



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

August 31, 2023

Castle Dale, Utah

Meeting Attendees:

- **San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Advisory Council members (Council):** Sue Bellagamba, Kent Wilson, Leon McElprang, Rod Player, Keven Jensen
- **BLM employees:** Angela Hawkins, Stephanie Howard, Molly Hocanson, Lance Porter, Bridget Murray, Jaydon Mead, Dan Ben-Horin, Dana Truman, Natalie Fewings (virtual), Michael Tweddell (virtual) Kyle Beagley (virtual)
- **Members of the public:** Brock Johannson, JD Bonser(virtual), Jim Jennings(virtual), Jason, Curry(virtual), Patrick McKay(virtual), Julie Johanson(virtual)

Welcome and Introductions

Designated Federal Officer, Green River District Manager Lance Porter

- Overview of meeting process and where material can be found.
- Business to address: The Council does not currently have a chairperson.
- Welcome to new and returning members.

Overview of Charter and Responsibilities of Council

Designated Federal Officer, Green River District Manager Lance Porter

- See PowerPoint for presentation material.

- Note: seven members of the Council, Federal Advisory Council Act requires at least half of the council plus one for a quorum. Five members required.
- Council members discussed who to elect as board chair. Unanimously, the Council elected Kent Wilson to serve as board chair, and Rod Player to serve as vice-chair.

Dingell Act Update

BLM Dingell Act Lead, Molly Hocanson

- See PowerPoint for presentation material.
- Leon asked to provide an update on which parcels will be transferred from BLM to School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration as part of the Dingell Act Land Exchange.
 - Answer: The agency discussed in general School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration parcels inside wilderness areas would be exchanged and transferred to BLM.
- Discussed an overview of Certificate of Inspection and Possession. Certificate of Inspection and Possession surveys for parcels to be acquired will be conducted beginning early September.
- Rod Player – what happened to School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration lands outside of Goblin Valley near Little Wild Horse Canyon?
 - Answer: That is a parcel that is to be conveyed to the BLM?
- How would management of lands change after transferred from School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration to BLM?
 - Answer: The management, such as Right-of-Ways, would stay the same.
- Kent Wilson – suggests the council later discuss Right-of-ways coming to Emery County.
- Council members discussed reviewing access to School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration lands in Calf Canyon off Buckhorn Draw.

Overview of Plan Amendments

BLM Environmental Coordinator, Stephanie Howard

- See PowerPoint for presentation materials.
- Themes to consider to inform alternatives development:
 - How to better manage existing recreation; general sentiment is the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area is busy enough, no need to promote more recreation.
 - New user created recreation development is increasingly becoming an issue.

- San Rafael Swell Recreation Area has numerous areas of focus, how to we recognize all of these focuses when some conflict?
- Focus on recreation and traditional uses.
- Also, an opportunity to educate visitors.
- Different areas of the SRS may require different management: front country vs backcountry, high use vs more remote areas, areas with more specific resources concerns, etc.

San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Highlights

BLM Outdoor Recreation Planner, Jaydon Mead

- See PowerPoint for presentation materials.
- With Scan and Pay sites, council member suggested to always have some method to pay cash at fee sites.
- BLM Price Field Office does not have any land-based user limits; may need to be considered in the future.

Public Comment Period

- Jean Public, received via email
 - As received: *"this is nation;a land and owned by 350 millionamericans and under the public trut doctrine. it should be preserved for nature, plants, wildlife, animals to live in peace. get the cattle ranchers off this land. stop the assault on nature. no chemical applications.no fire introduced. i notice you allow only l hour for public comment. that is disrespecting the public who ae to have open and transparent govt. govt of the people by the people.you need to stop disrespecting that. the opinoni of the national people to run their national land is being taken away by officipis agencies. you disrespect the people entirely. our govt is going to pieces because of gthat fact. are all the appointed members cattle grazers. get cattle grazers off our nationalland. they pay cheap cheap cheap rates and their cattle ruin the land. save nature at all costs and permanently. they are not making more land so we need to save and protec fully what we have. this comment is for the public record."*
- Jim Jennings (Emery County):

- Wilderness boundaries errors are prevalent; Recommendation for BLM to continue to work on boundary errors.
- Patrick McKay:
 - Is the Devil's Racetrack trail in wilderness? Right-of-Way should have been transferred to Emery County.
 - Encourage to work out a solution to keep Calf Canyon trail open. Work with School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration to keep road open.

