Governments and Utah County both questioned if it was wise to designate such short river segments considering the potential cost associated with management and that existing policies (i.e., wilderness designation) are in place to protect these segments.

In the recent State-wide DEIS comment period, the Forest Service received approximately 375 original responses and 2,183 organized campaign responses for a total of 2,558 total responses. The 2,183 organized campaign responses support a positive suitability finding and designation, as follows:

- ◆ There were six requests that the Forest Service designate about 20 rivers/river systems, but South Fork American Fork was not one of those identified.
- ◆ There were 737 responses that support a positive suitability finding for all outstanding rivers in Utah's National Forests. This organized campaign response identified several rivers/river systems as "the best of the best" in Utah's National Forests, especially deserving of the Wild and Scenic designation. South Fork American Fork was not one of those identified.
- ◆ There were 1,440 responses that support a positive suitability finding for all 86 eligible rivers in Utah's National Forests listing about 40 that especially possess qualities that place them at the top of the list of rivers to be included. South Fork American Fork was not one of those listed.

Of the 375 original responses received on the State-wide DEIS, 13 related specifically and 3 generally related to river segments on the Uinta portion of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The general responses supported suitability for all rivers in the study. One of the 375 original responses specifically commented on South Fork American Fork. This commenter supported suitability noting the river was a peaceful and beautiful place.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

All of this segment lies on NFS lands managed by the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, and all of this river segment lies within Utah County, Utah. Designation is consistent with the 2003 Uinta Forest Plan direction. In addition, designation appears to be compatible with the zoning allocation (Critical Environmental Zone) in the 1997 Utah County Plan. The State of Utah, Division of Water Resources, expressed no concerns with designation of this segment when they commented on the 1997 Draft Inventory. Utah County did not comment on this subject in the recent State-wide DEIS comment period.

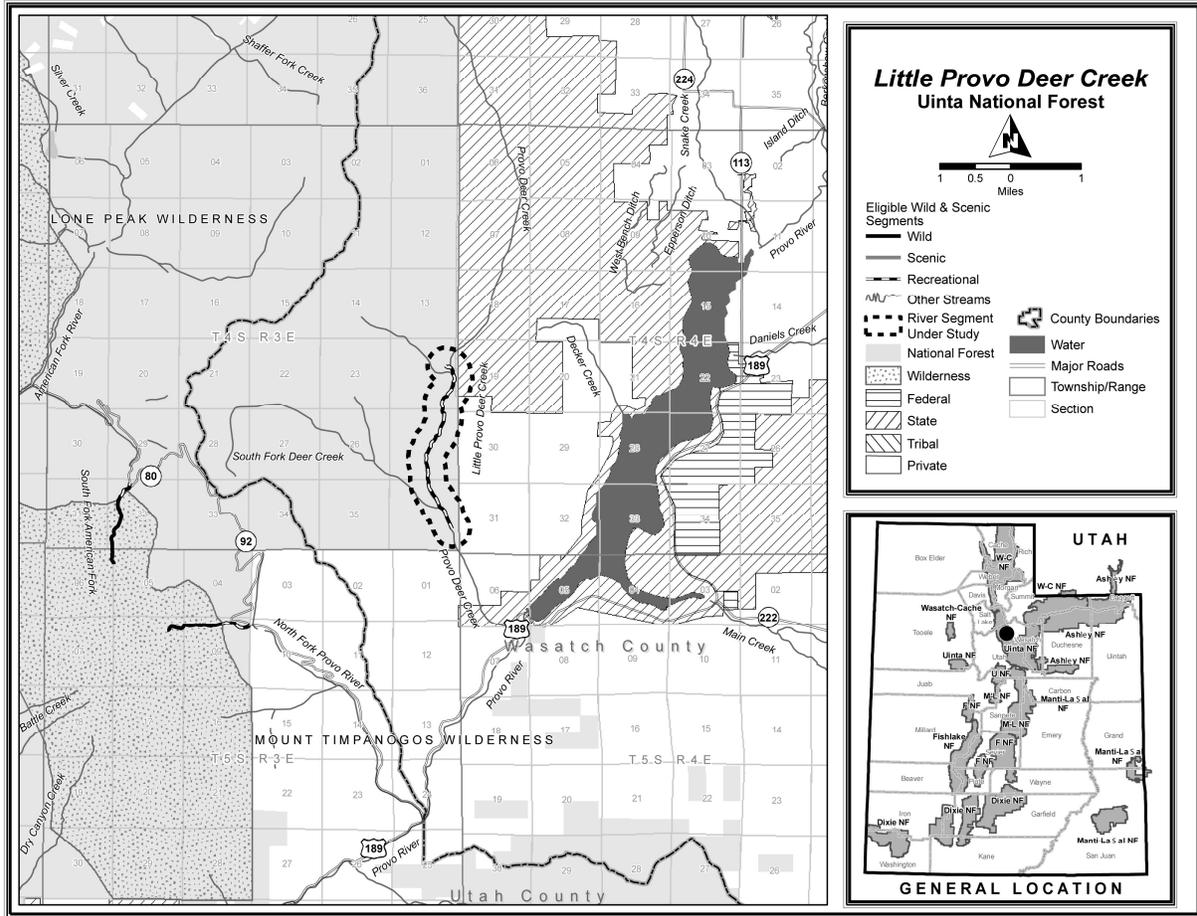
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the basin integrity as it incorporates a primary source of the South Fork American Fork River. The majority of this segment is within the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness Area, so designation of this stream segment would provide additional but similar protection to the stream. This 1.4-mile long segment would have more basin integrity if the segment was longer (e.g., it extended an additional 3.4 miles to the South Fork's confluence with the North Fork American Fork); however, the lower reaches were not found to have any outstandingly remarkable values.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

No commitment has been expressed to date. The Pleasant Grove Ranger District which manages this river has a long history of high volunteerism and if the river were designated, it is highly likely volunteers would come forward or could be found to help with management of the river segment. It is less likely partners for funding management of this river segment would step forward.

Little Provo Deer Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Little Provo Deer Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 2.6 miles from road crossing in the southern quarter of Section 36, T. 4 S., R. 3 E. to the top of Cascade Springs following the tributary stream to Cascade Springs from Little Provo Deer Creek.

Eligible: Same

Location:

Little Provo Deer Creek	Uinta National Forest, Pleasant Grove Ranger District, Wasatch County, Utah		Congressional District 2	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NE1/4 SE1/4, Sect. 36, T.4 S, R.3 E, SLM	SE ¼ NE ¼, Sect. 24, T.4 S, R.3 E, SLM	Recreational	2.6

Physical Description of River Segment: Little Provo Deer Creek is in many ways a typical Wasatch Mountains stream. However, it does have some unusual characteristics that set it apart from others. Elevations along the study segment range from about 5,680 to 6,240 feet. Water quality in Cascade

Springs and the tributary connecting Cascade Springs to Little Provo Deer Creek is good. However, water quality in the Little Provo Deer Creek is being impacted by sediment from erosion from the stream channel and cutbanks along the stream and from roads, both within and upstream of this segment.

The stream was segmented above Cascade Springs because of this very unusual feature, and because the stream upstream of Cascade Springs is substantially smaller, and the stream is impacted by roads and potentially by water diversions. The stream was segmented below the road crossing because the stream below this point is heavily impacted by roads and water withdrawals.

Cascade Springs is a unique feature. Cascade Springs is a relatively large set of perennial springs and cascading limestone pools that are unusual geological and hydrologic features for the region of consideration. Several levels of naturally developed cascading pools with clear spring waters and wetlands, are present and these and the adjoining uplands are inhabited by a wide variety of flora and fauna.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Final Inventory of Rivers on the Uinta National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, January 1998

Determination of Free-flow: This segment of Little Provo Deer Creek is free of major channel modification, and is free of major structures, and is thus free flowing. The Cascade Springs Recreation Site lies within the corridor, and has several trails, boardwalks and bridges adjacent to or crossing the pools and/or stream. However, these have minimal effect on the free-flowing character of the segment. The Little Deer Creek Road runs parallel to the stream the entire length of the segment, but does not affect this stream segment's free-flowing character. Portions of two other roads lie within the corridor, but these do not cross the stream or affect the free-flowing nature of the study stream segment. There are several water rights that potentially affect streamflows in the eligible segment. The Forest Service holds a number of these, including one just outside the corridor which provides water for the Cascade Springs Recreation Site. These have minimal affect on flows at the springs or in the stream.

The segment of Little Provo Deer Creek upstream of the eligible segment (i.e. Cascade Springs Recreation Site to the headwaters) is impacted by road crossings. In addition, Wasatch State Park maintains a water right for about 2.0 cfs for irrigation use. Exercise of this water right does not affect the flow or the character of Cascade Springs, but does substantially reduce flows in the segment of Little Provo Deer Creek upstream of the eligible segment. This water use also reduces flows in the eligible segment; however, the flows from Cascade Springs are significant (approximately 50 cfs) and are sufficient to maintain ecological values in the eligible corridor.

The segment of Little Provo Deer Creek downstream of the eligible segment is heavily impacted by numerous road crossings, road incursions, and water withdrawals. At the very lower end of this segment (from the railroad crossing downstream to the confluence with Provo River), the stream is heavily modified and in places is rip-rapped. The Canyon Meadows Mutual Water Company also maintains a groundwater right for 0.17 cfs for domestic use. The point of diversion for this water right is located just over ¼-mile below the downstream end of the eligible corridor and just below the eligible segment corridor.

Determination of Outstandingly Remarkable Values: The study corridor was found to have two stream-related outstandingly remarkable values: geological/hydrological and ecological. Both of these are interrelated in that both are heavily influenced by unusual features that create and form Cascade Springs, and the educational/scientific value Cascade Springs affords.

Geological/Hydrological Value – This segment was found to have an outstandingly remarkable geologic/hydrologic value because the stream segment was judged to have moderately high value for the abundance of geologic/hydrologic features, and high geologic/hydrologic values for diversity of features, and educational/scientific uses these are providing.

Cascade Springs is a big perennial spring complex that significantly augments water flows to the stream, and has interesting geological and hydrologic characteristics. The springs form an unusual environment for the area. Several levels of naturally developed cascading pools with clear spring waters and wetlands are inhabited by a wide variety of flora (cattails, watercress, and wildflowers) and fauna. This is a very unusual environment for the area. The springs' cool riparian setting makes them a popular attraction, and an interpretive site has been developed here because of this character. Cascade Springs was developed in the 1980's as an environmental education site and is a popular attraction for local users. Its boardwalks, bridges, paved paths, and interpretive signing make this unusual setting a very pleasant and popular destination. Educational groups use the springs as a teaching site, and it is a designated wildlife viewing area.

Ecological value – This segment was found to have an outstandingly remarkable ecological value because the stream corridor was determined to have moderately high value for the ecological function and rare communities, and a high value for species diversity, and ecological-related educational/scientific use and value the area affords.

Riparian forest communities occur around Cascade Springs and along Little Provo Deer Creek and South Fork Deer Creek, and Gambel oak and sagebrush-grass communities occur in the upland portions of the corridor. Cascade Springs is an unusual environment for the area. Several levels of natural limestone cascading pools with clear spring waters and wetlands are inhabited by a wide variety of flora (cattails, watercress, and wildflowers) and fauna. The pools are currently inhabited by German brown trout, rainbow trout, and some Bonneville cutthroat trout. Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Uinta National Forest are considering a potential future (possible 2009-2011) project to further the recovery of Bonneville cutthroat trout, a Forest-Service Intermountain Region and State of Utah listed sensitive species, and to improve habitat quality, water quality and ecological integrity of study corridor. Although no other rare species of flora or fauna are known to inhabit the corridor, the biological communities found in the corridor are unusually diverse and complex. There are many species of noxious weeds in the corridor. These have been and will continue to be targeted for control and eradication.

The 2003 Cascade II fire burned about 8,000 acres in the area, including the study corridor. Burn intensities varied throughout the fire, and within the corridor. Significant efforts were made to restore areas intensely burned. The grass-forb plant communities have since recovered, and most of the moderate-intensively burned riparian forest and upland shrub communities within the corridor have resprouted. Aquatic resources within the corridor were minimally affected by the burn. Informational signs were placed at Cascade Springs regarding the burn, burned area rehabilitation, and ecological implications of fire.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River Segment– Recreational

Little Provo Deer Creek is classified as recreational river due to the presence of the Cascade Springs Recreation Site development, full-length access by roads, and the overall substantial evidence of human activity.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The entire river corridor encompasses approximately 843 acres, and all of this is located on National Forest System (NFS) lands administered by the Uinta National Forest.

The 2003 Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Uinta Forest Plan) made the following land allocations for this area:

Uinta Forest Plan Management Allocations				
Management Area	Overlying Management Prescription Allocation		Underlying Management Prescription Allocation	
Lower Provo	2.3 – Wild and Scenic Rivers – Recreation	843 acres	3.1 – Aquatic, Terrestrial and Aquatic Resource Emphasis	562 acres
			4.4 - Dispersed Recreation Emphasis	272 acres
			4.5 - Dispersed Recreation Emphasis	10 acres

Little Provo Deer Creek is within the Wasatch Mountain Planning Area of the Wasatch County General Plan (2001-2016). The Wasatch County General Plan states that land uses in the Wasatch Mountains Planning Area should be limited to watershed protection, recreation, livestock grazing and wildlife habitat. If summer homes and recreational resorts are permitted, they should be in harmony with the natural setting, be developed in such a way as to not significantly degrade the quality of the environment and provide all essential utilities.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no existing salable, locatable, or leasable mineral and energy resources development occurring in the vicinity. At this time, there is no leasable land available. Oil and gas resource potential for this area is considered low. An oil and gas leasing analysis is underway; there would likely be lands available for lease once completed.

Water Resources Development – There has been no Federal Energy Regulatory Commission permits or license applications filed. There is no farmland within the vicinity. However, BOR has withdrawn lands downstream of the studied segment for support of the Provo River CUP-Bonneville Unit. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Within the corridor for the eligible river segment, there are sections of three roads, the Cascade Springs Recreation Site, and the South Cascade Dispersed Camping Site. A right of way also exists for the State of Utah across the corridor.

The Cascade Springs Recreation Site is a day-use area that includes a boardwalk/paved/graveled trail network, three restrooms, two paved parking areas, a kiosk/building, and several benches and interpretive signs. The Cascade Springs trail network consists of a set of paved trails connecting the parking areas, kiosk, and restrooms with a series of trails that encircle or cross the Cascade Springs pools. Two bridges and a boardwalk allow water from the springs and Little Provo Deer Creek to pass largely unimpeded. Sections of the trail network are barrier-free. The kiosk/building is used during educational/interpretive activities.

The Cascade Springs Scenic Drive [Forest Road (FR) #114] accesses Cascade Springs. This is a paved, 2-lane road maintained by the Forest Service. This road connects to the Alpine Loop (State Road 92), and via the Cascade Springs Road (FR #216) and a Wasatch County road through Wasatch Mountain State Park to Midway, Utah. FR #216 is a native-surfaced Maintenance Level 3 road that becomes soft and slick when wet. The Wasatch County road is similar to the Cascade Springs Road.

The general area is accessed by several local roads and contains several undeveloped dispersed camping spots. The Little Deer Creek Road (FR #475), runs south from Cascade Springs along the stream,

eventually crossing the stream several times and provides access from Cascade Springs to Provo Canyon. The lower extent of the eligible river segment is located at the northern-most FR #475 stream crossing. FR #475 is a Maintenance Level #2, high-clearance vehicle road that becomes soft when wet. It is generally very rough, and steep and rocky in spots.

Above Cascade Springs and in the stream reach below the segment (outside the study corridor), and above Deer Creek State Park, the stream is heavily impacted by road incursions. In a few places fill from the adjacent road has encroached into the channel.

Grazing Activities – The northern portion of the eligible river segment and corridor are within the Deer Creek Sheep and Goat Allotment. This allotment is shared with Wasatch Mountain State Park, and has been vacant for several years. There are no known proposals for or plans to reopen this allotment to grazing, due to conflicts with recreation use, water quality concerns, and potential interaction with bighorn sheep on Mt. Timpanogos.

Recreation Activities – A variety of dispersed recreation activities occur in the area. The pools at Cascade Springs are closed to fishing, but the nearby stream does provide fishing opportunities. Some hunting and dispersed camping also occurs in the area. The Cascade Springs Drive, #114, is groomed in the winter and receives heavy snowmobile use. The Little Deer Creek Road, #475, and connecting roads in adjoining Wasatch Mountain State Park are open for ATV, motorcycle, and other motorized vehicle use, and use of these is heavy. The Cascade Springs Scenic Drive and connecting road into Midway are heavily used by recreationists driving for pleasure, viewing the scenery (including distant views of Mt. Timpanogos and the Provo Peak area), and accessing Cascade Springs.

Wasatch Mountain State Park is heavily used for similar purposes, and has additional attractions such as golf courses, snow tubing area, and Nordic skiing center. The lands in Deer Creek State Park below the segment exhibit evidence of heavy recreation use. Homestead Resort has a permit for outfitter and guide snowmobiling service that includes the eligible river corridor.

Other Resource Activities – There is no timberland or farmland within the eligible river corridor. Thus, no lands within the corridor are considered suitable for timber harvest, and there are no farming activities within the river corridor.

Special Designations – Cascade Springs is a designated wildlife viewing area and interpretive site. Cascade Springs has boardwalks, bridges, paved paths, and interpretive signing.

Socio-Economic Environment – The entire river segment is located in Wasatch County, Utah. 2006 Census data indicates the population of Wasatch County is 20,255, and about 1,023 of these work in the entertainment and recreation industries. Farms encompass about 69,600 acres (about 9%) in the 774,000-acre Wasatch County. This area is very popular with recreationists, many of these are non-resident visitors to nearby Sundance and BYU's Aspen Grove facility. These facilities are major attractions that generate substantial economic contributions.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency is the USFS.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using

an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent to which the State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including costs, should it be proposed for inclusion in the National System.

The entire corridor, as delineated is in Wasatch County, Utah, on NFS lands administered by the Uinta National Forest. However, in spots the corridor width, as delineated, was truncated at the ownership boundary rather than being extended the full ¼-mile. If it were, the corridor would extend onto nearby Wasatch Mountain State Park in one reach, and onto private land in another. Neither of these entities commented on this river corridor during the Draft Inventory or the Forest Plan revision process.

Wasatch County provided two comments on the *Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Uinta National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System (1997)*. The County Planner stated they felt designation would conflict with the County Resolution 97-19. The County Board of Commissioners stated their “resolve to oppose and resist any such designation”. The Commissioners felt that “cultural and traditional uses of adjacent public lands would be severely limited and the economy of our county could be unnecessarily affected.”

More recently (scoping comments for the State-wide EIS) Wasatch County indicated they do not feel this segment is eligible, and do not support inclusion of this segment in the NWSRS. They commented that this segment is extensively used for multiple use resources; many opportunities enjoyed by the public could be compromised by the decision to include the segment, and that in their opinion, this stream is nothing more than a typical Wasatch Mountains stream. The State of Utah has not committed whether they would support preservation and administration of the river segment. Considering this, it is unlikely either the County or State would participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river.

(2) The state/local government’s ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any local zoning and/or land use controls that appear to conflict with protection of river values.

Not Applicable, as the entire river corridor encompasses approximately 843 acres, and all of this is located on NFS lands administered by the Uinta National Forest. The eastern edge of the corridor, as delineated, is truncated in places at the Forest boundary and does not extend a full ¼ mile in places where this would have encompassed privately-owned lands and State lands managed by Wasatch Mountain State Park. Designation appears to be compatible with the zoning allocation (Wasatch Mountain Planning Area) in the Wasatch County General Plan which states that land uses should be limited to watershed protection, recreation, livestock grazing and wildlife habitat.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Fourteen comment letters were received on the *Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Uinta National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System (1997)*. As stated under Suitability Factor 1, Wasatch County did not support designation of the River segment. The State of Utah, Division of Water Resources, had no concerns. Many respondents wanted to see additional segments of rivers designated.

Additionally, three comments were received from the public on the Draft Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement. All three were in support of designation of river segments (FIES, appendix L).

In the recent state-wide EIS scoping, 5 comments specific to Little Provo Deer Creek were received. Wasatch County commented they do not feel this segment is eligible and that they do not support

inclusion of this segment in the NWSRS. The County also commented that this segment is extensively used for multiple use resources; many opportunities enjoyed by the public could be compromised by the decision to include the segment, and that in their opinion, this stream is nothing more than a typical Wasatch Mountains stream. The Mountainland Association of Governments questioned if it was wise to designate such short river segments considering the potential cost associated with management and that existing policies are in place to protect this segment. The Central Utah Water Conservancy District (CUWCD) commented that they operate a gauging station on the stream and that measurements from this station are used to determine minimum stream flows in the Provo River. They indicated that this ability needs to be maintained in order to meet water right deliveries and obligations. In addition, CUWCD noted that there is a water treatment diversion and other irrigation diversion on the stream, and concluded that because of these facilities, they do not believe this stream is appropriate for WSR designation. American Rivers and Utah Rivers Council/Center for Biological Diversity support designation of this river and both noted that this stream, and particularly Cascade Springs, provides great recreational values and incredible interpretive opportunities.

In the recent State-wide DEIS comment period, the Forest Service received approximately 375 original responses and 2,183 organized campaign responses for a total of 2,558 total responses. The 2,183 organized campaign responses support a positive suitability finding and designation, as follows:

- ◆ There were six requests that the Forest Service designate about 20 rivers/river systems, but Little Provo Deer Creek was not one of those identified.
- ◆ There were 737 responses that support a positive suitability finding for all outstanding rivers in Utah's National Forests. This organized campaign response identified several rivers/river systems as "the best of the best" in Utah's National Forests, especially deserving of the Wild and Scenic designation. Little Provo Deer Creek was not of those identified.
- ◆ There were 1,440 responses that support a positive suitability finding for all 86 eligible rivers in Utah's National Forests listing about 40 that especially possess qualities that place them at the top of the list of rivers to be included. Little Provo Deer Creek was one of those listed.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

The entire segment lies on NFS lands managed by the Uinta National Forest, and the entire segment lies within Wasatch County, Utah. Designation is consistent with the 2003 "Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan" direction. The eastern edge of the corridor, as delineated, is truncated in places at the Forest boundary and does not extend a full ¼ mile in places where this would have encompassed privately-owned lands and State lands managed by Wasatch Mountain State Park. Wasatch Mountain State Park has not commented on compatibility of designation with management of this Park. Designation appears to be compatible with the zoning allocation (Wasatch Mountain Planning Area) in the Wasatch County General Plan which states that land uses should be limited to watershed protection, recreation, livestock grazing and wildlife habitat. Wasatch County has stated that they do not support designation of this river.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

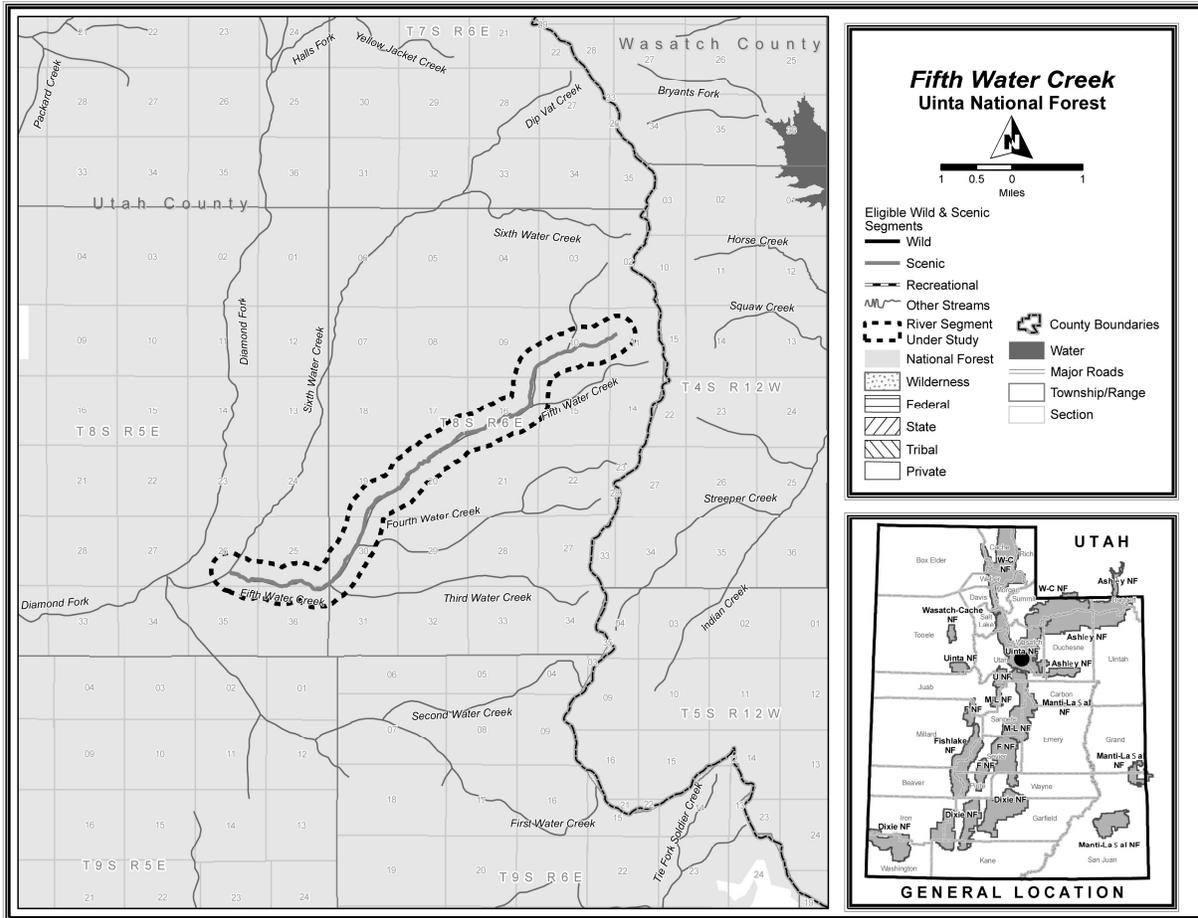
This segment contributes to the basin integrity as it incorporates Cascade Springs and its source. Designation of this stream segment would provide additional protection to Cascade Springs and the stream below it. This 2.6-mile long segment would have more basin integrity if the segment was longer (e.g., it extended an additional 6.9 miles upstream of the segment to the source of Little Provo Deer Creek, and if it extended an additional 1.9 miles downstream of the segment to the stream's confluence with the Provo River); however, these reaches extend off-Forest, are heavily impacted by water diversions and other land uses, and were not found to have any outstandingly remarkable values.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

No commitment has been expressed to date. Wasatch Mountain State Park which adjoins the river corridor might potentially be interested in sharing management commitments; however, they have not commented on designation or indicated such interest to date. Wasatch County has clearly indicated they do not support designation and therefore, would be unlikely to contribute resources for management of this river segment.

Visitors from Brigham Young University's (BYU) Aspen Grove facility and Sundance Ski Area, which are located a few miles west of the corridor, frequently visit Cascade Springs. Consequently these entities may potentially be interested, but to date they have not offered such support. The Pleasant Grove Ranger District which manages this river has a long history of high volunteerism. It is likely, that irregardless of the support or potentially lack of it by the entities named above, that volunteers would come forward or could be found to help with management.

Fifth Water Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Fifth Water Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 7.8 miles from the Sixth Water Creek confluence to headwaters

Eligible: same

Location:

Fifth Water Creek	Uinta National Forest, Spanish Fork Ranger District, Utah County, Utah		Congressional District 3	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SE ¼ Sect. 26, T 8 S, R 5 E, SLM	NW ¼ Sect. 11, T 8 S, R 6 E, SLM	Scenic	7.8

Physical Description of River Segment: Fifth Water Creek is in most respects a relatively typical Wasatch Range upland tributary stream that joins with other similar streams to add to a larger river (Diamond Fork). This stream flows from an elevation of about 7900 feet at its headwaters near Strawberry Ridge and drops to about 6400 feet at the confluence with Sixth Water Creek. The segment contains an unusual hot springs and several small waterfalls, the largest of which has a drop of about 12-

14 feet. Water temperatures have been measured ranging from 122 to 129 degrees Fahrenheit at the hot springs, while summer temperatures in the adjacent creek were 57 degrees.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Final Inventory of Rivers on the Uinta National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, January 1998

Determination of Free-flow: Fifth Water Creek is free of major channel modification, and is free of major structures, and is thus free flowing. There are no diversions on Fifth Water Creek, and only one culvert crosses the creek. The road that crosses the creek in the middle of the segment, the trail crossing, and short road segment and trail segments that run along the creek are within the corridor, but do not significantly affect the stream channel, its ability to flow freely, or other stream characteristics. The stream channel and riparian corridor have been modified indirectly over the last 75 years due to channel incision related to construction and operation of CUP facilities, flow augmentation in Sixth Water Creek, erosive soils and geology, and historic grazing impacts.

Determination of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Recreation – The hot springs are a major visitor attraction, drawing bathers year-round from a surprisingly broad area considering that the feature is not particularly large, and it is relatively remote. An estimated 15,000 to 20,000 visitors hike or bike into the hot springs annually, with about 10-20% coming from outside the region. Trail # 015 is the only developed recreation available to the users of the corridor, but dispersed camping is practiced by those using the hot springs, and for hunting, fishing, hiking, biking and motorcycle riding. Access to the area is easy with paved access up Diamond Fork Creek and also crossing near the middle of the segment, with trail and a short segment of native surface road paralleling most of the remainder of the segment. The hot springs can be accessed from either road by a hiking trail that follows the stream. Most of the upper reaches of the segment can be reached by a motorcycle trail connecting the paved Sheep Creek-Rays Valley Road to the Great Western Trail and onto the Strawberry Ridge Road. General Recreation with a high value in length of season and experience quality, moderate value in diversity of use and attractions, low value in site and facilities and a low to moderate value in associated opportunities.

CLASSIFICATION –

Basis for the Classification of River Segment: Scenic

Fifth Water Creek is accessible in some places by road or motorized trail, but is largely primitive and undeveloped. Except for the user created pools at the hot springs, the Fifth Water Trail and Great Western Trail, the Sheep Creek-Rays Valley Road crossing, and a corral and livestock troughs at the end of Fifth Water road, there is no substantial evidence of human activity.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The entire 7.8 mile-long river corridor encompasses approximately 2513 acres, and all of this is located on National Forest System (NFS) lands administered by the Uinta National Forest. The 2003 Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Uinta Forest Plan) made the following land allocations for this area:

Uinta Forest Plan Management Allocations				
Management Area	Overlying Management Prescription Allocation		Underlying Management Prescription Allocation	
Diamond Fork	2.2 – Wild and Scenic Rivers – Scenic	2513 acres	5.1 – Forested Ecosystems, Limited Development	886 acres
			6.1 Non-forested Ecosystems	1627 acres

The entire Fifth Water Creek corridor is within the Critical Environmental Zone Planning Area of the Utah County General Plan. The intent and purpose of this zone includes conserving the water resource in a way that will assure a continue supply of pure water in the streams, springs, and wells which sustains the civilization occupying the valley floor of the county; most effectively use the wildlife resources found in the area; and conserve and use the valuable tourism and scenic resources of the county's uplands.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The area around Fifth Water is currently under an oil and gas lease. No Applications for Permits to Drill (APDs) have been filed. This area is considered high potential for oil and gas resources. There are no locatable or salable developments in the vicinity.

Water Resources Development – Lands surrounding Fifth Water Creek are withdrawn or proposed to be withdrawn by the Department of Interior, Central Utah Project for protection of their water infrastructure. There are no historic, current, or known planned Federal Energy Regulatory Commission permits or license applications for this corridor. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – The Sheep Creek-Rays Valley Road (#051), a double-lane, paved, arterial Forest road, crosses the stream in about the middle of the segment. The Fifth Water Road (#398), a short (~0.5 mile-long) native-surfaced high clearance Forest road follows Fifth Water Creek from the #051 upstream to an unimproved trailhead. The Diamond Fork Road (#029), a double-lane, paved, arterial Forest road, provides access to the Fifth Water Creek Trailhead located about a mile below the end of this segment and river corridor.

A segment of the Fifth Water Trail (#015), a Forest trail, follows Sixth Water Creek about 1 mile from a trailhead located along the Diamond Fork Road to the downstream end of the corridor at the Sixth Water Creek/Fifth Water Creek confluence. The trail then follows Fifth Water Creek to the hot springs and on upstream to the Sheep Creek-Rays Valley Road crossing parking area. The trail continues in the river corridor for a total of 5.8 miles of trail within the corridor. This trail is a native surface hiking/biking trail and is closed to motorized use.

The Fifth Water Trail (#015) continues upstream from the parking area located at the end of FR 70398 about 1.5 miles to the confluence with the Great Western Trail (#009). This segment of the Fifth Water Trail is open to motorcycles, hikers equestrian, and bikes. The Great Western Trail intersects Fifth Water Creek, crosses and runs adjacent to Fifth Water Creek for about 0.6 miles, then leaves the river corridor. The Great Western Trail is a native surface hiking/biking/ATV/motorcycle trail. The remainder of the Fifth Water Creek Trail is about 2.3 miles in length, and extends from the Great Western Trail to the Strawberry Ridge Road (# 518). This trail is a native surface hiking/biking/motorcycle trail. About 0.8 miles of the Fifth Water Creek Trail is located adjacent to Fifth Water Creek and within the corridor, the remaining upper reach of this trail (~ 1.5 miles) leaves Fifth Water Creek and is outside the river corridor. The Strawberry Ridge Road (#518) is a high clearance Forest road open to ATV use, but is not located within the river corridor.

Grazing Activities – Fifth Water Creek is within the Diamond Fork Allotment. This is a cattle allotment and also has associated livestock fencing and water troughs.

Recreation Activities – The hot springs are a major visitor attraction drawing bathers year around. An estimated 15,000 to 20,000 visitors hike or bike to the hot springs annually, with about 10%-20% coming from outside the region. Trails in the corridor offer hiking, biking, and motorcycle opportunities. The stream cannot support white-water recreation.

Other Resource Activities – Fuels management activities are planned within the corridor above Sheep Creek-Rays Valley Road. A powerline crosses the corridor; utility maintenance is performed. There are no private lands in the corridor, thus no farming.

Special Designations – Fifth Water Creek is within the Strawberry Ridge (#418015) and Diamond Fork (#418016) Inventoried Roadless Areas.

Lands surrounding Fifth Water Creek are withdrawn or proposed to be withdrawn by the Department of Interior, Central Utah Project for protection of their water infrastructure.

Socio-Economic Environment – The entire river segment is located in Utah County, Utah. 2006 Census data indicates the population of Utah County is 464,460, and about 1,389 of these work in the entertainment and recreation industries. Utah County is an urban county, with about 343,000 acres (about 25%) of the 1,370,000-acre county in farms. There are several outfitter and guides that have permits that overlap the corridor.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency is the USFS.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent to which the State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including costs, should it be proposed for inclusion in the National System.

The entire corridor is located on NFS lands within Utah County, Utah. Utah County supported inclusion of this segment in the NWSRS when it was inventoried, but more recently they commented that the river (i.e., hot pots) has been altered with rocks, plastic sheeting, and piping to control water temperature and question the eligibility of this segment due to this.

The State of Utah has not committed whether they would support preservation and administration of the river segment. Considering this, it is unlikely either the County or State would participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any local zoning and/or land use controls that appear to conflict with protection of river values.

Not Applicable, as the entire river corridor encompasses approximately 2,513 acres, and all of this is located on NFS lands administered by the Uinta National Forest. Designation appears to be compatible with the zoning allocation (Critical Environmental Zone) in the 1997 Utah County Plan.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Fourteen comment letters were received on the *Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Uinta National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System (1997)*. One of these letters was from Utah County. The Utah County Planner supported the Forest's findings and stated "At this time, I would agree that the four river segments chosen for recommendation as part of the NWSRS findings (North Fork of the Provo River, South Fork of the American Fork River, Fifth Water Creek, and Little Provo Deer Creek) are great examples of scenic and unique river segments in the United States. While human impacts have left little truly "wild" areas within this area of the state, these rivers do reflect the wild and scenic characteristics that, I believe, are the intent of this Federal designation." The State of Utah,

Division of Water Resources, had “no concerns”. The Superintendent of Timpanogos Cave National Monument, National Park Service, commented that “We find the draft’s discussion appropriate and concur with its findings”.

Additionally, three comments were received from the public on the Draft Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement. All three were in support of designation of river segments (2003 FEIS, Appendix L).

In the recent state-wide EIS scoping, four comments specific to Fifth Water Creek were received. The Mountainland Association of Governments and Utah County both commented that the river (i.e., hot pots) has been altered with rocks, plastic sheeting, and piping to control water temperature and question the eligibility of this segment due to this. The Central Utah Water Conservancy District commented that during shutdown/drainage of the Syar tunnel (every 5 years) the water is diverted into a holding pond in the 5th Water Creek drainage, which could overflow the pond and travel to 5th Water Creek. They commented that it is important to the operation & maintenance of the tunnel that this ability stays in place. USDI’s Central Utah Project Completion Act Office commented that the proposed Sixth Water power transmission line is planned to cross Fifth Water Creek, that land for the power transmission facilities was withdrawn, and that this may impact the proposed scenic status.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

The entire segment lies on NFS lands managed by the Uinta National Forest, and the entire segment lies within Utah County, Utah. Designation is consistent with the 2003 “Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan” direction. The corridor is within a grazing allotment and cattle use the corridor to move from one part of the allotment to another. Designation could increase user conflicts between recreation users and cattle grazing, both of which may be appropriate uses under the Forest Plan and with designation as a Scenic River. Designation appears to be compatible with the zoning allocation (Critical Environmental Zone) in the 1997 Utah County Plan. The State of Utah, Division of Water Resources, expressed no concerns with designation of this segment when they commented on the 1997 Draft Inventory.

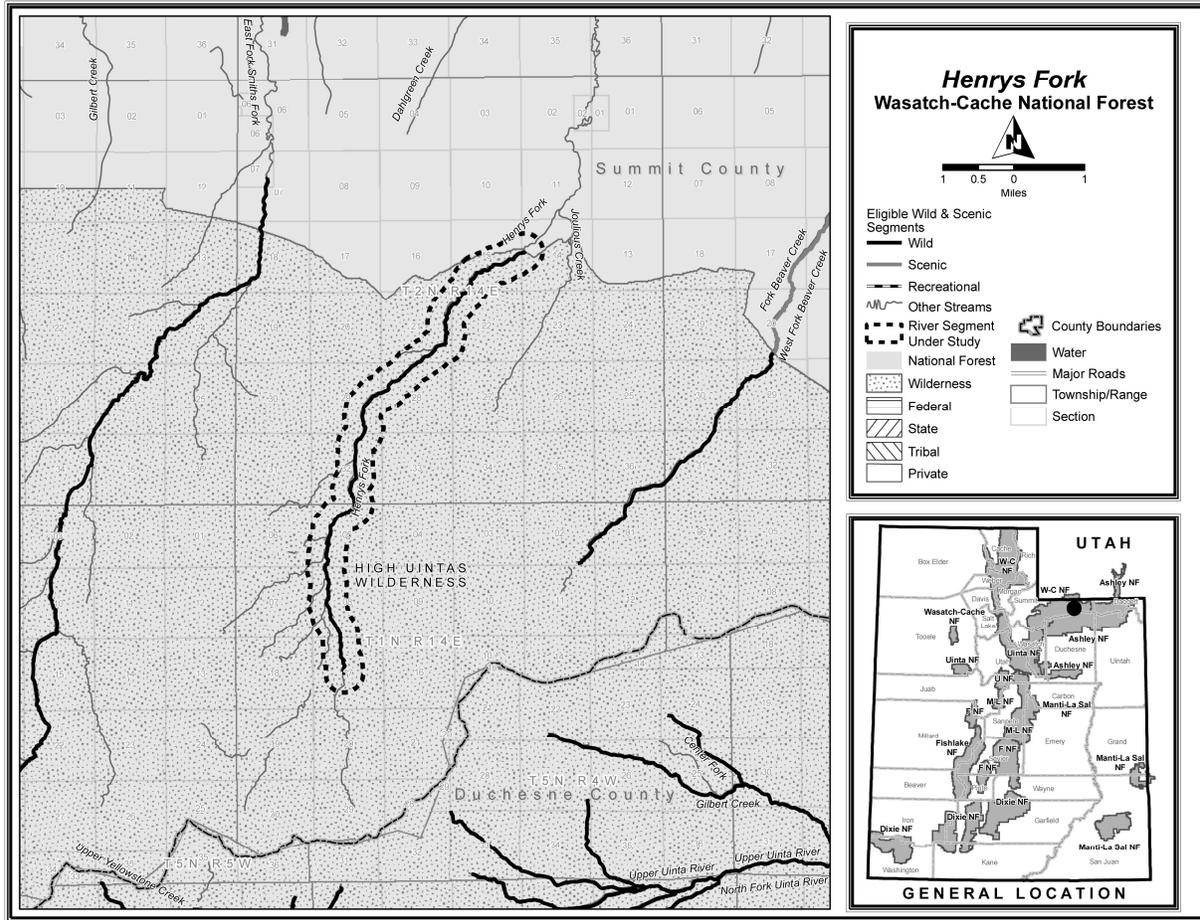
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This 7.8-mile long segment contributes to the basin integrity as it incorporates the entire length of Fifth Water Creek, a tributary of Diamond Fork Creek. The majority of this segment has little development, other than trails which follow the stream. Although the area encompassing the corridor lies within two different forest plan management prescriptions, these prescriptions are similar other than that one pertains to more of a forested environment than the other.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

No commitment has been expressed to date. The Spanish Fork Ranger District which manages this river corridor has a long history of considerable volunteerism. It is possible that, given the importance of the hot pots to many users and the history of volunteer service on the District, some volunteers would come forward or could be found to help with management of the trails and/or hot pots and corridor.

Henry's Fork Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Henry's Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 8.0 miles, from Henry's Fork Lake to the trailhead

Eligible: same

Location:

Henry's Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Mountain View Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
Segment 1	Start	End	Classification	Miles
	SW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 17, T 1 N, R 14 E, SLM	SW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 14, T 2 N, R 14 E, SLM	Wild	8.0

Physical Description of River Segment:

This river segment flows between elevations ranging from 9,400-10,900 feet. The entire segment flows through National Forest system lands. The stream originates in a glacially carved basin that includes many glacial features such as cirques, arêtes, horns, talus slopes, and lakes. The stream traverses extensive glacial deposits in the upper portions of the watershed.

No threatened, endangered, or sensitive species have been identified in the corridor, although habitat is available for wolverine, Canada lynx, boreal owl, goshawk, and great gray owl, all sensitive species. Deer, elk, moose and rocky mountain big horn sheep inhabit the area. Habitat for mountain goats is also present. Smaller species include pika and ptarmigan. Fish species include cutthroat trout (possibly Colorado cutthroat trout, a sensitive species), brook trout and rainbow trout. The State of Utah ranks the fishing on this segment as Class II (of great importance).

Upland vegetation consists of lodgepole pine and aspen at lower elevations, grading into spruce-fir forest at higher elevations. Krummholz spruce-fir parklands and true alpine vegetation grow near the upper cirque basin. There is diversity of riparian communities including broad meadows and narrow conifer communities, with a variety of willows and associated understory species are in relatively stable condition. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species are known to occur in the corridor

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: This segment from Henrys Fork Lake to the trailhead is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. This segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenic – Henrys Fork Lake nestled in an alpine mountain basin in the heart of the High Uintas Wilderness marks the origin of this segment. The broad riparian areas mix with the spruce-fir parklands to offer a striking alpine view to visitors. Lodgepole pine and aspen and scattered alpine meadows found lower on the segment create an exceptional riparian environment as the river descends. At times hikers on the nearby trail are afforded an especially attractive view looking down on the river. Though outside of the corridor, breathtaking views of Gilbert Peak and Kings Peak complement the values found in the corridor. The scenic value is outstandingly remarkable.

Recreation – The recreational experience is relatively diverse for a primitive setting. Both solitude and small group experiences are common. Access is easy from the trailhead. This is the shortest and probably the easiest access to Kings Peak. The recreation experience is an outstandingly remarkable value.

Wildlife – Diversity of wildlife species, including four large ungulates and their habitats, are good. Unique species such as the ptarmigan and reintroduced big horn sheep are attractions people look for. Wildlife represents an outstandingly remarkable value.

Ecology – Diversity of riparian communities, including broad meadows and narrow conifer communities with a variety of associated understory species in relatively stable condition constitute an outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River Segment: Wild

The Henrys Fork segment from Henrys Fork Lake to the trailhead is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a wild river because the stream and the stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.

- It is essentially primitive.
- There is little or no evidence of human activity.
- There is some presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- There is a limited amount of domestic grazing.
- There is little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- The area is inaccessible except by trail.
- There are no roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the river area except one accessing the Henrys Fork Trailhead and parking lot.
- The stream meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The ownership pattern of land of this river segment begins at the origin at the headwaters in the High Uintas Wilderness. The majority of this river segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness (7.9990 miles) except for the lowest 0.0016 mile portion between the trailhead and the wilderness boundary.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0- 8.0	Wasatch-Cache National Forest High Uintas Wilderness	2571
	Total:	2571 acres

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Trail 117 parallels the segment for its full length to Henrys Fork Lake from the trailhead and offers good hiking, horseback riding, and fishing.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The majority of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness and has been withdrawn from mineral or oil and gas development. The small portion of the segment that lies below the wilderness boundary is within a high oil and gas potential area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Grazing Activities – Sheep graze in the upper part of the drainage as part of the Henrys Fork and Hessie Lake Allotments and cattle graze in the lower part of this valley on the Red Mountain Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Recreation Activities – Trail 117 parallels the segment for its full length from the trailhead to Henrys Fork Lake and offers good hiking, horseback riding, and fishing. The many lakes in this pristine setting are heavily used during the summer months and into the early fall. Boy Scout groups are common users. These are wonderful settings for high quality primitive recreation experiences, with vistas of high elevation lakes and massive rock outcrops and ridges. Experience quality is relatively diverse for a primitive setting, with both solitude and small group experience common. Access to Henrys Fork Lake is easy from the trailhead and access to Kings Peak is short and easy from the lake basin.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects in the stream corridor.

Special Designations – The majority of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness Area and is characterized by an unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is temporary and minor. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation are available for visitors, who travel in small groups, practice excellent wilderness ethics and spend extra effort to leave no trace. Encounters with others are rare. Activities specifically prohibited in the Wilderness Act are: commercial enterprises; roads and structures; the landing of aircraft; the use of motorized equipment; and motor or mechanical transport.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor in the High Uintas Wilderness:

Management Prescription 1.1 Opportunity Class I: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by an unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is temporary and minor. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation are available for visitors, who travel in small groups, practice excellent wilderness ethics and spend extra effort to leave no trace. Encounters with others are rare. RFP 4-64 2003

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

Management Prescription 1.3 Opportunity Class III: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment, but impacts could persist from year to year. During peak season and in popular areas concentrated use is more common and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation more limited.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1a Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to

meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed, except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

The small part of this stream corridor that is outside the Wilderness is within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.2d consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Management Prescription 5.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives: Emphasis is on properly functioning conditions. Emphasis is not on timber growth and yield. Instead it is on maintaining or restoring vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability.

(G5.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non commodity outputs and services.

(G5.1-2) Road construction, new recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

(G5.1-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in a part of Summit County that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through the Evanston Ranger District.

Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the Trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away: people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency for lands along this segment is the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This segment is on entirely on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Public comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System provide support for eligibility and designation for the Henrys Fork.

During scoping comments were received that both supported and opposed designation of this segment. Conservation organizations and others thought protecting the Henrys Fork was important. Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses.

During the Draft EIS comment period comments were received in opposition and support for the Henry's Fork segment. Daggett County and interests from Lyman, Wyoming did not support designation of this segment. Reasons given for not supporting the segment include possible future restriction of access to

Kings Peak and that the stream is not regionally or nationally significant. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Henrys Fork.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Henrys Fork segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's current management of the stream corridor for the Wilderness, RHCA, and roadless within the stream corridor. Designation would increase regulation over the small area of this stream corridor that is outside the Wilderness boundary and would be applied to allowable activities listed in the Forest Plan (2003) for this area such as future recreation and timber/fuels projects to the ¼-mile corridor.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the basin integrity since other nearby headwater streams in the Henrys Fork drainage have been found eligible. However because the eligible segment does not extend downstream much beyond the Wilderness boundary its contribution is limited to protecting the upper basin. The majority of this stream is in the High Uintas Wilderness so designation of this stream segment would provide additional but similar protection to this stream.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are currently no public volunteer commitments currently for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Mountain View Ranger District.

glacially carved basin that includes many glacial features such as cirques, arêtes, horns, talus slopes, and lakes. The stream traverses extensive glacial deposits in the upper portions of the watershed. Lower elevation riparian areas have conifers invading the riparian ecosystem, which is indicative of fire exclusion along this portion. Diversity of communities and species is, however, high throughout the segment with willow bottoms and narrow conifer bottoms, much like Henrys Fork. The upland vegetation consists of lodgepole pine and aspen at lower elevations, grading into spruce-fir forest at higher elevations. Krummholz spruce-fir parklands and true alpine vegetation grow near the upper cirque basin. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species are known to occur in the corridor.

No threatened, endangered, or sensitive species have been identified in the corridor, although habitat is available for wolverine, Canada lynx, boreal owl, goshawk, and great gray owl, all sensitive species. Deer, elk, moose and rocky mountain big horn sheep inhabit the area. Habitat for mountain goats is also present. Smaller species include pika and ptarmigan. Fish species include cutthroat trout (possibly the Colorado cutthroat trout, a sensitive species), brook trout, longnose dace, sculpin and mountain sucker. The State of Utah ranks the fishing on this segment a Class III, an important fishery.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: Except for one road crossing, which does not restrict flow, there are no modifications or diversions on this segment. This segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Wildlife – Diversity of wildlife species, including four large ungulates and their habitats, are good. Unique species such as the ptarmigan and reintroduced big horn sheep are attractions people look for. Wildlife represents an outstandingly remarkable value.

Ecology – Diversity of riparian communities, including broad meadows and narrow conifer communities with a variety of associated understory species in relatively stable condition constitute an outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River Segment: Segment 1—Wild; Segment 2--Scenic
The West Fork of Beaver Creek is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a wild river above the Wilderness boundary and scenic below the Wilderness boundary because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

The scenic segment is classified as scenic because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity.
- Presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable.
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable.
- Evidence of past logging or ongoing timber harvest is acceptable provided the forest appears natural from the river bank.
- Accessible in places by road.
- Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The West Fork of the Beaver Creek from its source to the forest boundary is on the Mountain View Ranger District in Summit County, Utah. The segment is entirely on National Forest lands.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-4.6	Wasatch-Cache National Forest High Uintas Wilderness	1536
4.6-10.1	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1844
Total acres:		3380 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The portion of the stream segment within the High Uintas Wilderness has been withdrawn from mineral or oil and gas development. The portion of the segment that lies below the wilderness boundary is within a high oil and gas potential area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – Except for one road crossing within the segment, there are no diversions or modifications within the segment. There are several irrigation diversions below the Forest boundary. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Road 189 provides access to the stream at the Forest boundary and Forest Road 082 crosses the stream about 1 mile above the Forest boundary. Trail 119 provides access to the remainder of the stream. The trail starts at the West Beaver Trailhead on Forest Road 082.

Grazing Activities – There are two cattle allotments on the scenic portion of West Fork Beaver Creek. The stream segment is within the Beaver Creek and Poison Mountain Cattle Allotments. There is a closed sheep allotment in the wild section. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. Ranchers must comply with grazing permits administered by the Forest.

Recreation Activities – The corridor receives moderate fishing and heavy hunting use, mostly by local residents. Hikers and some horseback riders use the trail to access the High Uintas Wilderness.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects in this stream corridor.

Special Designations – West Fork Beaver Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas

(RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 4.3 miles of this stream corridor is within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Approximately 4.6 miles of this stream segment are within the High Uintas Wilderness.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the Wilderness:

Management Prescription 1.1 Opportunity Class I: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by an unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is temporary and minor. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation are available for visitors, who travel in small groups, practice excellent wilderness ethics and spend extra effort to leave no trace. Encounters with others are rare. RFP 4-64 2003

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land below the Wilderness boundary:

Management Prescription 1.5 Recommended Wilderness: These are areas recommended for wilderness. They were identified through the Forest Plan revision roadless area inventory, evaluation and recommendation process. This analysis is required by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) planning regulations and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act. Congress retains the final authority for designating wilderness areas. For areas recommended as wilderness, wilderness characteristics must be protected until Congress takes final action (FSH 1909.12, 7.31). These areas are managed to maintain the characteristics qualifying them as capable and available for wilderness recommendation. Activities must not result in long-term changes to the wilderness character.

(S1.5) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, new trail construction, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(G1.5-1) Snowmobiling is allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G1.5-2) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed.

(G1.5-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Management Prescription 3.1a Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities

(roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 3.2 Terrestrial Habitats (3.2U Undeveloped/3.2D Developed) Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

Management Prescription 3.2d consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County in a location that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the

years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency for lands along this segment is the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This segment is on entirely on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Public comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System provide support for eligibility and designation for the West Fork Beaver Creek.

During scoping Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses. A general comment received thought it was important to protect Uinta Mountain segments even if they were within the Wilderness.

No comments were received specific to the West Fork Beaver Creek during the public comment period for the Draft EIS.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the West Fork Beaver Creek segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's current management of the stream corridor for the Wilderness, Recommended Wilderness and the RHCA within the stream corridor.

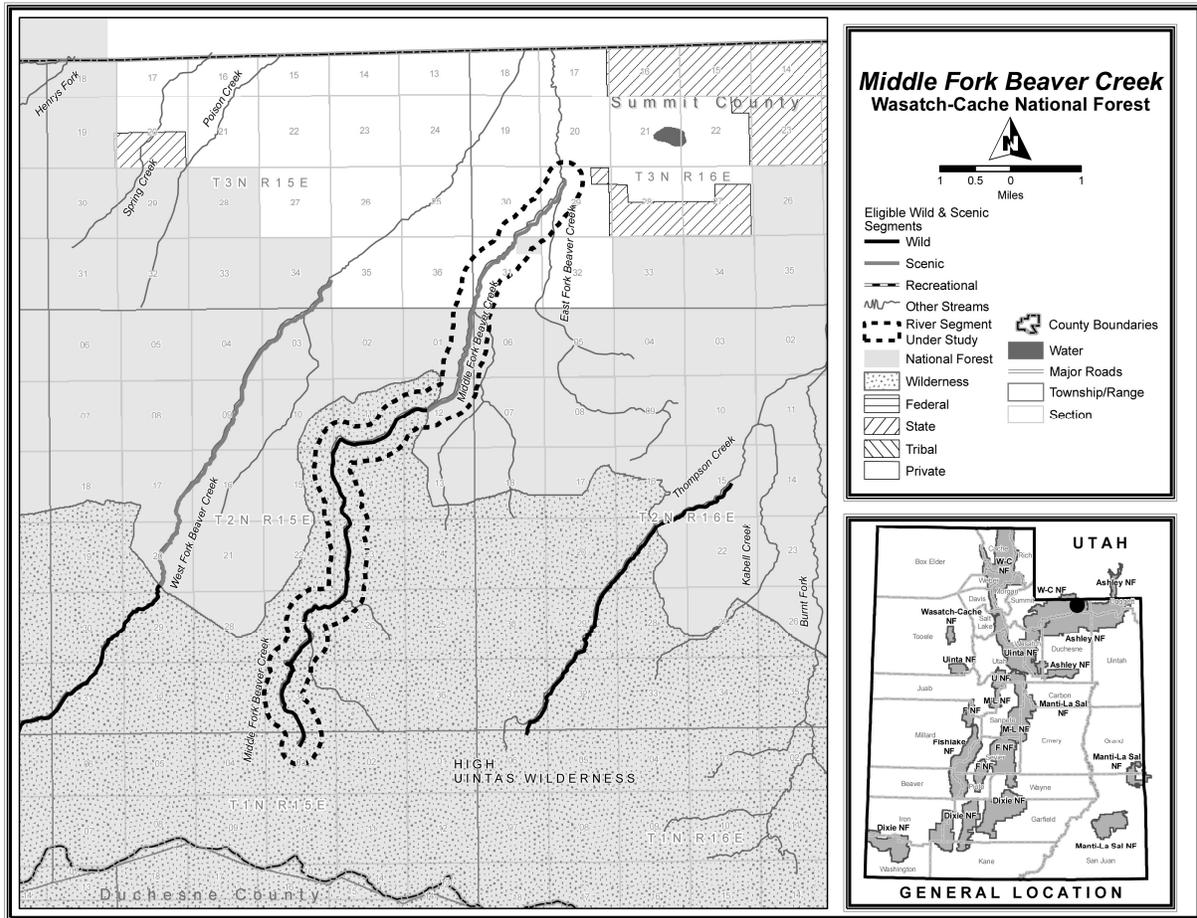
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the basin integrity as it incorporates the source of the West Fork Beaver Creek to the Forest boundary. This segment when combined with the Middle Fork Beaver Creek provides designation for two headwater streams of Beaver Creek.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are currently no public volunteer commitments for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Mountain View Ranger District.

Middle Fork Beaver Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Middle Fork Beaver Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 11.1 miles, Beaver Lake to confluence with East Fork Beaver Creek

Eligible: Same

Location:

Middle Fork Beaver Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Mountain View Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 3, T 1 N, R 15 E, SLM	SE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 12, T 2 N, R 15 E, SLM	Wild	6.9
Segment 2	SE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 12, T 2 N, R 15 E, SLM	SW ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 35, T 12 N, R 113 W, 6 th Principal Meridian (Wyoming)	Scenic	4.2

Physical Description of River Segment:

This river segment flows between elevations that range between 8,200 - 10,505 feet. The stream originates in a glacially carved basin that includes many glacial features such as cirques, arêtes, horns, talus slopes, and lakes. The stream traverses extensive glacial deposits in the upper portions of the

watershed.

Lower elevation riparian areas have conifers invading the riparian ecosystem, which is indicative of fire exclusion along this portion. Diversity of communities and species is, however, high throughout the segment with willow bottoms and narrow conifer bottoms, much like Henrys Fork. The upland vegetation consists of lodgepole pine and aspen at lower elevations, grading into spruce-fir forest at higher elevations. Krummholz spruce-fir parklands and true alpine vegetation grow near the upper cirque basin. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species are known to occur in the corridor.

No threatened, endangered, or sensitive species have been identified in the corridor, although habitat is available for wolverine, Canada lynx, boreal owl, goshawk, and great gray owl, all sensitive species. Deer, elk, moose and rocky mountain big horn sheep inhabit the area. Habitat for mountain goats is also present. Smaller species include pika and ptarmigan. Fish species include cutthroat trout (possibly the sensitive Colorado cutthroat), brook trout, longnose dace, sculpin and mountain sucker. Above the Forest boundary the State of Utah ranks the fishing on this segment a Class III, an important fishery.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The stream is free from major channel modifications and structures. There is one small diversion below the Forest boundary. There are two road crossings, one on the Forest and one below the boundary. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. This segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Wildlife – Diversity of wildlife species, including four large ungulates and their habitats are good. Unique species such as the ptarmigan and reintroduced big horn sheep are attractions people look for. Wildlife represents an outstandingly remarkable value.

Ecology – Diversity of riparian communities, including broad meadows and narrow conifer communities with a variety of associated understory species in relatively stable condition constitute an outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River Segments: Segment 1—Wild; Segment 2—Scenic
The Middle Fork of Beaver Creek is eligible for the national Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a wild river above the wilderness boundary because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary

contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

The scenic segment is classified as scenic below the wilderness boundary because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity.
- Presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable.
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable.
- Evidence of past logging or ongoing timber harvest is acceptable provided the forest appears natural from the river bank.
- Accessible in places by road.
- Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment is on the Mountain View Ranger District in Summit County, Utah. Most of the segment is within Wilderness. The lower 2 miles are on private land.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-6.9	Wasatch-Cache National Forest Wilderness	2208
6.9-9.1	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	704
9.1-11.1	Private land	640
Total:		3552 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

This area is zoned Agricultural Grazing (AG-160) by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. For private land in Utah, the Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The majority of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness and has been withdrawn from mineral or oil and gas development. The portion of the

segment that lies below the wilderness boundary is within a high oil and gas potential area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams or diversions inside the Forest boundary, and one small diversion below the Forest boundary. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – There are multiple access points to this area via Forest roads and trails. Forest roads 078, 082 and 164 provide access to the lower 3.5 miles of the segment. Forest road 164 terminates at the Middle Beaver Trailhead; Trail 120 starts at this trailhead and provides access to the Wilderness. Trails 105 and 108 merge near Long Meadow. Trail 109 follows the corridor from Long Meadow upstream to Beaver Lake.

Recreation Activities – In most of the corridor, views from the stream are limited to the surrounding coniferous forest. From the meadows, some of the nearby Uinta peaks can be viewed. Fishing use is moderate in the lower reaches and the Long Meadows area, and very light in the rest of the corridor. There is moderate use by local hunters and hikers in the corridor.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects in this stream corridor. In lower reaches of the corridor there is some evidence of past logging.

Grazing Activities – The scenic section of Middle Fork Beaver Creek is within the Beaver Creek Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Special Designations – Middle Fork Beaver Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 6.0 miles of this stream corridor is within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Approximately 6.9 miles of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the Wilderness:

Management Prescription 1.1 Opportunity Class I: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by an unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is temporary and minor. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation are available for visitors, who travel in small groups, practice excellent wilderness ethics and spend extra effort to leave no trace. Encounters with others are rare. RFP 4-64 2003

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

Management Prescription 1.3 Opportunity Class III: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment, but impacts could persist from year to year. During peak season and in popular areas concentrated use is more common and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation more limited.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land below the Wilderness boundary:

Management Prescription 3.1a Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than five inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 3.2 Terrestrial Habitats (3.2U Undeveloped/3.2D Developed) Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

Management Prescription 3.2d consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired

conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, in a location that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions

numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The majority of this stream segment is on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land and will be managed to maintain the integrity of the stream corridor. The level of development allowed on the private land within the corridor is managed by the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning regulations for AG-160.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Public comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System provide support for eligibility and designation for the Middle Fork Beaver Creek.

During scoping Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses including livestock grazing. A general comment received thought it was important to protect Uinta Mountain segments even if they were within the Wilderness.

Two public comments were received opposing designation for Middle Fork Beaver Creek during the public comment period for the Draft EIS. Their concerns focused on the private lands within the segment and their concern of adverse effects on private water rights, stream degradation because of increased use, trespass on private lands, and a designation that would preclude multiple use activities.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

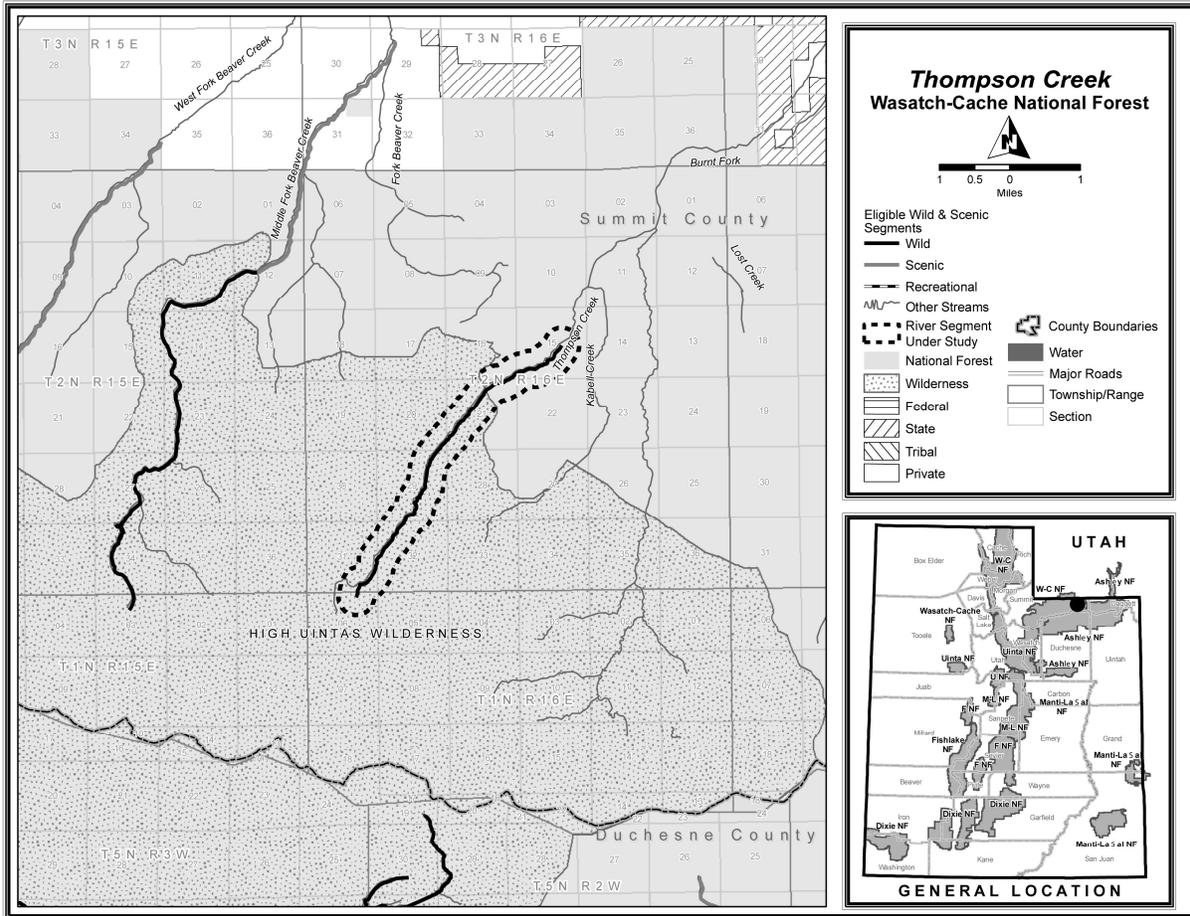
Designation of the Middle Fork Beaver Creek segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's current management of the stream corridor for the Wilderness, roadless and the RHCA within the stream corridor.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity. This segment contributes to the basin integrity as it incorporates the entire length of the Middle Fork Beaver Creek from Beaver Lake to the confluence of East Fork Beaver Creek. This segment, when combined with the West Fork Beaver Creek, provides designation for two of the three headwater streams of Beaver Creek.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are currently no public volunteer commitments for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Mountain View Ranger District.

Thompson Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Thompson Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 5.1 miles, from source to Hoop Lake Diversion

Eligible: Same

Location:

Thompson Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Mountain View Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NW¼ NE ¼ Sect. 6, T 1 N, R 16 E, SLM	NW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 15, T 2 N, R 16 E, SLM	Wild	5.1

Physical Description of River Segment:

This river segment flows between elevations that range between 9,400 - 11,200 feet. This segment of Thompson Creek extends from a small glacially carved basin near North Burro Peak to the Hoop Lake diversion. Below the headwaters the segment flows through a consistently dense forested corridor and the

views from this heavily wooded corridor are limited. The corridor is heavily wooded with lodgepole pine and spruce-fir forests. A few wet meadows and willows occur along the stream. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species occur in the corridor.

No threatened, endangered, or sensitive animal species occur in the corridor. Habitat is available for wolverine, Canada lynx, boreal owl, goshawk, and great gray owl, all sensitive species. Deer, elk, moose and rocky mountain big horn sheep inhabit the area. Habitat for mountain goats is also present. Elk use in the area is heavy. Smaller species include pika and ptarmigan. Cutthroat/rainbow hybrid trout inhabit the stream.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from major channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Wildlife – Diversity of wildlife species, including four large ungulates and their habitats, are good. Unique species such as the ptarmigan and reintroduced big horn sheep are attractions people look for. Wildlife represents an outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River Segment: Wild

The Thompson Creek segment from the headwaters downstream to the Hoop Lake Diversion is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. This stream is classified as a wild river because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – Thompson Creek from its source to the Hoop Lake diversion is on the Mountain View Ranger District in Summit County, Utah. The segment is entirely on National Forest lands.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-4	Wasatch-Cache National Forest High Uintas Wilderness	1218
4-5.1	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	481
	Total	1699 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The majority of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness and has been withdrawn from mineral or oil and gas development. The portion of the segment that lies below the wilderness boundary is within a high oil and gas potential area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Access to this area is limited to Trail 122, which crosses the stream near Thompson Pass and the stream's headwaters. This trail connects with Trail 121 about halfway up the drainage; Trail 121 originates near Hoop Lake.

Recreation Activities – The recreation use along this corridor is lighter than other stream drainages, and does not constitute an outstandingly remarkable recreational value when compared to other corridors nearby. Recreation use is limited to moderate hunting pressure, and occasional hikers. Views from this heavily wooded corridor are limited. The fishery is rated Class III and receives light fishing pressure.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects within this stream corridor.

Grazing Activities – A small portion of this stream corridor is actively grazed. The Beaver Creek Cattle Allotment overlaps the end of the stream corridor. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Special Designations – Thompson Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 1.6 miles of this stream corridor are within a State of Utah Drinking Water Source Protection Zone (DWSPZ) for transient uses at nearby recreational sites. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Approximately 1.3 miles of this stream corridor is within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Approximately 3.7 miles are within the High Uintas Wilderness.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land in the High Uintas Wilderness:

Management Prescription 1.1 Opportunity Class I: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by an unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is temporary and minor. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation are available for visitors, who travel in small groups, practice excellent wilderness ethics and spend extra effort to leave no trace. Encounters with others are rare. RFP 4-64 2003

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land below the Wilderness boundary:

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is allowed.

(S2.6) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are not allowed.

(G2.6-1) Motorized uses, including snowmobiling are allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G2.6-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.6-3) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed to mimic conditions within the historic range of variability and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 5.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives: Emphasis is on properly functioning conditions. Emphasis is not on

timber growth and yield. Instead it is on maintaining or restoring vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability.

(G5.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non commodity outputs and services.

(G5.1-2) Road construction, new recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

(G5.1-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, in a location that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledgers and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency for lands along this segment is the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river,

including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This segment is on entirely on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Public comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System provide support for eligibility and designation for the Thompson Creek.

During scoping Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses. A general comment received thought it was important to protect Uinta Mountain segments even if they were within the Wilderness.

No public comments were received specific to Thompson Creek during the comment period for the Draft EIS.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Thompson Creek segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's current management of the stream corridor for the Wilderness and the RHCA within the stream corridor.

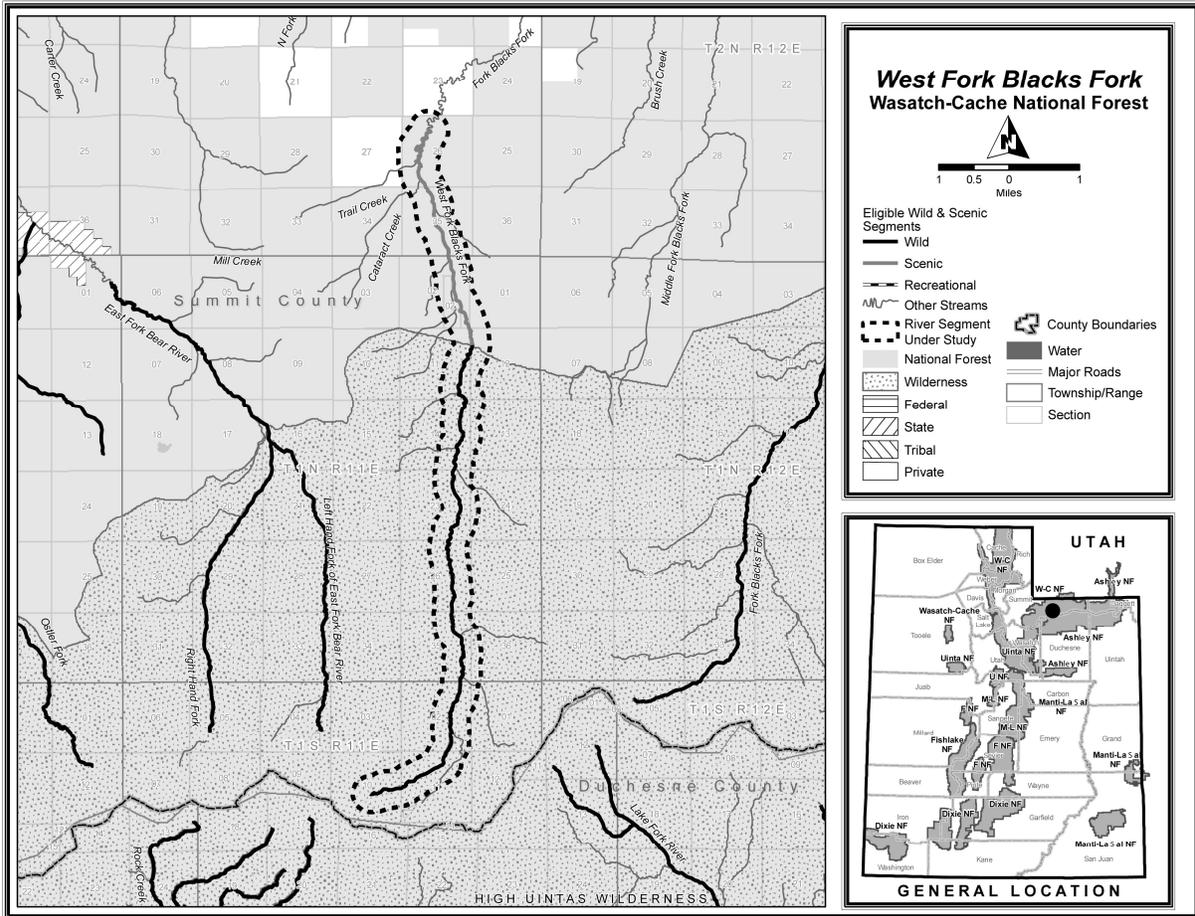
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the Henrys Fork basin integrity when combined with other eligible headwater segments of West Fork Beaver, Middle Fork Beaver, and the mainstem of the Henrys Fork. On a smaller scale, it is the only eligible stream within the Burnt Fork drainage and its flows are diverted into Hoop Lake. The majority of this stream is in the High Uintas Wilderness so designation of this stream segment would provide additional but similar protection to this stream.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are currently no public volunteer commitments for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Mountain View Ranger District.

West Fork Blacks Fork Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: West Fork Blacks Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 11.9 miles, from source to trailhead

Eligible: same

Location:

West Fork Blacks Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Mountain View Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NE ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 10, T 1 S, R 11 E, SLM	NE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 11, T 1 N, R 11 E, SLM	Wild	8.0
Segment 2	NE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 11, T 1 N, R 11 E, SLM	NE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 26, T 2 N, R 11 E, SLM	Scenic	3.9

Physical Description of River Segment:

This stream flows between elevations that range between 9,200-12,000 feet. The stream meanders through a relatively wide valley and outwash terraces. The West Fork valley bottom is fairly broad with some large meadows and willow bottoms.

The upper portion of this segment is typical of the alpine and subalpine communities of the Uinta Mountains. Krummholz spruce communities occur at higher elevations, while Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, and lodgepole pine dominate at mid to lower elevations along this segment. Aspen communities and aspen/conifer communities also occur at lower elevations. Riparian communities typically occur as broad meadows dominated by tall and low growing willows with herbaceous undergrowth. Narrow riparian corridors with scattered tall willows growing beneath conifer overstories generally separate these meadows. This segment is more or less natural in appearance, with local dispersed recreation and livestock grazing impacts. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species occur along this segment.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from major channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – Wide meadows in a broad alpine valley mark the beginning of the segment. The segment offers a variety of scenes along its length with meadows, conifer forests and aspen communities. The pleasing setting is enjoyed by hikers of the West Fork Blacks Fork Trail. Outside of the corridor there are stunning views of the High Uintas enjoyed by photographers, hikers, and artists alike. The scenic values of the stream are outstandingly remarkable.

Ecology – Diversity of riparian communities, including broad meadows and narrow conifer communities with a variety of associated understory species in relatively stable condition constitute an outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River Segments: Segment 1—Wild; Segment 2—Scenic

The West Fork of Blacks Fork is eligible for the Wild and Scenic River System. It is classified as wild above the wilderness boundary and scenic below the wilderness. The wild segment is classified as wild because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

The scenic segment is classified as scenic because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity.

- Presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable.
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable.
- Evidence of past logging or ongoing timber harvest is acceptable provided the forest appears natural from the river bank.
- Accessible in places by road.
- Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses –

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-8.0	Wasatch-Cache National Forest High Uintas Wilderness	2548
8.0-11.9	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1190
	Private land within stream corridor	27
	Total:	3765 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

This area is zoned Agricultural Grazing (AG-160) by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The majority of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness and has been withdrawn from mineral or oil and gas development. The small portion of the segment that lies below the wilderness boundary is within a high oil and gas potential area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Road 063 parallels the stream for most of the portion below the wilderness boundary. Trail 101 follows the stream, and provides access to the High Uintas Wilderness via Dead Horse Pass.

Recreation Activities – Hiking into the High Uintas Wilderness along an established trail is a good recreation opportunity, as is other dispersed use, but the area is not heavily utilized, and there is no developed opportunity available. Most users are local and Wasatch Front residents.

Some photography opportunities are spectacular. The wide meadows and valley afford spectacular views of the High Uintas, which offer artists, hikers and photographers a distinctive setting. Vegetation diversity shows a high degree of patterning when looking at larger vistas. Fishing and hunting opportunities are similar to those in other local drainages. The State of Utah ranking for fishing is Class III, important. Boating is not possible.

Grazing Activities – This segment is within the West Fork Blacks Fork and the Larson Sheep Allotments. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. Ranchers must comply with grazing permits administered by the Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There is one hunting outfitter guide whose area covers the Evanston District. Recreation related economic opportunities are limited.

Special Designations – The West Fork Blacks Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 7.4 miles of the West Fork Blacks Fork are within the High Uintas Wilderness.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the majority of the stream segment corridor:

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest for the stream corridor south of the

Bear River Smiths Fork Trail 091:

Management Prescription 1.5 Recommended Wilderness: These are areas recommended for wilderness. They were identified through the Forest Plan revision roadless area inventory, evaluation and recommendation process. This analysis is required by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) planning regulations and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act. Congress retains the final authority for designating wilderness areas. For areas recommended as wilderness, wilderness characteristics must be protected until Congress takes final action (FSH 1909.12, 7.31). These areas are managed to maintain the characteristics qualifying them as capable and available for wilderness recommendation. Activities must not result in long-term changes to the wilderness character.

(S1.5) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, new trail construction, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(G1.5-1) Snowmobiling is allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G1.5-2) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed.

(G1.5-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest for the stream corridor north of the Bear River Smiths Fork Trail 091:

Management Prescription 3.1a Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 5.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives: Emphasis is on properly functioning conditions. Emphasis is not on timber growth and yield. Instead it is on maintaining or restoring vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability.

(G5.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non commodity outputs and services.

(G5.1-2) Road construction, new recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

(G5.1-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, in a location that occupies a

rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This segment is on entirely on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

There were public comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System that provided support for eligibility and designation for the West Fork Blacks Fork segment.

During scoping Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses. A general supportive comment received thought it was important to protect Uinta Mountain segments even if they were within the Wilderness.

Two public comments received during the comment period for the Draft EIS state that the West Fork Blacks Fork segment should not be designated, due to the adverse effects designation will have on timber management, grazing and access to and operation of the early warning sites for reservoir management that are located on this segment. Further, some portion of the segment is already protected by Wilderness.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the West Fork Blacks Fork segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's current management of the stream corridor for the Wilderness, Recommended Wilderness and the RHCA within the stream corridor. Designation would also be consistent with the Utah Department of Wildlife Resources and Wyoming Fish and Games plan for improving trout fisheries.

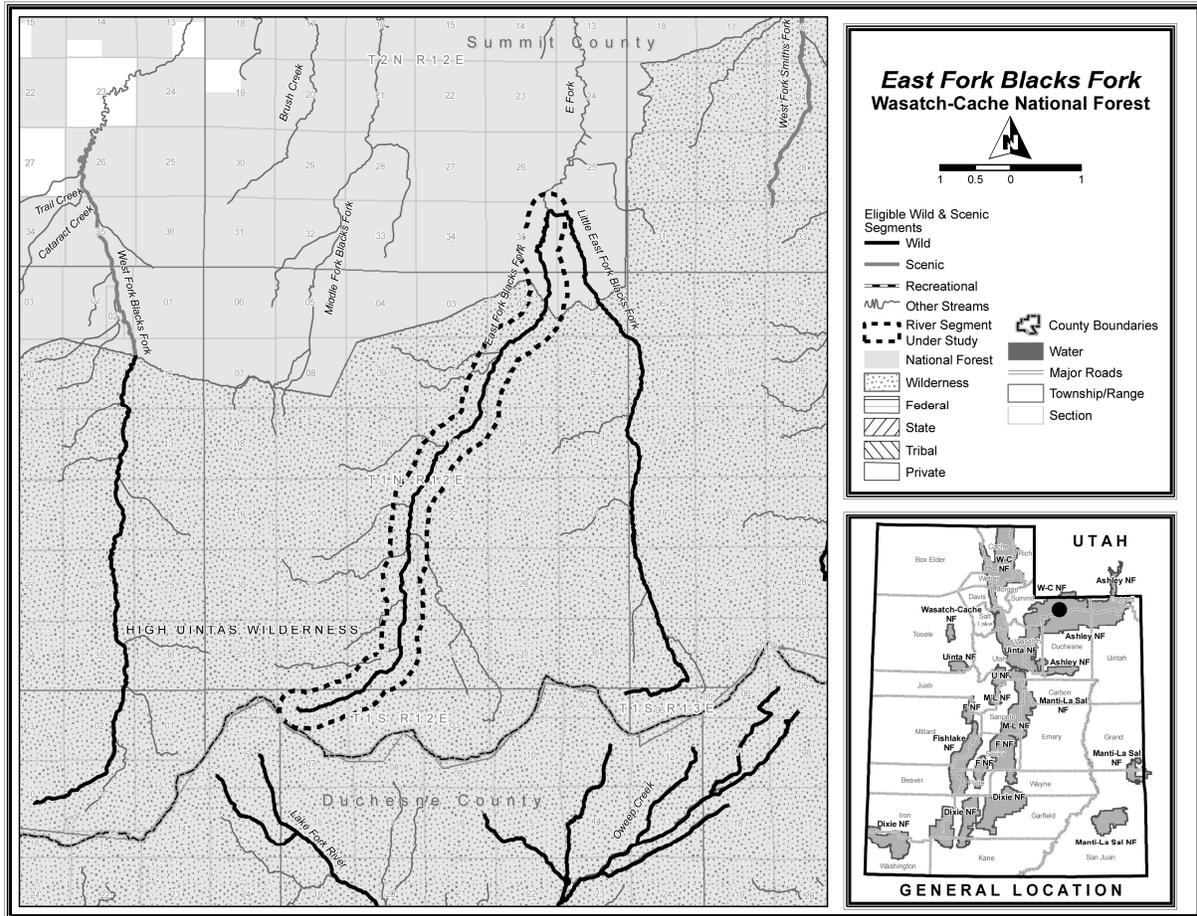
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

Should this segment be found suitable, it would contribute to basin integrity especially when combined with the other eligible headwater segments of the Blacks Fork drainage; namely, the Little East Fork and East Fork Blacks Fork.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are currently no public volunteer commitments for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Evanston Ranger District.

East Fork Blacks Fork Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: East Fork Blacks Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 9.6 miles, from source to confluence with Little East Fork

Eligible: Same

Location:

East Fork Blacks Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 5, T 1 N, R 12 E, SLM	NE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 35, T 2 N, R 12 E, SLM	Wild	9.6

Physical Description of River Segment:

Elevations range from 9,400-11,000 feet. This is a fairly typical north-flowing High Uinta stream. There are not a lot of lakes in this drainage, and the drainage that the stream and canyon has cut is narrower than some adjacent to it. It is not a very steep drainage, but the stream bed is rocky. It has few meanders or falls. Soils are typical, thin rocky high elevation forest soils. It is surrounded by the high ridges of the

Uinta Mountains. The creek has its headwaters in the alpine zone, and then flows through lodgepole forests which typically grow adjacent to the stream banks. A few small meadows are present in the middle portion of the segment, while some larger meadows are present near the confluence. Wildlife is typical of that found across the north slope of the Uintas. Threatened or endangered species are not present. Sensitive species may be present. The sensitive Colorado cutthroat trout is present.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from dams, diversions or other modifications. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Ecology – Diversity of riparian communities, including broad meadows and narrow conifer communities with a variety of associated understory species in relatively stable condition constitute an outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Wild

The East Fork Blacks Fork is eligible for the Wild and Scenic Rive System. The stream is classified as a wild river because it is a primitive, unmodified environment. This wild segment is classified as wild because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This river segment is almost completely within the High Uintas Wilderness with only the last 1.6 miles being below the wilderness boundary. It is all on the National Forest on the Evanston Ranger District.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-8.0	Wasatch-Cache National Forest High Uintas Wilderness	2538
8.0-9.6	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	520
	Total:	3058 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The majority of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness and has been withdrawn from mineral entry and mineral leasing. The small portion of the segment that lies below the wilderness boundary is within a high oil and gas potential area. There are

no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – This segment is accessed from Forest Trail 102 which parallels the stream and begins at the East Fork Blacks Fork Guard Station. Visitors can also come into the drainage by trail from the Ashley National Forest side through Red Knob pass. The area is accessed from the East Fork Blacks Fork Trailhead which is well-developed and has eight campsites present.

Recreation Activities – Scenery and views from the river corridor vary some along its length, but are often restricted by conifers and the narrowness of the canyon. Outdoor recreation provides a primitive, wilderness experience. Winter uses in the area are minimal, due to its remote location, but some snowmobiling use is present. Visitor numbers here are lower than in some adjacent drainages, as the drainage lacks the larger lakes that attract visitors (fishing pressure) to some other areas. The State of Utah rates the fishery as a Class III (important).

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects in this stream corridor.

Grazing Activities – The area is an active sheep grazing allotment. Sheep graze in the upper part of the drainage as part of the East Fork Blacks Fork Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Special Designations – The East Fork Blacks Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

The majority of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness Area and is characterized by an unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is temporary and minor. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation are available for visitors, who travel in small groups, practice excellent wilderness ethics and spend extra effort to leave no trace. Encounters with others are rare. Activities specifically prohibited in the Wilderness Act are: commercial enterprises; roads and structures; the landing of aircraft; the use of motorized equipment; and motor or mechanical transport.

Approximately 1.6 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor within the

High Uintas Wilderness:

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

Management Prescription 1.3 Opportunity Class III: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment, but impacts could persist from year to year. During peak season and in popular areas concentrated use is more common and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation more limited.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor below the High Uintas Wilderness boundary:

Management Prescription 1.5 Recommended Wilderness: These are areas recommended for wilderness. They were identified through the Forest Plan revision roadless area inventory, evaluation and recommendation process. This analysis is required by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) planning regulations and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act. Congress retains the final authority for designating wilderness areas. For areas recommended as wilderness, wilderness characteristics must be protected until Congress takes final action (FSH 1909.12, 7.31). These areas are managed to maintain the characteristics qualifying them as capable and available for wilderness recommendation. Activities must not result in long-term changes to the wilderness character.

(S1.5) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, new trail construction, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(G1.5-1) Snowmobiling is allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G1.5-2) Wildland fire use, and prescribed fire are allowed.

(G1.5-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District that includes land in Wyoming and Utah.

In 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There are a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uinta Mountains come from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This segment is on entirely on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Public comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System provide support for eligibility and designation for the East Fork Blacks Fork.

During scoping Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses, including grazing. A general supportive comment received thought it was important to protect Uinta Mountain segments even if they were within the Wilderness.

Several public comments were received during the comment period for the Draft EIS reflecting support and opposition for the East Fork Blacks Fork River segment. Reasons for supporting this segment include wildlife and scenic values. Opposition to any tributary of the Blacks Fork being designated was grounded in a concern of adverse effects on timber management, grazing and access to and operation of the early warning sites for reservoir management. Further, some portion of the segment is already protected by Wilderness.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the East Fork Blacks Fork segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's current management of the stream corridor for the Wilderness, RHCA, and Recommended Wilderness within the stream corridor.

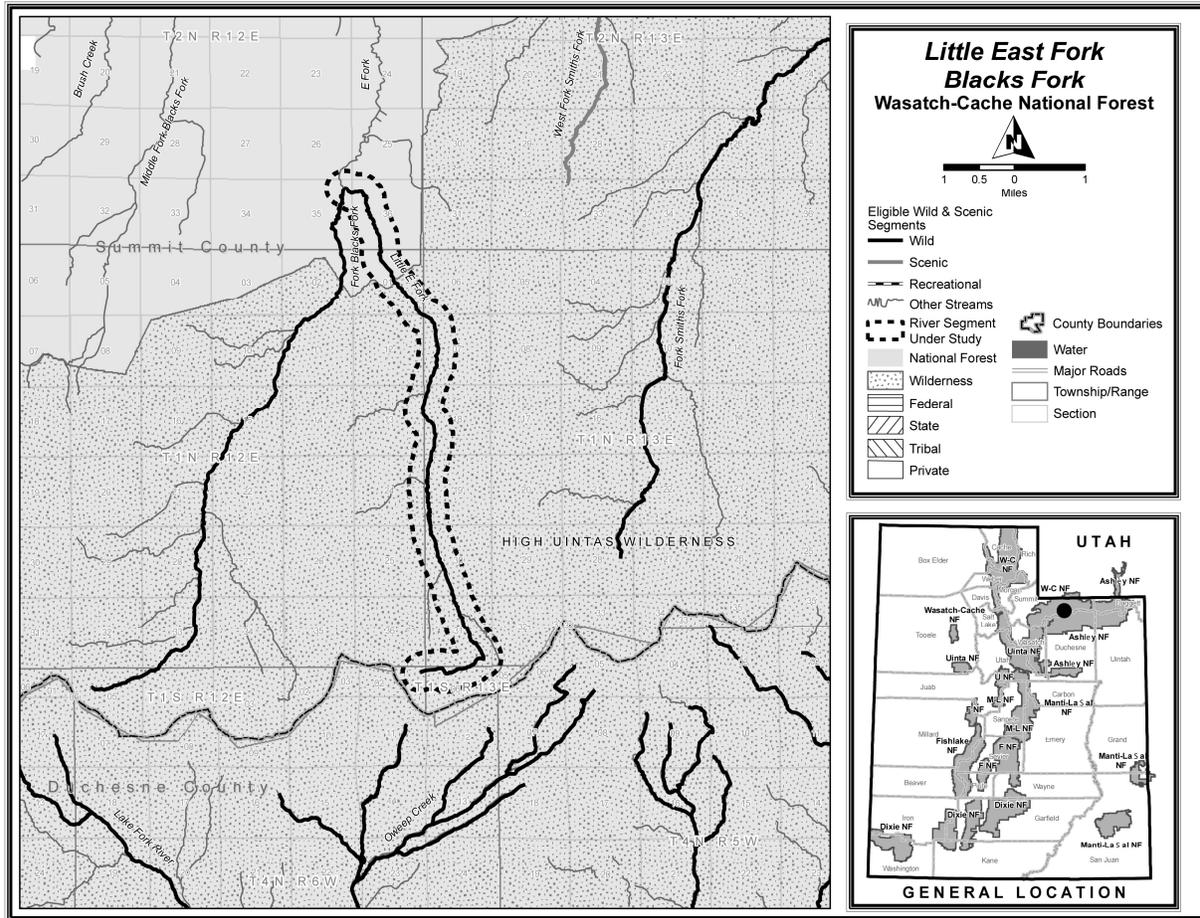
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

Should this segment be found suitable it would contribute to basin integrity especially when combined with the other eligible segments of the Blacks Fork drainage; namely, the Little East Fork, West Fork Blacks Fork, and the mainstem of the Blacks Fork. The majority of this stream is in the High Uintas Wilderness so designation of this stream segment would provide additional but similar protection to this stream.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are currently no public volunteer commitments for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Mountain View Ranger District.