Council Discussion

- Council members discussed with agency personnel the process of addressing wilderness boundary errors. The Intent was for wilderness boundaries to follow geologic features and roads. The agency informed them of the process of reviewing and addressing mapping errors on a case-by-case basis.
- Council members discussed as recreation use continues to increase, there will be increased costs associated with road maintenance. Can Emery County find additional funding sources to help cover these costs? They discussed Transient Room Tax funds should be used for promotion of tourism.
- Areas of Critical Environmental Concern Areas of Critical Environmental Concern – is there value of managing Areas of Critical Environmental Concern within the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area?
 - Areas of Critical Environmental Concern doesn't necessarily need to carry forward so long as Relevance & Important values are protected.
 - Are the current boundaries of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern adequate for managing Relevance and Importance values?
 - Table for a future discussion.
- School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration land exchange right-of-way, transfer to Emery County.
 - **Recommendation:**
 - Council made a formal recommendation that was unanimously supported: BLM will honor previous uses on right-of-ways on School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration parcels as allowed under the Dingell Act.
- Social and environmental carrying capacity?
 - Possible topic for future meetings.
 - May not be possible for the larger landscape, but easier on smaller scale for individual trailheads, campgrounds, etc.
 - Special events provide opportunities for education and outreach.

- Management plan would provide an opportunity for adaptive management to recognize triggers to put limits on recreational use.
- Boundaries
 - Council will assist with wilderness boundary issues.

Next San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Advisory Council meeting set to March 6-7, 2024



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Bureau of Land Management

San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Advisory Council

August 31, 2023





Establishment of the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Advisory Council

- March 12, 2019, the John D. Dingell Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act was signed into law, establishing, among others, The San Rafael Swell Recreation Area
- The Charter for the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Advisory Council was signed on December 19, 2019
- The Council is regulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act