Little East Fork Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Little East Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 9.2 miles, from source to confluence with East Fork Blacks Fork

Eligible: same

Location:

Little East Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SW ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 32, T 1 N, R 13 E, SLM	NE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 35, T 2 N, R 12 E, SLM	Wild	9.2

Physical Description of River Segment:

This segment of the Little East Fork flows between elevations ranging from 9,400-11,400 feet from its source near Squaw Pass, downstream to its confluence with Little East Fork. This is a fairly typical north-flowing High Uintas stream. There are not a lot of lakes in the drainage, and the drainage that the stream and canyon has cut is narrower than some adjacent to it. It is not a very steep drainage, but the stream bed is rocky. It has few meanders or falls. Soils are typical, thin rocky high elevation forest soils. It is surrounded by the high ridges of the Uintas. The creek has its headwaters in the alpine zone, then

flows through lodgepole forests which typically grow adjacent to the stream banks. A few small meadows are present in the middle portion of the segment, while some larger meadows are present near the confluence. It is a primitive, unmodified environment. Upland vegetation consists of lodgepole pine and aspen at lower elevations, grading into spruce-fir forest at higher elevations. Krummholz spruce-fir parklands and true alpine vegetation grow near the upper cirque basin. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive species have been identified in the corridor, although habitat is available for wolverine, Canada lynx, boreal owl, goshawk, and great gray owl, all sensitive species. Deer, elk, and moose inhabit the area. Habitat for mountain goats is also present. Smaller species include pika and ptarmigan. Fish species include Colorado cutthroat trout (a sensitive species), brook trout and rainbow trout.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from dams, diversions or other modifications. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Ecology – Diversity of riparian communities including broad meadows and narrow conifer communities, with a variety of willows and associated understory species are in relatively stable condition constitutes and outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Wild

The Little East Fork is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The classification is wild because: the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The Little East Fork, from its source near Squaw Pass downstream to its confluence with Little East Fork, is located on the Evanston Ranger District in Summit County, Utah. The segment lies entirely within National Forest system lands.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-7.4	Wasatch-cache National Forest High Uintas Wilderness	2290
7.4-9.2	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	591
	Total:	2881 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The majority of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness and has been withdrawn from mineral entry and mineral leasing. The small portion of

the segment that lies below the wilderness boundary is within a high oil and gas potential area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the Forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Trail 103 provides access to the corridor, off of Trail 102 from the East Fork Blacks Fork Guard Station. The area is accessed from the East Fork Blacks Fork Trailhead which is well-developed and also has eight campsites present.

Grazing Activities – This entire segment is within the East Fork Blacks Sheep Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Recreation Activities – Recreation use is moderately high and consists of fishing, biking and horseback riding. Fishing pressure is moderate. The State of Utah rates the fishery as a Class III (important). From some locations within the segment vistas of the High Uinta peaks are visible.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects in this stream corridor.

Special Designations – The Little East Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 7.4 miles of the Little East Fork are within the High Uintas Wilderness.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the majority of the stream segment corridor:

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest for the remainder of the stream

segment outside of wilderness:

Management Prescription 1.5 Recommended Wilderness: These are areas recommended for wilderness. They were identified through the Forest Plan revision roadless area inventory, evaluation and recommendation process. This analysis is required by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) planning regulations and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act. Congress retains the final authority for designating wilderness areas. For areas recommended as wilderness, wilderness characteristics must be protected until Congress takes final action (FSH 1909.12,7.31). These areas are managed to maintain the characteristics qualifying them as capable and available for wilderness recommendation. Activities must not result in long-term changes to the wilderness character.

(S1.5) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, new trail construction, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(G1.5-1) Snowmobiling is allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G1.5-2) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed.

(G1.5-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment –This stream is located in Summit County, a place that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the Trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following

designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This segment is on entirely on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Public comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System provide support for eligibility and designation for the Little East Fork.

During scoping Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses. A general supportive comment received thought it was important to protect Uinta Mountain segments even if they were within the Wilderness.

During the public comment period for the Draft EIS, one supporting comment was submitted for this segment citing its pristine ecological condition. Opposition to any tributary of the Blacks Fork being designated was grounded in a concern of adverse effects on timber management, grazing and access to and operation of the early warning sites for reservoir management. Further, some portion of the segment is already protected by Wilderness.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Little East Fork segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's current management of the stream corridor for the Wilderness and Recommended Wilderness within the stream corridor.

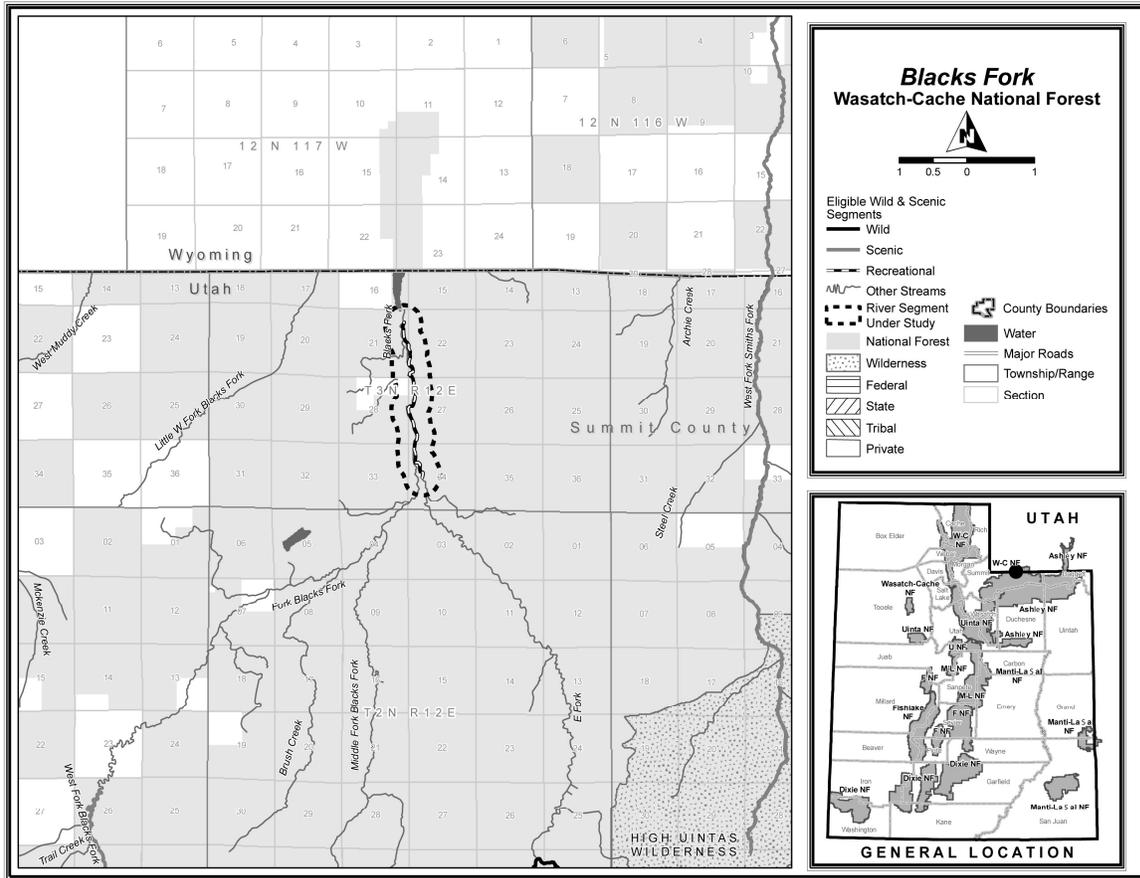
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

Should this segment be found suitable it would contribute to basin integrity, especially when combined with the other eligible headwater segments in the Blacks Fork drainage; namely, the East Fork and West Fork. The majority of this stream is in the High Uintas Wilderness so designation of this stream segment would provide additional but similar protection to this stream.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are currently no public volunteer commitments for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Mountain View Ranger District.

Blacks Fork River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Blacks Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 2.7 miles, from confluence with West Fork Blacks Fork and East Fork Blacks Fork to Meek's Cabin Reservoir

Eligible: Same

Location:

Blacks Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 5, T 1 N, R 12 E, SLM	NE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 35, T 2 N, R 12 E, SLM	Recreational	2.7

Physical Description of River Segment:

Elevations range from 8,700 to 8,800 feet within this segment from the confluence on the East Fork Blacks and the West Fork Black Fork Rivers to the inlet of the Meeks Cabin Reservoir. This segment is located in the glacial outwash valley bottom with braided sections at and below the confluence. The uplands of this section are characterized by lodgepole pine forests with some scattered openings dominated by sagebrush. Lodgepole occurs along the stream margins in narrow riparian bottoms while tall willows dominate areas with broader floodplains. Riparian communities are more or less natural in

appearance with few areas dominated by introduced species.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

History – The Old Blacks Fork Commissary is the most outstanding tie hack site in the Uintas. The historical tie hacking operations in the Uintas were river related since the rivers were the means of moving the timbers downstream. The character, size, and condition of the commissary and its eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places makes for an outstandingly remarkable value. The Old Blacks Fork Commissary is on a private inholding along the segment and not on National Forest System land

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Recreational

The Blacks Fork Segment from the confluence of West Fork Blacks Fork and the East Fork Blacks Fork to Meek's Cabin Reservoir is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream classification is recreational because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Some existing impoundment or diversion. The existence of low dams, diversions or other modification of the waterway is acceptable, provided the waterway remains free-flowing and generally natural and riverine in appearance.
- Some developments. Substantial evidence of human activity.
- The presence of extensive residential development and a few commercial structures is acceptable.
- Lands may have been developed for the full range of agricultural uses.
- Lands may have been developed for the full range of forestry uses.
- Readily accessible by road or railroad.
- The existence of parallel roads or railroads on one or both banks as well as bridge crossings and other river access points is acceptable.
- Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment is on the Evanston Ranger District in Summit County, Utah. National Forest dominates ownership patterns. A limited area of one-quarter mile along the west bank is privately owned, but this land does not include the stream channel.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-2.7	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	894
	Private Land within stream corridor	31
	Total:	925 acres

This area is zoned Agricultural Grazing (AG-160) by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities –There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic

value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. The Blacks Fork stream segment corridor is within a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – The stream is paralleled by Forest Road 058 which is gravel and receives light to moderate use. This road has been designated a scenic backway. Recreation opportunities along this segment are for dispersed recreation, and no developed facilities are present.

Recreation Activities – Scenic values along this segment are of midground and foreground settings with no distinctive scenes of the High Uinta peaks available. The Old Blacks Fork Commissary is the outstanding tie hack site in the Uintas. It is on a private inholding and not on National Forest System land, and is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Hunting, fishing, and photography opportunities are all average for the area. The State of Utah ranks fishing here Class III (important).

Other Resource Activities – Economic values that might be derived from recreation are not outstanding, unless some significant capital investment in the Old Commissary site could attract visitors. There is one hunting outfitter guide whose area covers the Evanston District.

Grazing Activities – This stream segment corridor occurs within the Blacks Fork-Smiths Fork Cattle Allotment, the Little West Fork Sheep Allotment, and the Lyman Lake Sheep Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Special Designations – The Blacks Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within along the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuel wood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on the east side of the stream outside the 3.1a and 6.1 corridors:

Management Prescription 3.2 Terrestrial Habitats (3.2U Undeveloped/3.2D Developed) Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

Management Prescription 3.2d consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land at the very end of the segment:

Management Prescription 5.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives: Emphasis is on properly functioning conditions. Emphasis is not on timber growth and yield. Instead it is on maintaining or restoring vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability.

(G5.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non commodity outputs and services.

(G5.1-2) Road construction, new recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

(G5.1-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor north of the checkerboard ownership of private and National Forest land:

Management Prescription 6.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring non-forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives. Emphasis is on non-forested vegetation properly functioning conditions (i.e. vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability).

Management encompasses the full range of land and resource treatment activities.

(G6.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non

commodity outputs and services.

(G6.1-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G6.1-3) Road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County which occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway, or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District that includes land in Wyoming and Utah. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There are a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency for lands along this segment is the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which

include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The majority of this stream segment is on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land and will be managed to maintain the integrity of the stream corridor. The level of development allowed on the private land within the corridor is managed by the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning regulations for AG-160 for private land in Utah.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

There were public comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System that provided support for eligibility and designation for the Blacks Fork segment. Two comments related specifically to private landowners' rights and ownership of the historic property that could be removed (the historic building is the value for which this segment is considered outstanding).

During scoping Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses. A general supportive comment received thought it was important to protect Uinta Mountain segments even if they were within the Wilderness.

This segment received both supportive and opposing comments during the comment period for the Draft EIS. The State of Wyoming opposed designation to preserve the potential for expansion of the Meeks Cabin Reservoir. Two comments were opposed to designating any river segment in the Blacks Fork watershed because of a concern that designation will restrict multiple use potential, constrain economic benefit to Uinta County, Wyoming and that many miles were already protected by wilderness designation. Supportive comments included protecting the historical importance and beauty of the area.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

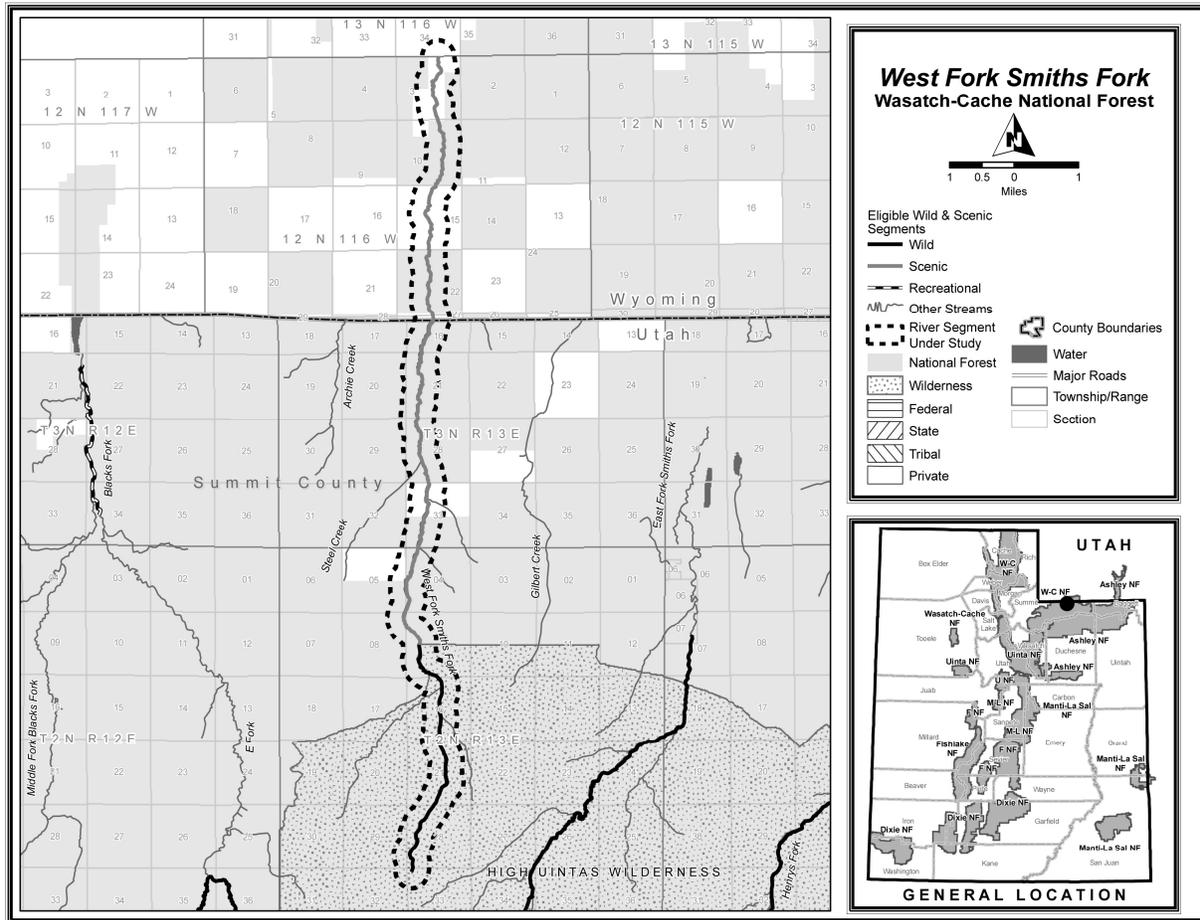
Designation of the Blacks Fork segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's current management of the stream corridor for the RHCA and the developed terrestrial environments within the stream corridor. Designation may add further restrictions to areas within the stream corridor managed for vegetation treatment projects.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes little to the basin integrity as it is a very short segment of the main stem of the Blacks Fork and is far removed from the three eligible segments located in the headwaters of the Blacks Forks drainage.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment. There are currently no public volunteer commitments for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Mountain View Ranger District.

West Fork Smiths Fork Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: West Fork Smiths Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 14.48 miles, source to Forest boundary

Eligible: Same

Location:

West Fork Smiths Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Mountain View Ranger District, Summit County, Utah, and Uinta County, Wyoming		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 33, T 2 N, R 13 E, SLM	Wilderness Boundary	Wild	4.09
Segment 2	Wilderness Boundary	NW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 3, T 12 N, R 116 W, 6 th Principal Meridian (WY)	Scenic	10.39

Physical Description of River Segment:

Elevations range from 8,460-10,800 feet within this segment from encompassing glacially carved headwater basin to the lower end of the corridor, where upland vegetation consists of sagebrush and mountain brush, with aspen thickets. Riparian vegetation consists of broad willow communities and wet

meadows. In the upper part of the corridor, upland vegetation consists of lodgepole pine, aspen, mixed conifer and sagebrush. Extensive, but narrow, willow communities and some wet meadows dominate the riparian areas. There are alpine meadows in the upper part of the corridor.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

History – The Hewinta Guard Station is a historically significant log ranger station dating from the late 1920's. The historic Suicide Park Grave site is also in the corridor. The remains of several tie hack cabins are upstream from the guard station. There are some groups of up to five cabins. A relatively well-preserved splash dam is related to the cabins. This complex of structures is a significant remnant of the tie hack era and is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The presence and number of tie hack cabins, the graves in Suicide Park, the historic ranger cabin, and the eligibility for at least some of these for the National Register of Historic Places, makes the historic values of this stream outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Segment 1—Wild; Segment 2—Scenic

The West Fork Smiths Fork is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The portion of the stream and stream corridor that is in the High Uintas is classified as wild because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

The portion of the stream below the Wilderness boundary is classified as scenic because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity.
- Presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable.
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable.
- Evidence of past logging or ongoing timber harvest is acceptable provided the forest appears natural from the river bank.
- Accessible in places by road.
- Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment of West Fork Smiths Fork extends from its source to the Forest boundary. The segment is located on the Mountain View Ranger District. The southern 4 miles lie in Summit County, Utah; the remainder is in Uintah County, Wyoming. Within the Forest boundary, about 3.0 miles lie on privately owned lands.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-6.0	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	3184
	Private Land in stream corridor	48
6.0-6.6	Private Land	170
6.6-9.5	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	856
9.5-9.6	Private Land	36
9.6-10.7	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	340
10.7-11.9	Private Land	350
11.9-13.3	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	396
13.3-14.5	Private Land	256
	Total:	5636 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within 1/4 mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

This area is zoned Agricultural Grazing (AG-160) by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. For private land in Utah, the Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas. For private land in Wyoming, development is directed by the 2004 Uinta County, Wyoming Comprehensive Plan and Zoning for ARD (Agricultural Resource Development).

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible segment of the West Fork Smiths Fork segment that is within the High Uintas Wilderness has been withdrawn from mineral entry. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. This stream corridor within the scenic segment is in a high oil and gas potential area and there is an active lease that shares approximately 1.2 miles of the West Fork

Smiths Fork stream corridor.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Road 074 provides access to the entire segment. Outside of the wilderness, Forest Road 074 crosses this segment once. The crossing alters the stream flow but not to the degree to impede its free-flowing character.

Grazing Activities – There is no grazing along this segment.

Recreation Activities – Recreation use is light and recreationists are predominantly local and Wasatch Front residents. Hunting, fishing, hiking, dispersed camping and driving for pleasure are the most common pursuits. The fishery is rated Class III, important.

Other Resource Activities – Portions of this reach have been logged in the past. There are active timber harvest activities on the private lands within this stream segment.

Special Designations – The West Fork Smiths Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 1.4 miles of this stream corridor is within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Approximately 3.7 miles of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the Wilderness boundary:

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for a small portion of Wasatch-Cache National Forest land below the Wilderness boundary on the west side of the stream:

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is allowed.

(S2.6) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are not allowed.

(G2.6-1) Motorized uses, including snowmobiling, are allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G2.6-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.6-3) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed to mimic conditions within the historic range of variability and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within along the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land below the Wilderness boundary outside of the 3.1a corridor near the private land adjacent to the Hewinta Guard Station:

Management Prescription 5.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives: Emphasis is on properly functioning conditions. Emphasis is not on timber growth and yield. Instead it is on maintaining or restoring vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability.

(G5.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non commodity outputs and services.

(G5.1-2) Road construction, new recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

(G5.1-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Management Prescription 5.2 Emphasis on managing timber for growth and yield while maintaining or restoring forested ecosystem integrity. Emphasis is on timber growth and yield. Forested landscapes range in appearance from near natural to altered where management activities are evident. Goods and services

are provided within the productive capacity of the land, and ecological functions are maintained. The quantity of goods and services produced may or may not fully meet demand. Amenity values are provided for by management area direction.

(G5.2-1) Timber harvest, road construction and vegetation/fuel treatment are allowed for the purpose of timber growth and yield while maintaining productive capacity.

(G5.2-) Prior to use of prescribed fire and wildland fire use, investments made for timber production, such as road systems and silvicultural improvements, and the value of the timber for wood production receive consideration.

(G5.1-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions that consider need for timber regeneration.

(G5.2-4) New recreation development and trail construction are allowed when compatible with commercial timber production.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor north of the checkerboard ownership of private and National Forest land:

Management Prescription 6.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring non-forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives. Emphasis is on non-forested vegetation properly functioning conditions (i.e. vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability).

Management encompasses the full range of land and resource treatment activities.

(G6.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non commodity outputs and services.

(G6.1-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G6.1-3) Road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, Utah and Uinta County, Wyoming. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. The county has a wide range of industries that influence its economy. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the Trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away. People from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local recreational use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledgers and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Summit County, Utah and Uinta County, Wyoming. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the 2003 WCNF Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in having the river deemed wild and scenic, or in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The majority of this stream segment is on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land and will be managed to maintain the integrity of the stream corridor. The level of development allowed on the private land within the corridor is managed by the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning regulations for AG-160 for private land in Utah and the 2004 Uinta County, Wyoming Comprehensive Plan and Zoning for ARD (Agricultural Resource Development).

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Public comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System provide support for eligibility and designation for the West Fork Smiths Fork.

During scoping Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses. A general supportive comment received thought it was important to protect Uinta Mountain segments even if they were within the Wilderness.

One comment received during the comment period for the Draft EIS was opposed to designating any river segment in the Smiths Fork watershed because of a concern that designation will restrict grazing, timber harvest and maintenance of the forest health. Further many miles were already protected by wilderness designation and local management has been sufficient in the past

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the West Fork Smiths Fork segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's current management of the stream corridor for the Wilderness, RHCA, and roadless within the stream corridor.

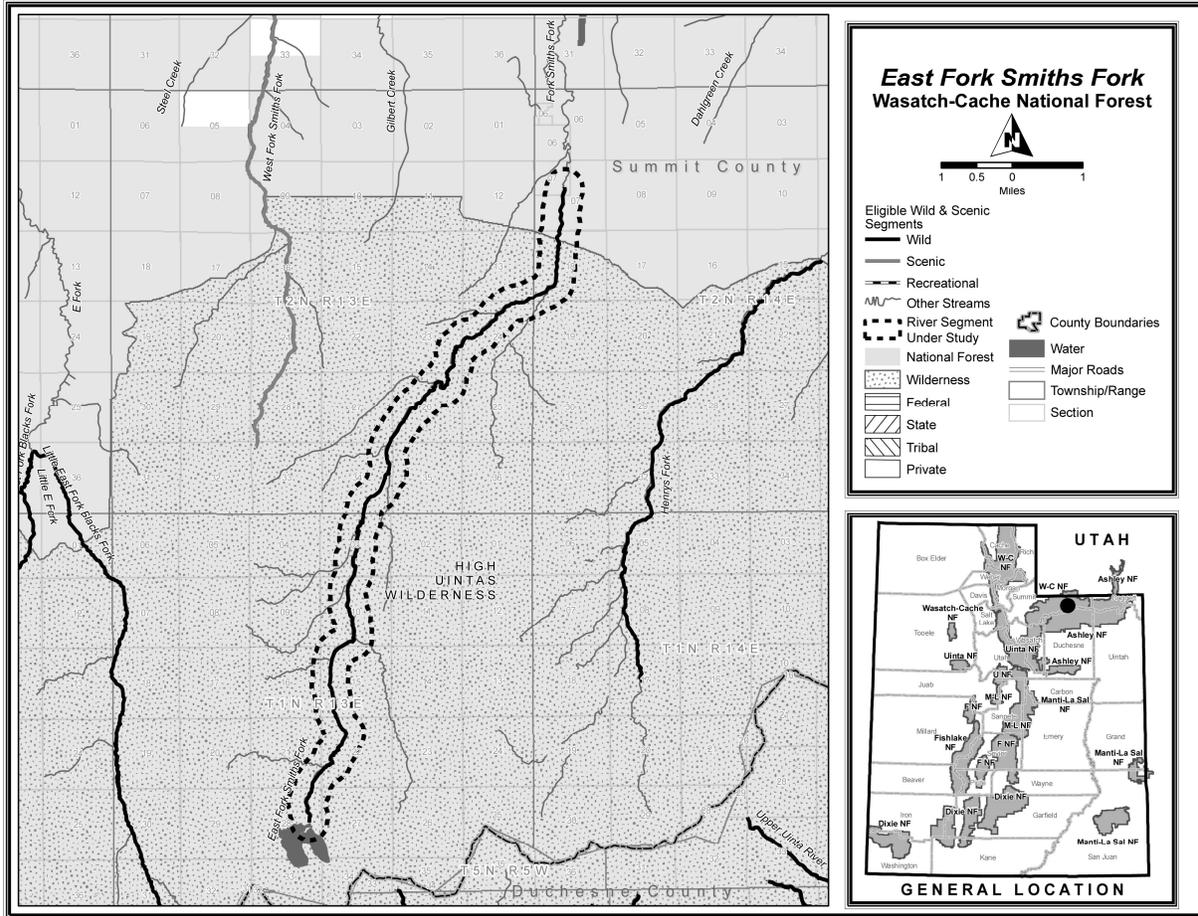
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the basin integrity as it incorporates the headwaters to the Forest boundary. The majority of this stream is in the High Uintas Wilderness so designation of this stream segment would provide additional but similar protection to this stream.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are currently no public volunteer commitments for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Mountain View Ranger District.

East Fork Smiths Fork River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: East Fork Smiths Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 11.8 miles, Red Castle Lake to trailhead

Eligible: same

Location:

East Fork Smiths Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Mountain View District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 33, T 1 N, R 13 E, SLM	NE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 7, T 2 N, R 13 E, SLM	Wild	11.8

Physical Description of River Segment:

Elevations range from 9,400-11,300 feet along this segment, which originates from intensively glaciated headwaters and cirques and traverses extensive moraines and meadow complexes. Peak flows occur in late spring from snowmelt. Summer flows are somewhat moderated by upstream lakes and meadows. Uplands vegetation consists of lodgepole pine and aspen in the lower elevations, changing to spruce-fir

forests at higher elevations. The upper cirque basin is characterized by Krummholz spruce-fir communities, alpine meadows, and scattered low-growing upland willows. Extensive willow stands grow in the broader riparian areas, while conifers often abut the channel in narrower valley bottoms. No threatened or endangered plant species are known to occur in the area. Several populations of arctic poppies, a sensitive plant species, occur outside the quarter mile wide corridor surrounding the upper portions of this segment. Colorado cutthroat trout, a sensitive species, is present. Other fish species include rainbow trout, brook trout, mountain sucker, sculpin, and mountain whitefish.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: East Fork Smiths Fork is free from major channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The stream is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – This segment originates from Red Castle Lake, a visually spectacular setting in the High Uintas wilderness. As the stream traverses from this alpine environment a rich diversity is created by intermixing of vegetation types found in the broad riparian areas of extensive willow stands bordered by conifers. At lower elevations the stream channel flows through narrow valley bottoms providing a striking visual contrast to basin views. The view of the Red Castle Lakes area may be the most spectacular in the Uintas. It is often photographed for calendars and large-format books.

Ecology – Diversity of riparian communities, including broad meadows and narrow conifer communities with a variety of associated understory species in relatively stable condition constitute an outstandingly remarkable value.

Wildlife – Deer, elk, moose, and Rocky Mountain big horn sheep inhabit the area. The corridor includes mountain goat habitat. Pika and ptarmigan also inhabit the corridor. No threatened or endangered animal species occur in the area. The corridor contains habitat for the following sensitive species: wolverine, Canada lynx, and boreal owl. Diversity of wildlife species, including four large ungulates, and habitats are good. Unique species such as the ptarmigan and reintroduced big horn sheep are attractions people look for. Wildlife represents an outstandingly remarkable value.

Recreation – The recreational experience is relatively diverse for a primitive setting. Both solitude and small group experiences are common. Access is easy from the trailhead. The recreation experience is an outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Wild

East Fork Smiths Fork is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as wild because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads

- leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The entire segment flows through National Forest system lands, nearly all inside the High Uintas Wilderness.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-11.0	Wasatch-Cache NF Wilderness	3351
11.0-11.8	Wasatch-Cache NF	315
	Total:	3666 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The majority of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness and has been withdrawn from mineral or oil and gas development. The small portion of the segment that lies below the wilderness boundary is within a high oil and gas potential area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the Forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the Forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Lower downstream the East Fork Smiths Fork flows into the Stateline Reservoir which stores water for agricultural irrigation and for municipal use in the greater Bridger Valley including the towns of Mountain View, Robertson, Urie, Fort Bridger, Millburne, Lyman, the Blacks Fork water and Sewer District and the Lower Bench water and Sewer District in Uinta County, Wyoming (Bridger Valley Water Supply Level II Study, prepared for the Wyoming Water Development Commission and the Pioneer Water and Sewer District by Forsgren Associates Inc., 1995). Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Trail 110 parallels the stream and provides access to the corridor for its full length.

Recreation Activities – The drainage offers good hiking, horseback riding, fishing, and other wilderness recreation opportunities. The State of Utah rates the fishery as Class III, important. The many lakes and pristine settings are heavily used during the summer months and into the early fall.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects within this stream segment corridor.

Grazing Activities – Domestic sheep graze in the upper part of the stream corridor within the Red Castle Allotment. Cattle graze along the lower section in the East Fork Smiths Fork Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Special Designations – The East Fork Smiths Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other

areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 11.0 miles of this stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness. This wilderness has unique management needs and regulations:

Approximately 0.8 miles of this stream corridor is within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor in the High Uintas Wilderness:

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

Management Prescription 1.3 Opportunity Class III: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment, but impacts could persist from year to year. During peak season and in popular areas concentrated use is more common and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation more limited.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor outside the High Uintas Wilderness boundary on the southeast side of the stream:

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is allowed.

(S2.6) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are not allowed.

(G2.6-1) Motorized uses, including snowmobiling, are allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G2.6-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.6-3) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed to mimic conditions within the historic

range of variability and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor outside the High Uintas Wilderness boundary on the west side of the stream:

Management Prescription 3.2 Terrestrial Habitats (3.2U Undeveloped/3.2D Developed) Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

Management Prescription 3.2D consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor outside the High Uintas Wilderness boundary on the east side of the stream:

Management Prescription 4.2 Emphasis on Recreation Non-motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities in a semi-primitive to modified setting where visitors can obtain various degrees of solitude within a near-natural environment. Access to the perimeter of these areas may be motorized, but travel within the area is non-motorized. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable. Visitors can expect various levels of regulation. Signs and other information are found both at portals and within the prescription area. Management of recreation impacts are less limited than in backcountry and can range from semi-primitive to rural depending on management objectives at specific areas and visitors' desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources, such as soil compaction or loss of vegetation are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations.

(S4.2) Timber harvest and road construction are not allowed.

(G4.2-1) Vegetation/fuels treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions and to restore ecosystem functioning.

(G4.2-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.2-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor outside the High Uintas Wilderness boundary on the north side of the stream:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for

convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, in an area that is rugged and mountainous and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through the Evanston Ranger District that includes land in Wyoming and Utah. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledgers and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency for lands along this segment is the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its

political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This segment is on entirely on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Public comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System provide support for eligibility and designation for the East Fork Smiths Fork. .

During scoping Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses. A general supportive comment received thought it was important to protect Uinta Mountain segments even if they were within the Wilderness.

One comment received during the comment period for the Draft EIS was opposed to designating any river segment in the Smiths Fork watershed because of a concern that designation will restrict grazing, timber harvest and maintenance of the forest health. Further many miles were already protected by wilderness designation and local management has been sufficient in the past

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the East Fork Smiths Fork segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's current management of the stream corridor for the Wilderness, RHCA, and roadless within the stream corridor. Designation would also be consistent with the Utah Department of Wildlife Resources and Wyoming Fish and Games plan for improving Bonneville cutthroat trout fisheries.

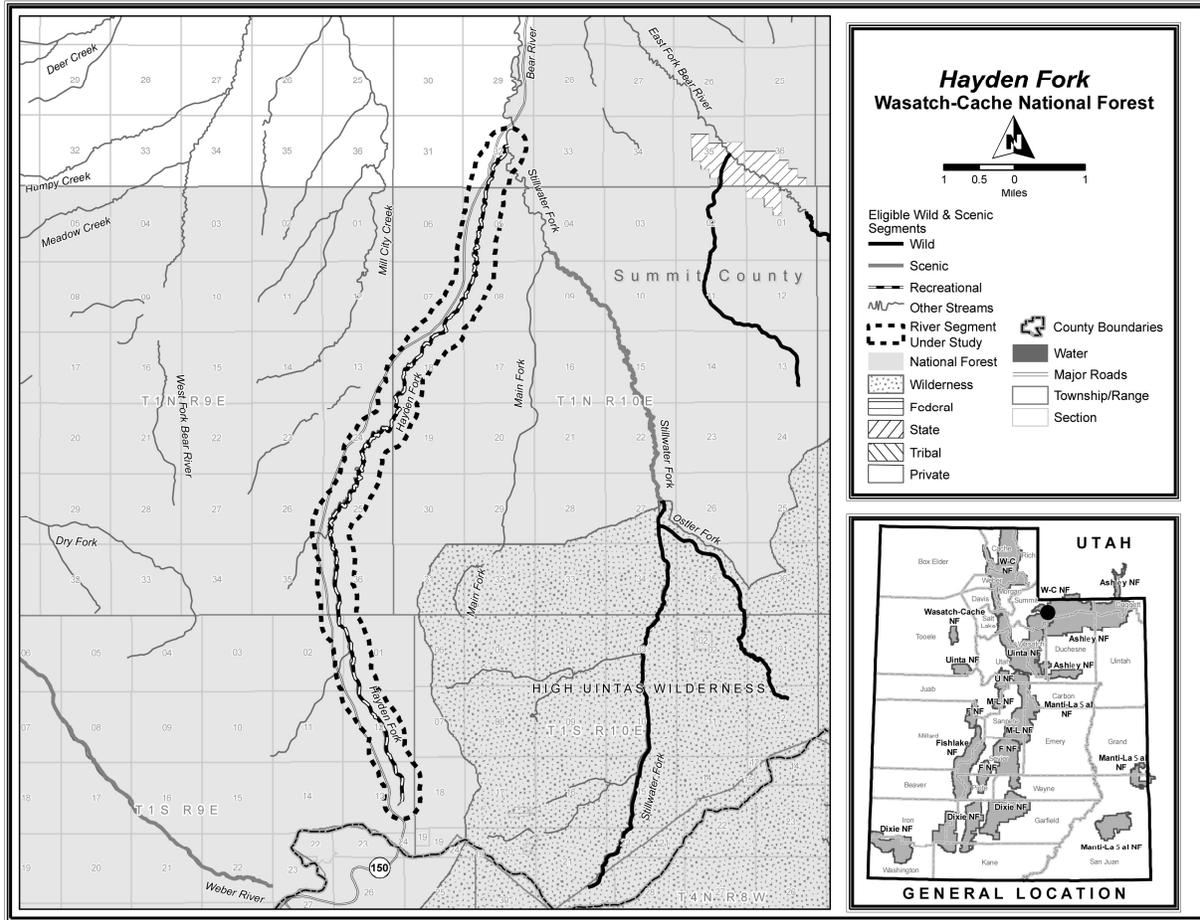
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the basin integrity as it incorporates the headwaters of the East Fork Smiths Fork to the trailhead; however, its contribution is somewhat limited because the lower segments of this stream were not found eligible. Designation of this segment, when combined with the West Fork Smiths Fork segment, would enhance basin integrity by protecting the headwaters.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are currently no public volunteer commitments for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Mountain View Ranger District.

Hayden Fork River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Hayden Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 12.3 miles, from source to confluence with Stillwater Fork

Eligible: Same

Location:

Hayden Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 1, T 1 N, R 9 E, SLM	SW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 35, T 2 N, R 10 E, SLM	Recreational	12.3*

* The mileage of this segment has been changed from an ocular estimate of mileage to mileage that was calculated using GIS.

Physical Description of River Segment:

Elevations range between 8,500-10,000 feet along this river segment. Landforms in the corridor include

valley trains, expansive floodplains, and wetlands, with the river meandering over most of the segment. The hydrologic character is snowmelt-dominated, a meandering pool-riffle system, with frequent overbank flows. The segment runs through low lodgepole/aspen forest and fairly broad riparian settings adjacent to the Mirror Lake Scenic Byway. No endangered or threatened wildlife species occur. Sensitive species may occur, but have not been verified. The area is prime moose and elk habitat. There are no endangered, threatened or sensitive fish species. Species present include rainbow trout, cutthroat trout (possibly Bonneville cutthroat trout), and brook trout. The State of Utah ranks the fishing on this segment as Class III, not unique.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – The diversity of views in the Hayden Fork corridor is of high value, with varied riparian and alpine scenes present which are accessible to a large number of viewers. Fall colors offered by deciduous riparian vegetation and adjacent upland aspen provide high value seasonal variation. This scenic value is outstandingly remarkable.

Ecology – Because riparian communities along the lower Hayden Fork are diverse and represent near potential climax vegetation the ecological system is functioning without impairment. Species diversity is high. This ecological value is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Recreational

The Hayden Fork is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System because of its scenic and ecological values. The stream is classified as a recreational river because the stream and stream corridor is:

- Free of impoundment
- Readily accessible by road or railroad

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – Hayden Fork of the Bear River, from its source to its confluence with Stillwater Fork, is on the Evanston Ranger District in Summit County, Utah. Ownership patterns are dominated by National Forest. Private lands account for 0.5 mile along one bank.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-7.5	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	3440
7.5-8.0	Private Land	147
	Total:	3587 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also

contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

This area is within the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning jurisdiction. This area is zoned as Agricultural Grazing 160.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible recreational Hayden Fork segment is in a high oil and gas potential area and there are active leases within the stream corridor. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights. The Wyoming State Water Plan, Bear River Basin Plan Final Report has identified a previously studied (1985) reservoir site called the Gold Hill Reservoir Site (1,000 acre-ft.). This previously studied site is not located on the eligible segment, but is located at the headwaters of an unnamed tributary that flows into the Hayden Fork below the middle of this segment.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Highway 150 parallels the stream for most of its length. This is a two lane asphalt road which receives heavy use. This is a State Scenic Byway.

Recreation Activities – Fishing and hunting opportunities are average. Boating is not possible. No established heavy use trails are present. There is an historic sulfur mine with associated ruins in the SW 1/4 of Section 18 (a private inholding). The historical significance of this site is not established, but it is probably eligible for the National Register, has reasonable access, and might make an interesting visitor site. No other sites like it are present locally. The Howe Flume National Register Historic District terminates on the Hayden Fork in Section 5 and runs up the Main Fork toward Hell Hole Lake. Little material evidence is left of the flume, but the area is of local historic interest. Better examples of tie hack historic sites are preserved elsewhere on the Wasatch-Cache. There is a good interpretive exhibit of tie-hack history present at the Bear River Ranger Station, and an original tie-hack cabin from the Uintas has been moved to this location as part of the exhibit.

Other Resource Activities – There are no commercial fishing, boating or hunting operations. There is one hunting outfitter guide whose general area of operations covers the Evanston Ranger District. There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects within this stream corridor.

Grazing Activities – The area is included in the Stillwater Sheep Grazing Allotment. While some livestock grazing impacts occur, sheep tend to have a minor effect on the conditions of the riparian communities in the area. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache

National Forest.

Special Designations – Hayden Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 9.5 miles of the Hayden Fork is in an inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

The entire Hayden Fork segment flows adjacent to a Scenic Byway, the Mirror Lake Highway (Utah State Highway 150).

There are four areas along the Hayden Fork segment (approximately 1.1 miles) that are protected drinking water source protection areas for the campground and private lands within the stream corridor. These areas adjacent to the stream segment are recognized by the State of Utah as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land along Highway 150:

Management Prescription 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and tailor management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land along the stream segment:

Management Prescription 3.1a Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land along the east side of the stream segment and outside of the 3.1a buffer:

Management Prescription 3.2d consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land at the end of the segment on the east side of the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District that includes land in Wyoming and Utah. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There are a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, through the use of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The private lands located at the end of the segment at the Forest boundary are subject to regulations proposed by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas surrounding, but not including, the towns of Henefer, Coalville, Kamas, Oakley and Francis, and Bear River.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of this Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could

occur.

This majority of this stream segment and corridor is on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. There are private lands within this stream corridor that are managed by Summit County, Utah. This area is within the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning jurisdiction. This area is zoned as Agricultural Grazing 160.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Comments to the January 1999 DRAFT Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System were in support of this stream designation.

During scoping comments were received that both supported and opposed designation of this segment. Summit County, conservation organizations and others thought protecting the headwaters of the Bear River was important. Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses.

During the comment period for the Draft EIS comments were received concerning Hayden Fork. The State of Utah did not support the segment because of concerns it would impact the state's ability to maintain or expand the highway. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for this segment.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Hayden Fork segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forests management of the stream corridor as directed by the Forest Plan, and this designation would add further protection for areas managed for aquatic habitat and as a Scenic Byway.

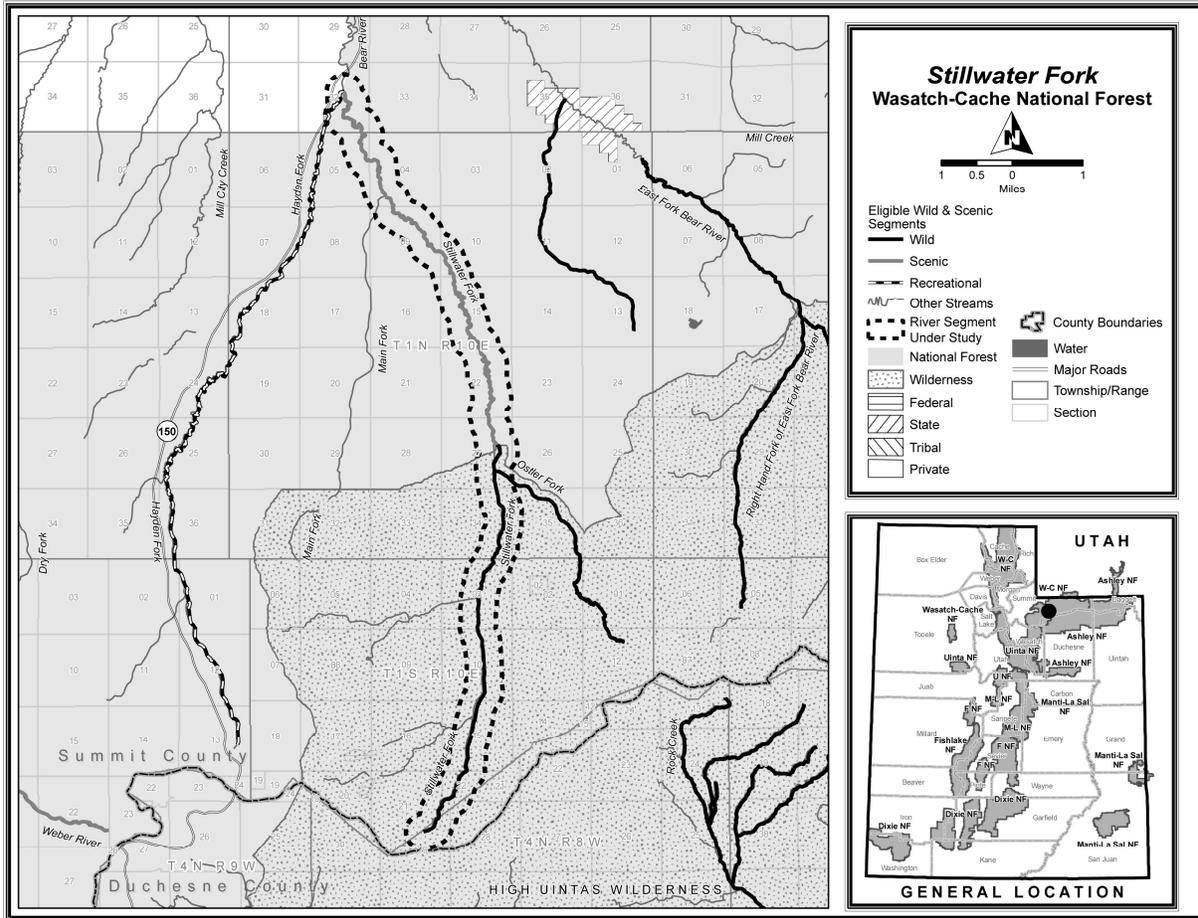
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the upper Bear River basin integrity when combined with the eligible Ostler Fork and Stillwater stream segments and other nearby headwater streams of the Bear River.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are no public volunteer commitments currently for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Evanston Ranger District. There is an Adopt a Highway trash pick up program for the Mirror Lake Scenic Byway that is adjacent to the eligible Hayden Fork segment.

Stillwater Fork River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Stillwater Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 13.9 miles, source to confluence with Hayden Fork/Bear River

Eligible: Same

Location:

Stillwater Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 29, T 4 S, R 8 E, Uintah Meridian	SE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 27, T 1 N, R 10 E, SLM	Wild	6.13
Segment 2	SE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 27, T 1 N, R 10 E, SLM	NE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 35, T 2 N, R 12 E, SLM	Scenic	7.7

Physical Description of River Segment:

The stream originates from intensively glaciated headlands and alpine settings in the Uinta Mountains and

extends to broader floodplains, braided reaches, forests, and meadows at its lower elevations. The stream begins at near 11,000 feet to runs to about 8500 feet at its lowest elevation. Vegetation in the upper cirque basin is spruce-fir krummholz and alpine meadows. Directly above the wilderness boundary vegetation is characterized by aspen, lodgepole, and some sagebrush openings at lower elevations, grading into spruce-fir forests at upper elevations. Natural appearing riparian ecosystems at lower elevations are dominated by willows with grass and sedge openings. There are extensive wetlands in the corridor, especially at Christmas Meadows. Here the hydrologic character is classified as C3-C4, snowmelt dominated perennial stream with frequent overbank flows, and meandering.

Big game species in the area include deer, elk, moose and possibly mountain goats. Smaller species unique to the higher elevations are ptarmigan, pika, and pine marten. Habitat is present for wolverine, Canada lynx, great gray owl, and boreal owl, all sensitive species. No individuals of these species are known to inhabit the corridor. Fish species include rainbow trout, albino rainbow trout, cutthroat trout (possibly Bonneville cutthroat trout, a sensitive species), mountain whitefish, and brook trout. The fishery is rated Class II by the State of Utah, a fishery of great importance to the state.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – The segment originates in one of the many glacier-carved valleys at the base of the central spine of the Uinta Mountains. Spruce-fir krummholz and alpine meadows found at its headwaters in the upper cirque basin give way to lodgepole and aspen forests. The Stillwater is known for its extensive riparian and meadowland communities. Lower on the segment outside of wilderness the creek flows through Christmas Meadows, a pleasant, open grassland. The diversity of views along its entire length contributes to the scenic value. The picturesque view along the Stillwater Fork and its nearby surrounding landscape is regionally recognized as one of the best in Northern Utah. Outside of the corridor views of the high elevations of the Uintas complement the setting and are frequently painted and photographed

Ecology – This ecological system is fine example of a functioning system with a variety of components. Vegetation diversity is high along the corridor. At high elevation, alpine species are dominant, while forested areas and extensive riparian and meadowland communities are present below. These communities are tied together along the river. For an area so close to development, they are relatively unimpaired by use while still highly accessible. Intact habitats exist for a wide variety of species: avian, terrestrial, and aquatic, and the overall representation of these species are high. The ecological value of the corridor is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Segment 1—Wild; Segment 2—Scenic
The Stillwater Fork is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The portion of the river below the Christmas Meadows Trailhead is eligible as a scenic river, while above the trailhead it is eligible as a wild river.

The wild segment is classified as wild because the stream and stream corridor are or have:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.

- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

The scenic segment is classified as scenic because the stream and stream corridor are or have:

- Free of impoundment.
- Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity.
- Presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable.
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable.
- Evidence of past logging or ongoing timber harvest is acceptable provided the forest appears natural from the river bank.
- Accessible in places by road.
- Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The segment is located on the Evanston Ranger District in Summit County, Utah. The entire segment flows through National Forest system lands.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-6.13	Wasatch-Cache National Forest High Uintas Wilderness (Wild)	1952
6.1-13.9	Wasatch-Cache National Forest (Scenic)	1760
	Total:	2712 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The Stillwater Fork segment that is eligible for wild recommendation is entirely within the High Uintas Wilderness, and has been withdrawn from mineral entry. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. The area within the scenic segment is in a high oil and gas potential area and the scenic section of Stillwater is encompassed by an active oil and gas exploratory unit. There are three active oil and gas leases within the corridor of the scenic section of the segment.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights. The stream is tributary to the Bear River which is used and managed for agricultural uses in southwest Wyoming and southeast Idaho, municipal water in Evanston and Cokeville, Wyoming, for environmental uses to maintain wetland and wildlife habitats, recreational, and for reservoir storage (Bear River Basin Water Plan, Executive Summary 2001, Wyoming Water Development Commission). The Wyoming State Water Plan, Final Report indicates that there are two previously studied reservoir sites located at the end of this eligible segment called the Stillwater Reservoir Sites 1 and 2 (4,900 – 9,300 acre-ft.). Construction of this reservoir would impound water along this segment.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Human impacts are present in the form of dispersed recreation trails, roads, and campsites and are especially apparent near the Christmas Meadows summer home area and campground; otherwise, the area has minor human impacts.

Forest Trail 098 parallels the upper portion of the Stillwater Fork. Access below the Wilderness is provided by Forest Roads 057 and 113 which are one lane gravel roads with turnouts. These roads receive light to moderate use.

The Stillwater Campground is easily accessible by the Mirror Lake Highway. There are also dispersed campsites west of the Christmas Meadows Summer Home area. The Christmas Meadows site has 40 recreational homes within the stream corridor. A Forest trail provides access to the drainage above the Christmas Meadows Summer Home area.

Above the Wilderness boundary there are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications. Below it there are two bridges which can constrict very high flows, but most of the segment's channel is not modified or constrained.

Recreation Activities – Forest Trail 098 parallels the upper portion of the Stillwater Fork. This trail provides access to the High Uintas Wilderness for hiking, horseback riding, and fishing which are all popular recreation activities in the area. The use level is heavy. From meadows in the corridor, there are wonderful views of the steep slopes of Ostler Peak, Spread Eagle Peak, Mt. Agassiz, and Hayden Peak at the head of the cirque.

Fishing and hunting opportunities are present, and are similar to most found in the area. Boating is not possible. The trail from Christmas Meadows trailhead into the wilderness is heavily used. Recreational photography/painting opportunities are excellent. One spectacular photographic/scenic opportunity available is the view south from Christmas Meadows towards Amethyst Basin. Winter snowmobiling is popular below the wilderness.

Above the wilderness boundary there is a cabin ruin and associated stumps providing evidence of tie hacking in the corridor. These would not appear to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. There are no known prehistoric sites in the corridor.

Grazing Activities – The area is included in the Stillwater Sheep Grazing Allotment. While some livestock grazing impacts occur, sheep tend to have a minor effect on the conditions of the riparian communities in the area. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There is one hunting outfitter guide whose area covers the Evanston District. There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects that fall within this stream corridor or adjacent areas.

Special Designations – The Stillwater Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream

and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

The 6.1 mile wild segment of the Stillwater Fork is within by the High Uintas Wilderness.

A 3.5 mile section of the scenic Stillwater Fork segment is in a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

There are two areas in the scenic section of the Stillwater Fork that are protected water sources for the campground and summer homes. These areas adjacent to the stream segment are recognized by the State of Utah as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1a Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

The wild segment of the Stillwater Fork is contained within the High Uintas Wilderness and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as follows:

Management Prescription 1.1 Opportunity Class I: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by an unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is temporary and minor. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation are available for visitors, who travel in small groups, practice excellent wilderness ethics and spend extra effort to leave no trace. Encounters with others are rare. RFP 4-64 2003

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

Management Prescription 1.3 Opportunity Class III: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by

predominately unmodified natural environment, but impacts could persist from year to year. During peak season and in popular areas concentrated use is more common and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation more limited.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land along the lower end of the scenic segment within the stream corridor outside the 3.1a buffer:

Management Prescription 3.2d consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Land management direction for a small portion of Wasatch-Cache National Forest land along the lower end of the scenic segment within the stream corridor outside the 3.1a buffer on the north side of the stream near the developed recreation sites:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land along the upper portion of the scenic segment within the stream corridor outside the 3.1a buffer:

Management Prescription 4.1 Emphasis on Backcountry Non-motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities in remote and isolated settings where visitors can obtain a relatively high degree

of solitude and the environment is in a near natural state. Access within these areas is through the use of non-motorized trails. Sights and sounds of others are minimal. Visitors will largely be managed off-site, with signs and regulations posted at area boundaries. Management of recreation impacts may be as undeveloped or Concentrated Use Areas (CUA) limited to a semi-primitive nature with regulation of use a priority management tool over site-hardening. The need for visitor self-reliance is high. Management visibility is low with backcountry ranger patrols focusing on monitoring and maintaining natural conditions and processes.

(S4.1) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation development are not allowed.

(G4.1-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions and to restore ecosystem functioning.

(G4.1-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, in an area that occupies a rugged and mountainous zone, and was named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District that includes land in Wyoming and Utah. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledgers and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, through the use of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of this Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This entire stream segment and corridor is on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System were in support of this stream designation.

During scoping comments were received that both supported and opposed designation of this segment. Summit County, conservation organizations and others thought protecting the headwaters of the Bear River was important. Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses.

Support by Summit County and others has been voiced for the Stillwater River segment during the public comment period for the Draft EIS. Recreation and Scenic values are cited as the primary reasons and the fact a potential reservoir is impractical and unlikely. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for this segment.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Stillwater Fork segment is consistent with current management of the stream corridor. This designation would add further protection for areas managed as RHCAs and Wilderness.

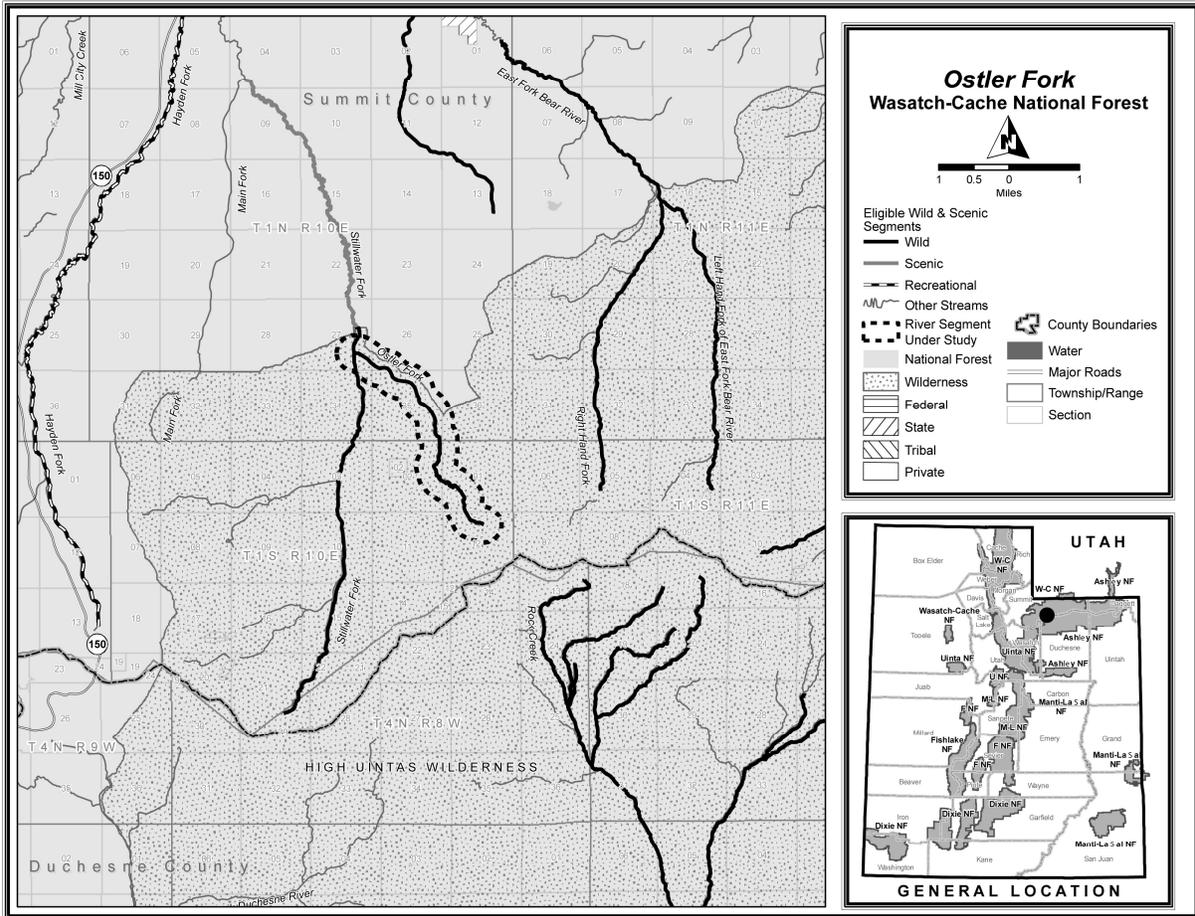
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the basin integrity when combined with other eligible stream segments that make up the headwater streams of the Bear River. Basin integrity for the upper Bear River would be enhanced when this segment is combined with the other eligible Bear River headwater streams, the Left Hand, Right Hand, and East Fork Bear River, Hayden Fork, Ostler Fork and Boundary Creek. The majority of this stream is in the High Uintas Wilderness so designation of this stream segment would provide additional but similar protection to this stream.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are no public volunteer commitments currently for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Evanston Ranger District.

Ostler Fork River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Ostler Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 3.7 miles, from source to confluence with Stillwater Fork

Eligible: Same

Location:

Ostler Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 12, T 1 N, R 10 E, SLM	SE ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 27, T 1 N, R 10 E, SLM	Wild	3.7

Physical Description of River Segment:

Ostler Fork extends from its source at Amethyst Lake to its confluence with the Stillwater Fork and flows between the elevations of ~10,000 ft. to ~9,000 ft. The river originates from intensively glaciated headwaters and traverses through large glacial deposits, dropping rapidly through a bedrock valley. The lower end of the segment is very steep and is primarily made up of step-pools and cascades, making a rather spectacular and unusual stream for this area. Vegetation on the uplands is characterized by aspen

and lodgepole at lower elevations, grading into spruce-fir forests at upper elevations. The upper cirque basin is surrounded by spruce-fir krummholz with alpine meadows at the highest elevations. Riparian communities consist of willows with grass and sedge openings. Human impacts are present in the form of dispersed recreation trails and campsites; otherwise, the area has had minor human impacts. This drainage is one of the few in the Uinta Mountains where there is no grazing of domestic sheep or cattle, an important distinctive characteristic. No threatened, endangered or sensitive plant species are known to occur in the corridor. Deer, elk, moose, and possibly mountain goats inhabit the area. Big horn sheep habitat is present. Smaller species include ptarmigan and pika. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive animal species are known to occur in the corridor, although habitat is present for wolverine, Canada lynx, boreal owl, and great gray owl, all sensitive species. Fish species include cutthroat trout (possibly Bonneville cutthroat trout, a sensitive species). The fishery is rated Class III (important) by the State of Utah.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The Ostler Fork is free from channel modifications and structures, and the natural flow of the river is unmodified. This river is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Ecology – This ecological setting is as near to "pristine" as there is on the North Slope of the Uintas. No cattle are grazed in the drainage; a small portion of the stream corridor is grazed by sheep at the end of the segment, resulting in an ecosystem that is not affected by non-native species. The ecological value of the corridor is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Wild

Because the Ostler Fork is free-flowing and possesses an outstandingly remarkable value, it is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The Ostler Fork can be classified as a wild river because:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The segment is located on the Evanston Ranger District in Summit County, Utah. The segment is entirely within National Forest system lands, and entirely within the High Uintas Wilderness, however some of the ¼ stream corridor extends off Wilderness and onto Forest land (approximately 127 acres of the total acres).

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-3.7	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1250
	Total:	1250 acres

This area is within the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning jurisdiction. This area is zoned as Agricultural Grazing 160.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible Ostler Fork segment is entirely within the High Uintas Wilderness, and has been withdrawn from mineral entry and mineral leasing.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights. The stream is tributary to the Bear River which is used and managed for agricultural uses in southwest Wyoming and southeast Idaho, municipal water in Evanston and Cokeville, Wyoming, for environmental uses to maintain wetland and wildlife habitats, recreational, and for reservoir storage (Bear River Basin Water Plan, Executive Summary 2001, Wyoming Water Development Commission).

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Trail 149 parallels the full length of the segment to Amethyst Lake.

Recreation Activities – Recreation use is heavy. Hiking, horseback riding, and fishing are all popular. The hike to Amethyst Lake is mostly through coniferous forest and meadows. For the last mile of the river corridor there are views of Ostler Peak and its glacial cirque. Amethyst Lake is the largest and deepest of the lakes at the head of the Bear River system. There are no known historic or prehistoric sites in the corridor.

Grazing Activities – There is no grazing except for recreational stock use (horses, llamas) along the majority of this segment. The lower portion of this stream corridor is within the Stillwater Sheep Allotment, where the river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects within this stream corridor.

Special Designations – This stream segment is within the High Uintas Wilderness.

Ostler Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land for the majority of the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

Management Prescription 1.3 Opportunity Class III: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment, but impacts could persist from year to year. During peak season and in popular areas concentrated use is more common and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation more limited.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on the northeast side of the stream corridor near the end of the segment:

Management Prescription 4.1 Emphasis on Backcountry Non-motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities in remote and isolated settings where visitors can obtain a relatively high degree of solitude and the environment is in a near natural state. Access within these areas is through the use of non-motorized trails. Sights and sounds of others are minimal. Visitors will largely be managed off-site, with signs and regulations posted at area boundaries. Management of recreation impacts may be as undeveloped or Concentrated Use Areas (CUA) limited to a semi-primitive nature with regulation of use a priority management tool over site-hardening. The need for visitor self-reliance is high. Management visibility is low with backcountry ranger patrols focusing on monitoring and maintaining natural conditions and processes.

(S4.1) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation development are not allowed.

(G4.1-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions and to restore ecosystem functioning.

(G4.1-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County. It is a rugged and mountainous area and was named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District that includes land in Wyoming and Utah. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, through the use of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of this Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This entire stream segment and corridor is on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion I the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System were in support of this stream designation.

During scoping comments were received that both supported and opposed designation of this segment. Summit County, conservation organizations and others thought protecting the headwaters of the Bear River was important. Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses.

No public comments were received during the comment period for the Draft EIS specific to just the Ostler

Fork. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for this segment.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Ostler Fork supports the goals of Wilderness.

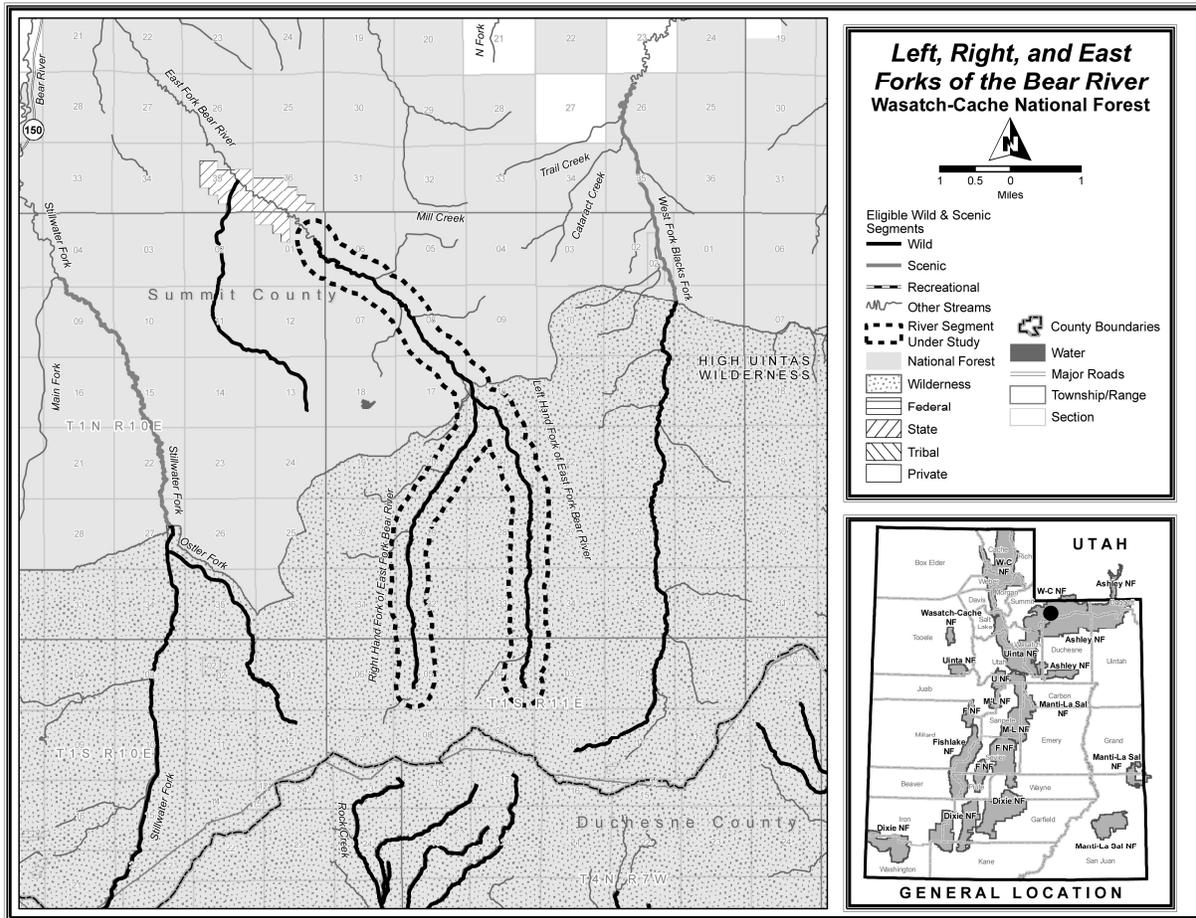
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

Suitability designation of this segment contributes to the upper Bear River basin integrity when combined with the eligible headwater stream segments of Hayden Fork, Stillwater, Boundary Creek and Left and Right Hand Fork of the Bear River.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are no public volunteer commitments currently for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Evanston Ranger District.

Left Fork, Right Fork, and East Fork Bear River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Left Fork, Right Fork, and East Fork Bear River

River Mileage:

Left Fork, Right Fork, and East Fork Bear River

Studied: 13.3 miles, from Alsop Lake and Norice Lake to near Trailhead

Eligible: Same

Location:

Left, Right, and East Forks Bear River	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Source of Right Fork	NE ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 4, T 1 N, R 11 E, SLM	SE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 1, T 1 N, R 10 E, SLM	Wild	13.3
Source of Left Fork	NW ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 5, T 1 N, R 11 E, SLM			

Physical Description of River Segment:

The stream originates from intensively glaciated headlands and alpine settings in the Uinta Mountains and extends to broader floodplains, braided reaches, forests, and meadows at its lower elevations. These two forks of the Bear lie in textbook classic narrow U-shaped valleys formed by the northward movement of Pleistocene glaciers from their origins at higher elevations. The stream segment begins at near 10,500 feet to runs to about 8500 feet at its lowest elevation. The Right Hand Fork of the East Fork of the Bear River, from its source near Norice Lake to the East Fork confluence downstream is a segment about 5 miles long. The Left Hand Fork of the East Fork of the Bear River, from its source near Allsop Lake to the East Fork confluence downstream is about equal distance. The Left Hand Fork and the Right Hand Fork join together to form the East Fork of the Bear River. Just above the confluence of the two smaller streams there is a waterfall roughly 70 feet in height. Vegetation in the upper cirque basin is spruce-fir krummholz and alpine meadows. Directly above the wilderness boundary vegetation is characterized by aspen, lodgepole, and some sagebrush openings at lower elevations, grading into spruce-fir forests at upper elevations. Natural appearing riparian ecosystems at lower elevations are dominated by willows with grass and sedge openings. There are extensive wetlands in the corridor, and the hydrologic character is classified as C3-C4, snowmelt dominated, frequent overflow, and meandering.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The Left Hand and Right Hand and East Forks of the Bear River are not modified by human construction. These rivers are free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – This same glacial action combined with the anticlinal uplift of the general Uinta Range has produced a scenic display in these drainages that is remarkable. Views of the Cathedral, Mt. Beulah, and the waterfalls near the confluence of the Left and Right Hand Forks are special when compared to others in the range. The scenery value along these forks is remarkable and outstanding.

Geology/Hydrology – The geological setting in the upper basins of the Left and Right Hand Forks of the Bear provides students of glacial geomorphology a fine example of the glacial trough shaped valleys. This value can be considered outstandingly remarkable.

Ecology – The ecological value of the corridor is outstandingly remarkable. The interdependency of plant, vertebrate and invertebrate species in these narrow river valleys offer us a wonderful look at the unique ecological systems that have evolved here over long periods of time.

*In the 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System this segment's outstandingly remarkable values were correctly listed for scenery, geology/hydrology, and ecology. These values were listed incorrectly in Appendix VIII of the 2003 Revised Forest Plan for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, where this segment's outstandingly remarkable values were listed as scenery only in error. The geology/hydrology, and ecology values were inadvertently omitted.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Wild

The Left Hand Fork, Right Hand Fork and East Fork of the Bear River are free-flowing. Outstanding scenic, geological, and ecological values along these courses make them eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The rivers may be classified as Wild because they are or have:

- Free of impoundment.

- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The segment lies entirely in the High Uintas Wilderness on National Forest lands.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-9.7	Wasatch-Cache National Forest Wilderness	3104
9.7-13.3	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1152
	Total:	4256 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible recreational segment of the Left Hand, Right Hand Fork and a small portion of the East Fork are in the High Uintas Wilderness and are withdrawn from mineral or energy resource activities. The majority of the East Fork Bear River portion of this segment is in a high oil and gas potential area and there is an active lease within the stream corridor. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights. The Wyoming State Water Plan, Final Report identifies three previously studied reservoir sites below the Boy Scout Camp and this eligible segment called the East Fork Reservoir Sites, No. 1, 2, and 3 (3,700 – 13,300 acre-ft.).

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Trail 151 provides access to the Right Hand Fork and Trail 100 leads up the East Fork and further up to the Left Hand Fork providing access to the High Uintas Wilderness and some high country lakes.

Recreation Activities – Scenic views from Trail 151 include the unique waterfalls, the spectacular Cathedral (a massive mountain peak) and Mt. Beulah. People make the trek to see these places, and can take home wonderful photos of their experience as memoirs. Hiking use also occurs on Trail 100, but the shape of this stream's valley and its narrowness, along with the pattern of vegetation are more limiting to scenic views than along Trail 151.

Grazing Activities – The area is included in the East Fork Bear Cattle Allotment. While some livestock grazing impacts occur, cattle tend to have a minor effect on the conditions of the riparian communities in the area. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are some historical resources in this area such as scattered tie hack cabins, a splash dam, and a scaler’s cabin within the corridor above the trail head. Some of these sites may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The remnants of an old log flume are visible near the falls. While examination of this complex of remains by archeologists or historians might add significantly to our knowledge of the tie-hack era, these remains are not unique in or to the Uinta Mountains.

Special Designations – This eligible segment of the Left Hand, Right Hand, and East Fork Bear River are all fish bearing streams and are managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 3.6 miles of the eligible segment are in a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural. Approximately 9.7 miles of this eligible segment are in the High Uintas Wilderness.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within both the Left Hand and Right Hand Forks and a small portion of the East Fork Bear:

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

Management Prescription 1.3 Opportunity Class III: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment, but impacts could persist from year to year. During peak season and in popular areas concentrated use is more common and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation more limited.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on the east side of East Fork Bear River below the Wilderness boundary:

Management Prescription 1.5 Recommended Wilderness: These are areas recommended for wilderness. They were identified through the Forest Plan revision roadless area inventory, evaluation and recommendation process. This analysis is required by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) planning regulations and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act. Congress retains the final authority for designating wilderness areas. For areas recommended as wilderness, wilderness characteristics must be

protected until Congress takes final action (FSH 1909.12, 7.31). These areas are managed to maintain the characteristics qualifying them as capable and available for wilderness recommendation. Activities must not result in long-term changes to the wilderness character.

(S1.5) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, new trail construction, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(G1.5-1) Snowmobiling is allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G1.5-2) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed.

(G1.5-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor below the Wilderness boundary:

Management Prescription 3.1a Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land for a small portion of the stream segment near the trailhead:

Management Prescription 4.1 Emphasis on Backcountry Non-motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities in remote and isolated settings where visitors can obtain a relatively high degree of solitude and the environment is in a near natural state. Access within these areas is through the use of non-motorized trails. Sights and sounds of others are minimal. Visitors will largely be managed off-site, with signs and regulations posted at area boundaries. Management of recreation impacts may be as undeveloped or Concentrated Use Areas (CUA) limited to a semi-primitive nature with regulation of use a priority management tool over site-hardening. The need for visitor self-reliance is high. Management visibility is low with backcountry ranger patrols focusing on monitoring and maintaining natural conditions and processes.

(S4.1) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation development are not allowed.

(G4.1-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions and to restore ecosystem functioning.

(G4.1-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. Visitors

can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District that includes land in Wyoming and Utah. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, through the use of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of this Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values

on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This entire stream segment and corridor is on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Comments to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System were in support of this stream designation and wanted the East Fork segment to continue to the confluence with the Hayden Fork. The extension of this segment was not found outstandingly remarkable and was not included.

During scoping comments were received that both supported and opposed designation of this segment. Summit County, conservation organizations and others thought protecting the headwaters of the Bear River was important. Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses.

No public comments were received during the comment period for the Draft EIS specific to just the Left Hand, Right Hand and East Fork Bear River. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for this segment.

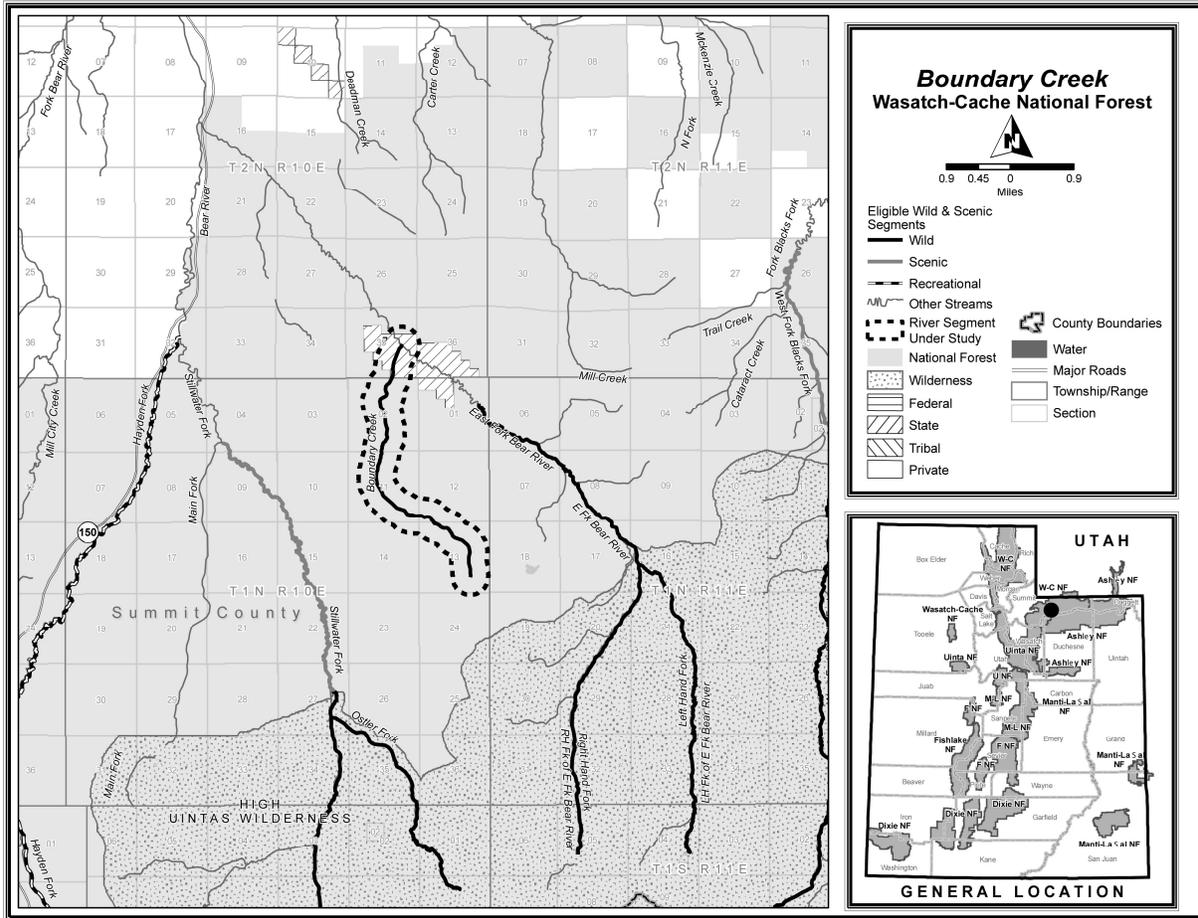
(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Left Hand, Right Hand Fork, and East Fork Bear River segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forests management of the stream corridor as directed by the Forest Plan.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity. This segment contributes to basin integrity for the upper Bear River when combined with the other eligible Bear River headwater streams, namely Boundary Creek, Hayden Fork, Stillwater Fork, and Ostler Fork stream segments. The majority of this stream is in the High Uintas Wilderness so designation of this stream segment would provide additional but similar protection to this stream.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment. There are no public volunteer commitments currently for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Evanston Ranger District.

Boundary Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Boundary Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 4.3 miles, from source to confluence with East Fork Bear River

Eligible: same

Location:

Boundary Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 13, T 1 N, R 10 E, SLM	NE ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 35, T 2 N, R 10 E, SLM	Wild	4.3

Physical Description of River Segment:

This is a smaller north-flowing tributary stream that feeds the East Fork Bear River. The headwaters of the stream are at Baker Lake at an elevation of 10,500 feet, while the confluence is at 8,800 feet. Below Baker Lake there are no other lakes in the drainage. The stream bed is rocky, as with other adjacent drainages, and there are few meanders or falls. Soils are typical, thin, rocky, high-elevation forest soils.

The creek has its headwaters in the spruce-fir forest zone, and continues to flow through lodgepole forests to the confluence. Forests typically grow adjacent to the stream banks, but there are a few small meadows present in the middle portion of the segment. It is a primitive, unmodified environment.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Ecology – Boundary Creek is a river and corridor which has not been modified by man. This spruce/fir and lodgepole ecological setting is at a somewhat lower elevation than some others in the inventory of rivers in the Uinta Mountains. As such it contains qualities that are distinct from the alpine river settings. Added to this distinction, the Boundary Creek drainage has escaped heavy recreation pressure, timber harvest and grazing over recent decades, making the area nearly pristine ecologically. The ecological value of the corridor is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Wild

Boundary Creek is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and may be classified as a wild river because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within the area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – Most of this river segment is on the National Forest. The lowest ½ mile of the stream is State of Utah land which is leased to the Boys Scouts of America for East Fork of the Bear River Scout Camp.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-3.8	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1295
3.8-4.3	State land, administered by Boy Scouts of America	180
	Total:	1475 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river

stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

This area is within the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning jurisdiction. This area is zoned as Agricultural Grazing 160.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible Boundary Creek segment is entirely within an area that has a high oil and gas potential area. Approximately 3.8 miles of this segment are within an active lease area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – The area is accessed by a Trail 8099 from near the Boy Scout Camp. At the base of the segment walking is easy for about a half mile, after this a steep ascent begins for the next half mile, and from thereon the hike to Baker Lake is relatively easy.

Recreation Activities – Outdoor recreation provides a primitive experience. There is little if any winter use in the area because of the steep approaches, lodgepole forest, and its remote location. While this drainage is close to the Boy Scout camp, they do not use the area to any great extent. Visitor numbers here are quite low. Some fishing is done, but, the drainage lacks more popular larger lakes that attract fishing. Scenery and views from the river corridor are very restricted by conifers for most of the stream's length. At one point, an old forest fire has removed some stands and views are more open, however, these views are not as spectacular as in some adjacent areas. There are the remains of six or more tie-hack cabins sites in the middle and upper ends of this drainage. These are not large commissary compounds and do not appear to be eligible for the National Register.

Other Resource Activities – There is no outfitter-guide service in the drainage. There is no white-water recreation opportunity available, as the stream is too small to support this. There are no current Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects in this stream corridor. The East Fork Salvage project was approved for this area but has not been initiated as of yet. The East Fork Wildfire burnt in 2003.

Grazing Activities – A small portion of this stream corridor is grazed by cattle on the East Fork Bear River Allotment near the confluence of Boundary Creek and the East Fork Bear River, with the majority of the grazing occurring near the boundary of the private land, this allotment does not extend upstream into the headwaters of Boundary Creek. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee

must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Special Designations – Boundary Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Area (RHCA). A RHCA include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 3.8 miles of this stream corridor a within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Approximately 2.5 miles of this stream segment are within two areas that the State of Utah recognizes as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone. This protection zone refers to the area adjacent to the stream segment is protected for the private and Forest uses in the area. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1a Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1a, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor but outside the 3.1a buffer along the entire segment on the east side until the boundary with private land:

Management Prescription 4.1 Emphasis on Backcountry Non-motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities in remote and isolated settings where visitors can obtain a relatively high degree of solitude and the environment is in a near natural state. Access within these areas is through the use of

non-motorized trails. Sights and sounds of others are minimal. Visitors will largely be managed off-site, with signs and regulations posted at area boundaries. Management of recreation impacts may be as undeveloped or CUAs limited to a semi-primitive nature with regulation of use a priority management tool over site-hardening. The need for visitor self-reliance is high. Management visibility is low with backcountry ranger patrols focusing on monitoring and maintaining natural conditions and processes.

(S4.1) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation development are not allowed.

(G4.1-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions and to restore ecosystem functioning.

(G4.1-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor but outside the 3.1a buffer along the entire segment on the west side until the boundary with private land:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction.

Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the ¼ mile stream corridor for a small portion of Forest land north of the private land boundary:

Management Prescription 5.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives: Emphasis is on properly functioning conditions. Emphasis is not on timber growth and yield. Instead it is on maintaining or restoring vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability.

(G5.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non commodity outputs and services.

(G5.1-2) Road construction, new recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

(G5.1-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, Utah. Visitors can access this area from the southeast via the Kamas Ranger District on the Mirror Lake Highway or approach it from the north through Evanston Ranger District that includes land in Wyoming and Utah. Evanston, Wyoming is the largest town in the Bridger Valley of Uinta County, Wyoming. As of 2005, Uinta County had 21,000 residents with 12,000 of them living in Evanston. The main industries are agricultural and grazing, the trona mines in between Evanston and Green River, Wyoming, and service related

businesses for the local population and visiting tourists.

As of 2000 the population of Summit County, Utah was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There are a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The highest number of recreational users of the Uintas comes from the Wasatch Front, which is less than 100 miles away; people from Provo to Ogden travel to visit the area. Local use has increased over the years and includes visitors from southwest Wyoming and Summit County, Utah. The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledgers and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, through the use of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The private lands located at the end of the segment at the Forest boundary are subject to regulations proposed by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas surrounding, but not including, the towns of Henefer, Coalville, Kamas, Oakley and Francis, and Bear River.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of this Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government’s ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur. The majority of this stream segment and corridor is on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. There are private lands within this stream corridor that are managed by Summit County, Utah. This area is within the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning jurisdiction. This area is zoned as Agricultural Grazing 160.

(3) Support or opposition to designation. There were no specific comments for Boundary Creek to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

During scoping comments were received that both supported and opposed designation of this segment. Summit County, conservation organizations and others thought protecting the headwaters of the Bear River was important. Uinta County, Wyoming, Kamas City and others did not support designation because it might affect historical uses.

No public comments were received during the comment period for the Draft EIS specific to just the Boundary Creek. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for this segment.

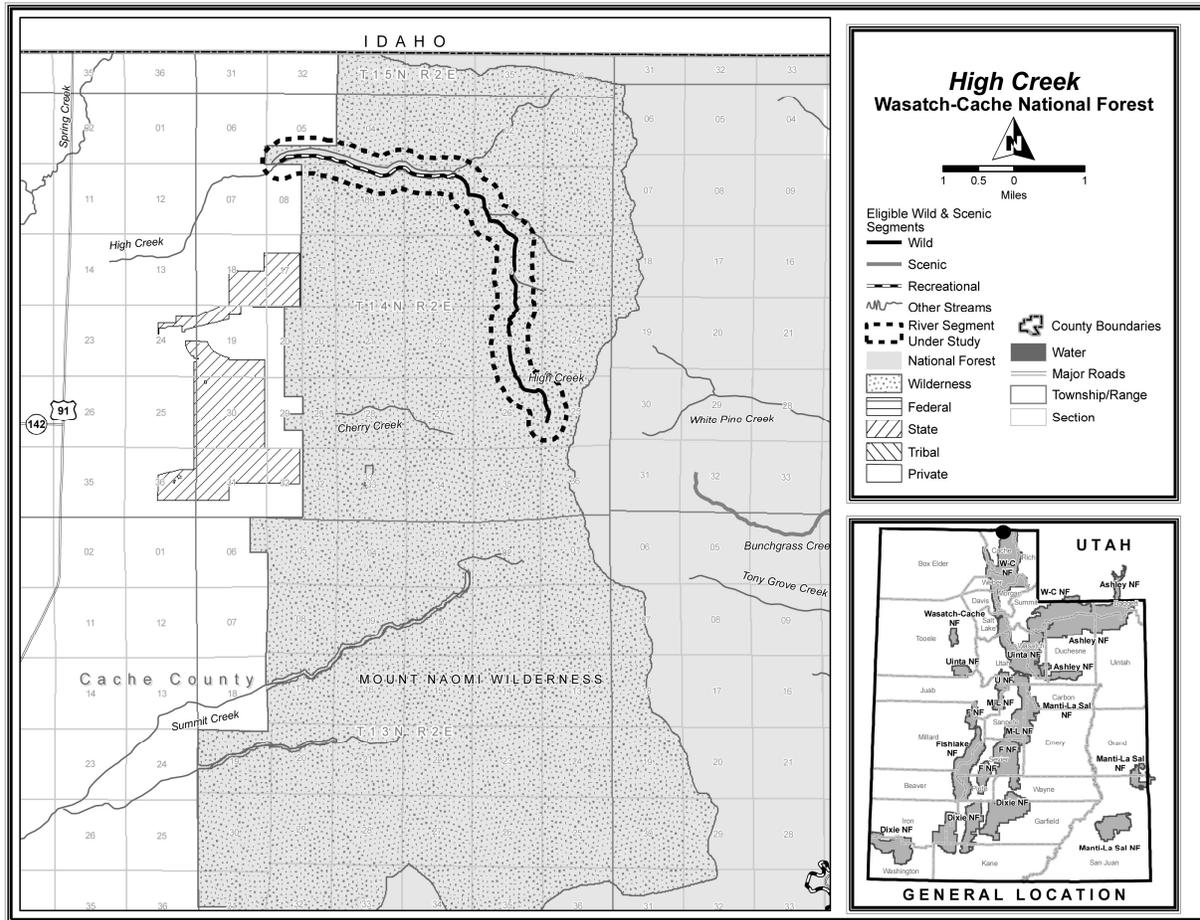
(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives. Designation of the Boundary Creek segment is consistent with the Wasatch-Cache National Forests management of the stream corridor as directed by the Forest Plan, and this designation would add one more layer of protection for areas managed as RHCAs and roadless. Designation would also be consistent with the Utah Department of Wildlife Resources plan for improving fisheries. Designation may add additional regulations to private lands located at the end of the segment at the Forest boundary. These lands are subject to regulations proposed by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity. This segment contributes to the basin integrity when combined with other eligible stream segments that make up the headwater streams of the Bear River. Basin integrity for the upper Bear River would be enhanced when this segment is combined with the other eligible Bear River headwater streams, the Left Hand, Right Hand, and East Fork Bear River, Hayden Fork, Ostler Fork and Stillwater.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are no public volunteer commitments currently for this stream segment, but there are partnerships with the Forest and public and government groups on the Evanston Ranger District.

High Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: High Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 7 miles, High Creek Lake to Forest boundary

Eligible: same

Location:

High Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NW ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 11, T 14 N, R 2 E, SLM	NW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 10, T 14 N, R 2 E, SLM	Wild	4
Segment 2	NW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 10, T 14 N, R 2 E, SLM	SW ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 5, T 14 N, R 2 E, SLM	Scenic	3

*This stream was listed as a wild river, however upon further study the level of development and road access in the lower portion of the stream disqualifies the wild classification for that portion. Therefore, the classification for this stream segment has been split where Management Prescription 1.3 ends, just upstream from where the road ends at NAD 27 441449.55 E, 4646970.12 E UTM 12.

Physical Description of River Segment:

This segment of High Creek extends from its source in the headwaters of the South Fork in Mt. Naomi Wilderness to the Forest boundary. There are several beaver ponds along the segment. The stream lies in a narrow, steep canyon. Vegetation is primarily maple/mountain brush and sagebrush on lower elevation uplands, with cottonwood in the riparian area. Douglas fir increases in dominance at higher elevations. Tall willows occur at upper elevations. Cronquist daisy, a sensitive species, occurs on limestone cliff faces within the corridor. Wildlife is typical for these habitats; the corridor provides moose, deer, and elk habitat. Fish species include rainbow and brown trout and sculpin. The State of Utah ranks the fishery as Class III (important).

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: High Creek is free-flowing, as it has no man-made structures, diversions, nor major channel modifications.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Ecology – The ecological setting at High Creek is near potential natural condition, and is functioning in a close to optimal manner. This value, when compared to nearby adjacent drainages and areas can be considered outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Segment 1—Wild; Segment 2—Scenic

High Creek is free-flowing and possesses an outstandingly remarkable ecological value; therefore the stream is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The WCNF Plan (Appendix VIII-5) classifies the entire segment of High Creek as a wild stream to the Forest Boundary. This stream has a parallel road which disqualifies that section of the stream for wild classification from the forest boundary to the wilderness boundary. To correct this error the classification is wild from the source to the trailhead parking because a wild river segment is supposed to be accessible only by trail.

The stream can be classified as a wild river because it is:

- Free of impoundment.
- It is essentially primitive.
- There is little or no evidence of human activity.
- There is some presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value.
- There is a limited amount of domestic grazing.
- There is little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvest.
- The area is inaccessible except by trail.
- The stream meets or exceeds the Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

The lower portion of the stream from the trailhead to the forest boundary may be classified as recreational because:

- The bottom 2.65 miles of Road 48 (High Creek Road) accessing the High Creek Trailhead is parallel to the stream.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment of High Creek extends from its source in the headwaters of the South Fork in Mt. Naomi Wilderness to the forest boundary. This segment is located on the Logan Ranger District in Cache County, Utah.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-7.1	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	2342
* area within ¼ mile buffer off Forest	Private Land	113
	Total:	2455 acres

The private land is zoned Forest Recreation. The purpose of the forest-recreation zone is to permit the proper use of the forest areas of the county for grazing, forestry, mining, recreation and other activities to the extent compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of the forests for the benefit of present and future generations (Ord. 2004-10, 8-10-2004).