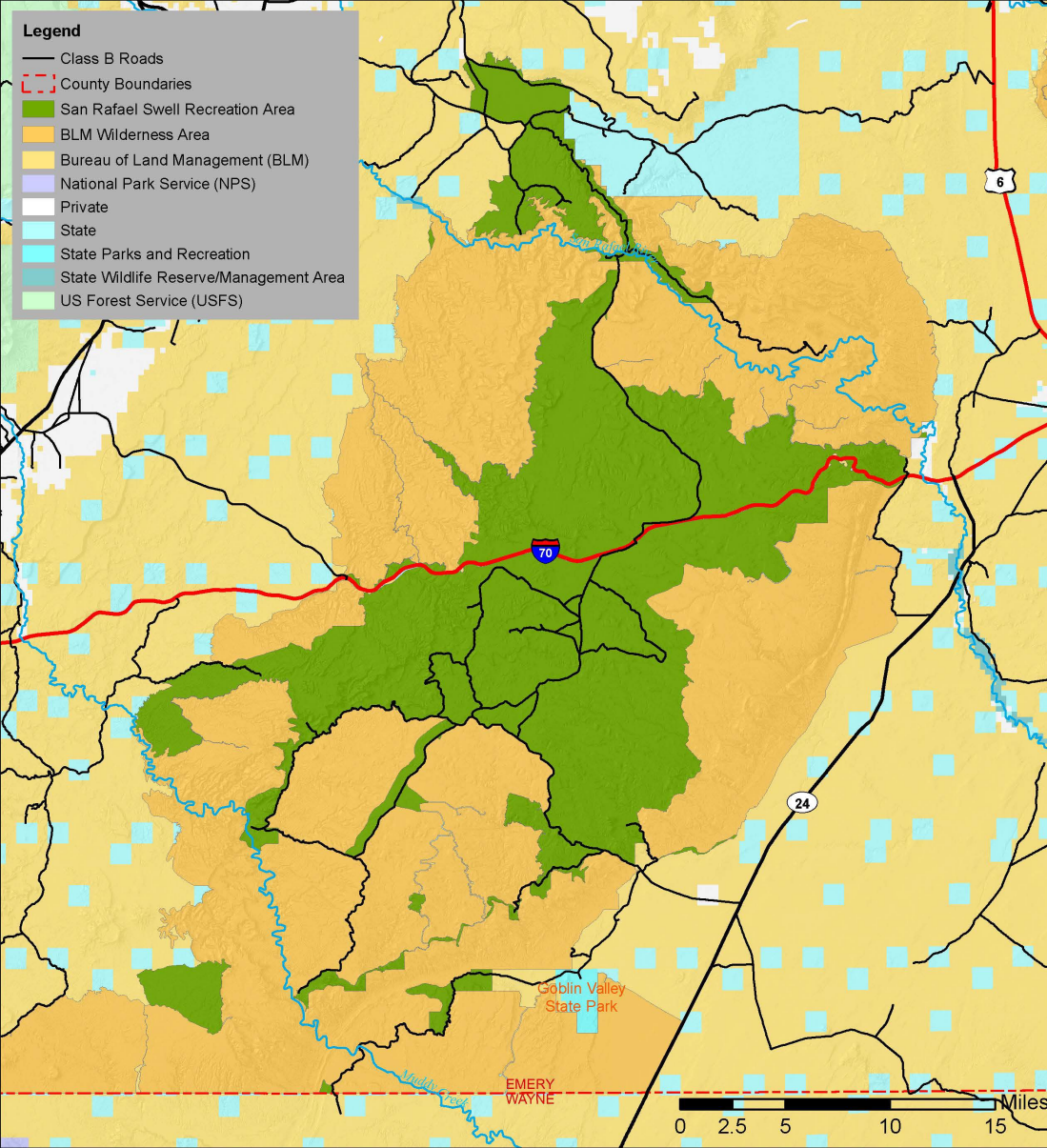
San Rafael Swell Recreation Area

Price Field Office
125 S. 600 W.
Price, Utah 84501
435-636-3600



8/29/2019

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.



- The San Rafael Swell Recreation Area includes approximately 217,000 acres
- The following Wilderness areas were congressionally designated around the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area: Big Wild Horse Mesa, Cold Wash, Devil's Canyon, Eagle Canyon, Horse Valley, Little Ocean Draw, Little Wild Horse Canyon, Lower Last Chance, Mexican Mountain, Middle Wild Horse Mesa, Muddy Creek, Red's Canyon, San Rafael Reef, and Sid's Mountain



- The Secretary of the Interior shall appoint the members of each resource advisory council
- An individual may not serve concurrently on more than one resource advisory council



Establishment of the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Advisory Council

Council Members are distributed as follows

1. A representative of the Emery County Commission;
2. A representative of motorized recreational users;
3. A representative of non-motorized recreational users;
4. A representative of grazing allotment permittees within the Recreation Area or wilderness areas designated;
5. A representative of conservation organizations;
6. A representative with expertise in the historical uses of the Recreation Area; and
7. An elected leader of a federally recognized tribe that has significant cultural or historic connections to, and expertise in, the landscape, archeological sites, or cultural sites within the County.