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – A portion of the High Creek segment is within the Mount Naomi Wilderness and has been reserved from mineral exploration. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. This area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on the wild portion of this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Road 048 parallels the stream below High Creek Trailhead for approximately 2.65 miles. The road west of the trailhead parking lot restricts the creek. Above the trailhead, the Mount Naomi Peak National Recreation Trail 005 runs along the stream and beyond to High Creek Lake. Trail 005 crosses the stream 7 times. A small, primitive, developed campground is located about 1.0 mile above the Forest boundary. Trail 005 is the most heavily used trail providing access to the Mt. Naomi Wilderness.

Recreation Activities – The lower reaches of the corridor receive moderate to heavy dispersed recreation use on the Forest, primarily by local residents. Fishing use is light to moderate. There are no known historic or prehistoric sites within the corridor.

Grazing Activities – The entire stream segment runs through the High Creek Cattle Allotment. The river corridor it self is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects planned within this stream corridor.

Special Designations – High Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache

National Forest as a Category 1 Riparian Habitat Conservation Area (RHCA). Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat condition. A Category 1 RHCA (Fish Bearing Stream) is an RHCA that consists of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 1.10 miles of the stream segment, below the High Creek Trailhead parking area flows through a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural. This roadless area is a narrow band of land that is adjacent to the road and the Wilderness boundary.

Approximately 4.5 miles of this stream are within the Mt. Naomi Wilderness Area. This wilderness has unique management needs and regulations.

There are several Wasatch-Cache National Forest management prescriptions within the stream corridor that provide for watershed, wildlife, forest and recreation resource protection (Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003):

Land management direction for land within the stream corridor for the area below the High Creek Trailhead and parking area:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Land management direction for land within the stream corridor above the trailhead:

Management Prescription 1.3 Opportunity Class III: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment, but impacts could persist from year to year. During peak season and in popular areas concentrated use is more common and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation more limited.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e.,

wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for land outside the stream corridor within the surrounding watershed:

Management Prescription 1.2 Opportunity Class II: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is evident but will recover (slowly in higher elevation areas). Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation exist. Encounters with others are more frequent than Class I.

Socio-Economic Environment – The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in the nearby canyons.

High Creek is a tributary stream that flows into the Cache Valley north of the town of Richmond. Water from High Creek is diverted into the Upper and Lower High Creek canals for agricultural purposes. Flow then enters City Creek which then enters into the Cub River which then flows into the Bear River. Richmond had a population 2,051 at the 2000 census, with 619 households, and 526 families residing in the city.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Cache County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed by the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This entire stream segment is on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. A small portion of private land is within the corridor. The private land could be developed in the future. This development would be directed by the County Comprehensive Plan and zoning ordinances for the Forest Recreation (FR 40) zone which allows for one seasonal cabin per forty acres.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

There were no specific comments for High Creek to the January 1999 DRAFT Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion I the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

During scoping some comments one individual supported designation of the portion of segment within wilderness. Cache County did not support designation

There were no supportive comments received for High Creek during the comment period for the Draft EIS. Cache County did not support designation for High Creek since they already felt it was protected.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of High Creek as a Wild and Scenic River system stream supports the goals of Wilderness. The majority of this stream is in the Wilderness so designation of this stream segment would provide additional but similar protection to this stream.

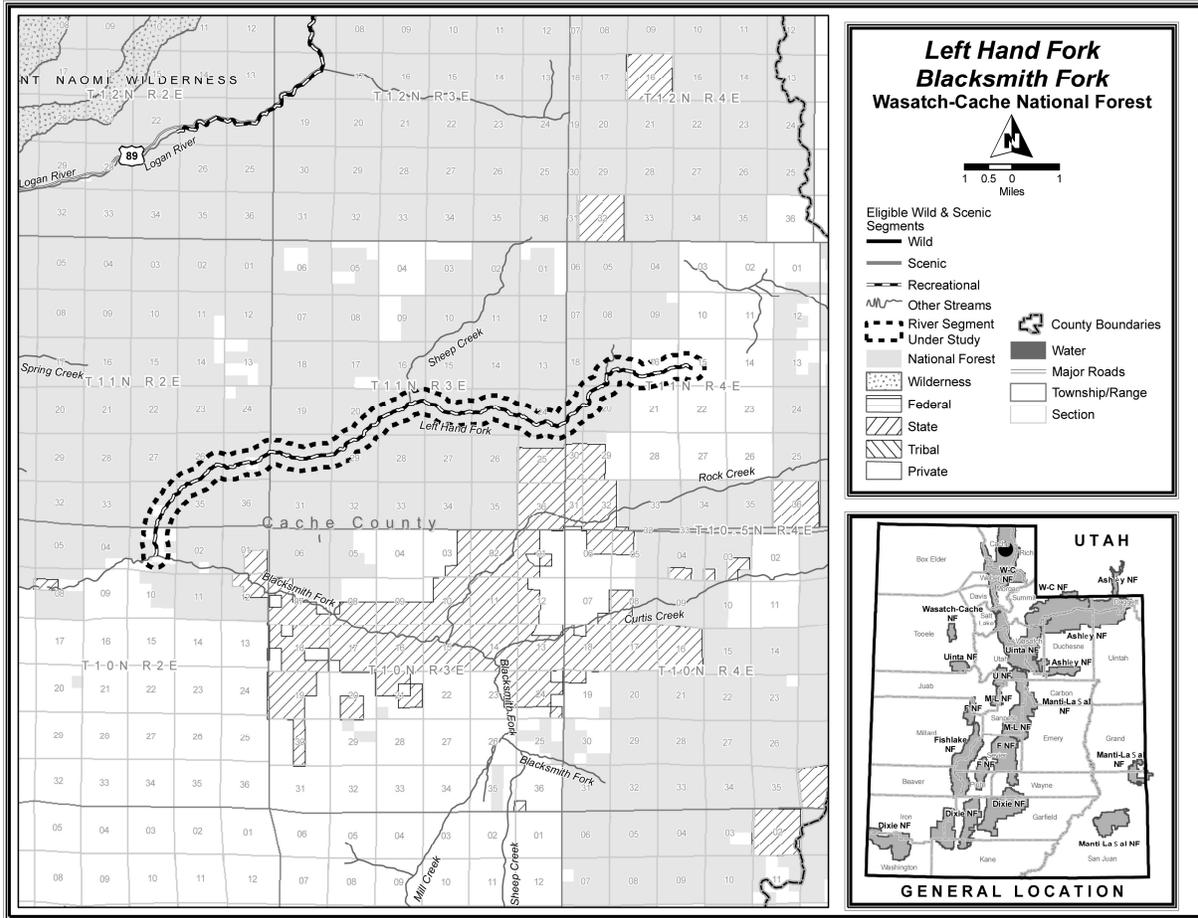
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes little to the basin integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There are no known groups who have shown interest in assisting with management of this river segment.

Left Hand Fork Blacksmiths Fork River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Left Hand Fork Blacksmiths Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 15.0 miles, from source to confluence with Blacksmiths Fork

Eligible: same

Location:

Left Hand Fork Blacksmiths Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NE ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 23, T 11 N, R 4 E, SLM	NW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 3, T 10 N, R 2 E, SLM	Recreational	15.0

Physical Description of River Segment:

This segment of Left Hand Fork of Blacksmith Fork is from its source near Bear Hollow to its confluence with Blacksmith Fork. Elevations along the segment range from 5,100 to 6,400 feet. The reach appears to follow a fault line and is bounded closely by a narrow valley. Most of the channel is cut into alluvium; but portions are controlled by bedrock. Upland vegetation communities are dominated by Douglas-fir on north-facing slopes with some maple communities at lower elevations. Mountain mahogany, sagebrush,

and other mountain brush communities occur on south-facing slopes and other drier sites. Riparian communities are dominated by cottonwood and/or box elder trees with red-osier dogwood a common undergrowth component. This narrow canyon offers moderate vegetation diversity, and is an example of common vegetation for the area. State of Utah fishing rating is Class II, of great importance. Species present include rainbow trout, cutthroat trout (possibly Bonneville cutthroat trout, a sensitive species), brown trout and whitefish.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: While the Left Hand Fork Blacksmiths Fork has some modifications, the stream appears to be free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – The scenery in the Left Hand Blacksmiths Fork provides a mosaic of colors and textures year-round. This value, when compared to nearby adjacent drainages and areas can be considered outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Recreational

The Left Hand Fork of Blacksmith Fork is free-flowing and possesses an outstandingly remarkable scenic value; therefore the stream is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The stream can be classified as a recreational river because the stream has:

- Some developments and substantial evidence of human activity.
- It is readily accessible by road.
- A parallel road exists along one of the stream banks, has bridge crossings, and other river access points.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment is on the Logan Ranger District in Cache County, Utah. National Forest system lands are dominant along this segment. The upper 1.5 miles of this segment flow through private land, then the stream flows predominantly through Forest land; however small areas of private ownership in two areas account for less than one half mile on both banks, and then the lower part of the segment flows through private land again to the confluence with the Blacksmiths Fork.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-1.5	Private Land	515.9
1.5-11.4	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	3177.6
11.4-11.7	Private	36.4
11.7-13.9	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	705.5
13.9-14.1	Private	40.5
14.1-14.4	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	88.3
14.4-15.0	Private Land	234.9
	Total:	4800 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions

of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

Private land is zoned Forest Recreation. The purpose of the forest-recreation zone is to permit the proper use of the forest areas of the county for grazing, forestry, mining, recreation and other activities to the extent compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of the forests for the benefit of present and future generations (Cache County Ord. 2004-10, 8-10-2004).

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of the eligible Left Hand Fork Blacksmiths Fork segment and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest, however there is an active mining claim in the corridor that is not developed. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area (Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003).

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Road 245 parallels the stream for the full length of this segment. There are four road crossings. Two developed campgrounds and dispersed camping, hiking, and sight-seeing opportunities are present. Several road encroachments limit natural meander patterns, but the stream flow is basically unimpeded and natural.

Recreation Activities – Scenic viewing is enjoyed by motorists and visitors. The stream meanders through dogwood, river birch and other water loving plants. Deep gray limestone walls and conifers found on the northern slopes of the canyon are a backdrop for fall colors of red maple and yellow/orange oak. This canyon offers an intimate look at a modified ridge and valley network between the Wasatch Front and the high Wyoming basins. Fishing is popular, and access is easy by the adjacent road. Boating is not possible. Opportunities are similar to many available on creeks that flow out of the Wasatch Range. Use comes from the Cache Valley and the Wasatch Front. There are no known National Register eligible sites along this segment.

Grazing Activities – This segment is within valley bottom portions of the South Cache Cattle, White Rock and Boulder Mountain Sheep Allotments. The river corridor it self is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned projects in this drainage. There is no commercial fishing or hunting operations.

Special Designations – The Left Hand Fork Blacksmiths Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1. Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA) include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 10.8 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

There are several Wasatch-Cache National Forest management prescriptions within the stream corridor that provide for watershed, wildlife, forest and recreation resource protection (Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003):

Land management direction for land within the stream corridor on the north bank of Left Hand Blacksmiths Fork:

Management Prescription 3.1w Watershed Emphasis: This area consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Management Prescription 5.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives. Emphasis is on properly functioning conditions. Emphasis is not on timber growth and yield. Instead it is on maintaining or restoring vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability.

(G5.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non commodity outputs and services.

(G5.1-2) Road construction, new recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

(G5.1-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Management Prescription 6.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring non-forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives: Emphasis is on non-forested vegetation properly functioning conditions (i.e. vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability). Management encompasses the full range of land and resource treatment activities.

(G6.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non commodity outputs and services.

(G6.1-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G6.1-3) Road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed.

Land management direction for the land adjacent to the Left Hand Blacksmiths Fork:

Management Prescription 4.3 Backcountry Motorized Emphasis: These areas provide recreation opportunities in a more remote and isolated setting where visitors can obtain a higher degree of solitude and the environment is in a near-natural setting. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights of other visitors are low and sounds of other users are low to moderate. Visitors are largely managed off-site, with signs and regulations posted at area boundaries. Management of recreation impacts is of a semi-primitive nature with regulation of use a priority management tool over site modification. Visitor self-reliance is high. Management visibility is low with backcountry ranger patrols focusing on monitoring and maintaining natural conditions and processes.

(S4.3) New recreation development is not allowed.

(G4.3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuels treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions and to restore ecosystem functioning as compatible with the backcountry recreation opportunity and natural setting desired.

(G4.3-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.3-3) New trail construction is allowed.

Management Prescription 4.4 Dispersed Motorized Emphasis: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Land management direction for the land within the stream corridor on the south bank of the Left Hand Blacksmiths Fork:

Management Prescription 3.2U: Terrestrial Habitat Emphasis-Undeveloped: These areas consist of those terrestrial habitat areas protected from development because of potential impacts to key habitat elements. Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation

composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

(S-3.2U) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation developments are not allowed.

(G3.2U-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2U-2) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site-specifically developed habitat objectives.

Socio-Economic Environment – The Left Hand Fork Blacksmiths Fork feeds the Blacksmiths Fork which supplies hydroelectric power, culinary, and agricultural water to the town of Hyrum, population 6,400. The local population relies primarily on agriculture, some light industry, and, to an increasing extent tourism and the services that support it.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in local canyons.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Cache County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The private lands within this segment are subject to Cache County Countywide Comprehensive Plan, the primary land use ordinance for private land. The Comprehensive Plan is a planning tool for making policy decisions. The Land Use Ordinance is the instrument by which these policies are implemented.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government’s ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This majority of the stream segment and corridor is on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The private land could be developed in the future. This development would be directed by the County Comprehensive Plan and zoning ordinances for the Forest Recreation (FR 40) zone; which allows for one seasonal cabin per forty acres. Regulations for sensitive areas, steep slopes, jurisdictional wetlands, natural waterways and areas lying within the floodplain, and areas of wildlife habitat are declared under Title 17.18.020. Title 17.18.060 specifies setbacks for development from natural waterways of 50 ft. for dwellings, 100 ft. for septic systems, and up to 100’ for dwellings if within the FEMA mapped floodplain.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One comment to the Left Hand Fork Blacksmith Fork in the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System communicated the value of wildlife and botanical qualities along this segment.

During scoping Cache County did not support designation. One individual did not recommend it for designation unless exceptions could be included that would allow for dispersed recreation improvements such as bridges and trails.

The Left Hand Fork Blacksmith Fork received comments both in support and opposition of designation during the public comment period for the Draft EIS. Some felt because it has been damaged by over-use it should be restored. Others mentioned cultural resources, and wildlife values further support the scenic outstanding remarkable value. Those that did not support the designation including Cache County felt the values were already protected.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of Left Hand Blacksmiths Fork complements current Forest management for dispersed recreation and watershed protection. Designation may conflict with the density of subdivision development on land owned privately or by the city of Hyrum. The recreational classification allows the more extensive residential or commercial developments than are currently present in this stream corridor.

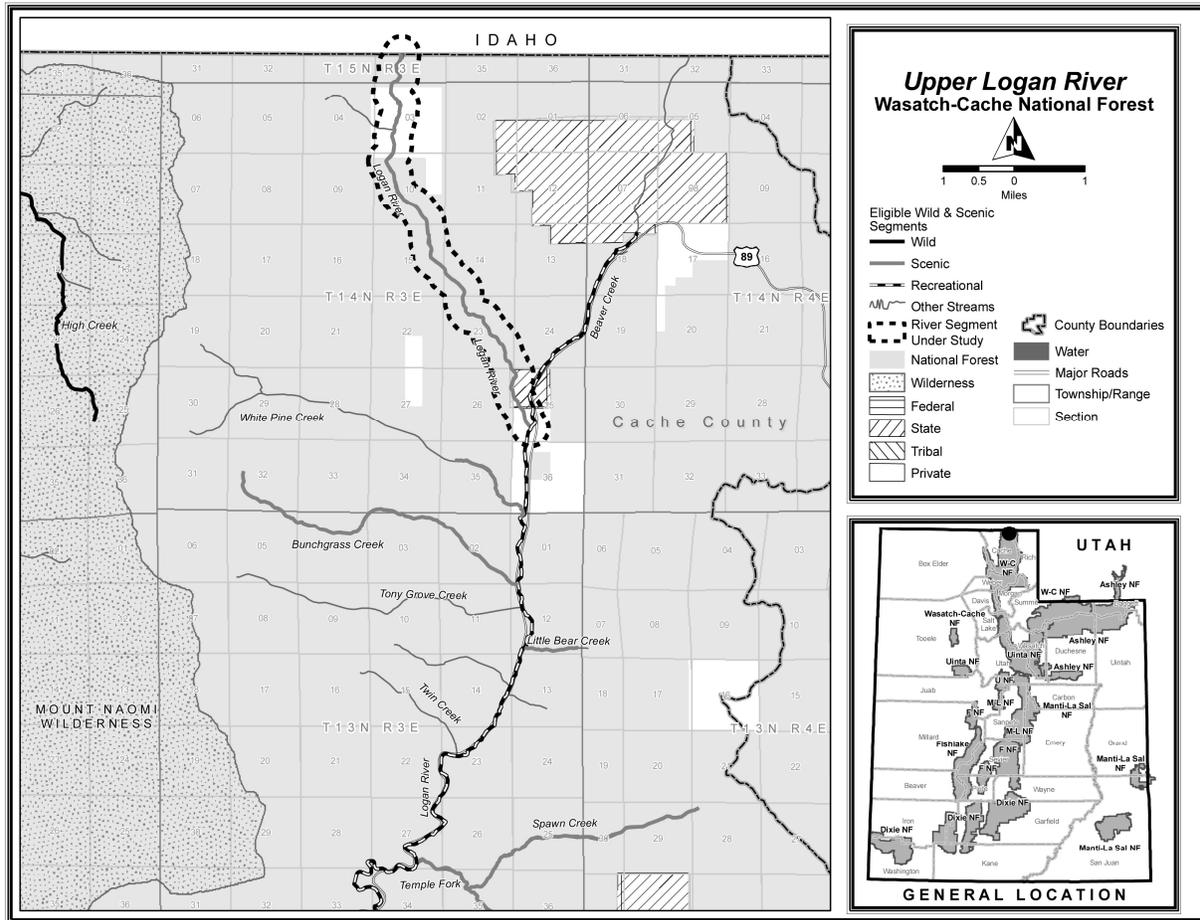
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

While this segment is long, extending from its headwaters to the Forest boundary, it does not contribute greatly to basin integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

The Cache Anglers have interest in the management of this river segment and have volunteered to assist in habitat restoration efforts.

Logan River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Logan River

River Mileage:

Studied: 6.5 miles, Idaho state line to confluence with Beaver Creek

Eligible: same

Location:

Logan River	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 34, T 15 N, R 3 E, SLM	SE ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 25, T 14 N, R 3 E, SLM	Scenic	6.5

Physical Description of River Segment:

Elevations range along the stream from approximately 7,500 feet at the Idaho state line to about 6,400 feet at Beaver Creek. This segment of the Logan River is a relatively small upriver portion of the stream where the river is natural in character and has few highway and road encroachments and crossings. The stream flow is perennial; however during low flow periods a portion of the stream can go underground for about 100 to 200 yards. In the upper reaches of the segment the somewhat confined channel is characterized by pool-riffle-run and it runs through a broad open valley. Adjacent uplands are primarily

dominated by aspen and sagebrush communities and some conifer communities. Subalpine fir is succeeding aspen communities in some areas. Riparian communities are characterized by thinleaf alder and various willows. Fish species present include Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species), brook trout, brown trout, and sculpin. The State of Utah rates the fishery here as a Class II (unique).

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: This segment of the Logan River has not been substantially modified by the dirt road that runs along it or by other construction or diversion. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. This portion of the main Logan River along with several tributaries are occupied with a meta-population (that is a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

Since this segment of the Logan River is free-flowing and has an outstandingly remarkable fish value, the segment is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The stream can be classified as a scenic river because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- The road parallels stream through the valley bottom, but is not immediately adjacent to stream throughout entire segment.
- Access from road is not readily accessible throughout the entire segment.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment of Logan River, from the Idaho Stateline to its confluence with Beaver Creek, is located on the Logan District in Cache County, Utah. A recent land exchange with the State of Utah in the upper reaches of the river have made most of the lands through which it flows part of the National Forest system, although about 1 mile still flows through private lands. These private inholdings have water rights in Franklin Basin. The lower portion of the stream flows through Utah State land and then private land at the confluence with Beaver Creek.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-0.6	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	179.8
0.6-1.7	Private Land	362.2
1.7-5.6	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1228.8

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
5.6-5.8	Utah State Land	78.4
5.8-5.9	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	28.7
5.9-6.2	Utah State Land	85.6
6.2-6.5	Private Land	115.9
	Total:	2079.4 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

The private lands are zoned Forest Recreation. The purpose of the forest-recreation zone is to permit the proper use of the forest areas of the county for grazing, forestry, mining, recreation and other activities to the extent compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of the forests for the benefit of present and future generations (Ord. 2004-10, 8-10-2004).

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of this eligible Logan River segment and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Access to segment is from US Highway 89, a National Scenic Byway. Forest Road 006 (Franklin Basin Rd.) is a dirt road that runs adjacent to the segment. There are two bridges that span the stream in this segment, one bridge is located on private land, the other is on State land. The bridges are full spanning and most do not constrict flows. All pass fish. No developed Forest Service campgrounds are present in the upper part of the segment. The Utah Division of Parks and Recreation operates a winter sports trailhead parking area at the junction of Highway 89 and the Franklin Basin Road.

Recreation Activities – Dispersed recreation is common along the upper position of the river segment. Some of these dispersed camping areas have been closed by the Forest Service to reduce the impacts to the stream.

Grazing Activities – This segment is within the valley bottom portion of the Franklin Basin Cattle

Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor.

Special Designations – The Logan River is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

This segment of the Logan River is managed by the State of Utah as a Blue Ribbon fishery. Blue Ribbon Fishery waters are to be managed principally by protecting their watersheds, maintaining and restoring habitat, and implementing appropriate angling regulations. Waters classified as a Blue Ribbon Fishery are given protective legal status through the Division of Water Quality and the Division of Wildlife Resources. In addition, funding is available for projects associated with Blue Ribbon Fisheries. This funding is available to private organizations and groups for projects that would enhance Blue Ribbon Fisheries.

The stream segment and corridor ends at the Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway.

Approximately 3.4 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

There are three areas within the stream segment's corridor that are recognized by the State of Utah as a

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor from the Idaho Stateline to the confluence with Beaver Creek:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat Emphasis: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian

management objectives.

Land management direction for land within the stream corridor along the road and to the east side of the stream:

Management Prescription 3.2U/3.2D Terrestrial Habitats Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

3.2U consists of those terrestrial habitat areas protected from development because of potential impacts to key habitat elements.

(S-3.2U) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation developments are not allowed.

(G3.2U-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2U-2) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site-specifically developed habitat objectives.

3.2D consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site-specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Land management direction for land within the stream corridor along the west side of the stream:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River supplies agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, the State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), and Cache County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The State land along this segment is managed by SITLA, where the general land management objective for school and institutional trust lands is to optimize and maximize trust land uses for support of the beneficiaries over time through development of surface and mineral resources and real estate development. The private lands within this segment are subject to Cache County Countywide Comprehensive Plan, the primary land use ordinance for private land. The Comprehensive Plan is a planning tool for making policy decisions. The Land Use Ordinance is the instrument by which these policies are implemented.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not shown interest or disinterest in sharing the costs.

(2) The state/local government’s ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The private and SITLA land could be developed in the future. This development would be directed by the County Comprehensive Plan and zoning ordinances for the Forest Recreation (FR 40) zone, which allows for one seasonal cabin per forty acres. Regulations for sensitive areas, steep slopes, jurisdictional wetlands, natural waterways and areas lying within the floodplain, and areas of wildlife habitat are declared under Title 17.18.020. Title 17.18.060 specifies setbacks for development from natural waterways of 50 ft. for dwellings, 100 ft. for septic systems, and up to 100 ft. for dwellings if within the FEMA mapped floodplain.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Public comments to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System. USDA Forest Service, 1999 were in support of listing of this portion of the Logan River for its fisheries and scenic values.

During scoping many comments were received concerning the Logan River. Some supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system while others mentioned the unique and varied values specific only to the Logan River. Cache County and others did not support designation

A large number of comments were received during the comment period for the Draft EIS both supporting and opposing the designation of the two eligible segments of the Logan River. Those supporting the segments cite attributes such as blue ribbon fisheries, unique geologic features and high recreational values. They also supported designation to ensure protection of the river and its values. They felt designation could be of great economic value to the region. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system. The City of Logan supported designation as well.

There are many including Cache County however that oppose designation of the river segments due to cost, questions about management, private property concerns and impacts designation may have economically on the community. The State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Land Administration (SITLA) did not support designation because of the potential impacts on the value and utility of its land. The State of Utah expressed concern that designation would impact the state’s ability to maintain or expand the highway near the segment’s terminus.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of the Logan River complements the State’s Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for this river and current Forest management. Designation may conflict with the density of subdivision development on private and SITLA land. Scenic classification allows the presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures but not more extensive residential or commercial developments. The designation also complements the Scenic Byway corridor at the bottom of the stream segment.

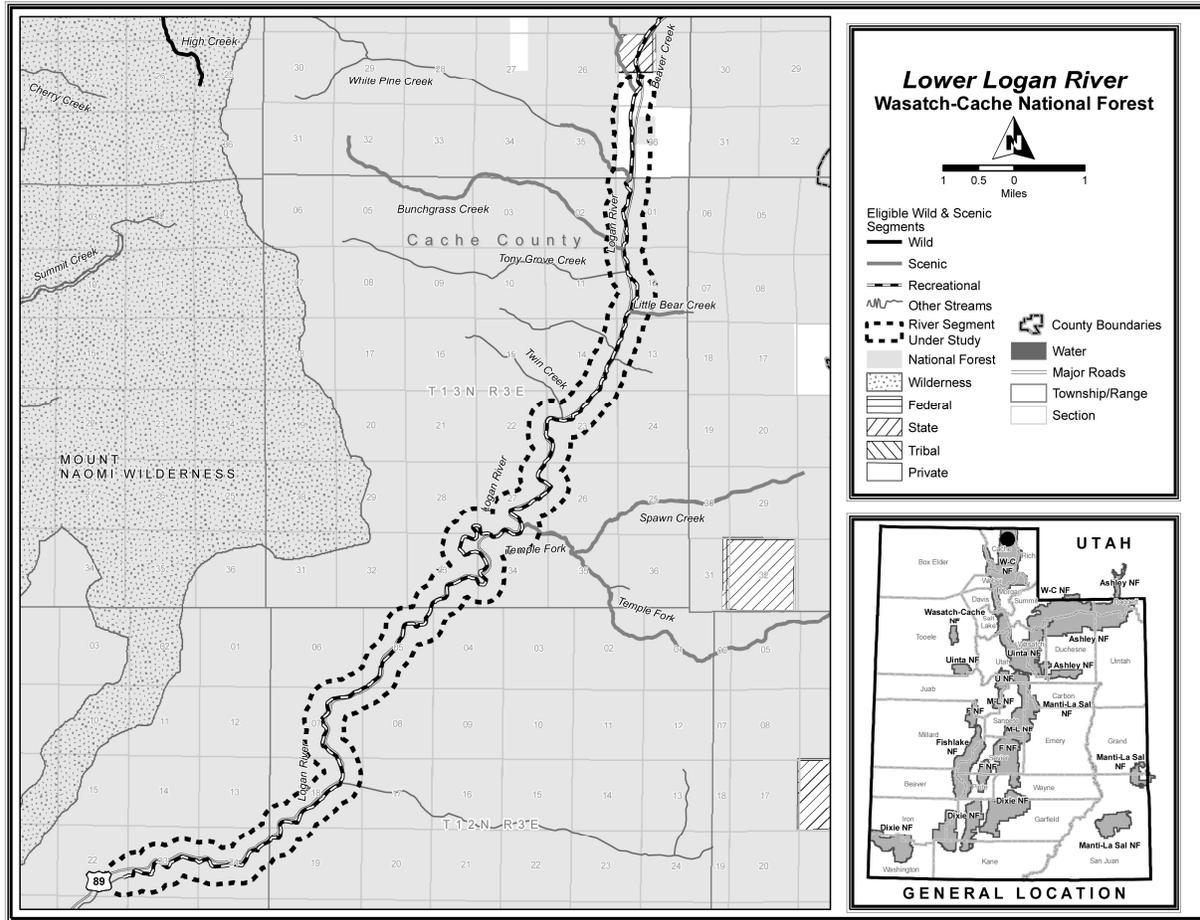
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment of the Logan River—when combined with White Pine Creek, Spawn Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Temple Fork, Little Bear Creek, and the downstream portion of the Logan River segments—contributes to the Logan River basin’s integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

Local groups such as the Cache County Anglers, Bear River Watershed Council, the Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection as well as trash pick up.

Logan River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Logan River

River Mileage:

Studied: 18.9 miles, from confluence with Beaver Creek to bridge at Malibu-Guinavah Campground

Eligible: same

Location:

Logan River	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SE ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 25, T 14 N, R 3 E, SLM	NW ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 23, T 12 N, R 2 E, SLM	Recreational	18.9

Physical Description of River Segment:

Elevations range from 6,400 feet at Beaver Creek to 5,100 feet at the campground. Along this segment the stream runs through an open and rolling setting in the uppermost 8 miles above the Temple Fork confluence to a classic canyon landscape in the lower section. The geological features most apparent along the course of the river are some of the karst features, notably Ricks Springs Cave, Logan Cave, and

Wind Cave. Other caves also exist, and undoubtedly many more remain to be discovered. Ordovician quartzite strata near Right Fork contain unusually well formed and preserved fucoidal structures (fossilized casts of ancient worm borrows which appear like seaweed mats frozen in the stone). At the west end of the corridor, lake terrace gravel deposits of prehistoric Lake Bonneville perch above the river bed and mark the upper level of a lake with enormous significance in the Great Basin. Well-defined faults and shear zones cut and displace the sedimentary strata in several road cuts along the corridor, some of which also show geologically interesting small-scale folding of the strata. Uplands are dominated by Douglas fir on cooler north-facing slopes with maple, sagebrush, mountain mahogany, and juniper communities on south-facing and other drier sites. Riparian vegetation is characterized by birch/dogwood, box elder, and yellow willow communities. Crack willow, an introduced species, is a common component of some of the camping and picnicking areas in the lower sections of the segment. One federally listed threatened plant, Primula maguirei (Maguire primrose), occurs along this segment in more mesic limestone cliffs. In addition, several Intermountain Region sensitive species, including Viola frank smithii (franksmith violet), Erigeron cronquistii, and Draba maguirei, occur on the dolomitic limestone outcrops.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: Although Highway 89 runs the length of this segment and has some effects on its free-flow, these are not substantial. In general the ecological functions of the river are natural along the segment. Over the last several decades construction efforts and active management have intended that natural appearance and functions might be preserved. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. This portion of the main Logan River along with several tributaries are occupied with a meta-population (that is a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population.

Scenery – Scenery along the segment has been recognized as outstanding by the creation of the National Scenic Byway for Highway 89. This scenery is diverse and variable, a scenic smorgasbord of this part of the Wasatch Range.

Geology – This segment meets the criteria for outstandingly remarkable geological value due to the diversity and abundance of features which together form an area with high educational and scientific interest. In broad scale, the entire river corridor presents an unparalleled cross section of the geologic structure and middle and lower Paleozoic carbonate stratigraphy of the west flank of the Bear River Range. A myriad of smaller geologic features fall within the confines of the corridor which contains the geologically-interesting meanders of the Logan River.

Ecology – Ecologically, this segment contains a wide variety of plant, animal, and aquatic communities that are functioning in a relatively healthy manner, especially when compared to the proximity to local urban populations. The use of the corridor as a setting for education for local schools and the university community has been appreciated for many decades. Due to the location of the river in close proximity to Utah State University, more is known and written about the local natural setting than for most areas of the western U.S. The ecological setting and its value to local and broader communities can be considered outstanding.

Recreation – The recreation opportunities in this segment are about as broad spectrum as are provided in any similar setting northern Utah. If one were to look for a typical northern Utah outdoor recreation, the Logan River area might be a good model for the type. For its variety, length of season, quality, and appropriate scale of facilities, the recreation experience along the Logan River is outstanding.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Recreational

Since this segment of the Logan River is free-flowing and has outstandingly remarkable values, the segment is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The stream can be classified as a recreational river because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- This segment is free of impoundment.
- Has some development and substantial evidence of human activity.
- Grazing is present.
- There is evidence of past logging or ongoing timber harvest in canyon, yet forest appears natural from the river bank.
- Readily accessible by road.
- Parallel road exists along stream with bridge crossing.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This river is located on the Logan Ranger District in Cache County, Utah. Private inholdings are located along the Logan River just downstream of Beaver Creek.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-.5	Private Land	178.1
0.5-.7	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	60.8
0.7-1.7	Private Land	178.1
1.7-14.7	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	4318.2
14.7-14.9	Private Land	6.3
14.9-18.9	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1268.8
	Total:	6010.3 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps

represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

Private lands are zoned Forest Recreation. The purpose of the forest-recreation zone is to permit the proper use of the forest areas of the county for grazing, forestry, mining, recreation and other activities to the extent compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of the forests for the benefit of present and future generations (Ord. 2004-10, 8-10-2004).

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of this eligible Logan River segment and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Although some of the several stream-crossing structures may impede peak stream flows, there are no full-scale impoundments in this reach above the inundated area above the Third Dam, which is downstream from the end of this segment at the campground bridge. No significant diversions have been made that could have any noticeable effects on stream flows or in-stream water uses; however, there are probably several minor diversions for adjacent domestic and irrigation uses. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Parallel access is provided by State Highway 89, a designated National Scenic Byway. This highway is used by through travelers driving between the Wasatch Front and Idaho or Wyoming, or by recreation users who are interested in destinations along the river and highway. The Forest Service provides many developed campgrounds and picnic sites in the lower portion of the segment; including five developed campgrounds, two picnic areas, and three developed trailheads, Wood Camp, Temple Fork, Tony Grove Winter Trailhead. Beaver Creek and Franklin Basin trailheads in the segment corridor on SITLA land.

There are 11 Recreation Residences Areas administered by the Forest Service under special use permit along this segment of stream. Bridges across the river access each area. Some of the 84 recreational residences are within the floodplain of the Logan River. Riparian Management Objectives (RMO) have been developed to manage recreational residences within riparian corridors.

Grazing Activities – This segment is within the valley bottom portion of the Franklin Basin Cattle Allotment and the Logan Canyon Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Recreation Activities – Recreation pressure in the corridor, both dispersed and developed, can be considered moderate to heavy depending on season and day of the week. Access to the river for fishing and tubing is very easy. Two geological markers are present: one discusses ancient Lake Bonneville and the other talks about deposits of fucoidal quartzite. Other interesting viewing sites include Ricks Springs. Logan Wind Cave is also a destination for hikers. Rock climbing is very popular along the segment.

Below Ricks Springs some kayaking occurs depending on the water level.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest projects planned on this segment. The Utah State University Field Station is located in the upper portion of the segment. There are no commercial fishing, hunting, or recreation activities on the segment.

Special Designations – The Logan River is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

This segment of the Logan River is managed by the State of Utah as a Blue Ribbon fishery. Blue Ribbon Fishery waters are to be managed principally by protecting their watersheds, maintaining and restoring habitat, and implementing appropriate angling regulations. Waters classified as a Blue Ribbon Fishery are given protective legal status through the Division of Water Quality and the Division of Wildlife Resources. The UDWR is currently developing management strategies and regulations that would implement and support the Blue Ribbon Fishery program.

This entire stream segment flows within the Logan Canyon Scenic Byway corridor, a National Scenic Byway. This program is a collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States.

Approximately 10.4 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Approximately 2.0 miles of stream fall within Drinking Water Source Protection Zones; one is a small section of the Logan River that flows through Red Banks campground and the other section flows from the confluence with Right Fork downstream to Card Picnic Area.

Land management direction for land within the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat Emphasis: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the ½ mile wide stream corridor:

Management Prescription 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and tailor management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River supplies hydroelectric power, culinary, and agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, the State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), and Cache County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, through the use of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The State land along this segment is managed by the SITLA, where the general land management objective for school and institutional trust lands is to optimize and maximize trust land uses for support of the beneficiaries over time through development of surface and mineral resources and real estate development. The private lands within this segment are subject to Cache County Countywide Comprehensive Plan, the primary land use ordinance for private land. The Comprehensive Plan is a planning tool for making policy decisions. The Land Use Ordinance is the instrument by which these policies are implemented.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be

\$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not shown interest or disinterest in sharing the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The private and SITLA lands at the beginning of this segment could be developed in the future. This development would be directed by the County Comprehensive Plan and zoning ordinances for the Forest Recreation (FR 40) zone, which allows for one seasonal cabin per forty acres. Regulations for sensitive areas, steep slopes, jurisdictional wetlands, natural waterways and areas lying within the floodplain, and areas of wildlife habitat are declared under Title 17.18.020. Title 17.18.060 specifies setbacks for development from natural waterways of 50 ft. for dwellings, 100 ft. for septic systems, and up to 100' for dwellings if within the FEMA mapped floodplain.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft Inventory. Many comments were in support of the Logan River for listing as eligible for inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers system. Comments from Logan City expressed concerns with implications of designation; therefore the original length of the stream segment was shortened. Many comments were received during scoping concerning the Logan River. Some supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system while others mentioned the unique and varied values specific only to the Logan River. Cache County and others did not support designation

During the public comment period for the Draft EIS, a large number of comments were received both supporting and opposing the designation of the two eligible segments of the Logan River. Those supporting the segments cite attributes such as blue ribbon fisheries, unique geologic features and high recreational values. They also supported designation to ensure protection of the river and its values. They felt designation could be of great economic value to the region and complement the National Scenic Byway status. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system. The City of Logan supported designation as well.

There are many however that oppose designation of the river segments due to cost, questions about management, private property concerns and impacts designation may have economically on the community. Cache County felt it was important to not designate Logan River to preserve the feasibility of future water development projects. The State of Utah was concerned about highway maintenance and

future road improvements.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of the Logan River complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for this river and current Forest management. Designation will not conflict with the density of subdivision development on private and SITLA land. Recreational classification allows the presence of extensive residential or commercial developments. The designation also complements the Scenic Byway corridor along the stream segment.

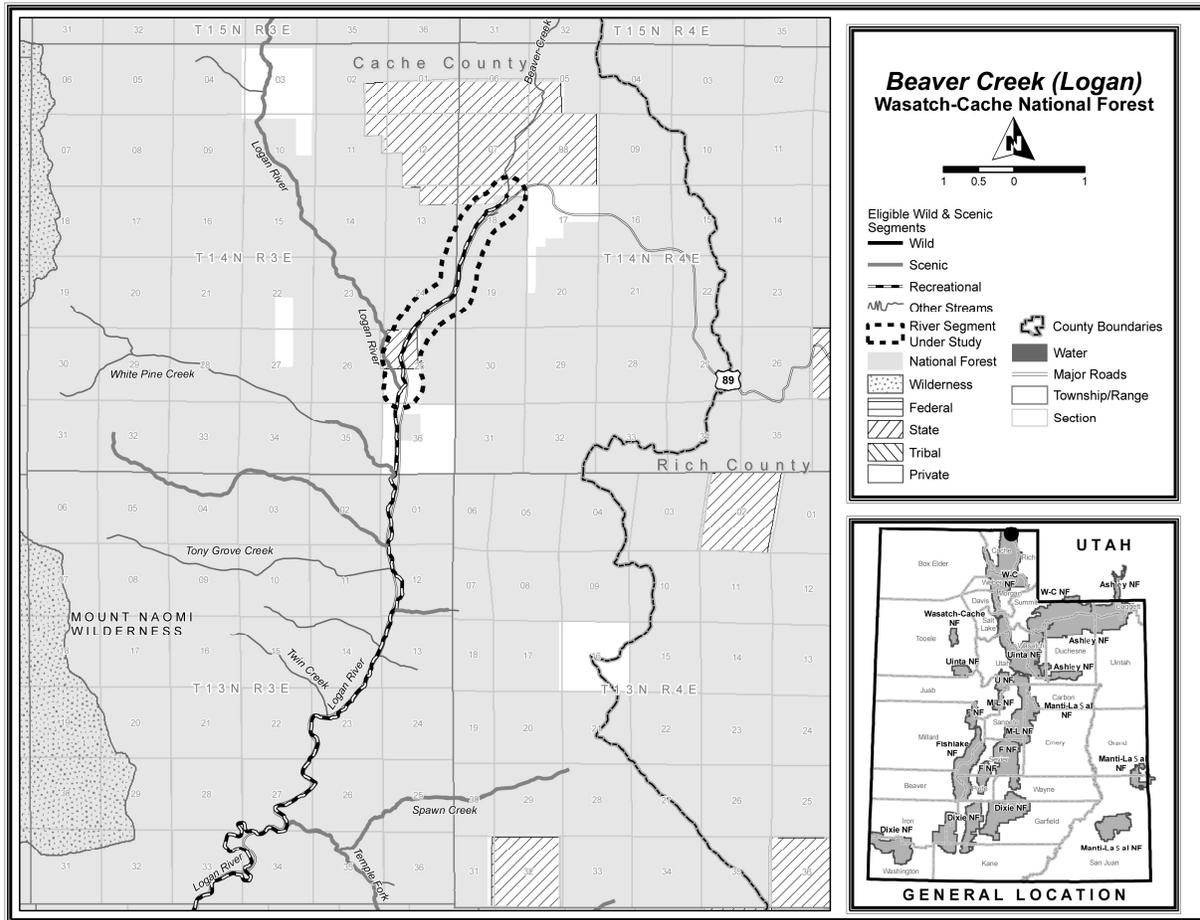
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

The scenic segments of White Pine Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Temple Fork, Spawn Creek, Little Bear Creek, the upper Logan River when combined with the lower Logan River contributes to the basins integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

Local groups such as the Logan Canyon Scenic Byway Committee, Stokes Nature Center, Utah State University, Cache County Anglers, Bear River Watershed Council, Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, and Bridgerland Audubon Society, Scout and Church groups as well as the Utah Rivers Council have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection as well as trash pick up.

Beaver Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Beaver Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 3.4 miles, south boundary of State land to confluence with Logan River

Eligible: Same

Location:

Beaver Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 18, T 1 N, R 14 E, SLM	SE ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 25, T 14 N, R 3 E, SLM	Recreational	3.4

Physical Description of River Segment:

This stream is a tributary to the upper Logan River. Vegetation in uplands of this drainage includes sagebrush, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, aspen, Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. Several beaver ponds lie within these corridors, and the lower reaches of some provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan 2003, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999, USDA Forest Service.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – Fish species include brook trout, sculpin and Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. These several streams in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River are occupied with a meta-population (that is a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Recreational

This stream is listed is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and are free-flowing and for its remarkable fish value. This segment is classified as a recreational stream because:

- This stream is free of impoundment.
- Some developments exist. Substantial evidence of human activity.
- Small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures.
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest and no ongoing timber harvests.
- Readily accessible by road or railroad.
- The existence of parallel roads or railroads on one or both banks as well as bridge crossings and other river access points is acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment is located on the Logan Ranger District, and is a tributary stream to the upper Logan River. This stream segment begins at the southern State land/Forest boundary and flows through mostly National Forest land, until the stream flows through State and private land near the end of the segment.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-2.5	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	793
2.5-3.1	Utah State Land	251
3.1-3.4	Private Land	167
	Total:	1211 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river

stretches (¼ to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate ¼ mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

These areas are zoned Forest Recreation for the purpose of the forest-recreation zone is to permit the proper use of the forest areas of the county for grazing, forestry, mining, recreation and other activities to the extent compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of the forests for the benefit of present and future generations (Ord. 2004-10, 8-10-2004).

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of the eligible Beaver Creek segment and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams or diversions on these segments. In some places U.S. Highway 89, Forest Roads, and other old roads affect the stream channels, flood plains, and water quality by crossing the segments or running parallel to them.

Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – This segment is adjacent to the Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway, U.S. Highway 89. There is one bridge across the stream (Highway 89) and one culvert, which does not constrict flows and passes fish.

Recreation Activities – This stream sees some light fishing activity. Most of the recreational visits are from viewing the area from the Scenic Byway.

Grazing Activities – Sheep and cattle graze most of the areas within which these rivers flow on the Beaver Mountain Sheep Allotment and the Franklin Basin Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects in this stream corridor.

Special Designations – Beaver Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the

stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

The area adjacent to the stream segment on the west side is recognized by the State of Utah as a Transient Drinking Water Source Protection Zone for the Beaver Mountain Ski Area. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

This segment is adjacent to the Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway, U.S. Highway 89. The National Scenic Byways Program is a collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States.

Approximately 1.8 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat Emphasis consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 3.1W consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the ½ mile wide stream corridor:

Management Prescription 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and or management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to an increasing extent, tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are also popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Cache County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The private lands within this segment are subject to Cache County Countywide Comprehensive Plan, the primary land use ordinance for private land. The Comprehensive Plan is a planning tool for making policy decisions. The Land Use Ordinance is the instrument by which these policies are implemented.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement

Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands.

The private and SITLA land could be developed in the future. This development would be directed by the County Comprehensive Plan and zoning ordinances for the Forest Recreation (FR 40) zone; which allows for one seasonal cabin per forty acres. Regulations for sensitive areas: steep slopes, jurisdictional wetlands, natural waterways and areas lying within the floodplain, and areas of wildlife habitat are declared under Title 17.18.020. Title 17.18.060 specifies setbacks for development from natural waterways of 50 ft. for dwellings, 100 ft. for septic systems, and up to 100' for dwellings if within the FEMA mapped floodplain.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Public comments to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999 were in favor and in opposition to listing of Beaver Creek as a recreational river for its fisheries values. One public comment from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft inventory.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes Beaver Creek. Cache County and others did not support designation

Public comments received during review of the Draft EIS for the Beaver Creek segment both oppose and support the designation of the river segment. Several individuals would like to see the segment designated; one thought it would help protect the river from grazing impacts. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes Beaver Creek.

Cache County opposed designation stating that the segment is too short to be effectively managed and that current management protects its values. The State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Land Administration (SITLA) did not support designation because of the potential impacts on the value and utility of its land. The State of Utah was concerned about highway maintenance and future road improvements.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of Beaver Creek complements current Forest management for Scenic Byways, aquatic habitat and watershed protection, and roadless areas. Designation may conflict with the density of subdivision development on private and SITLA land. The recreational classification allows for more extensive residential or commercial developments than are currently present in this stream corridor.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

The segments of White Pine Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Temple Fork, Spawn Creek, Little Bear Creek, the Logan River combined contributes to the Logan River basin integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment. Local groups such as the local Trout Unlimited chapter, the Cache County Anglers and the Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, Bear River Watershed Coalition and the Bridgerland Audubon Society have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection and trash pick up.

The Beaver Creek Project, in cooperation with UDWR, Cache Anglers Chapter, and Wasatch-Cache National Forest and sponsored by Trout Unlimited emphasizes recreational fisheries and Bonneville cutthroat trout restoration through the Embrace-A-Stream Program.

Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. About 1.5 miles downstream from its source at White Pine Lake, the creek emerges from a subsurface flow, marking the beginning of the segment. White Pine Creek supports Bonneville cutthroat trout (BCT). Gradients are fairly steep and step pools and plunge pools are common. Past surveys indicate White Pine Creek is used primarily as spawning and rearing habitat for BCT. The flammulated owl, a sensitive species, has been located within the area. The corridors include habitat suitable for boreal owl, goshawk, wolverine and three-toed woodpeckers; none of these sensitive species are known to occur within the corridor. Several beaver ponds lie within these corridors, and the lower reaches provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: White Pine Creek is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. This stream has not been modified to any significant extent by human uses and is considered free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value. Fish species include rainbow, brown and brook trout, sculpin and Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. This stream, in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River, is occupied with a meta-population (that is, a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

White Pine Creek is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as a scenic river as it is free-flowing and for its remarkable Bonneville cutthroat fishery. The stream can be classified as a scenic river because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value is acceptable
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable
- Generally inaccessible except by trail
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable
- Meets or exceeds Federal criteria of federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for

propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – Private land areas are zoned Forest Recreation. The purpose of the forest-recreation zone is to permit the proper use of the forest areas of the county for grazing, forestry, mining, recreation and other activities to the extent compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of the forests for the benefit of present and future generations (Ord. 2004-10, 8-10-2004).

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-1.48	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1853
	Total:	1853 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of the eligible segment and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the Forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Access to the stream is from U.S. Highway 89, the Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway. A network of trails stem from the highway and the upper part of the drainage can be accessed from several areas. The most direct access is the White Pine Lake Trail 2025, providing access to the stream and lake, the White Pine-Bunchgrass Canyon Trail 2051, Highline N.R.T. 2005, and the Doubletop Trail 2137.

There are no dams or diversions on these segments. In some places U.S. Highway 89, Forest Roads, and other old roads affect the stream channels, flood plains, and water quality by crossing the segments or running along side them.

Recreation Activities – Dispersed camping and hiking use can be light to heavy depending on the season or day of the week. Fishing use along these streams is variable, dependent on access and seasons.

Grazing Activities – The majority of this segment is within the valley bottom portion of the Franklin Basin Cattle Allotment; a small section near the bottom of this segment is within the Logan Canyon Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor.

Special Designations – White Pine Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

The lower part of this drainage is within two State of Utah Transient Drinking Water Source Protection Zones for the water supply for nearby recreational sites. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor from the source of White Pine Creek to the private land near the confluence with the Logan River:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land approximately ½ mile upstream from the confluence and outside the 3.1A stream corridor buffer:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land for the remaining area along the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is allowed.

(S2.6) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are not allowed.

(G2.6-1) Motorized uses, including snowmobiling, are allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G2.6-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.6-3) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed to mimic conditions within the historic range of variability and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segment. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in

Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Cache County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The private lands within this segment are subject to Cache County Countywide Comprehensive Plan, the primary land use ordinance for private land. The Comprehensive Plan is a planning tool for making policy decisions. The Land Use Ordinance is the instrument by which these policies are implemented.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not shown interest or disinterest in sharing the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The private land could be developed in the future. This development would be directed by the County Comprehensive Plan and zoning ordinances for the Forest Recreation (FR 40) zone, which allows for one seasonal cabin per forty acres. Regulations for sensitive areas, steep slopes, jurisdictional wetlands, natural waterways and areas lying within the floodplain, and areas of wildlife habitat are declared under Title 17.18.020. Title 17.18.060 specifies setbacks for development from natural waterways of 50 ft. for dwellings, 100 ft. for septic systems, and up to 100 ft. for dwellings if within the FEMA mapped floodplain.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife, provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft Inventory.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes White Pine Creek. One organization also thought White Pine's scenic value was

outstandingly remarkable. Cache County and others did not support designation

Several comments from individuals and Cache County received during the public comment period for the Draft EIS opposed designation for White Pine Creek. They thought designation may affect private property rights and mineral rights retained by the State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Land Administration. Others commented the creek is dry part of the year and likely does not contain Bonneville cutthroat trout. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes White Pine Creek.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of the White Pine Creek, a tributary to the Logan River, complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for this river and current Forest management. Designation may conflict with the density of subdivision development on private land. Scenic classification allows the presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures but not more extensive residential or commercial developments. The designation also complements the Scenic Byway corridor at the bottom of the stream segment.

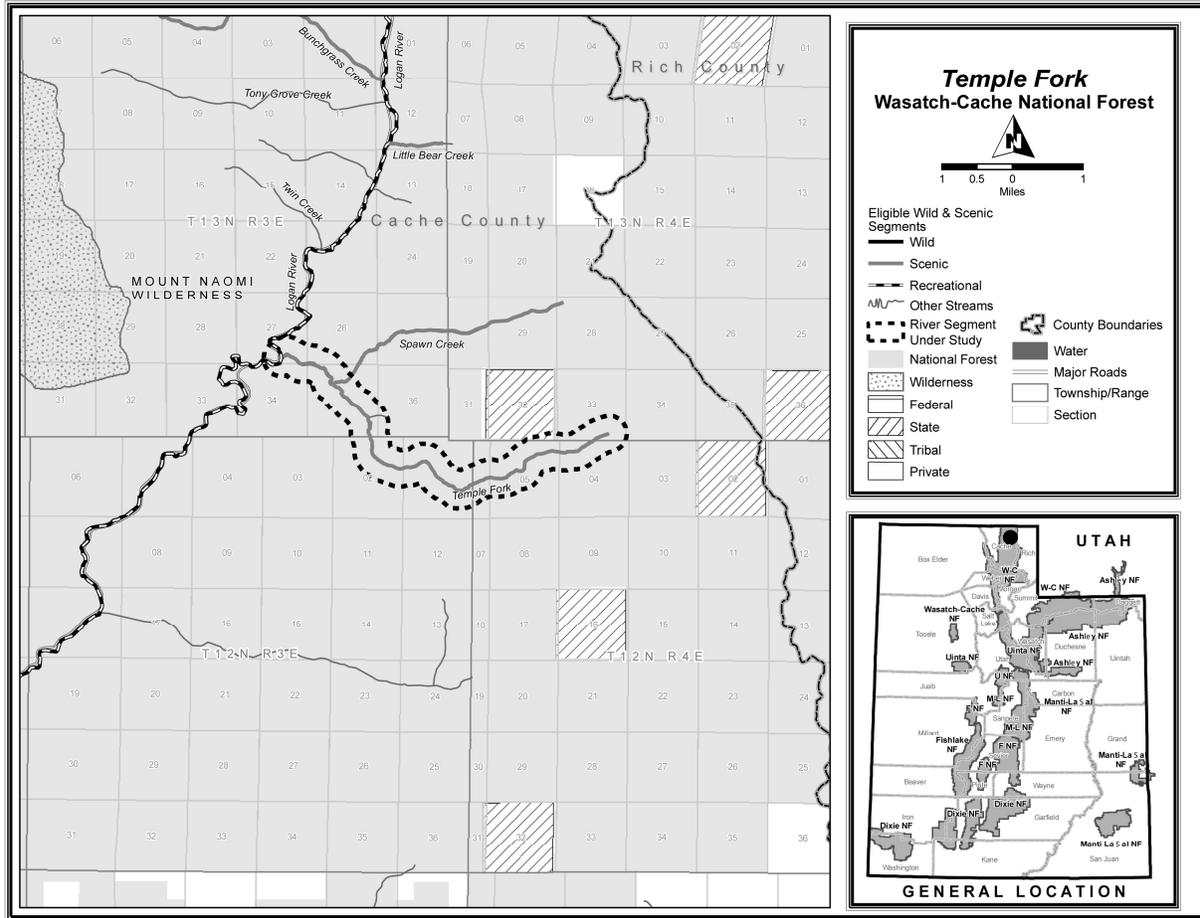
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

The segments of Beaver Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Temple Fork, Spawn Creek, Little Bear Creek, and the Logan River—when combined with White Pine Creek—contribute to the Logan River basin's integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

Local groups such as the Cache County Anglers, Bear River Watershed Council, the Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection as well as trash pick up.

Temple Fork Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Temple Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 6.3 miles, source to confluence with Logan River

Eligible: same

Location:

Temple Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SE ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 33, T 13 N, R 4 E, SLM	SW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 27, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM	Scenic	6.3

Physical Description of River Segment:

This stream is a tributary to the upper Logan River. Vegetation in uplands of this drainage includes sagebrush, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, aspen, Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. Several beaver ponds lie within

these corridors, and the lower reaches provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value.

Fish species include brown trout, sculpin and Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. These several streams in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River are occupied with a meta-population (that is, a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

This stream is listed is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and are free-flowing and for its remarkable fish value. This segment is a scenic stream because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity.
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable.
- Accessible in places by road.
- Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches on inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment is located on the Logan Ranger District in Cache County, Utah, and is a tributary stream to the Logan River.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-6.3	Forest Service	2057
*within 1/4 mile buffer	Utah State Land	10
	Total:	2067acres

State land would be managed for the purpose of grazing, forestry, mining, recreation and other activities to the extent compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of the forests for the benefit of present and future generations (Ord. 2004-10, 8-10-2004).

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of the eligible Temple Fork segment and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Service Road 2007a provides access to the stream and also the Temple Fork Sawmill Trail 2062. Trail 2062 has two full span bridges across the stream. A portion of FS Road 2007a has been relocated and reconstructed to reduce impacts to the stream. There is one full spanning bridge across the road and a culvert that constricts the flow of Temple Fork and creates a large scout pool below. A motorized vehicle trailhead is located at the bottom of this canyon. A portion of the Great Western Trail runs through the upper part of Temple Fork.

Recreation Activities – There is high use of the dispersed camping in the lower part of the stream corridor along the road. Fishing is popular and the use is moderate. There are few known prehistoric sites within these corridors, although occasional scatters of chipped stone materials attest to Native American use of the streambanks for seasonal hunting and fishing camps, as well as access ways to upland areas. The Temple Fork Sawmill historic site is within the corridor of consideration.

Grazing Activities – Sheep and cattle graze most of the areas within which this river flows. The upper north part of corridor falls within the Little Bear Sheep Allotment. The middle southern 2/3 of the stream corridor is within the Long Hollow Sheep Allotment. The lower portion of this stream is within the Logan Canyon Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor.

Special Designations – Temple Fork is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor from the source of Temple Fork to the confluence with the Logan River:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat Emphasis: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing

facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land for the remaining area along the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.2 Terrestrial Habitats Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species.

Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

Management Prescription 3.2U consists of those terrestrial habitat areas protected from development because of potential impacts to key habitat elements.

(S-3.2U) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation developments are not allowed.

(G3.2U-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2U-2) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site-specifically developed habitat objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land near the confluence with the Logan River:

Management Prescription 2.7 Special Interest Areas and Special Areas: Manage to protect particular values or unique qualities of special interest. Objectives for Special Interest Areas is “to protect and, where appropriate, foster public use and enjoyment of areas with scenic, historical, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, or other special characteristics. To classify areas that possess unusual recreation and scientific values so that these special values are available for public study, use, or enjoyment” (FSM 2360.2). Objectives for Special Areas are: “To protect and manage for public use and enjoyment, special recreation areas with scenic, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, archaeological, or other special characteristics or unique values.” (FSM2372.02) Special Interest and Special Areas may have management plans developed to address specific needs and opportunities for the individual area.

(S2.7) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation development are not allowed.

(G2.7-1) Vegetation/fuels treatment such as prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed in circumstances where these activities help perpetuate the unique ecosystem, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G2.7-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.7-3) New trail construction is allowed if associated with resource interpretation and public study, use, or enjoyment.

(G2.7-4) Allow manipulative restoration where needed for scientific study and increased public understanding of the unique values of the area.

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, and the State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA). If SITLA lands are sold and developed Cache County zoning would apply. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The State land along this segment is managed by SITLA, where the general land management objective for school and institutional trust lands is to optimize and maximize trust land uses for support of the beneficiaries over time through development of surface and mineral resources and real estate development. Any future private land within this segment would be subject to Cache County Countywide Comprehensive Plan, the primary land use ordinance for private land. The Comprehensive Plan is a planning tool for making policy decisions. The Land Use Ordinance is the instrument by which these policies are implemented.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement

Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not shown interest or disinterest in sharing the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This segment is entirely on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife, provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft Inventory.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes Temple Fork. Cache County and others did not support designation

During the public comment period for the Draft EIS comments were received both supporting and opposing the designation of the Temple Fork segment. Temple Fork gains support from the public because of wildlife and fishery values. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes Temple Fork.

Others including Cache County voiced opposition to designation stating the segment was too short and already protected

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of the Temple Fork, a tributary to the Logan River, complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for this river and current Forest management. Designation may conflict with the density of subdivision development if SITLA land is sold to private parties. Scenic classification allows the presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures but not more extensive residential or commercial developments. The designation also complements the Scenic Byway corridor at the bottom of the stream segment.

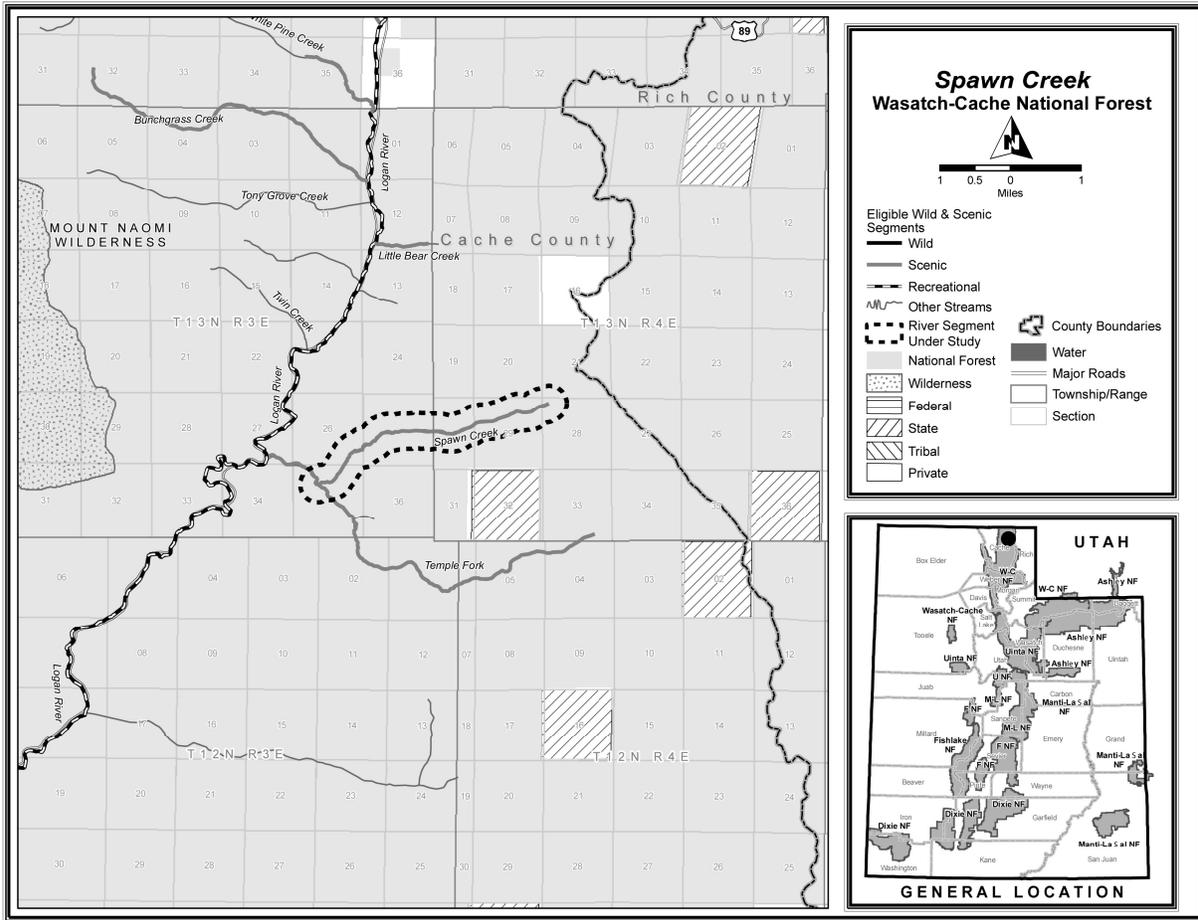
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

The scenic segments of White Pine Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Beaver Creek, Spawn Creek, Little Bear Creek, and the Logan River—when combined with Temple Fork—contribute to the Logan River basin's integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

Local groups such as the Cache County Anglers, Bear River Watershed Council, the Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society as well as scout and church groups have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection as well trash pick up.

Spawn Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Spawn Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 3.8 miles, source to confluence with Temple Fork
Eligible: same

Location:

Spawn Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 28, T 13 N, R 4 E, SLM	SE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 35, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM	Scenic	3.8

Physical Description of River Segment:

This stream is a tributary to the upper Logan River. Vegetation in uplands of this drainage includes sagebrush, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, aspen, Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. Several beaver ponds lie within

these corridors, and the lower reaches of some provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value.

Fish species include brown and brook trout, sculpin and Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. These several streams, in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River, are occupied with a meta-population (that is a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

This stream is listed is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and are free-flowing and for its remarkable Bonneville cutthroat fishery. This segment is classified as scenic because the stream and the stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable.
- Accessible in places by roads.
- Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The entire segment of Spawn Creek is located on the Logan Ranger District, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, and Cache County, Utah.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-3.8	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1314
	Total:	1314 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic

value within the area of the eligible Spawn Creek segment and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the Forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Service Road 20164 provides access to the mouth of the canyon and to the Spawn Creek Trail 2134. This is a non-motorized trail used by hikers, mountain bikers, and skiers.

Recreation Activities – Dispersed camping and hiking use can be light to heavy depending on the season or day of the week. Fishing use along these streams is variable, dependent on access and seasons.

Grazing Activities – Cattle graze most of the area through which this stream segment flows. The upper part of the stream segment is within the Little Bear Cattle Allotment and the lower section is within the Logan Canyon Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor.

Special Designations – Spawn Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 3.6 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor from the source of Spawn Creek to the confluence with Temple Fork:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat Emphasis: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat

to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on the north side and the lower part of the south side of the stream segment outside of the 3.1a buffer:

Management Prescription 3.2 Terrestrial Habitats Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species.

Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

3.2U consists of those terrestrial habitat areas protected from development because of potential impacts to key habitat elements.

(S-3.2U) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation developments are not allowed.

(G3.2U-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2U-2) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site-specifically developed habitat objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on the upper portion of the southern side of the stream segment outside of the 3.1a buffer:

Management Prescription 5.1 Emphasis on maintaining or restoring forested ecosystem integrity while meeting multiple resource objectives: Emphasis is on properly functioning conditions. Emphasis is not on timber growth and yield. Instead it is on maintaining or restoring vegetation composition, structure and patterns within the historic range of variability.

(G5.1-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to maintain or restore proper functioning conditions, for hazardous fuel reduction, to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and to provide for commodity and non commodity outputs and services.

(G5.1-2) Road construction, new recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

(G5.1-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on a small part of the most northern portion of the stream segment outside ¼ mile corridor:

Management Prescription 2.7: Special Interest Areas and Special Areas: Manage to protect particular values or unique qualities of special interest. Objectives for Special Interest Areas is “to protect and, where appropriate, foster public use and enjoyment of areas with scenic, historical, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, or other special characteristics. To classify areas that possesses unusual recreation and scientific values so that these special values are available for public study, use, or enjoyment” (FSM 2360.2). Objectives for Special Areas are: “To protect and manage for public use and enjoyment, special recreation areas with scenic, geological, botanical, zoological,

paleontological, archaeological, or other special characteristics or unique values.” (FSM2372.02) Special Interest and Special Areas may have management plans developed to address specific needs and opportunities for the individual area.

(S2.7) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation development are not allowed.

(G2.7-1) Vegetation/fuels treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed in circumstances where these activities help perpetuate the unique ecosystem, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G2.7-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.7-3) New trail construction is allowed if associated with resource interpretation and public study, use, or enjoyment.

(G2.7-4) Allow manipulative restoration where needed for scientific study and increased public understanding of the unique values of the area.

Management Prescriptions

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Motorized vehicle use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency for lands along this segment is the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by

Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not shown interest or disinterest in sharing the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands.

The segment lies entirely on national forest lands.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife, provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft Inventory.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes Spawn Creek. Cache County and others did not support designation

During the public comment period for the Draft EIS comments were received both supporting and opposing the designation of Spawn Creek. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes Spawn Creek.

Cache County and others opposed designation stating the segment was too short and already protected and that Bonneville cutthroat trout, the ORV, may not be present in the stream.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of the Spawn Creek, a tributary to the Logan River complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for the Logan River and current Forest management.

Portions of the Spawn Creek corridor fall within Management Prescription 2.7, where the Forest aims to manage to protect particular values or unique qualities of special interest. A Wild and Scenic designation for Spawn Creek would also help to protect these special areas by offering a wider protection corridor to the stream. WSR protection would also be beneficial to a stream segment in the Utah State University Whirling Disease Study area by keeping the area in a natural state and helping to impede disturbance. The upper portion of the Spawn Creek corridor falls within Management Prescription 5.1, which is managed to allow for vegetation management. The WSR designation for Spawn Creek would place some restrictions on activities in the Spawn Creek area.

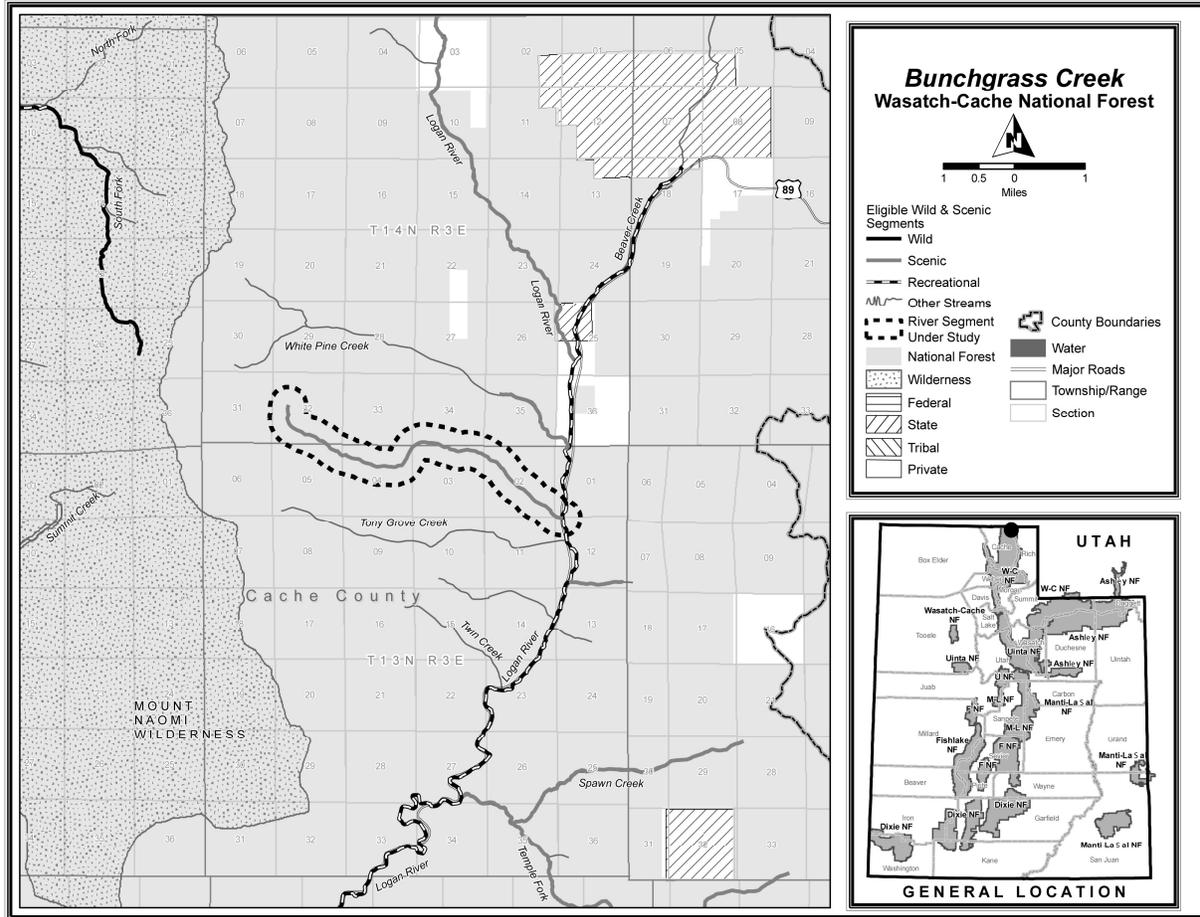
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

The segments of White Pine Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Temple Fork, Little Bear Creek, and the Logan River—when combined with Spawn Creek—contribute to the Logan River basin's integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

Local groups such as the Cache County Anglers, Bear River Watershed Council, Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection as well as trash pick up.

Bunchgrass Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Bunchgrass Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 5.0 miles, from source to confluence with Logan River

Eligible: same

Location:

Bunchgrass Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 32, T 14 N, R 3 E, SLM	NW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 12, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM	Scenic	5.0

Physical Description of River Segment:

This stream is a tributary to the upper Logan River. Vegetation in uplands of this drainage includes sagebrush, lodgepole pine, sub-alpine fir, aspen, Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. Several beaver ponds lie within these corridors, and the lower reaches of some provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan 2003, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999, USDA Forest Service.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – Fish species include Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. These several streams in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River are occupied with a meta-population (that is a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population. The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

This stream is listed is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and are free-flowing and for its remarkable fish value. This segment is a scenic stream because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value is acceptable.
- The presence of grazing, hay production, or row crops is acceptable.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved stat standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment is located on the Logan Ranger District in Cache County, Utah, and is a tributary stream to the Logan River.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-5.0	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1694
	Total:	1694 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of the eligible Bunchgrass Creek segment and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams or diversions on these segments. Within the lower part of the segment, U.S. Highway 89 affects the stream channel, flood plain, and water quality by crossing the segments.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Access to the stream segment is from U.S. Highway 89, the Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway. Trail 051 follows the stream corridor approximately halfway up the drainage and then connects to the White Pine drainage.

Recreation Activities – Dispersed camping and hiking use can be very light. Fishing use along these streams is variable dependent on access and seasons.

Grazing Activities – Sheep and cattle graze most of the areas within which these rivers flow. A portion of the Bunchgrass Creek flows through the Blind Hollow Sheep Allotment. The majority of this stream segment flows through the Franklin Basin Cattle and Logan Canyon Cattle Allotments. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor.

Special Designations – Bunchgrass Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

The lower 0.6 miles of Bunchgrass Creek are within the Logan Canyon Scenic Byway. The National Scenic Byways Program is a collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States.

There are three areas within the stream segment’s corridor that are recognized by the State of Utah as a Transient Drinking Water Source Protection Zones; these are water sources for the Tony Grove, Lewis M. Turner, and Red Banks Campgrounds. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward

and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

This stream segment corridor is within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream near the confluence with the Logan River:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat Emphasis: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land outside 3.1a corridor and adjacent confluence with Logan River:

Management Prescription 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and tail or management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land outside 2.5 areas to the confluence with Logan River:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for

convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

Land management direction for the rest of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the Bunchgrass Creek corridor:

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is allowed.

(S2.6) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are not allowed.

(G2.6-1) Motorized uses, including snowmobiling, are allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G2.6-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.6-3) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed to mimic conditions within the historic range of variability and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are also popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency for lands along this segment is the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, through the use of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

Bunchgrass Creek flows entirely within National Forest lands and is approximately one mile from private or State of Utah land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft inventory.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes Bunchgrass Creek. Cache County and others did not support designation

Public comments received during the Draft EIS review period both supported and opposed designation for Bunchgrass Creek. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes Bunchgrass Creek.

Cache County opposed designation stating the segment was too short and already protected. An individual was concerned that the State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Land Administration may have mineral rights and a need for access.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of the Bunchgrass Creek, a tributary to the Logan River complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for the Logan River, the Scenic Byway, nearby drinking water sources, and current Forest management.

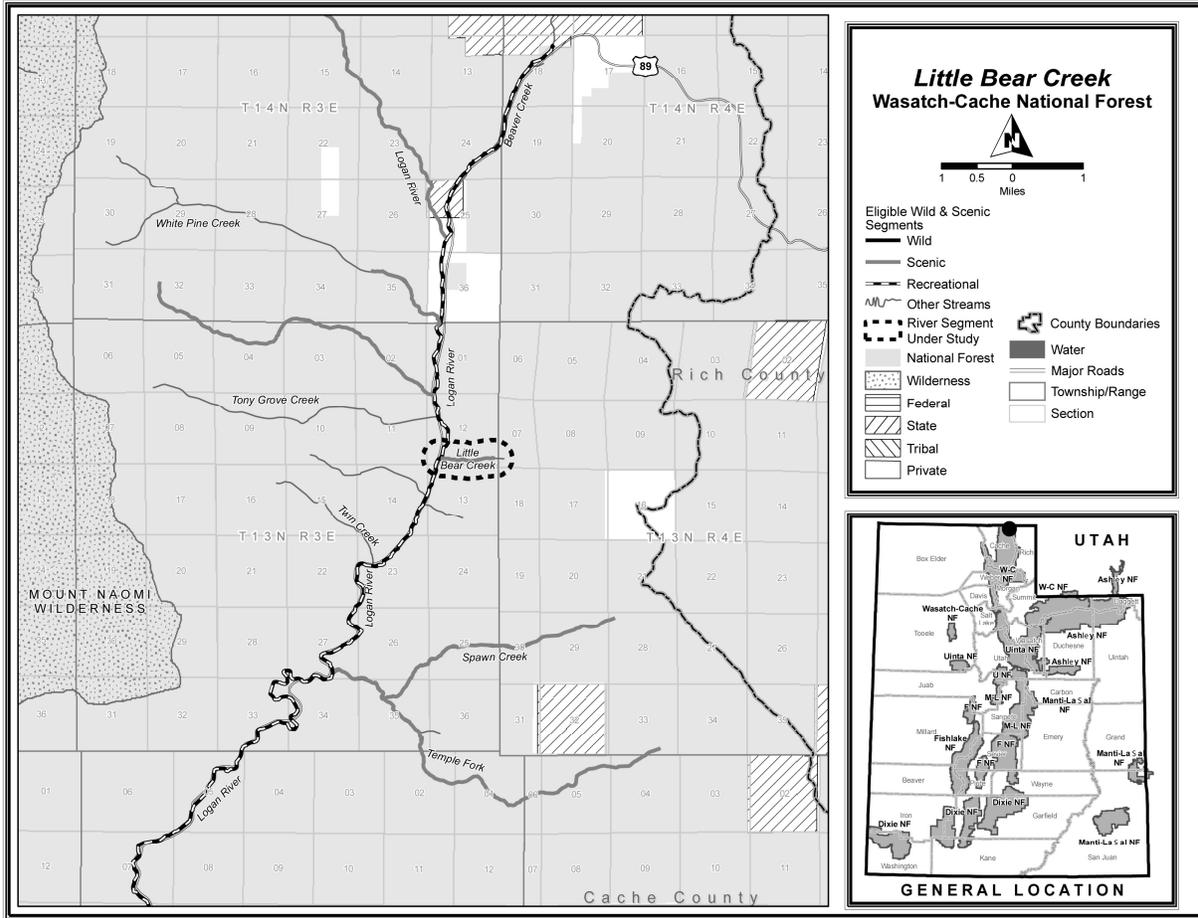
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

The segments of Logan River, White Pine Creek, Beaver Creek, Temple Fork, Spawn Creek, Little Bear Creek, combined with the segment of the Bunchgrass Creek contributes to the Logan River basin integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

Local groups such as the Cache County Anglers, the Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, the Bear River Watershed Council, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection and trash pick up.

Little Bear Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Little Bear Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 0.8 miles, from Little Bear Spring to confluence with Logan River

Eligible: Same

Location:

Little Bear Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SE ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 12, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM	SW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 12, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM	Scenic	0.8

Physical Description of River Segment:

This stream is a tributary to the upper Logan River. Vegetation in uplands of this drainage includes sagebrush, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, aspen, Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. Several beaver ponds lie within these corridors, and the lower reaches of some provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – Fish species include brown and brook trout, sculpin and Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value.

While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. These several streams in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River are occupied with a meta-population (that is a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

This stream is listed is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and are free-flowing and for its remarkable fish value. This segment is a scenic stream because it has or is:

- Free of impoundment, but one diversion exists within the corridor, but not on the segment
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing or hay production.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest. No ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – Little Bear Creek is located on the Logan Ranger District in Cache County, Utah. It flows entirely through national forest lands.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-0.8	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	374
	Total:	374 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of Little Bear Creek and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Water is diverted for use at the USU Forestry Field Camp. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Service Road 20004 provides access to the Utah State University Forestry Camp. This camp has been used by the Forestry Department at USU for field camp which is operated under a Special Use Permit. There are no Forest system trails along this stream segment. The motorized Little Bear Trail is above this segment.

Recreation Activities – There are dispersed camp sites within the bottom portion of this segment.

Grazing Activities – Sheep and cattle graze all of the area within this stream corridor. The upper two thirds of the stream are within the Little Bear Sheep Allotment, and the lower portion of the stream is within the Logan Canyon Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor. Parts of the Utah State University Forestry Camp is within the stream corridor. There have been historical timber harvests that are visible from this stream segment.

Special Designations – Little Bear Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 0.2 miles of the lower portion of this stream segment are within the Scenic Byway corridor of Logan Canyon.

Approximately 0.7 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the ½ mile wide stream corridor and within the lower portion of this stream segment near the confluence with the Logan River:

Management Prescription 3.1a Aquatic Habitat Emphasis: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already

developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site specifically defined riparian management objectives.

3.1W consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the ½ mile wide stream corridor:

Management Prescriptions 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and tailor management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the ½ mile wide stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.2 u Undeveloped Terrestrial Habitats Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

3.2U consists of those terrestrial habitat areas protected from development because of potential impacts to key habitat elements.

(S-3.2U) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation developments are not allowed.

(G3.2U-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2U-2) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site-specifically developed habitat objectives.

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agency for lands along this segment is the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This stream segment is entirely on Wasatch-Cache National Forest Land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife was associated with Little Bear Creek and provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft inventory. This new fish data supplemented the Forest's conclusion that the Bonneville Cutthroat Trout meta-population is important at the local scale and is therefore and outstandingly remarkable value.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes Little Bear Creek. Cache County and others did not support designation

During the public comment period for the Draft EIS comments were received from individuals supporting the designation of Little Bear Creek. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes Little Bear Creek.

Cache County opposed designation stating the segment was too short and already protected. An individual also opposed designation because of the many uses currently nearby and the potential for precluding future opportunities.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of the Little Bear Creek, a tributary to the Logan River complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for the Logan River and current Forest management. The designation also complements the Scenic Byway corridor at the bottom of the stream segment.

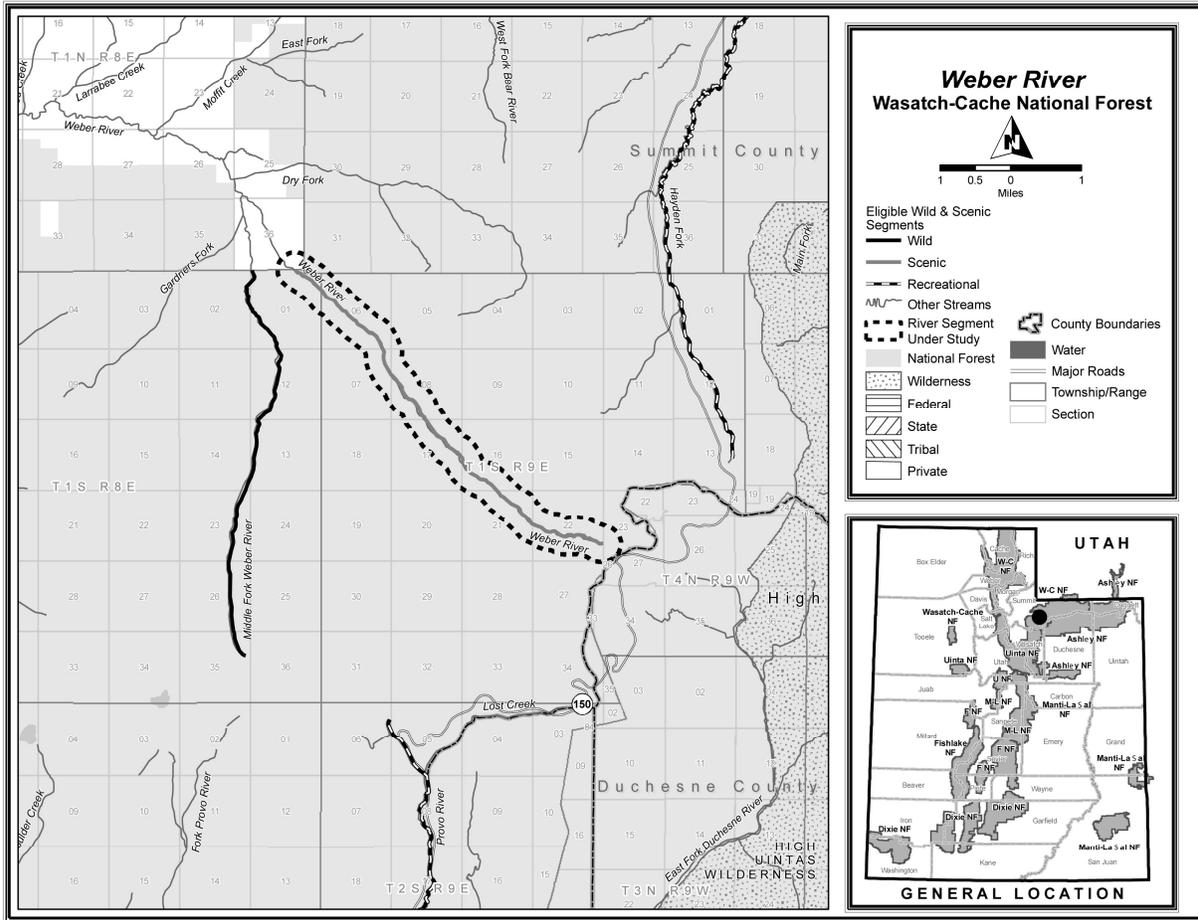
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment—when combined with White Pine Creek, Beaver Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Temple Fork, Spawn Creek, and the Logan River—contribute to the Logan River basin integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

Local groups such as the Utah State University, Cache County Anglers, Bear River Watershed Council, Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection as well as trash pick up.

Main Fork Weber River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Main Fork Weber River

River Mileage:

Studied: 6.3 miles, source to Holiday Park (Forest boundary)

Eligible: Same

Location:

Main Fork Weber River	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger and Evanston Districts, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SE ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 22, T 1 S, R 9 E, SLM	NW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 1, T 2 S, R 8 E, SLM	Scenic	6.3

Physical Description of River Segment:

This segment of the Weber River flows between 8,400 to 7,900 feet from its source in a small glaciated basin near Reid’s Meadow to the Forest boundary. The upper Weber River is a high energy confined mountain stream. Flow patterns are normal snow-dominated with pool-riffle-run structure. It is generally

confined descending through a steep walled canyon for much of its length. Uplands are characterized by Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine, and spruce-fir communities with aspen stands scattered throughout lower elevations along this segment. Riparian communities are generally narrow and dominated by cottonwoods, thin leaf alder, and tall willows. A few small meadows are found along the stream. Vegetation is natural in appearance, except in the vicinity of Holiday Park. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species occur on this river segment. Goshawk, black bear and small numbers of moose can be found. There are no threatened, endangered or sensitive fish or wildlife species present.

ELIGIBILITY

This section includes determination of river’s free-flow and whether or not it possesses one or more outstandingly remarkable value.

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from major channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – Visitors to the river corridor enjoy varied scenery that range from its source in a glacial basin to a densely timbered forest with steep and rugged canyon walls to lower elevations riparian communities of cottonwoods and alders dotted by creek-side meadows. The variety of vegetation and steep cliffs capturing a high energy mountain stream offers memorable views. While outside the corridor, from the upper reaches of the stream, vistas of Bald Mountain and Reids Peak can be seen that complement the scenic values present in the stream corridor.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

The segment of Weber River on National Forest is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a scenic river because the stream and the stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This stream segment is located entirely within the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger and Evanston Districts, Summit County, Utah.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-6.3	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	2016
	Total:	2016 acres

This segment is entirely on National Forest System land, but ends at the boundary to private land. This private land is zoned for Agriculture-Grazing 160 (AG-160) by Summit County.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible Weber River segment is within a high potential oil and gas area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities in this vicinity on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are four small reservoirs with dams that are located on headwater lakes above this segment. Their operation has an insignificant effect on stream flows. There are no other stream channel modifications present. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – There is no developed recreation available within this segment. Parallel access is provided by Forest trail 079. The hiking is generally through lodgepole pine forest, connecting the Mirror Lake Highway with the recreational properties at Holiday Park. Access to the segment is somewhat limited by the private land at the segment terminus as hikers must use the Gardner Fork trailhead then walk down a short stretch of road to access the forest trail. From the Mirror Lake access visitors use the Pass Lake Trailhead.

Recreation Activities – This segment of the stream is not suitable for any boating or tubing. Hunting occurs during the season. Fishing and recreation use is light.

Grazing Activities – There is no grazing within this stream corridor.

Other Resource Activities – There has been fuels treatment work conducted along the Forest boundary with the private land that include thinning to provide more defensible space to the Alpine Acres subdivision. There are no other current or planned projects by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest within this stream corridor. There is no commercial fishing or hunting operations on this section of the Weber River.

Special Designations – The Main Fork Weber River is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 6.3 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

The area adjacent to the stream segment is recognized by the State of Utah as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

The headwaters of this segment are easily accessed by the Pass Lake Trail located on the Mirror Lake Highway.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the majority of the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 1.5 Recommended Wilderness-- These are areas recommended for wilderness. They were identified through the Forest Plan revision roadless area inventory, evaluation and recommendation process. This analysis is required by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) planning regulations and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act. Congress retains the final authority for designating wilderness areas. For areas recommended as wilderness, wilderness characteristics must be protected until Congress takes final action (FSH 1909.12, 7.31). These areas are managed to maintain the characteristics qualifying them as capable and available for wilderness recommendation. Activities must not result in long-term changes to the wilderness character.

(S1.5) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, new trail construction, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(G1.5-1) Snowmobiling is allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G1.5-2) Wildland fire use, and prescribed fire are allowed.

(G1.5-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor near the Forest boundary:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 3.1w Watershed Emphasis: consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor near headwaters and the Scenic Byway:

Management Prescription 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and tail or management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, an area that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. As of 2000 the population was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, through the use of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The private lands located at the end of the segment at the Forest boundary are subject to regulations proposed by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas surrounding, but not including, the towns of Henefer, Coalville, Kamas, Oakley and Francis.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of this Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This entire stream segment and corridor is on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Many letters expressed support for eligibility for the Main Fork Weber River during the Draft Inventory study. It was added as an eligible stream based on its scenic qualities as a scenic river in the Final Inventory Study.

Public comments received during the comment period for the Draft EIS supported designation for the Main Fork Weber River segment because designation would complement the recommended wilderness status. Other reasons cited were the river's incomparable beauty and wildness. Summit County confirmed with Weber Basin Water Conservancy that there were no future planned developments that could conflict with designation.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Main Fork Weber River supports current management of the stream corridor by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and the State of Utah's management for drinking water source protection.

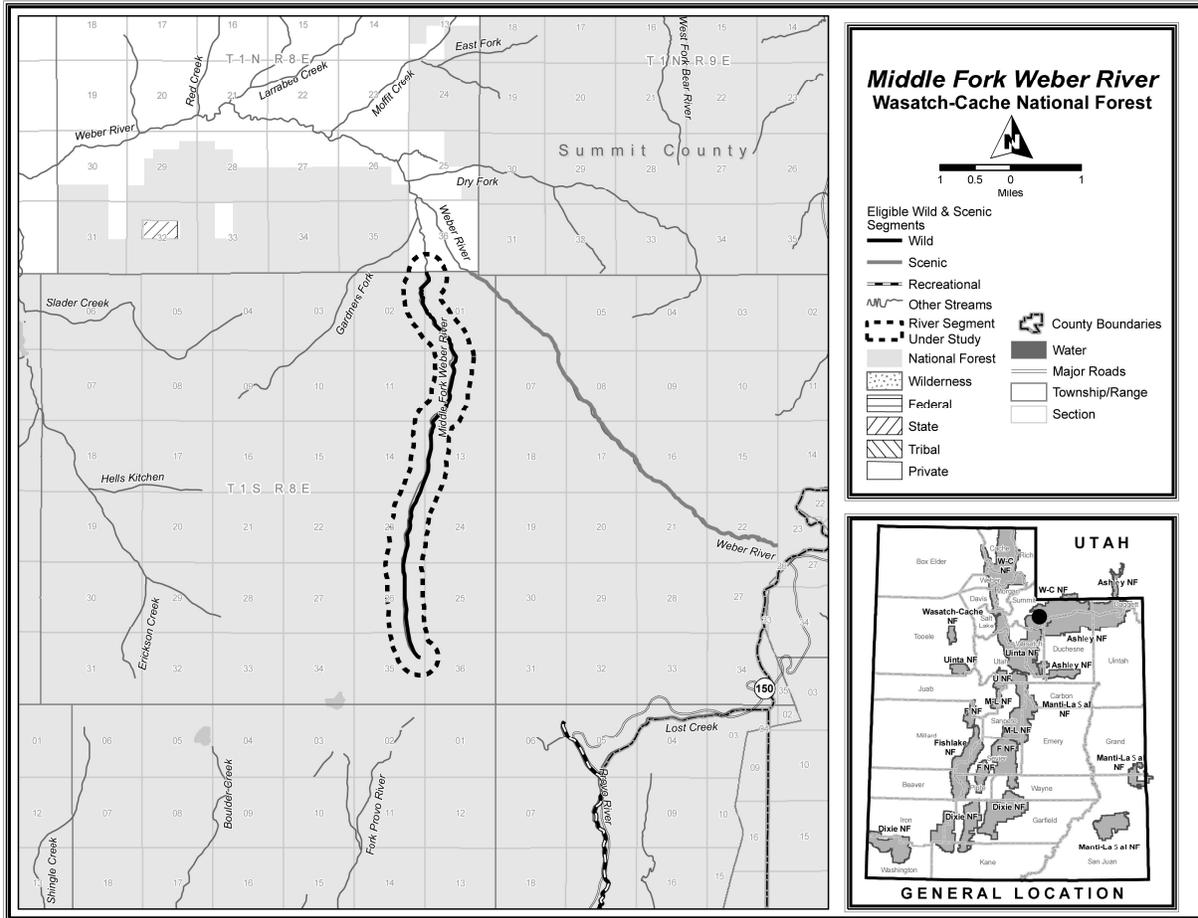
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

Designation of the Main Fork Weber River in combination with the Middle Fork Weber River provides for basin integrity because the main stem and a major tributary of the Weber River would be protected at their headwaters.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

The local Kamas Valley Backcountry Horsemen have worked to improve trail conditions in this area. A hiking club from Park City has conducted a trail condition survey to help with the trail maintenance program for the Kamas Ranger District.