Members of the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Advisory Council

Name	Representative of:	Term expiration
Wade Allinson	Historical uses of the Recreation Area	September 10, 2023
Elven "Leon" McElprang	Grazing allotment permittees	September 10, 2023
Sue Bellagamba	Conservation organizations	January 15, 2024
Rod Player	Non-motorized recreational users	June 1, 2026
Kent Wilson	Motorized recreational users	June 1, 2026
Keven Jensen	Emery County Commission	June 1, 2026
Dennis Alex	Elected leader of a federally recognized tribe	June 1, 2026

A Federal Register Call for Nominations was published May 22, 2023. We received nomination packages for the openings. The packages are now going through the approval process.



Roles and Responsibilities

- The Council will advise the Agency in future land use planning decisions:
 - Plan Amendment
 - Implementation planning
 - The Council will provide recommendations regarding:
 - Outdoor recreation opportunities
 - Projects in the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area; and
 - Collaboration with local government, communities, Tribes, and the public
- The Council provides advice through the Designated Federal Official (DFO): Green River District Manager, Lance Porter





Roles and Responsibilities- Chairperson & Vice Chairperson and Designated Federal Officer Duties



- Chairperson
 - Conduct meetings
 - Seek consensus
 - Review and approve meeting notes before being posted
- Vice Chairperson
 - Act as backup to the Chairperson
- Designate Federal Officer
 - Approver or call all Council meetings
 - Prepare and approve meeting agendas
 - Attend all Council meetings
 - Adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines to be in the public interest
 - Chair meetings when directed to do so by the Secretary



- Council Members will:
 - Attend meetings and field trips
 - Participate in public discussion of issues during meetings
 - Provide notification when agenda items may be a potential conflict of interest



Quorum

- Quorum
 - A quorum for the San Rafael Swell Recreation Area Advisory Council is 5
 - Half of the number of members, rounded-up, plus one
 - A consensus is 80%
 - 6 out of 7
 - 5 out of 6
 - 4 out of 5





Questions?





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Dingell Act Mandates Progress





Dingell Act Refresher

The John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act:

- 1 Land Conveyance to Utah Division of Parks and Recreation
- 4 Public Purposes Conveyances
- Land Exchanges between BLM and SITLA
- Designation of :
 - 17 Wilderness Areas
 - Wild, Scenic, and Recreational River Segments
- Release of Wilderness Study Areas
- Establishment of:
 - San Rafael Swell Recreation Area and Recreation Area Advisory Council (RAAC)
 - Jurassic National Monument



Land Conveyances Status

- Goblin Valley State Park –
Completed June 17, 2022
- Emery City Recreation Area -
Completed September 14, 2022
- Huntington Airport –
Completed September 20, 2022
- Emery County Sheriff's Office –
Completed June 17, 2022
- Buckhorn Information Center –
Completed June 17, 2022



Dingell Act Land Exchange

- Exchange lands throughout Utah:
 - 116,000 acres of SITLA
 - 92,000 acres of BLM
- In Emery County:
 - BLM to SITLA - ~20,600 acres of surface and minerals, 40 acres oil and gas only, 120 acres coal only.
 - SITLA to BLM - ~109,300 acres surface and minerals