Middle Fork Weber River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Middle Fork Weber River

River Mileage:

Studied: 6.0 miles, source to Forest boundary

Eligible: Same

Location:

Middle Fork Weber River	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 35, T 1 S, R 8 E, SLM	NW¼ NW ¼ Sect. 1, T 1 S, R 8 E, SLM	Wild	6.0

Physical Description of River Segment:

The stream follows a relatively gentle gradient. Vegetation is dominated by spruce, fir, and lodgepole pine. There are some aspen groves, a few small meadows and a narrow willow community along the stream. Wildlife includes deer, moose and elk plus numerous small and non-game species. The corridor contains goshawk, three-toed woodpecker, lynx and wolverine habitat, but no confirmed sightings of these sensitive species have been made. Tributaries within the Middle Fork drainage contain brook trout

and cutthroat trout (possibly Bonneville cutthroat trout, a sensitive species). The fishery is rated class 3. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plants or animals are known to occur.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – The river corridor offers a pristine visual appeal with a variety of views throughout the corridor. Seasonal variations enhance the scenic quality in the corridor. Along the route lush meadows and open woodlands enhance the attractiveness of the corridor. A hidden waterfall cascades 15 feet to a large pool contributing to the overall scenic quality of the creek-side environment. Openings in the vegetation allow scenic views down valley. Outside of the corridor striking views of rugged country are offered from the upper reach of this stream near Mt. Watson.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Wild

The segment of Weber River on National Forest is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a wild river because the stream and the stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value is acceptable.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing or hay production.
- Little or no evidence of past timber harvest, no ongoing timber harvest.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.
- Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This stream segment is entirely within the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger District, Summit County, Utah.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-6.0	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1920
	Total:	1920 acres

This segment is entirely on National Forest System land, but ends at the boundary to private land. This private land is zoned for Agriculture-Grazing 160 (AG-160) by Summit County.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible Middle Fork Weber River segment is within a high potential oil and gas area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as

private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities in this vicinity on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – There is no road access to the corridor. The Gardner Fork Trailhead provides access to forest trail 076 which parallels the stream. There are cabins and homes within the private land portion of the corridor. There are no known historic or prehistoric sites within the corridor.

Recreation Activities – Several trails provide access to the Lakes County: The Gardner Fork Trailhead provides access to forest trail 076 which parallels the stream. Trail 077 branches off the Middle Fork Weber River Trail to Abes Lake. Trail 076 connects with Trail 091 (the Bear River-Smith Fork Trail), Trail 066 (Lake Country Trail), and Trail 075 (the North Fork Provo Trail).

Grazing Activities – There is no grazing along this stream segment.

Other Resource Activities – There has been fuels treatment work conducted along the Forest boundary with the private land that include thinning to provide more defensible space to the Alpine Acres subdivision. There are no other current or planned projects by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest within this stream corridor.

Special Designations – The Middle Fork Weber River is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

This stream corridor is within an inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

The area adjacent to the stream segment is recognized by the State of Utah as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the majority of the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 1.5 Recommended Wilderness-- These are areas recommended for wilderness. They were identified through the Forest Plan revision roadless area inventory, evaluation and recommendation process. This analysis is required by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) planning regulations and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act. Congress retains the final authority for

designating wilderness areas. For areas recommended as wilderness, wilderness characteristics must be protected until Congress takes final action (FSH 1909.12, 7.31). These areas are managed to maintain the characteristics qualifying them as capable and available for wilderness recommendation. Activities must not result in long-term changes to the wilderness character.

(S1.5) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, new trail construction, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(G1.5-1) Snowmobiling is allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G1.5-2) Wildland fire use, and prescribed fire are allowed.

(G1.5-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor near the Forest boundary:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 3.1w Watershed Emphasis: consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the upper portion of the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is

allowed.

(S2.6) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are not allowed.

(G2.6-1) Motorized uses, including snowmobiling, are allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G2.6-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.6-3) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed to mimic conditions within the historic range of variability and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, an area that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. As of 2000 the population was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003.

The private lands located at the end of the segment at the Forest boundary are subject to regulations proposed by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas surrounding, but not including, the towns of Henefer, Coalville, Kamas, Oakley and Francis, and Bear River.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by

Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

This stream segment is entirely within the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

There were public comments in support of designation for this stream in the 1999 Draft Inventory.

Public comments received during the comment period for the Draft EIS supported designation for the Middle Fork Weber River segment because designation would complement the recommended wilderness status. Other reasons cited were the river's scenic and hydrologic values. Summit County confirmed with Weber Basin Water Conservancy that there were no future planned developments that could conflict with designation.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Middle Fork Weber River supports current forest management of Recommended Wilderness, watershed and aquatic habitat protection and roadless areas and the State of Utah's management for drinking water source protection.

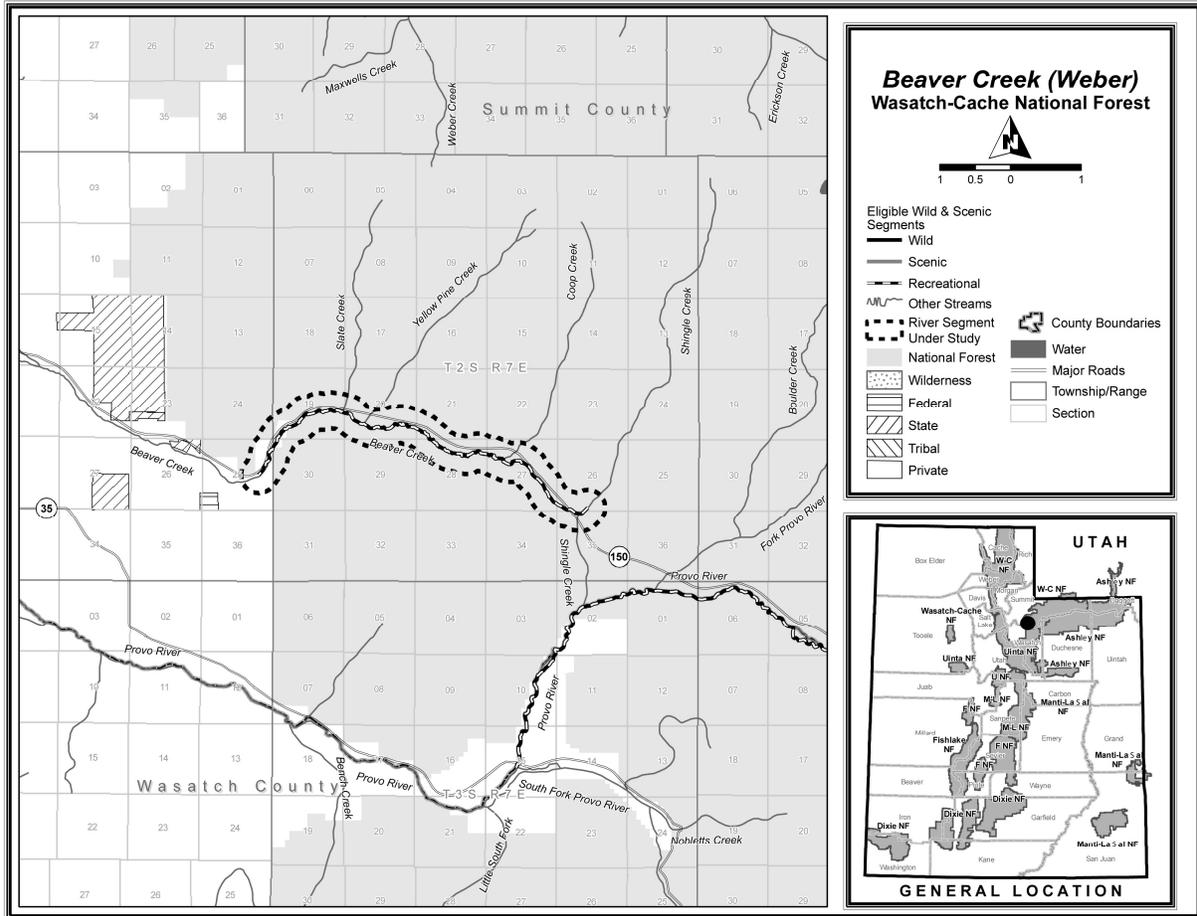
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

Designation of the Middle Fork Weber River in combination with the Main Fork Weber River provides for basin integrity because the main stem and a major tributary of the Weber River would be protected at the headwaters. Designation would add further protection to this stream corridor.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

The local Kamas Valley Backcountry Horsemen have worked to improve trail conditions in this area. A hiking club from Park City has conducted a trail condition survey to help with the trail maintenance program for the Kamas Ranger District.

Beaver Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Beaver Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 6.4 miles, from source to Forest boundary

Eligible: Same

Location:

Beaver Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SE ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 26, T 2 N, R 7 E, SLM	NW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 30, T 2 N, R 7 E, SLM	Recreational	6.4

(Updated GIS data corrects 6.8 miles listed in the 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest.)

Physical Description of River Segment:

Beaver Creek lies within a fairly broad valley. Lodgepole pine, Ponderosa pine, juniper, oak, Manzanita, and sage/forb meadows occur along the lower reaches. The Ponderosa pine community represents the westernmost location of the species in the Uinta mountain range. Broad floodplains with willow flats

occur in some areas. Wildlife includes deer, moose and elk plus numerous small and non- game species. No threatened, endangered or sensitive plant or animal species are known to occur within the area. Fish species include cutthroat trout, sculpin, mountain sucker, long nose dace, and mountain whitefish. The stream is ranked as Class III, an important fishery.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Recreation – Visitors to the Beaver Creek river corridor enjoy an extensive variety of activities throughout all the seasons. Developed facilities are plentiful throughout the reach. Access to the river is frequent and easy. The numerous associated opportunities for non-river related activities add to its value. This recreation value is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Recreation

This segment of the Beaver Creek is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a recreational river because the stream and the stream corridor is or has:

- Some existing impoundment or diversion. The existence of low dams, diversions or other modification of the waterway remains free-flowing and generally natural and riverine in appearance.
- Some developments, substantial evidence of human activity.
- Presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings of farm structures is acceptable.
- Lands may have been developed for the full range of agricultural uses.
- Lands may have been developed for the full range of forestry uses.
- Readily accessible by road or railroad.
- The existence of parallel roads or railroads on one or both banks as well as bridge crossings and other river access points is acceptable.
- Water quality is sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The segment is located on the Kamas Ranger District in Summit County, Utah. Approximately 1.3 miles of this reach is within privately owned lands; the remainder flows through National Forest system lands.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-5.5	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1825
5.5-6.4	Private Land	120
	Total:	1945 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river

stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

The private land is zoned for Agriculture-Grazing 160 (AG-160) by Summit County.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – The eligible Beaver Creek segment is within a high potential oil and gas area. There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities in this vicinity on the Forest.

Water Resources Development – While no major channel alterations on Beaver Creek are present, the proximity of the Mirror Lake Highway may have resulted in some minor channel alterations. Shingle Creek has been diverted into Beaver Creek, so flows in Beaver Creek are at times much heavier than natural. The stream itself is not impounded or significantly diverted in this reach. The presence of road encroachments, four bridge crossings and a few diversions have a minor affect on the natural flow of the stream.

Designation may affect the ability to control beaver that back up water next to Highway 150. Irrigators have a diversion at the confluence of Beaver Creek and Shingle Creek that regulates the water flowing down Beaver Creek. Designation may affect the ability of irrigators to determine where water will be diverted. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – The Mirror Lake Highway (Utah Highway 150) parallels this segment from Kamas to within about 1.5 miles of the stream source.

This corridor contains five campgrounds and several trails. A groomed and very popular cross-country ski trail follows the corridor and several ungroomed trails branch off from this trail; they receive heavy use.

Recreation Activities – Recreation use in the corridor is very heavy. People use the river for fishing and some water sports play and to provide a relaxing environment. While no whitewater activity is present, the river serves as a backdrop for water play and contributes to the natural setting. In many places along the river or the adjacent highway overlooks of the river or nearby scenes are very enjoyable and offer a pleasing contrast of landforms and vegetation. There is no commercial recreation provided locally. No commercial fishing or hunting operations are present.

A variety of recreational opportunities are present, including developed campgrounds, a hiking/ATV trail (used in winter for cross country skiing), and moderate to good fishing. In the winter visitors enjoy cross-country skiing and snowmobiling along groomed trails. The area is an excellent setting for outdoor recreation. All-terrain vehicle drivers, mountain bikers, and hikers all use nearby trails in large numbers.

Fishing is moderate to heavy. There are no known historic or prehistoric sites in the corridor.

Grazing Activities – The entire stream corridor is in the Kamas Valley Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. While some livestock grazing impacts occur, sheep/cattle tend to have a minor effect on the conditions of the riparian communities in the area. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – The Ponderosa Pine Restoration project is ongoing within the upper portion of this stream corridor. The source of Beaver Creek is within the project boundary and then flows out of the southwestern edge of the project boundary. This project incorporates vegetation thinning, pile burning, and a low intensity understory burn to help restore the ponderosa pine stand located in this area. The Roadside Salvage is a project also within this stream corridor and focuses on removing dead or dying trees from the immediate roadside area of Highway 150 to reduce the threat of trees falling on the road and vehicles.

Special Designations – Beaver Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

The area adjacent to the entire Beaver Creek segment is recognized by the State of Utah as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

The Mirror Lake Highway (Highway 150) runs within the Beaver Creek stream corridor and is a State Scenic Byway.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land adjacent to the Scenic Byway:

Management Prescription 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and tailor management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land in the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1a consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Management Prescription 3.1w Watershed Emphasis: consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on the north side of the stream near the intersection of Mirror Lake Highway with the Upper Setting Road:

Management Prescription 3.2d consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land and the upper end of this segment:

Management Prescription 4.3 Emphasis on Backcountry Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities in a more remote and isolated setting where visitors can obtain a higher degree of solitude and the environment is in a near natural setting. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights of other visitors are low and sounds of other users are low to moderate. Visitors are largely managed off-site, with signs and regulations posted at area boundaries. Management of recreation impacts is of a semi-primitive nature with regulation of use a

priority management tool over site modification. Visitor self-reliance is high. Management visibility is low with backcountry ranger patrols focusing on monitoring and maintaining natural conditions and processes.

(S4.3) New recreation development is not allowed.

(G4.3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuels treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions and to restore ecosystem functioning as compatible with the backcountry recreation opportunity and natural setting desired.

(G4.3-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.3-3) New trail construction is allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, which occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. As of 2000 the population was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The private lands located at the end of the segment at the Forest boundary are subject to regulations proposed by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas surrounding, but not including, the towns of Henefer, Coalville, Kamas, Oakley and Francis.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of this Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions

numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The majority of this stream segment is on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land and will be managed to maintain the integrity of the stream corridor. The level of development allowed on the private land within the corridor is managed by the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning regulations for AG-160.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One comment for Beaver Creek to the 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System related to eligibility describing that the amount of development in the stream corridor was too high for WSR status. The Forest found this segment eligible for recreational classification based on the level of development and road access.

During scoping a water conservancy district stated its opposition to any designation that would change the current diversion practice of Shingle Creek.

Comments received during the public comment period for the Draft EIS oppose designation of the Beaver Creek segment. Members of the Beaver and Shingle Creek Irrigation Company have expressed concerns about the designation of Beaver Creek stating that designation could impact their ability to manage diversions that they are dependent on for irrigation and stock purposes. The State of Utah expressed concerns that designation would impact the state's ability to maintain or expand the highway.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Beaver Creek supports current management of the stream corridor by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, the Scenic Byway, and the State of Utah's management for drinking water source protection.

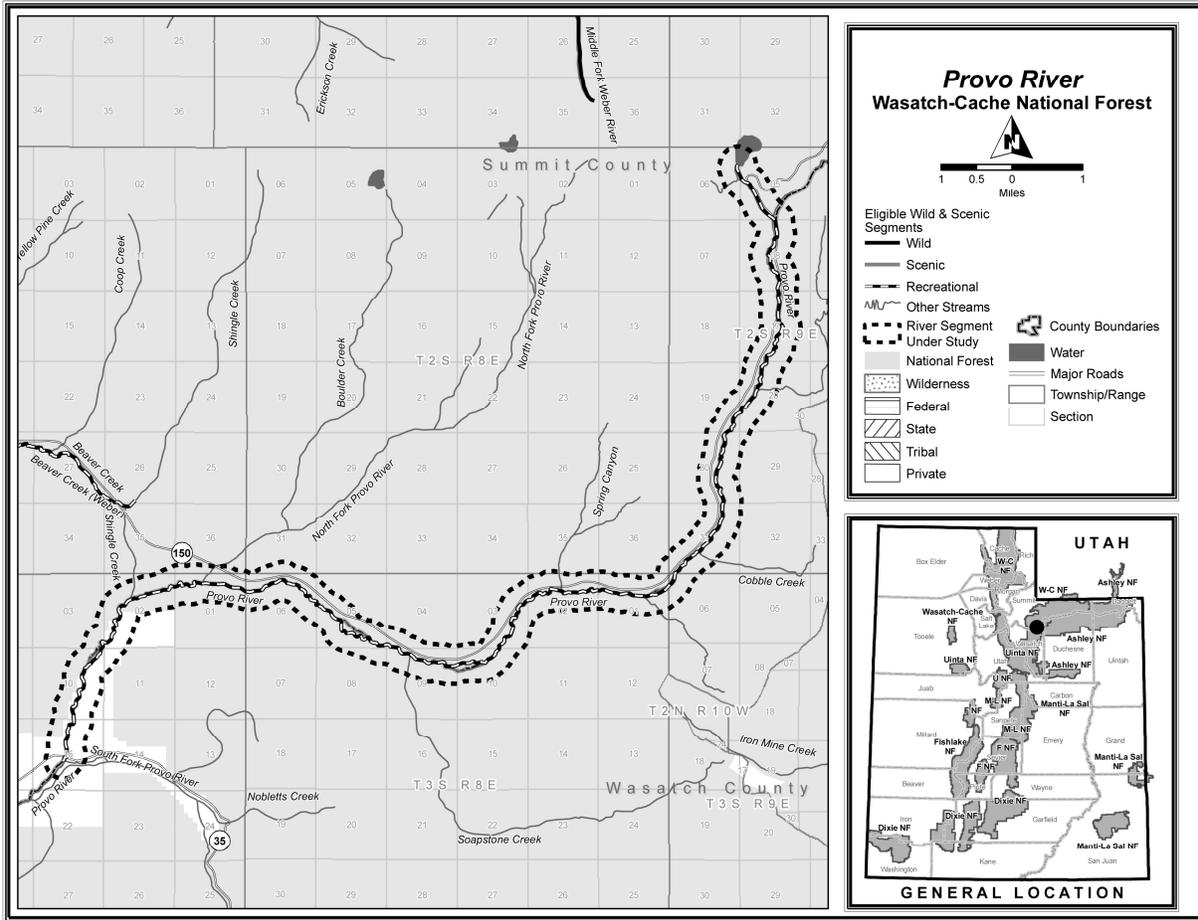
Designation of Beaver Creek may conflict with how irrigators manage and divert water. Designation may also affect the ability of road workers to control the beaver and their dams which back up water next to Highway 150.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity. Designation of this stream would contribute little to basin integrity because of the highly altered flow pattern created by past water projects within the basin.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

The local Kamas Valley Backcountry Horsemen have worked to improve trail conditions in this area. A hiking club from Park City has conducted a trail condition survey to help with the trail maintenance program for the Kamas Ranger District.

Provo River Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Provo River

River Mileage:

Studied: 19.8 miles, from Trial Lake to U35 Bridge

Eligible: Same

Location:

Provo River	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Kamas Ranger District, Summit County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 6, T 2 S, R 9 W, Uintah Meridian	NE ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 15, T 3 S, R 7 E, SLM	Recreational	19.8

Physical Description of River Segment:

Elevations range from 8,700 to 9,500 feet. The channel is generally confined in a narrow valley. Some floodplains and low wet terraces exist. The gradient and energy are moderate. The channel is incised somewhat into glacial and alluvial outwash materials with large substrate. The channel and floodplains are severely scoured and permanent vegetation and structure are often lacking as a result of the Trial Lake dam failure in 1985. The upper portion of this segment is dominated by lodgepole pine with mixed

conifer (lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, and spruce). Further downstream upland vegetation is dominated by lodgepole pine and aspen with openings of sagebrush. Riparian communities generally occur as narrow stringers with conifers, willows, and alder dominating. The area is more or less natural in appearance with some localized dispersed recreation and grazing impacts. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant, fish or animal species occur in this area. It does contain some prime moose habitat. The State of Utah classifies the upper reach of the river as Class II, of great importance to the state fishery. The remaining portion is ranked as Class III, an important fishery.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from major channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is not significantly impaired. This segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – While resource damage is still evident from the Trial Lake Dam failure, views in the corridor are still very pleasing and enjoyable. Two outstanding scenic views are located within the corridor. The Provo River Falls is an unusual feature that is particularly memorable. Autumn views along the river are spectacular. The scenic value is outstandingly remarkable.

Recreation – Recreation along this segment of the Provo River is very popular. The river is the focal point for many dispersed campers. Many developed facilities provide retreats for campers and picnickers. A full spectrum of recreation opportunities is available year round. This recreation value is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Recreational

This segment of the Provo River is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a recreational river because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Some existing impoundment or diversion. The existence of low dams, diversions or other modifications of the waterway is acceptable, provided the waterway remains free-flowing and generally natural and riverine in appearance.
- Some developments. Substantial evidence of human activity.
- The presence of extensive residential development and a few commercial structures is acceptable.
- Lands may have been developed for the full range of agricultural uses.
- Lands may have been developed for the full range of forestry uses.
- Readily accessible by road or railroad.
- The existence of parallel roads or railroads on one or both banks as well as bridge crossings and other river access points is acceptable.
- Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment of the Provo River is from Trial Lake to the U35 Bridge. This segment is on the Kamas Ranger District and is in Summit County. The segment is primarily on National Forest. The lower portion of the stream, along both banks is privately owned.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
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0-17.1	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	5914
17.1-19.8	Private Land	320
	Total:	6234 acres

This private land is zoned for Agriculture-Grazing 160 (AG-160) by Summit County, Utah.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. This area is in a high oil and gas potential area, but there are no current active leases.

Water Resources Development – The stream itself is not impounded or significantly diverted in this reach. The presence of road encroachments, four bridge crossings and a few diversions have a minor affect on the natural flow of the stream. There is water imported into the stream at the Duchesne Tunnel west portal that adds water to the system.

The Central Utah Water Project (CUWP) has a dam on Trial Lake. CUWP operations are generally "fill and spill" where their gates are closed in the fall or winter and the lakes are allowed to fill up. Once filled, the streams below return to natural flows as the reservoirs spill freely over their spillways. Upstream reservoir operations store low flow water that is released for irrigation throughout the summer. This artificial discharge does not mimic natural snowmelt runoff. During the summer, the water users control discharge from Washington, Trial, and Lost Lake reservoirs releasing unusually high flows in the local streams until the storage capacity is emptied.

The Duchesne Tunnel diversion also has a considerable effect on natural stream flows. The tunnel delivers all of the water from the Duchesne River into the Provo River below the portal, thus artificially increasing flows in the summer where natural flows would be tapering off.

The Forest Service recognizes that the Department of Interior withdrew lands for purposes of the Provo River Project and recognizes the right of the Provo River project to operate its lands and facilities from the Duchesne Tunnel to the Forest boundary.

Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Parallel access is provided by State Highway 150, which is a two lane asphalt road, receiving heavy use. The highway carries the designation of a State Scenic Byway. Sightseeing and short hikes are popular at Upper Provo River Falls and Slate Gorge Overlook. The Soapstone Summer Home Association includes 41 summer homes located away from the Provo River frontage, and is outside the ¼ mile corridor. Access to the homes is gated, there is a shared water system, and all of the homes have pit toilets and many have upgraded to septic systems. The YMCA Camp Roger is also located within this stream corridor that has a main lodge, outbuildings, and a stable. There is also a historic Forest Service Administrative Site (Ranger Station).

Recreation Activities – A variety of recreational opportunities are present, including developed campgrounds, a hiking/ATV trail (used in winter for cross country skiing), and moderate to good fishing. In the winter visitors enjoy cross-country skiing and snowmobiling along groomed trails. The area is an excellent setting for outdoor recreation. People use the river for fishing and some water sports play and to provide a relaxing environment. In many places along the river, the adjacent highway overlooks of the river or nearby scenes are very enjoyable and offer a pleasing contrast of landforms and vegetation. There is no commercial recreation provided locally.

Grazing Activities – The area is in the Kamas Valley Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used

by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – The area around the Upper Setting Road on the north side of the segment has had many past timber harvests. There are three vegetation/fuels treatments planned for this area: the Ponderosa Restoration Prescribed Burn and the Roadside Salvage that are located along the Mirror Lake Highway, and the Murdock Basin Fuels Treatment.

Special Designations – The Provo River is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCA). A RHCA include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

The entire stream corridor is within an area recognized by the State of Utah as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone (DWSPZ). This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Approximately 9.4 miles of this stream corridor fall within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Approximately 15.1 miles of this stream is adjacent to a State Scenic Byway, the Mirror Lake Highway.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land adjacent to the Scenic Byway:

Management Prescription 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and tailor management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land at the very start of the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a

manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is allowed.

(S2.6) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, new recreation development, and new trail construction are not allowed.

(G2.6-1) Motorized uses, including snowmobiling, are allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G2.6-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.6-3) Wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed to mimic conditions within the historic range of variability and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land along the stream:

Management Prescription 3.1a consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land along the south bank in the lower portion of the stream:

Management Prescription 3.2 Terrestrial Habitats (3.2U Undeveloped/3.2D Developed) Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

Management Prescription 3.2u consists of those terrestrial habitat areas protected from development because of potential impacts to key habitat elements.

(S-3.2U) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation developments are not allowed.

(G3.2U-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2U-2) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site-specifically developed habitat objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land along the north and west bank for the lower portion of the segment:

Management Prescription 3.2d consists of those terrestrial habitat areas where development is allowed for the purpose of maintaining, improving, or restoring key habitat elements.

(G3.2D-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for oil and gas exploration, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2D-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.2D-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site specifically defined terrestrial habitat desired conditions.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land at the outer edge of the corridor along the south bank in the middle portion of the segment:

Management Prescription 4.3 Emphasis on Backcountry Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities in a more remote and isolated setting where visitors can obtain a higher degree of solitude and the environment is in a near natural setting. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights of other visitors are low and sounds of other users are low to moderate. Visitors are largely managed off-site, with signs and regulations posted at area boundaries. Management of recreation impacts is of a semi-primitive nature with regulation of use a priority management tool over site modification. Visitor self-reliance is high. Management visibility is low with backcountry ranger patrols focusing on monitoring and maintaining natural conditions and processes.

(S4.3) New recreation development is not allowed.

(G4.3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuels treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions and to restore ecosystem functioning as compatible with the backcountry recreation opportunity and natural setting desired.

(G4.3-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.3-3) New trail construction is allowed.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land along the northern bank for the upper half of the segment and along the upper portion of the south bank:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – This stream is located in Summit County, an area that occupies a rugged and mountainous area and was so named because it includes 39 of the highest mountain peaks in Utah. As of 2000 the population was 29,736 and by 2005 was estimated at 35,001. Its county seat is Coalville and the largest city is Park City. The resort city of Park City, being close to Salt Lake City, has made tremendous growth as an upscale getaway from the city, bringing surprising development to the area. There area a wide range of industries that influence the economy of Summit County. The main industries are cattle ranching and tourism in the rural communities and in the Park City area the economy shifts toward the ski industry, support services for tourism, and resort and residential development.

The National Forest land in Summit County is fast becoming a four-season destination. The mountainous terrain and abundant lakes invite visitors to the Scenic Byway to hike, camp, fish, ride mountain bikes, backpack and ride off-highway vehicles in the summer. During the winter, the quality snow draws legions of backcountry skiers, dog sledders and snowmobilers.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Summit County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The private lands located at the end of the segment at the Forest boundary are subject to regulations proposed by the Eastern Summit County Planning District in the development plan and codes. The Eastern Summit County Development Code serves the interests and goals of the eastern side of the county, including the unincorporated areas surrounding, but not including, the towns of Henefer, Coalville, Kamas, Oakley and Francis.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of this Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The majority of this stream segment is on Wasatch-Cache National Forest land and will be managed to

maintain the integrity of the stream corridor. The level of development allowed on the private land within the corridor is managed by the Eastern Summit County Planning and Zoning regulations for AG-160.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One comment for the Provo River received during the 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System related to eligibility. It said that the amount of development in the stream corridor was too high for WSR status. The Forest found this segment eligible for recreational classification based on the level of development and road access.

Comments received during the scoping period reflected a concern from water users and water conservancy districts that there are agreements and water rights in place and that any designation must not conflict with operation of the Duchesne Tunnel and reservoirs at the top of the Provo segment. The Bureau of Reclamation was concerned about the effect designation could have on future water development projects. Utah Department of Transportation

The Provo River has received both support and opposition during the public comment period for the Draft EIS. General support for designation of the Provo River was expressed with a desire for more protection of the river. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Provo River. The Provo River Water User Association was concerned that designation would adversely affect their ability to deliver water in a timely and effective manner. The State of Utah expressed concerns that designation would impact the state's ability to maintain or expand the highway.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of the Provo River supports current management of the stream corridor by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, and for the Scenic Byway, and the State of Utah's management for drinking water source protection.

Designation of the Provo River may conflict with current water rights of the Provo Water Users Association. The Provo Water Users Association has an easement along the Provo River from the Duchesne Tunnel outlet to Jordanelle Reservoir to provide water to their constituents.

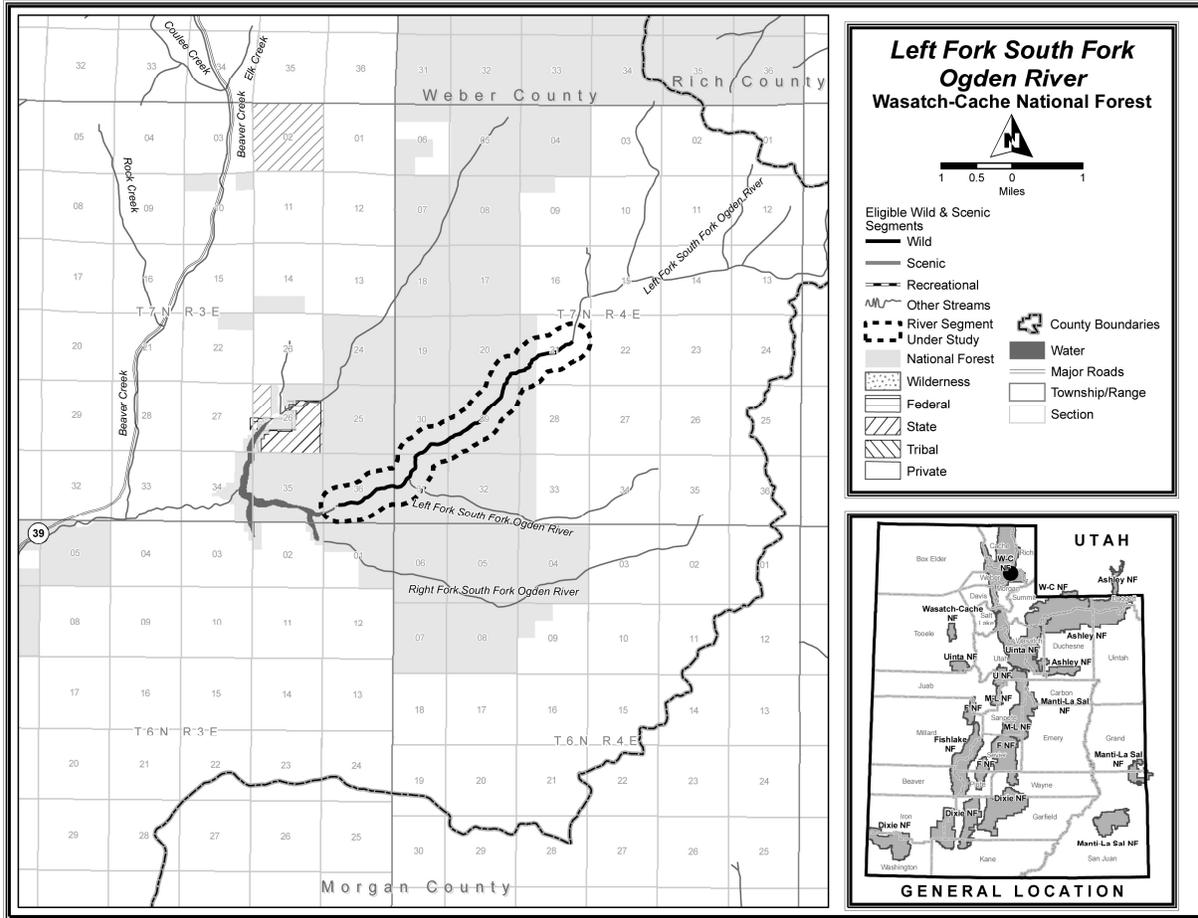
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

Designation of this segment would contribute some benefit to basin integrity as it encompasses almost 20 miles of the Provo River; however, the Provo River Basin has been altered by water development projects.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There has been demonstrated volunteer involvement with managing the stream corridor, where groups routinely pick up trash in accordance with the Adopt a Highway program on Highway 150, and there have been occasional dispersed campsite clean-ups by local Boy and Girl Scout groups.

Left Fork South Fork Ogden River Suitability Evaluation Form (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Left Fork South Fork Ogden River

River Mileage:

Studied: 4.5 miles, from the Frost Canyon/Bear Canyon confluence to the confluence to Causey Reservoir

Eligible: Same

Location:

Left Fork South Fork Ogden River	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Ogden Ranger District, Weber County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 15, T 7 N, R 4 E, SLM	SW ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 36, T 7 N, R 3 E, SLM	Wild	4.5

Physical Description of River Segment:

The Left Fork South Fork Ogden River extends from the confluence of Frost Canyon and Bear Canyon to Causey Reservoir. The segment is located on the Ogden Ranger District in Weber County, Utah. Much of this river lies in a steep, narrow canyon, with several cascades and large limestone outcrops. Access is limited to foot access. Near the headwaters, the canyon is wider and less steep. Views out of the canyon

are very limited. Vegetation within the corridor consists of sagebrush and mountain brush pockets, scattered juniper, mountain mahogany, and aspen in the uplands. Some pockets of spruce, fir and Douglas-fir grow on north and east facing slopes. Riparian communities are limited by the narrow canyon. There are no known populations of threatened, endangered, or sensitive plants or animals in the corridor. The privately owned lands near the headwaters of the drainage are grazed. Wildlife is typical for these habitats. The sensitive Bonneville cutthroat trout, which has been petitioned for federal listing is present and its purity confirmed. It carries a State ranking of Class III, of great importance. The population of Bonneville cutthroat trout has value because it is naturally reproducing.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – The canyon through which Left Fork South Fork Ogden River flows has lush vegetation with visually striking rock outcrops throughout the segment. Its undisturbed character contributes to the visual quality. Cascading water creates pleasing views. The scenic value is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Wild

The portion of the Left Fork South Fork Ogden River on National Forest is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a wild river because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value is acceptable.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing or hay production.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No road, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The Left Fork South Fork Ogden River extends from the confluence of Frost Canyon and Bear Canyon to Causey Reservoir. The segment is located on the Ogden Ranger District in Weber County, Utah.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-0.6	Private Land (Deseret Land and Livestock)	252
0.6-4.5	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1278
	Total:	1530 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions

of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

This area is in unincorporated Weber County, local planning and zoning ordinances apply to private land. The Ogden Valley General Plan is intended to provide guidance for future land use decisions by Weber County and other entities affecting Ogden Valley.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of the eligible Left Fork South Fork Ogden River segment and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area (Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003).

Water Resources Development – There are no dams, diversions, or other channel modifications on this segment. This stream segment does flow into Causey Reservoir that is impounded by Causey Dam. There is no power generation at this dam. This dam project is part of the larger Weber Basin Project. The reservoir provides supplemental irrigation water for mountain valley lands near Huntsville and Eden. Irrigation water released from the reservoir is diverted from the South Fork of Ogden River by the Ogden Valley Diversion Dam and conveyed through the Ogden Valley Canal to lands in the Huntsville-Eden area. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – There is limited access to the area. This area is only accessible by the general public by boat, there are no trails accessing this drainage. Roads and trails to the area exist on private property.

Recreation Activities – Fishing use is very light due to the extremely difficult, limited access. Some horseback riders and other hunters use the area during hunting season.

Grazing Activities – There is no grazing along this segment.

Other Resource Activities – There are no commercial recreation activities or opportunities in the segment nor is there any commercial fishing or hunting operations in the area. A small portion of this stream corridor crosses onto private land. Deseret Land and Livestock owns a large parcel of land adjacent to this watershed that is managed as a ranch with grazing and also offers hunting guiding for big game.

Special Designations – Left Fork South Fork Ogden River is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation

Areas (RHCA). A RHCA includes traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consistent with the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 4.5 miles of this stream are within Surface Water Drinking Water Source Protection Zones. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which groundwater flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Approximately 3.9 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 1.5 Recommended Wilderness: These are areas recommended for wilderness. They were identified through the Forest Plan revision roadless area inventory, evaluation and recommendation process. This analysis is required by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) planning regulations and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act. Congress retains the final authority for designating wilderness areas. For areas recommended as Wilderness, wilderness characteristics must be protected until Congress takes final action (FSH 1909.12, 7.31). These areas are managed to maintain the characteristics qualifying them as capable and available for wilderness recommendation. Activities must not result in long-term changes to the wilderness character.

(S1.5) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, new trail construction, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(G1.5-1) Snowmobiling is allowed as shown on Winter Recreation and Travel Management Maps.

(G1.5-2) Wildland fire use, and prescribed fire are allowed.

(G1.5-3) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

Socio-Economic Environment – The stream segment is in Weber County, Utah. The Ogden River flows from Causey Reservoir through Pineview Reservoir in Ogden Valley through Ogden Canyon into Ogden, Utah and then through surrounding valley communities on its way to the Great Salt Lake. The City of Ogden is the Weber County seat and in 2005, estimates placed its population at 78,309 and Weber County totaled 210,750. The 2000 Census reported that Weber River Basin's population was about 472,000. The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget projects this population to increase to 699,000 by 2020, and nearly double to about 939,000 by 2050. Ogden is home to Weber State University. Employment in the agricultural, military, and ski industries are a large part of the economy.

Ogden Valley, Utah, is a rural, mountain valley located on the backside of the Wasatch Range,

approximately 10 miles east of Ogden. Ringed by mountains, its spectacular setting and recreational opportunities coupled with its proximity to the urban Wasatch Front has spawned unprecedented growth pressures. The Ogden Valley totals about 6,500 people in Huntsville, Eden and the surrounding communities. The Ogden Valley is home to the Snowbasin Ski Resort, which hosted the 2002 Winter Olympics. Snowbasin is a year around resort with planned expansion and development of slope side lodging and amenities.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – This stream segment is located on private and National Forest System lands. These lands are within unincorporated Weber County and administered through the Ogden Valley General Plan and the Ogden Valley Sensitive Lands Overlay, and the Wasatch-Cache National Forest by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Forest Plan, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs. Weber County also has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The private land could be developed in the future. The Ogden Valley General Plan is intended to provide guidance for future land use decisions by Weber County and other entities affecting Ogden Valley. To protect the character of Ogden Valley, a central element of this Plan includes a set of policies to protect sensitive lands in the Valley. These policies affect a variety of resources deemed important by Valley residents: steep slopes (<30%), ridgelines, flood plains, wetlands/cultural resources, agricultural lands, view/entry corridors, historical/cultural resources, riparian areas, watershed, groundwater recharge areas, vegetation, wildlife habitat, and Pineview Reservoir. Section 4.07 adds specific regulations to development within stream corridors; where, in addition to the safety issues surrounding development along stream corridors, Ogden Valley residents desire to see these areas protected for aesthetic, wildlife habitat, and water quality reasons. The County's recommended approach includes the following implementation steps: establishing setbacks of 50 feet on both sides of year round streams for any structures (determined from center of the stream) and establishing setbacks of 75 feet on both sides of North Fork, South Fork and Middle Fork Ogden Rivers for any structures (determined from the center of

the river (Resolution 46-96)).

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

There were no comments specific to the Left Fork South Fork Ogden River from the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

No comments were received specifically for the Left Fork South Fork Ogden River during the public comments period for the Draft EIS.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of Left Fork South Fork Ogden River complements current Forest management for Recommended Wilderness and also aids in drinking water source protection of the surface water that is used by Ogden City and irrigation needs of Ogden Valley.

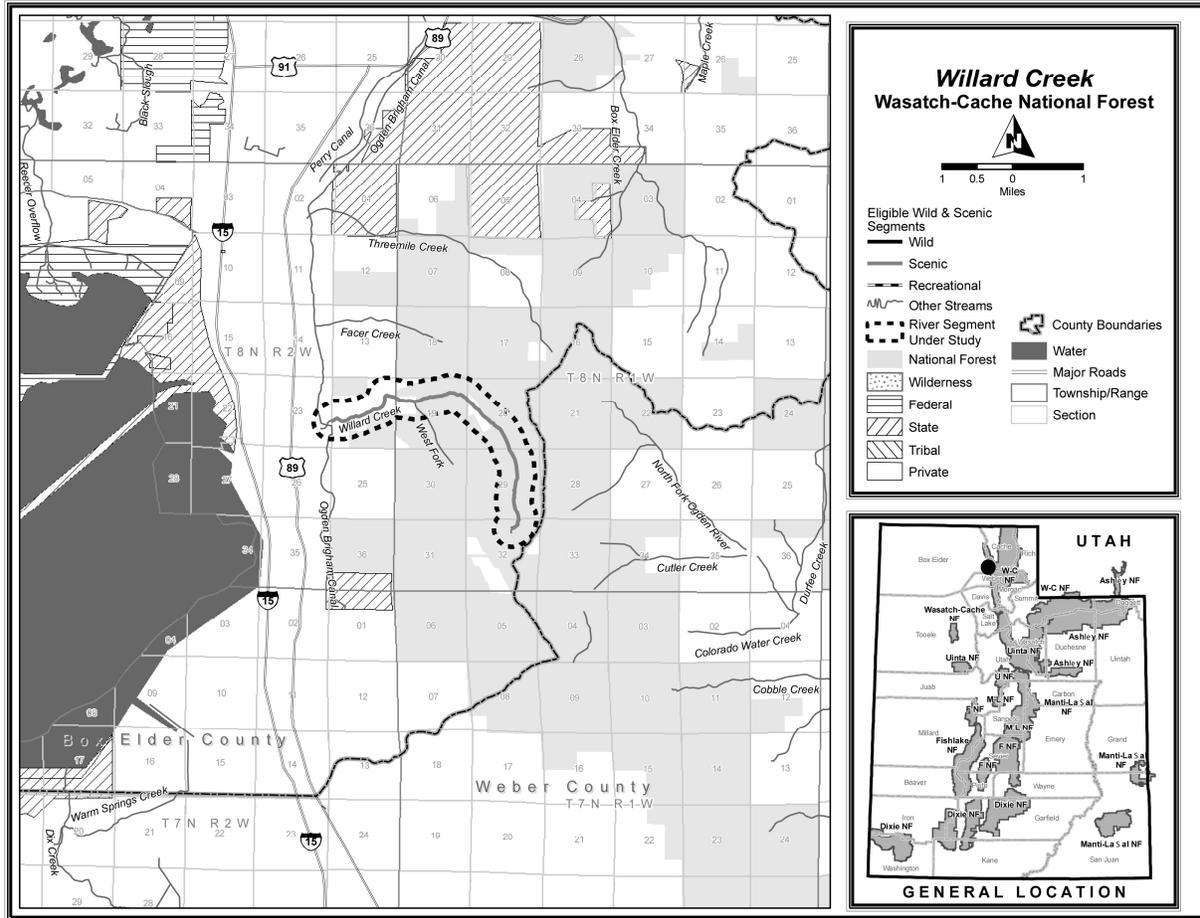
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the basin integrity because it incorporates the stream from its source to the Forest boundary. Designation would also add to the integrity of the Recommended Wilderness area. This stream enters Causey Reservoir, providing an important volume of water.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

Deseret Land and Livestock may be interested in funding conservation work for the stream corridor. There are no known user groups in Weber County that have shown an interest in this stream.

Willard Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Willard Creek
River Mileage:
 Studied: 4.4 miles, from source to Forest Boundary
 Eligible: Same

Location:

Willard Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Ogden Ranger District, Box Elder County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NE ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 32, T 8 N, R 1 W, SLM	NW ¼ SW ¼ Sect. 35, T 8 N, R 2 W, SLM	Scenic	4.4

Physical Description of River Segment:

The lower portion lies in a very steep, deep canyon. Two waterfalls flow over a cliff face, which is visible from the highway. The two waterfalls are rare features in the Bear River Basin of the Great Basin hydrologic region. Uplands are dominated primarily by sagebrush and oak-maple. Cottonwood and dogwood grow along the stream. While there are no known populations of threatened, endangered, or sensitive plants adjacent to this segment, Maguires draba, a sensitive species, is expected to occur on some of the cliff faces within the corridor. A stand of mature cottonwood trees at the lower end of the

canyon provides roosting habitat for wintering bald eagles (up to 100 birds). Cliffs along the creek provide peregrine falcon habitat, although no peregrine falcons have been identified to date. Because of Willard Bay and other marshy areas nearby, as well as an abundance of pigeons and other prey, the habitat is high quality. In addition, other wildlife typical for the included habitat types can be found within the corridor.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. The segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Scenery – The canyon through which Willard Creek flows has dramatic topographic relief. It is visually striking. The two waterfalls present create a memorable focal point. The scenic value is outstandingly remarkable.

Wildlife – The cottonwoods in the river corridor offer prime habitat for wintering bald eagles, an endangered species. Because of its inaccessibility the habitat can be considered a refuge from human intrusions. The wildlife value is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

The portion of Willard Creek on National Forest lands is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a scenic river because the stream segment and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity.
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value is acceptable.
- Limited amount of domestic grazing or hay production.
- Generally inaccessible except by trail.
- No road, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment of Willard Creek extends from its source near Willard Basin Campground to the diversion ditch at the Forest boundary. The segment is located on the Ogden Ranger District in Box Elder County, Utah. About 3 miles of this segment flow through National Forest system lands.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-1.7	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1060
1.7-2.0	Private Land (surrounded by NFS land)	43
2.0-3.0	Wasatch-cache National Forest (acres included above)	N/A
3.0-4.4	Private Land	337
	Total:	1440 acres

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do

not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within 1/4 mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment. Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

Box Elder County has zoned the area around Willard Creek as MU-160. **Multiple Use Districts are zoned for the** purposes of providing a multiple use district is to establish areas in mountain, hillside, canyon mountain valley, desert and other open and generally undeveloped lands where human habitation should be limited in order to protect land and other open space resources; to reduce unreasonable requirements for public utility and service expenditures through uneconomic and unwise dispersal and scattering of population; to encourage use of the land, where appropriate, for forestry, grazing, agriculture, mining, wildlife habitat, and recreation; to avoid excessive damage to watersheds, water pollution, soil erosion, danger from brushland fires, damage to grazing and livestock raising, and to wildlife values; to avoid the premature development of lands by discouraging intensive development until the ultimate best use of the land can be recommended by the Planning Commission to the County Commission; and to promote the health, safety, convenience, order, prosperity, and general welfare of the inhabitants of the community. The minimum Lot Size: 160 acres or one quarter section.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value on the forest and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. This area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no major diversions, dams or other channel modifications on this segment. Watershed improvements from 1930's Civilian Conservation Corps work is still evident in the Willard Peak areas. Below the Forest boundary, the stream passes through the town of Willard and is heavily diverted. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Road 20084 runs near the top of the ridge within the corridor in the upper half mile of this segment. A rough private road provides access to privately owned lands along the lower mile of the segment with no access by road or trail within the National Forest.

Recreation Activities – In the past there has been some panning for gold in the stream and mining for diamonds in strata exposed in the canyon sidewalls. Recreation use within most of the corridor is very light due to the steep terrain and privately controlled access. Some dispersed recreation use from Willard Basin spills over into the corridor.

Vistas from the headwaters provide sweeping views of the drainage. In the lower reaches views from the corridor are of rugged, steep canyon walls. There are no known historic or prehistoric sites in the corridor. There are several mine sites and a gravel pit on the privately owned lands closer to the Forest boundary.

Grazing Activities – There is no grazing along this segment.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Wasatch-Cache National Forest projects in the Willard Creek corridor.

Special Designations – Approximately 0.2 miles of this stream are within Groundwater Drinking Water Source Protection Zones for three springs on private land and 3 wells below the Forest boundary. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which groundwater flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Approximately 3.0 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

The Wasatch-Cache National Forest recognizes a Special Interest Area in Willard Basin. This area will be managed to protect and/or restore remnant tall forb communities while allowing continued motorized access on designated routes. A tall forb site near Ben Lomond Peak will be evaluated as an alternative to the Willard Basin area for establishment as a Special Interest Area or Research Natural Area.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor except for the area adjacent to Forest Road 20084:

Management Prescription 2.7 Special Interest Areas and Special Areas: Manage to protect particular values or unique qualities of special interest. Objectives for Special Interest Areas is “to protect and, where appropriate, foster public use and enjoyment of areas with scenic, historical, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, or other special characteristics. To classify areas that possess unusual recreation and scientific values so that these special values are available for public study, use, or enjoyment” (FSM 2360.2). Objectives for Special Areas are: “To protect and manage for public use and enjoyment, special recreation areas with scenic, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, archaeological, or other special characteristics or unique values.” (FSM2372.02) Special Interest and Special Areas may have management plans developed to address specific needs and opportunities for the individual area.

(S2.7) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation development are not allowed.

(G2.7-1) Vegetation/fuels treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed in circumstances where these activities help perpetuate the unique ecosystem, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G2.7-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.7-3) New trail construction is allowed if associated with resource interpretation and public study, use, or enjoyment.

(G2.7-4) Allow manipulative restoration where needed for scientific study and increased public understanding of the unique values of the area.

Land management direction for the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land area adjacent to Forest Road 20084:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings. These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) category at the specific area and visitor desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

Socio-Economic Environment – Willard—population approximately 2,000—is the southernmost community in Box Elder County along US 89, and is nestled between majestic Willard Peak in the mountains to the east and the Great Salt Lake to the west. Seven miles north is Brigham City, and Ogden is thirteen miles to the south. The economy of Willard has been centered on agriculture, with fruit crops being the major product. Agriculture is now a secondary source of income. Some businesses are located in Willard, but most people seek employment nearby at Hill Air Force Base, the Internal Revenue Service, Thiokol Corporation and Morton International.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – This stream segment is located on private and National Forest System lands. The lands within Box Elder County are administered through the Land Use Management & Development Code for Box Elder County and zoning ordinances for the Forest Recreation (MU-160 zone) and Sensitive Lands Overlay. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest lands are managed under the direction of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Forest Plan, 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent and determination of the degree to which the agency proposes or a State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including the costs thereof, should it be proposed for inclusion in the System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions

numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any conflicting local zoning and/or land use controls that could occur.

The private land could be developed in the future. This development would be directed by the Land Use Management & Development Code for Box Elder County and zoning ordinances for the Forest Recreation (MU-160 zone); which allows for one seasonal cabin per 160 acres. The Sensitive Areas Overlay applies to this stream corridor and has regulations that only allow agricultural use.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

There were no comments specific to Willard Creek from the January 1999 DRAFT Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion I the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

No comments were received specifically for Willard Creek during the public comment period for the Draft EIS.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of Willard Creek complements current Forest management and also aids in drinking water source protection of the surface and ground water that is used by the of Willard.

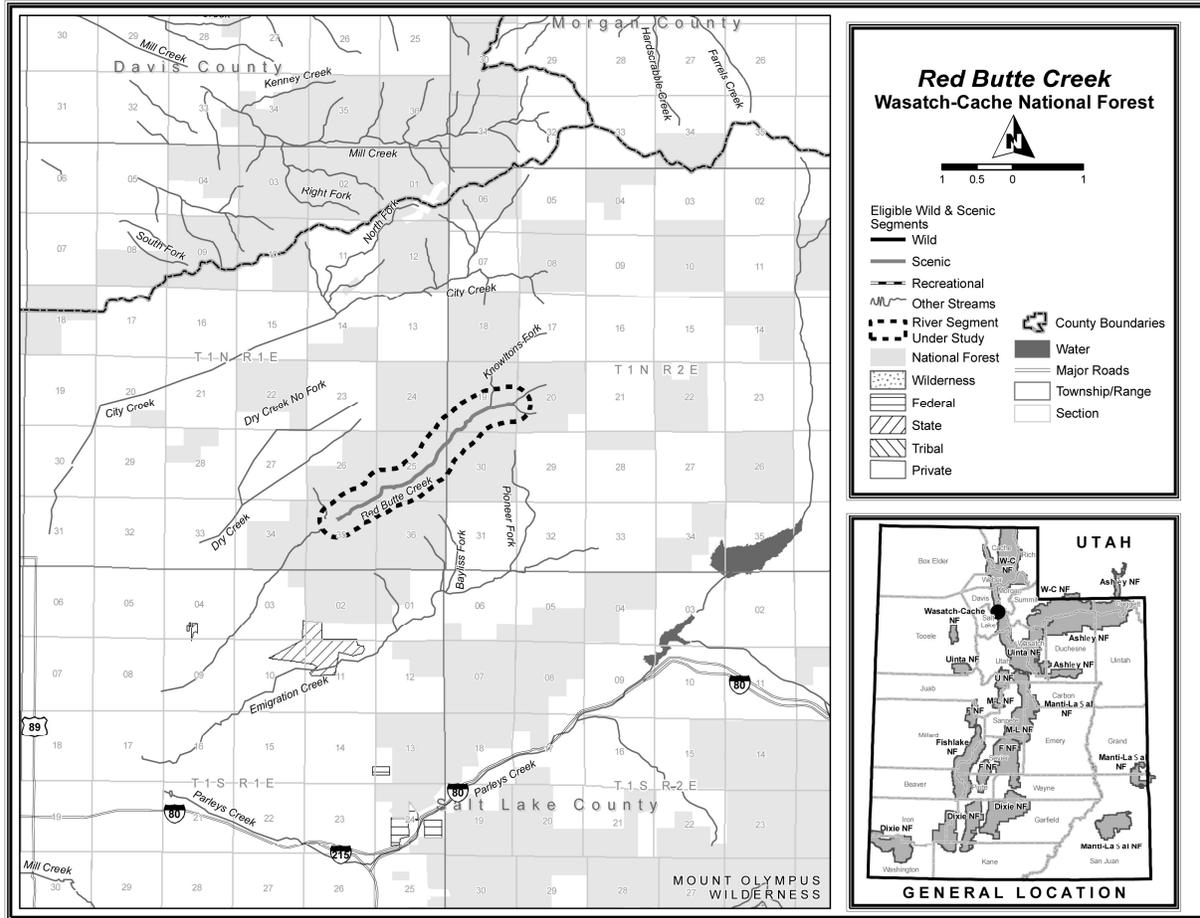
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment contributes to the basin integrity because it incorporates the source to the Forest boundary and designation would also further enforce protection to the drinking water source areas.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

The unique values of Willard Basin may draw interest from groups interested in a conservation partnership.

Red Butte Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Red Butte Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 3.2 miles, from source to Red Butte Reservoir

Eligible: Same

Location:

Red Butte Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Salt Lake Ranger District, Salt Lake County, Utah		Congressional District 2	
	Segment 1	Start SW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 17, T 1 N, R 2 E, SLM	End SE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 35, T 1 N, R 1 E, SLM	Classification Scenic

Physical Description of River:

The river segment flows between elevations that range from 7,600 and 5,400 feet. Red Butte Creek is a typical moderate to high energy mountain stream. It has a pool-riffle structure in a confined single channel. Stream flow is perennial and reflects a snow-dominated hydrograph. This canyon is a Research Natural Area (RNA). A USGS Hydrologic Benchmark Network station is located just upstream from Red Butte Reservoir.

Uplands are characterized by oak-maple, sagebrush, and grassland communities with some conifers on north-facing slopes at higher elevations. Box elder and cottonwood with tall willows and red-osier dogwood dominate the riparian communities throughout much of the length of the channel. Riparian ecosystems in the lower half of this segment are in the process of recovering from excessive down-cutting of the channel in the early 1980's as a result of high flows. Non-native herbaceous species occur in the undergrowth of the riparian and adjacent communities in this area. Riparian plant communities, while more or less natural in appearance, have been altered from historic conditions as a possible result of beaver removal from the canyon. Upland communities, except along the road corridor, are natural in appearance. No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species are known to occur along this segment. One species of interest, Cyripedium calceolus, occurs in Red Butte Canyon within the quarter mile corridor of Red Butte Creek. Only one population of this species occurs in the area and it is the only known natural population in the State of Utah. This species is quite common in the eastern United States but becomes increasingly rare in the West (Atwood 1993).

The population of Bonneville cutthroat trout has value because it is naturally reproducing and provides a potential brood source for restoration efforts. At the terminus of the segment is Red Butte Reservoir, under an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the reservoir is being used as a refuge for the "Endangered" June Sucker. Both species spawn upstream to a fish barrier about 200 yards above the reservoir. The Division of Wildlife Resources transports the fish beyond the barrier to assist in their fishery program. The stream is ranked as Class III, an important fishery for spawning and nursery purposes. No endangered, threatened or sensitive wildlife species are present.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: The segment is free from major channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is unimpaired. This segment is free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Ecological – The stream through Red Butte Research Natural Area has been protected from impacts and development for over 30 years; it provides an important ecological context for university research. The river and its context in the ecosystem contribute significantly to the research value of the area. The ecological value is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River: Scenic

Red Butte Creek is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The stream is classified as a scenic river because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity.
- Presence of small communities or dispersed dwelling or farm structures is acceptable.
- Road goes up stream corridor but access is very limited due to RNA status

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The segment is located on the Salt Lake Ranger District in Salt Lake County, Utah. The entire segment flows through National Forest system lands.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
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0-3.2	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1130
	Total	1130 acres

Currently there are no potential changes to land use in this area due to the RNA designation.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of the eligible Red Butte Creek segment and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area (Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003).

Water Resources Development – The only impediment in the stream is a fish barrier combined with the USGS gauging station low in the reach. Below this segment is the Red Butte Reservoir that stores water for irrigation in the Salt Lake valley. The reservoir is operated and maintained by the CUWCD. Designation into the Wild and Scenic river system does not affect existing, valid water rights.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Access is by Forest Road 253 which is a one lane dirt road with turnouts. The road is closed to vehicle traffic by use of a locked gate at the entrance of the Red Butte Research Natural Area (RNA).

Grazing Activities – The area has been excluded from livestock grazing because of its RNA status.

Recreation Activities – General recreation access to the area is not permitted because of its status as a Research Natural Area. The scenery is natural due to the Research Natural Area designation; however this setting is topographically less variable than many adjacent to it near the Salt Lake Valley. It is not a spectacular scenic setting. There are no known archeological or historic sites in the segment.

Other Resource Activities – Since the area is in a Research Natural Area, economic development or use is not allowed. There is not any commercial fishing or hunting operations in the canyon. Land in the canyon was acquired by the Federal Government between 1888 and 1909 and was used as a water source by the U.S. Army at Fort Douglas until 1991. The Army closed the basin to logging and grazing in the early 1900's to protect water quality. The basin has remained closed to the public and has been used primarily as a research site for biologists at the University of Utah.

Special Designations – Red Butte Research Natural Area is part of a national network of ecological areas designated in perpetuity for research and/or education to maintain biological diversity on National Forest System lands. Red Butte RNA will continue to be managed for non-manipulative research, observation, and study, and will continue to provide important research opportunities and baseline information about the ecological composition, structure, and function of plant communities (such as gambel oak, aspen, riparian, and Douglas-fir) that naturally dominate the area. Red Butte RNA will also assist in implementing the Endangered Species Act and the monitoring provisions of the National Forest Management Act. This RNA will continue to provide unique research opportunities in an urban/wildland interface setting. Trails surrounding the Research Natural Area will be realigned to protect against unauthorized public access. As a result of educational efforts, people will understand the value of research natural areas and compliance with the area closure will improve.

The area within the stream corridor is recognized by the State of Utah as a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone for three groundwater sources (wells located off the Forest). This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1A Aquatic Habitat: consists of the stream and adjacent riparian areas (or 300 feet either side of the stream whichever is greater). Because of the large number of existing facilities (roads, developed recreation sites, trails), already located within areas mapped as 3.1A, and because of their relatively high value and small proportion of the landscape, development outside already developed areas within this prescription is to be avoided. Protect or restore proper hydrologic functioning.

(S3.1A-1) New recreation facility development is not allowed.

(S3.1A-2) Cutting fuelwood larger than 5 inches in diameter is not allowed.

(G3.1A-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed only for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring riparian and aquatic habitat to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1A-2) Livestock grazing is allowed with the utilization standard for Riparian Class 1, and to meet site-specifically developed desired conditions.

(G3.1A-3) Road construction is not allowed except for road crossings.

(G3.1A-4) New trail construction is allowed if consistent with site-specifically defined riparian management objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land outside the 3.1a buffer and within the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 2.4: Research Natural Areas: Manage existing and proposed Research Natural Areas to protect their unique and/or representative qualities. Limit human induced effects as much as possible for the purpose of using the ecotype as a benchmark from which to measure human-induced effects elsewhere. Each designated Research Natural Area may have a management plan developed to provide additional direction specific to that area.

(S2.4) Timber harvest, grazing, road construction, new recreation development and new trail construction are not allowed.

(G2.4-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, wildland fire use and prescribed fire are allowed to meet specific research objectives and/or to perpetuate the unique or representative ecosystem.

Management Prescription 2.7 Special Interest Areas and Special Areas: Manage to protect particular values or unique qualities of special interest. Objectives for **Special Interest Areas** is “to protect and, where appropriate, foster public use and enjoyment of areas with scenic, historical, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, or other special characteristics. To classify areas that possess unusual recreation and scientific values so that these special values are available for public study, use, or enjoyment” (FSM 2360.2). Objectives for **Special Areas** are: “To protect and manage for public use and enjoyment, special recreation areas with scenic, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, archaeological, or other special characteristics or unique values.” (FSM2372.02) Special Interest and Special Areas may have management plans developed to address specific needs and opportunities for the individual area.

(S2.7) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation development are not allowed.

(G2.7-1) Vegetation/fuels treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed in circumstances where these activities help perpetuate the unique ecosystem, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G2.7-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.7-3) New trail construction is allowed if associated with resource interpretation and public study, use, or enjoyment.

(G2.7-4) Allow manipulative restoration where needed for scientific study and increased public understanding of the unique values of the area.

Socio-Economic Environment – Currently, eighty-five percent of Utah's population lives within 15 miles of the Wasatch Range. This concentration is commonly known as the Wasatch Front urban area and has a population of just over 2,000,000 residents. Salt Lake County is home to 15 unincorporated cities and has a population of 898,387. Salt Lake City is home to the University of Utah and Westminster College, and is the center for Utah's economy.

The Wasatch-Cache National Forest borders the metropolitan area and is recognized as an urban forest and ranks within the top five mostly visited National Forests in the nation. The proximity to outdoor recreation opportunities and variety of available activities is unparalleled. There are 13 world class ski resorts in Utah with the majority within an hour and a half drive from Salt Lake City. The Wasatch Mountains offer hundreds of miles of mountain biking and hiking trails that offer back country access to alpine canyons in very close proximity to a large metropolitan area. The Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons offer world class skiing, rock climbing and fishing opportunities in the area's alpine lakes and streams. These two canyons are home to ski resorts that offer year around recreation opportunities, where many valley residents visit the canyons in the summer to retreat from valley heat.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The Red Butte Creek segment is located on National Forest System lands and is administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as directed by the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent to which the State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including costs, should it be proposed for inclusion in the National System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

This segment is located entirely within a Research Natural Area where public access is prohibited and few people visit. The University of Utah uses portions of the area for research. There would likely be quite limited support by the County or City for shared preservation work or administration. However, there is no private land in the basin and almost no public use, so the need for shared administration is probably not a big concern.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any local zoning and/or land use controls that appear to conflict with

protection of river values.

This segment is entirely on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. Currently, there is no road access to this area and the threat of development seems low, due to RNA status and management of National Forest land. The only non-federal land in the Red Butte drainage above the reservoir appears to be in the upper (eastern) basin and is not within the ¼ mile stream corridor. Currently, there is no road access to this area and the threat of development seems low. If development were proposed there, it would be subject to Salt Lake County planning and zoning requirements for Forestry Recreation 20.

(3) Support or opposition to designation

One public comment on the eligibility process during Forest Plan revision supported Red Butte Creek's eligibility and suggested that the reservoir be stabilized and made an integral part of the ecosystem.

During scoping the Central Utah Project and Water Conservancy District did not support any designation that would interfere with their property around Red Butte Reservoir. Again during the comment period for the Draft EIS the Central Utah Water Conservation District emphasized designation of Red Butte Creek upstream and outside of their property could be considered.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

The reservoir and adjoining land immediately below and surrounding the reservoir is now owned by the Central Utah Water Conservancy District. They manage the reservoir as a rearing area for rare fish species and as a mitigation measure for water diversions in other parts of central Utah. Designation would add protection to the watershed and fishery and benefit the cooperative work between the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (US FWS), and Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) to protect the Bonneville cutthroat trout (BCT) population; would aid in work emphasizing on BCT reproduction, streamside incubators; and help maintain natural area bio-diversity.

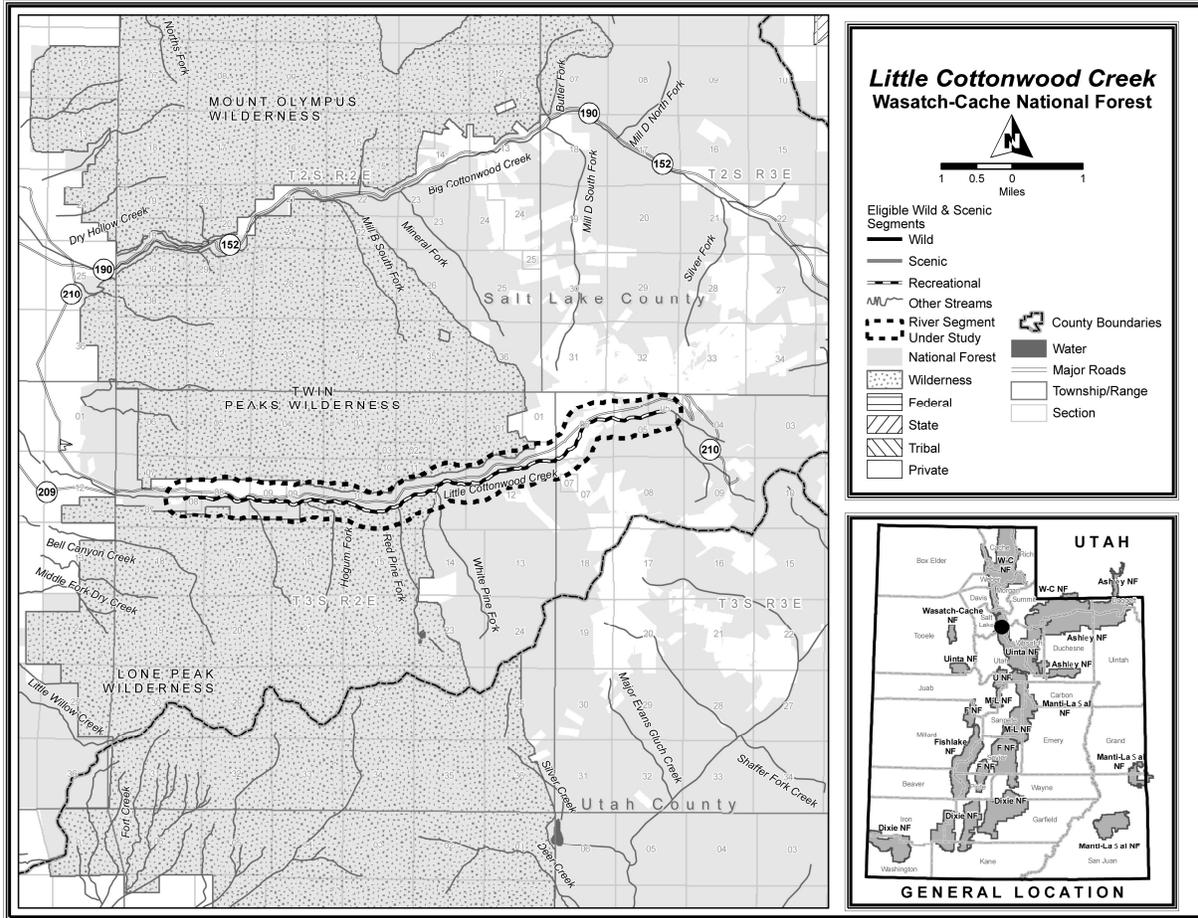
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

This segment has a minor contribution to the basin integrity. As the stream flows into the urbanized Salt Lake Valley it is diverted for irrigation. Designation of Red Butte Creek would add another layer of protective status to the stream that is already afforded by the RNA designation and as a DWSPZ for groundwater sources.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There is good potential for public partnerships and volunteer efforts should Red Butte Creek becomes part of the Wild and Scenic Rivers system. Demonstrated partnerships have been made for this stream currently. This stream is part of the Embrace-A-Stream Program (EAS) administered by Trout Unlimited.

Little Cottonwood Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Little Cottonwood Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 9.9 miles, from source to Murray Diversion

Eligible: 7.6 miles, from confluence with Grizzly Gulch to Murray Diversion

Location:

Little Cottonwood Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Salt Lake Ranger District, Salt Lake County, Utah		Congressional District 2	
	Segment 1	Start SW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 5, T 3 S, R 3 E, SLM	End NW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 7, T 3 S, R 2 E, SLM	Classification Recreational

* The project maps shown in the 1999 Draft Inventory and at the public meetings during the scoping period are incorrect. The maps show Little Cottonwood Creek extending up one of the four unnamed headwaters streams, this is incorrect. The correct starting location for Little Cottonwood Creek begins at the confluence with Grizzly Gulch. The maps also incorrectly show the location of the end point at the Murray Diversion. The Murray Diversion is upstream from where the maps indicate (~435840.21 E, 4491201.44 N, UTM 12 NAD 27). The length of the stream will change by approximately 2.3 miles.

Physical Description of River:

This river segment flows between elevations ranging from 8,800 to 5,400 feet. The stream has cut into glacial-fluvial outwash, moraines, and avalanche debris. It has a steep, high energy riffle-run pattern, except for the reach from Tanner Flat to Snowbird which is primarily a pool-riffle-run system. There is some braiding at low flows. Unlike the reaches above and below, it is moderate gradient and energy. Little Cottonwood Creek is a perennial mountain stream that is dominated by snow melt. Mountain goats are visible in some areas and people stop to view them.

Uplands are characterized by aspen with conifers dominating north facing slopes. At lower elevations, oak-maple communities dominate the south facing slopes. The riparian ecosystems are characterized by cottonwood, birch, box elder, and dogwood at lower elevations, giving way to aspen, alder, willows and dogwood at higher portions of this segment. Tall forb communities occur on open slopes at the upper portion of this segment providing spectacular wildflower displays in July and August. Some of the rocky slopes probably support Wasatch jamesia and Garretts bladderpod, both Intermountain Region sensitive species. This vegetation in this segment is more or less natural in appearance, although diversity is not necessarily unique in character. There are no threatened or endangered wildlife species present. There are no threatened or endangered fish species present. Fish species present include stocked and naturally reproducing rainbow trout and brook trout. The stream is ranked by the State of Utah as Class III, an important fishery.

ELIGIBILITY

Name and Date of Eligibility Document: Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch-Cache National Forest 2003, Appendix VIII, USDA Forest Service; Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1999.

Determination of Free-flow: The segment is free from major channel modifications and structures. The natural stream flow of the river is generally unimpaired except for the lower mile. This segment is free-flowing to the upper diversion structure.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Geology/Hydrology – The geologic landscape in this segment is that of a heavily glaciated valley, with steep grey granite walls. The cirques in the upper basin offer an excellent example of past glaciations. As background views from the corridor, the features reveal an interesting story of earth's history. The geologic value is outstandingly remarkable.

Scenery – Topographic relief is great, and vegetation diversity is very good. Scenes in the upper portion of the segment are very high quality. This kind of valley scene is unique locally and is considered one of the more spectacular viewsheds in the area. Several viewpoints within the corridor offer a spectacular diversity of view. Scenic views from the stream to the rugged cliff faces are very striking. The scenic value is outstandingly remarkable.

Ecology – The upper watershed within the corridor has significant tall forb communities of those remaining along the Wasatch Front. The ecological value is outstandingly remarkable.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River: Recreational

Little Cottonwood Creek is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic River System above the Murray City diversion. It is classified as a recreational river because:

- Some existing impoundments or diversions are present. The existence of low dams, diversions or

other modifications of the waterway is acceptable, provided the waterway remains free-flowing and generally natural and riverine in appearance.

- While some of the upper portions of Little Cottonwood Creek have development immediately adjacent to the channel, a majority of the stream is relatively undisturbed.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This eligible segment of Little Cottonwood Creek extends from its confluence with Grizzly Gulch, through many tracts of private land downstream to the Forest boundary, near the Murray City diversion and the Wasatch Resort community. The stream flows through a mix of private lands and National Forest system lands for the first 2 ½ miles from the Town of Alta and Alta Ski Lifts downstream to the Snowbird Resort. National Forest lands account for the middle portion of the segment and then at the end of the segment there is a mix of ownership, where small private tracts are surrounded by National Forest system land.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres	
0-0.6	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	286 acres	1930 acres
0.6-0.9	Private Land		
0.9-0.93	Wasatch-Cache National Forest		
0.93-1.76	Private Land	241 acres	
1.76-7.26	Wasatch-Cache National Forest		
7.26-7.264	Private Land		
7.264-7.6	Wasatch-Cache National Forest		
	Total	2237 acres	

Private property within the Albion Basin owned by homeowners and Alta Ski Lifts, Snowbird and Wasatch Resort is zoned for Forestry Recreation (FR). The purpose of the Forestry Recreation zone is to permit limited residential development as well as utilization and preservation of the natural environment and resources of the canyon areas.

Other sections of private land within the Town of Alta is zoned forestry multifamily (FM). This zone is to permit development of certain areas in the foothill and canyon areas of the county for high-density residential, limited commercial, and other specified uses to the extent that such development is compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of these areas for the continued benefit of future generations.

Readers Note: The study area boundaries displayed in Appendix A, Suitability Evaluation Reports, do not represent actual Wild and Scenic River boundaries, but the area of interest for eligible river segments. It should be noted that of the eligible rivers studied, 14 of the 86 river segments appear to include portions of private land, at the end of segments near the National Forest boundary. These typically short river stretches (1/4 to 4 miles long) were included in the eligibility study as part of the river segment length because they brought the river segment to a logical terminus at a confluence with a larger stream, also contained the ORVs of the National Forest portion of the segment, or National Forest land was located within ¼ mile of these segments. These lengths are also included in the tables found in this suitability study. The magnitude of this effect is small, representing approximately 22 miles total over 14 segments, or less than 3 percent of the total mileage in the study. The final decision will apply only to river segments located on National Forest System lands. The dashed lines on the individual river maps represent the approximate 1/4 mile river corridor boundary of the river segment under study. If Congress chooses to add any of the recommended river segments to the National Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would be required to develop Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP). Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires the establishment of detailed boundaries (an average of not more than 320 acres per river mile). At that time, the boundary would be adjusted to exclude private, State, or other Federal agency land located at the end or beginning of the river segment.

Congress could include private lands (in holdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, however, management restrictions would apply only to public lands.

Water Resources Development – In the part of Little Cottonwood Creek, from Snowbird to the lower diversion at the Murray City hydroelectric plant near Wasatch Resort, the stream is not significantly impeded or modified. Water from Cecret Lake is regulated by Salt Lake City and there are diversions for snowmaking at Alta and Snowbird Ski Areas. Water that makes up most of the base flow below Snowbird is regulated by the Wasatch Tunnel by Salt Lake County Water Conservation District #3. The average flow discharged into Little Cottonwood Creek is 300-500 gpm; during peak runoff there may be short periods of discharge up to 2,000 gpm.

Salt Lake County Service Area #3 is responsible for providing drinking water and wastewater services to Snowbird Ski Resort and also manages the Town of Alta's water system through an interlocal agreement. Water from the Wasatch Drain Tunnel is used in Snowbird's Co-generation Plant through a non-consumptive use water right, where water from the drain tunnel is diverted through the Co-generation Plant and then returned to Little Cottonwood Creek.

The diversion directly upstream from the Murray City diversion, which was most recently owned by Whitmore Oxygen, is not a significant diversion. Below the Murray City plant and diversion to the Forest boundary and beyond, Little Cottonwood Creek is dewatered for about a mile through most of the year. Off-stream reservoir operations alter stream flows several times throughout the summer. Water from Little Cottonwood Creek provides high-quality drinking water to the large urban population in the Salt Lake Valley.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Parallel access provided by State Highway 210 along the eligible segment, a two lane asphalt road is recognized as a state scenic byway. This road provides year around access to the Wasatch Resort subdivision, the Town of Alta, Alta Ski Lifts and adjoining lodges, the Snowbird Resort, and Forest Service trails and campgrounds from the Salt Lake Valley. This road receives very heavy use particularly during the winter from skiers traveling to resorts and trailheads, Alta and Snowbird guests, employees and service industry traffic, and Alta residents. There are large paved parking lots at Snowbird and Alta destination ski areas that are adjacent to the creek. Two Forest Service campgrounds are located in Little Cottonwood Canyon. The Albion Basin campground is located above Segment 1 along a headwater tributary. Tanner Flat Campground is located down the canyon and has developed campsites adjacent to the stream with hardened road surfaces.

In the reach from Snowbird through Alta channel modifications are present. There are no full-scale impoundments in this reach. However, the stream is diverted underground through long culverts at two or more points on the stream. While the upper reach is encroached upon by parking lots, snow storage sites, and other developments, flows are not directly impeded and the natural functions of the channel have been modified only slightly. There are two road/stream crossings where the Alta bypass road crosses the creek. There are many foot bridges spanning the stream within the Snowbird resort, along the Little Cottonwood Creek Trail, at the White Pine Trailhead.

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – Historically, locatable minerals have been mined and removed from the Forest in years past. Most of the locatable metaliferous minerals were mined from Little Cottonwood Canyon on the Salt Lake Ranger District. The discovery of silver ore in 1860 led to the settlement of the Town of Alta. Mining activity continued through the late 1800's and early 1900's with the last operation of appreciable size closing in 1967. Most of the activity occurred in mining districts in Little Cottonwood Canyon.

The availability of lands open to operations under the 1872 Mining Law can be affected by several factors including withdrawals, special legislation, and outstanding or reserved mineral rights (National Forest

Surface, state or private minerals rights). Special designations allow mining entry but restrict certain types of mining activity. These include the Salt Lake City municipal watershed

Grazing Activities – There are no permitted grazing allotments in Little Cottonwood Canyon.

Recreation Activities – The ski resorts in Little Cottonwood Canyon will continue to serve as hubs of year-round outdoor recreation use of both private and public lands within permit areas. Jogging, hiking, and bike-riding are popular, as are sightseeing along the Little Cottonwood Creek Trail located at the mouth of the canyon. Rock climbing is also very popular, particularly at the Gate Buttriss. In the lower reaches of the stream access to the stream is relatively easy from the paved road. Access to the stream is limited in much of its middle reaches because of the road location high above the stream, and steep, forested terrain between stream and road. Much recreation in this segment is hiking to the Lone Peak Wilderness or other upland settings from a trailhead in the canyon bottom. River related recreation is minimal, and water play/swimming in the stream is prohibited by local ordinance. Some fishing is done in the stream, but this is a minor focus of recreation.

Other Resource Activities – People have developed the upper and lower parts of Little Cottonwood Canyon on private land. The Salt Lake Temple granite quarry is present in the lower part of this segment, and it is a developed and interpreted site with a parking lot and picnic opportunities. An old power plant ruin is also present in the segment, just west of Tanner Flats Campground.

Special Designations – Little Cottonwood Creek is a fish bearing stream and is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest as a Category 1 Fish-Bearing Stream Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs). RHCAs include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent streams, and other areas that help maintain the integrity of aquatic ecosystems by (1) influencing the delivery of coarse sediment, organic matter, and woody debris to streams, (2) providing root strength for channel stability, (3) shading the stream, and (4) protecting water quality. This designation still allows for a full range of activities but it emphasizes the achievement of riparian management objectives that are identified on a site-by-site basis. These objectives should include riparian vegetation and instream habitat conditions consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel).

Approximately 8.7 miles of this stream corridor that flows along State Highway 210 is within the Little Cottonwood Canyon State Scenic Byway.

Salt Lake City owns all or the largest percentage of water rights in Little Cottonwood Canyon, and has congressionally delegated authority to protect the water supply. Congress also directed the Forest Service to administer designated watersheds in cooperation with Salt Lake City for the purpose of storing, conserving and protecting water from pollution. The entire stream corridor for Little Cottonwood Creek is recognized as a surface and groundwater drinking water source protection zone by the State of Utah. Little Cottonwood Canyon is a protected watershed area and is also regulated by the Salt Lake City - County Health Regulation #14 (watersheds) authorized by Utah Code Annotated 26-24-20. Water regulations are enforced by the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office, the Salt Lake City Water Department, the Salt Lake City - County Health Department, the USDA Forest Service, and the Alta Marshal's Office.

It is unlawful for any person:

- To permit a dog (s) to be taken into the watershed area. This does not apply to seeing eye/hearing dogs or law enforcement dogs.
- To pollute or allow pollution of any water in the watershed area.
- To operate any type of motor vehicle upon the property within the watershed except on a highway or road open for public use, approved roads in residential/cabin areas, official picnic/camp area

roads, and ski area parking lots. Emergency and official government vehicles are exempt when on official business.

- To deposit any human excreta within the watershed area other than into approved toilets. Cesspools are also prohibited.
- To permit a horse or any other domestic animal into the area without a permit.
- To camp overnight except in officially designated campgrounds. This does not apply to backpacking.
- To backpack camp unless the campsite is located over 200 feet from the nearest water source
- To bathe, swim or wash clothes, diapers, eating utensils, or any other object in any spring, marsh, stream, or other water source.
- To throw or break glass.

These regulations apply in the entire canyon area from ridge top to ridge top, not just in the immediate area of surface water.

Approximately 1.1 miles of this stream flows within the Lone Peak Wilderness and management of the stream corridor will be directed by Wilderness regulations. The majority of the Little Cottonwood Creek stream corridor is within the Twin Peak and Lone Peak Wilderness Areas. The following acts are prohibited in the Twin Peak and Lone Peak Wilderness Areas: Group sizes exceeding 10 persons, camping within 200 feet of lakes, trails, or other sources of water, camping for more than 3 days at one site, short cutting a trail switchback, and disposing of garbage, debris, or other waste. No open fires are allowed in the Red Pine Fork and Maybird Gulch drainages within the Lone Peak Wilderness. No open fires are allowed in the Mill B South Fork (Lake Blanche) drainage within the Twin Peaks Wilderness.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor outside the 3.1w buffer below Snowbird to the private land near the bottom of the segment:

Management Prescription 1.1 Opportunity Class I: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by an unmodified natural environment. Human induced change is temporary and minor. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation are available for visitors, who travel in small groups, practice excellent wilderness ethics and spend extra effort to leave no trace. Encounters with others are rare.

Management Prescription 1.3 Opportunity Class III: This area in existing wilderness is characterized by predominately unmodified natural environment, but impacts could persist from year to year. During peak season and in popular areas concentrated use is more common and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation more limited.

(S1.1-3-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road building, new recreation development, mountain biking, and use of motorized equipment such as chainsaws and helicopters are not allowed. Exceptions to motorized equipment use may be granted in emergency situations (i.e., wildland fire, search and rescue).

(S1.1-3-2) Allow no net increase in miles of trail with the exception of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

(G1.1-3-1) Grazing and wildland fire use are allowed; prescribed fire is allowed to meet wilderness fire management objectives (FSM2324.2).

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor:

Management Prescription 3.1w Watershed Emphasis: consists of uplands identified as important watersheds.

(S3.1W) Timber harvest, road construction and new recreation facility development are not allowed.

(G3.1W-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use are allowed for the

purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring watersheds to desired conditions, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.1W-2) Livestock grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G3.1W-3) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land outside the 3.1w stream buffer to the extent of the ¼ mile stream corridor:

Management Prescription 2.6 Undeveloped Areas: Manage to protect undeveloped landscapes in a manner other than formal recommended wilderness. Although other uses and activities may occur, the primary emphasis is protection to assure the values and unique qualities associated with undeveloped areas are recognized and preserved. No new developments or activity that would alter the landscape or character are allowed, however use of motorized equipment (such as chainsaws for trail clearing) is allowed.

Approximately 6 miles flows through an inventoried roadless areas. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor administered as Alta Ski Lifts and Snowbird Resort:

Management Prescription 4.5 Developed Recreation Areas: These areas include developed facilities such as campgrounds, trailheads, boat docks, and resorts under special use permit as well as adjacent areas associated with these sites. High levels of visitor interaction can be expected where sights and sounds of others are noticeable and there are moderate to high opportunities for social interaction. Access to these areas is primarily by motorized roads with some trails. Visitors can expect higher levels of regulation. Signs and visitor information are noticeable throughout the area. Site development tends toward the Roaded Natural to Rural end of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS). Facilities vary from rustic using native materials to facilities designed primarily for visitor comfort or convenience and built using synthetic materials. Visitor impacts can be noticeable. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is high with managers focusing on public safety, service, education, user ethics, and enforcement. ADA level development is encouraged. Because of the large capitol investments in these areas, site protection is paramount.

(S4.5) Livestock grazing and wildland fire use are not allowed.

(G4.5-1) Timber harvest, road construction, vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for the purposes of providing public enjoyment, safety, and protection of site investments.

Socio-Economic Environment – Currently, eighty-five percent of Utah's population lives within 15 miles of the Wasatch Range. This concentration is commonly known as the Wasatch Front urban area and has a population of just over 2,000,000 residents. Salt Lake County is home to 15 unincorporated cities and has a population of 898,387. Salt Lake City is home to the University of Utah and Westminster College, and is the center of Utah's economy.

The Wasatch-Cache National Forest borders the metropolitan area and is recognized as an urban forest and ranks within the top five mostly visited National Forests in the nation. The proximity to outdoor recreation opportunities and variety of available activities is unparalleled. There are 13 world class ski resorts in Utah with the majority within an hour and a half drive from Salt Lake City. The Wasatch Mountains offer hundreds of miles of mountain biking and hiking trails that offer back country access to alpine canyons in very close proximity to a large metropolitan area. The Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons offer world class skiing, rock climbing and fishing opportunities in the area's alpine lakes and streams. These two canyons are home to ski resorts that offer year around recreation opportunities, where many valley residents visit the canyons in the summer to retreat from valley heat.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – This segment of stream flows through the private land within the Town of Alta, ski resorts that have a mix of private and Forest system land, Wasatch-Cache National Forest land, and private land in the lower part of the canyon that is administered by Salt Lake County.

National Forest System land along the entire segment is managed by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Forest Plan, 2003. Private lands within this segment are subject to regulations designated by the Town of Alta and by Salt Lake County.

The Town of Alta General Plan recognizes the unique alpine and headwater qualities of their community and has incorporated zoning and strict regulations pertaining development and impacts to wetlands, water quality, steep slopes, avalanche hazards, vegetation, and scenery.

The ski areas along Little Cottonwood Creek are administered through Special Uses Permits from the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. Management for these ski areas is directed through the Ski Area Master Development Plans for Alta Ski Lifts and Snowbird Resort.

The private land near the end of the segment is in unincorporated Salt Lake County and development is directed by the Countywide Land Use Plan and zoning ordinances and the Wasatch Canyons Plan.

The following information is based on 2001 data, which doesn't account for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data. If a river is designated as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, the actual cost of preparing the comprehensive river management plan would average \$200,000 per plan for 86 segments, which would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years following designation. It was estimated that annual management costs for a high complexity river would be \$200,000; a moderate complexity river would be \$50,000; and a low complexity river at \$25,000. Using an average of complexity costs, it would cost the Forest Service around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104)

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

(1) The extent to which the State or its political subdivisions might participate in the shared preservation and administration of the river, including costs, should it be proposed for inclusion in the National System.

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

The State of Utah has not demonstrated interest or disinterest in sharing of the costs.

While Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities is an active partner in watershed protection with the Forest Service they are not supportive of Little Cottonwood Creek being found suitable.

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands. Include any local zoning and/or land use controls that appear to conflict with protection of river values.

The private land could be developed in the future. This development would be directed by the County Comprehensive Plan and zoning ordinances for the Forest Recreation (FR 40) zone, which allows for one seasonal cabin per forty acres. Regulations for sensitive areas, steep slopes, jurisdictional wetlands, natural waterways and areas lying within the floodplain, and areas of wildlife habitat are declared under Title 17.18.020. Title 17.18.060 specifies setbacks for development from natural waterways of 50 ft. for

dwelling, 100 ft. for septic systems, and up to 100 ft. for dwellings if within the FEMA mapped floodplain.

Salt Lake City has adjudicated the water rights to most of the water flowing from Little Cottonwood Canyon and generally refuses to sell water to potential users who would develop their property. Because a property owner cannot obtain a building permit from the County without water right or sales contract, the City feels it is able to protect its water from contamination. This indirectly probably helps to protect WSR values.

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) believes designation would impair its ability to maintain State Road 210 in Little Cottonwood Canyon.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

Comments for Little Cottonwood Creek to the January 1999 Draft Inventory of Rivers on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Eligible for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System were mixed for this stream segment.

Letters received during the EIS scoping showed continued support from some individuals. The Town of Alta requested further evaluation. Alta Ski Lifts, UDOT, and Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities did not support designation. Designation of Little Cottonwood Canyon may complicate the Alta Fen Project that is designed to improve water quality in the headwaters of the stream, which would also complicate the operation of the Wasatch Drain Tunnel by Salt Lake County Service District #3.

No comments were received specifically supporting Little Cottonwood Creek during the public comment period for the Draft EIS. The State of Utah expressed concerns that designation would impact the state's ability to maintain or expand the highway.

(4) The consistency of designation with other agency plans, programs or policies and in meeting regional objectives.

Designation of this segment of Little Cottonwood Creek would offer additional protection to the local and State of Utah protections for drinking water sources, the State Scenic Byway, the roadless and Wilderness designation within the corridor, and watershed protection measures identified in the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. Management of this watershed is in cooperation between Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, the Town of Alta, Alta Ski Lifts and Snowbird Resort, and the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Salt Lake County Service Area #3 expressed concerns that designation would limit the Alta Fen project and that water from the Wasatch Drain Tunnel would have to be treated at higher costs to the County.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

Because of the other watershed protection measures and wilderness designations in place, designation would not make a significant contribution to river system or basin integrity.

(6) Demonstrated or potential commitment for public volunteers, partnerships, and/or stewardship commitments for management and/or funding of the river segment.

There is good potential for partnerships and volunteer efforts if this segment is designated. The Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, a nonprofit organization with a mission to continuously improve the environment of Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons through stewardship and education programs, has a demonstrated commitment to stewardships programs.