Dingell Act Land Exchange Status

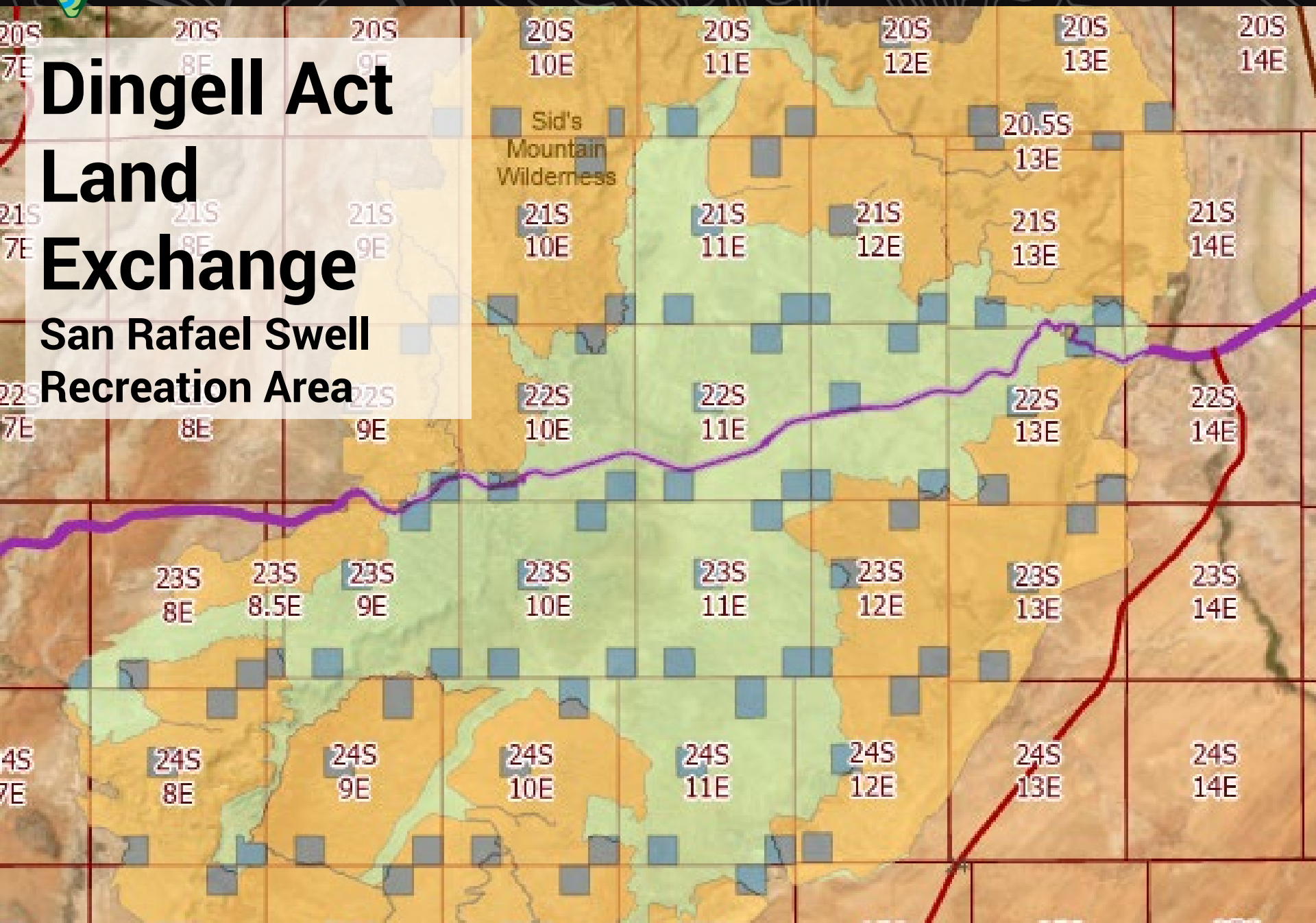
- Draft Environmental Assessment (EA)
- EA, Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and Decision Record
- Cadastral surveys
- Certificate of Inspection and Possession (CIP) surveys
- Environmental Site Assessments
- Appraisals
- Expected completion?



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Dingell Act Land Exchange

San Rafael Swell Recreation Area

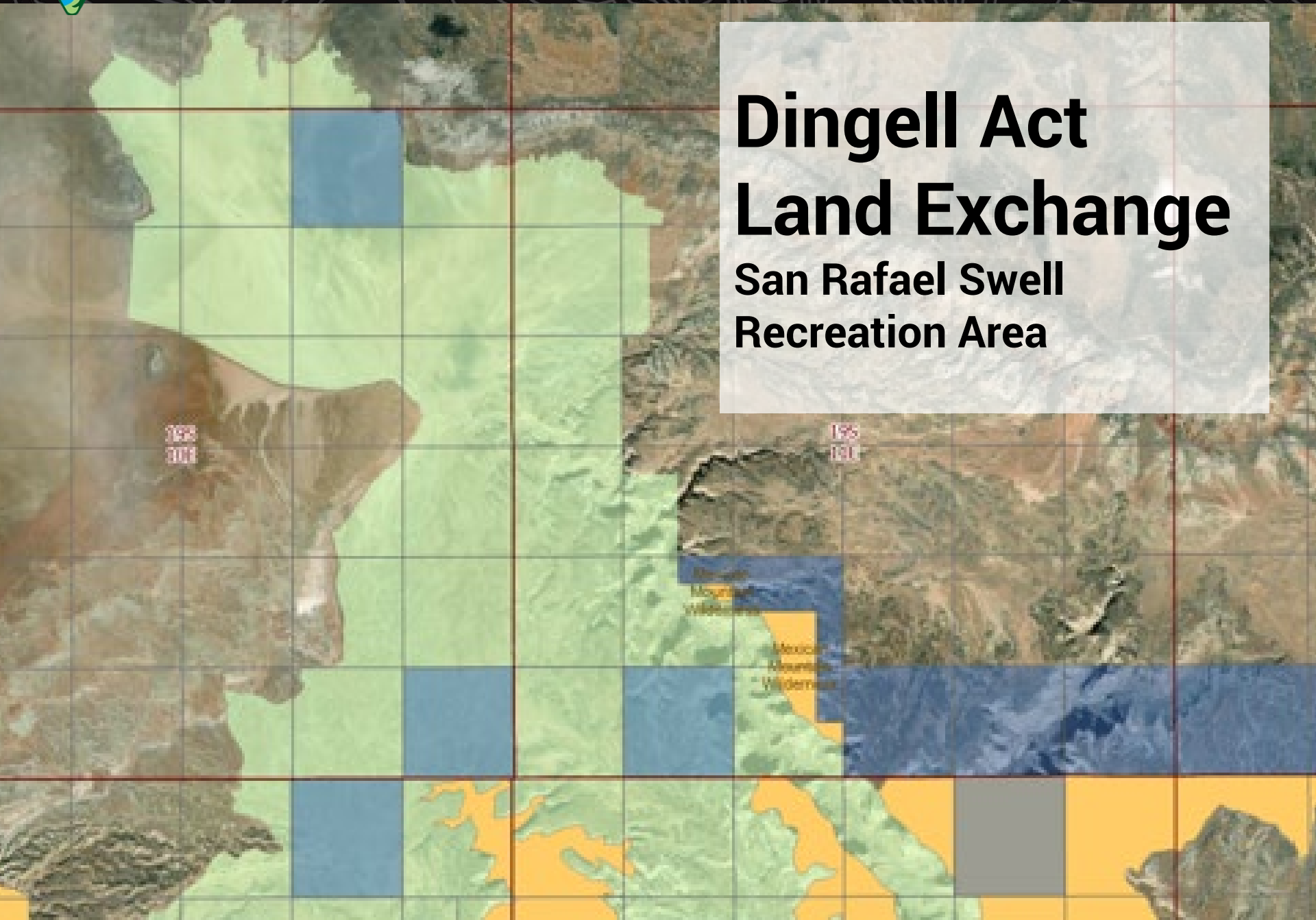


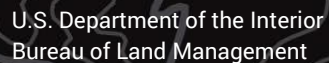


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Dingell Act Land Exchange

San Rafael Swell Recreation Area



An aerial photograph of a forested area, likely a national forest, with a red line indicating a boundary or a specific land exchange area. The text is overlaid on the image.

Dingell Act

Land Exchange

San Rafael Swell

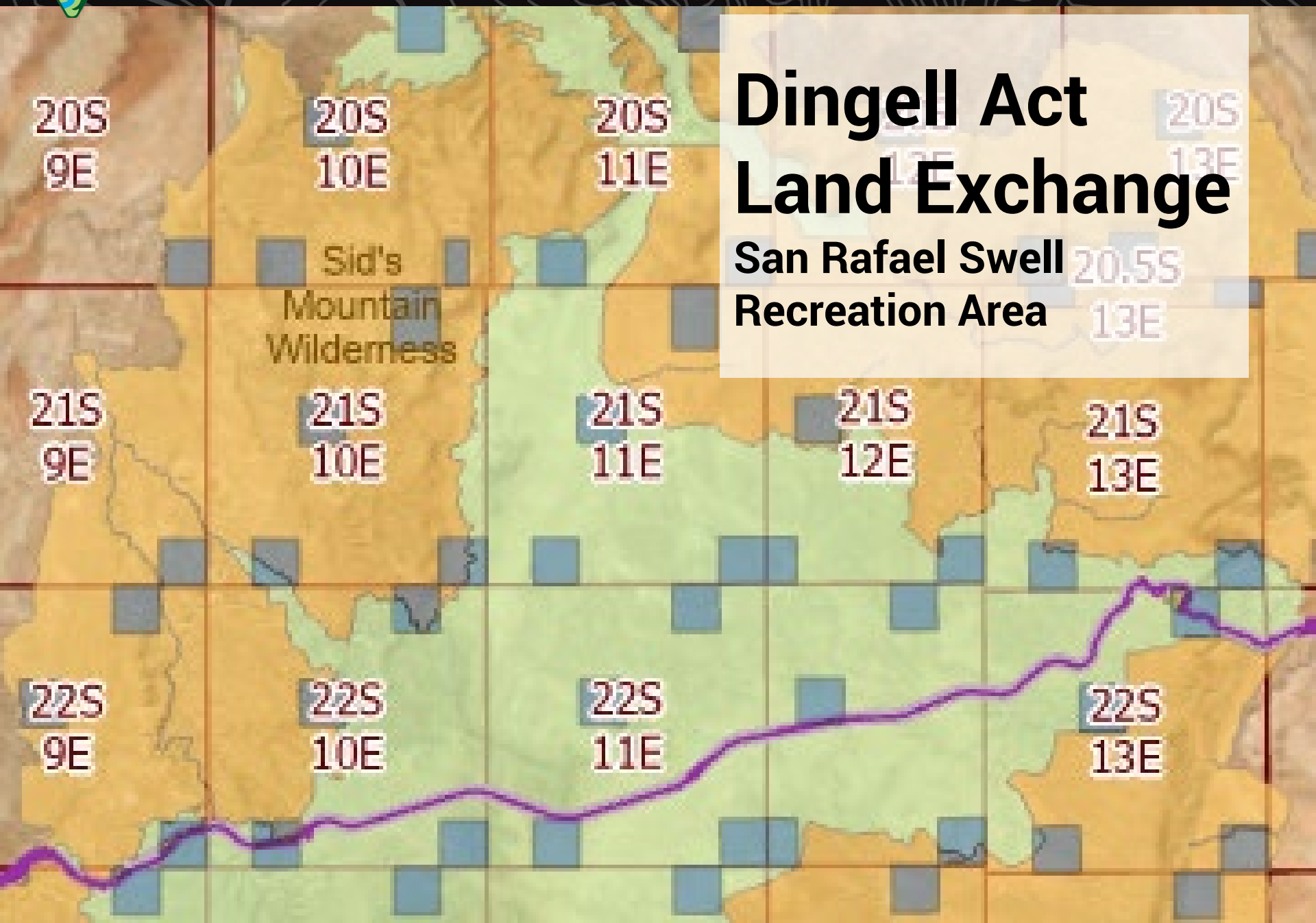
Recreation Area





Dingell Act Land Exchange

San Rafael Swell
Recreation Area

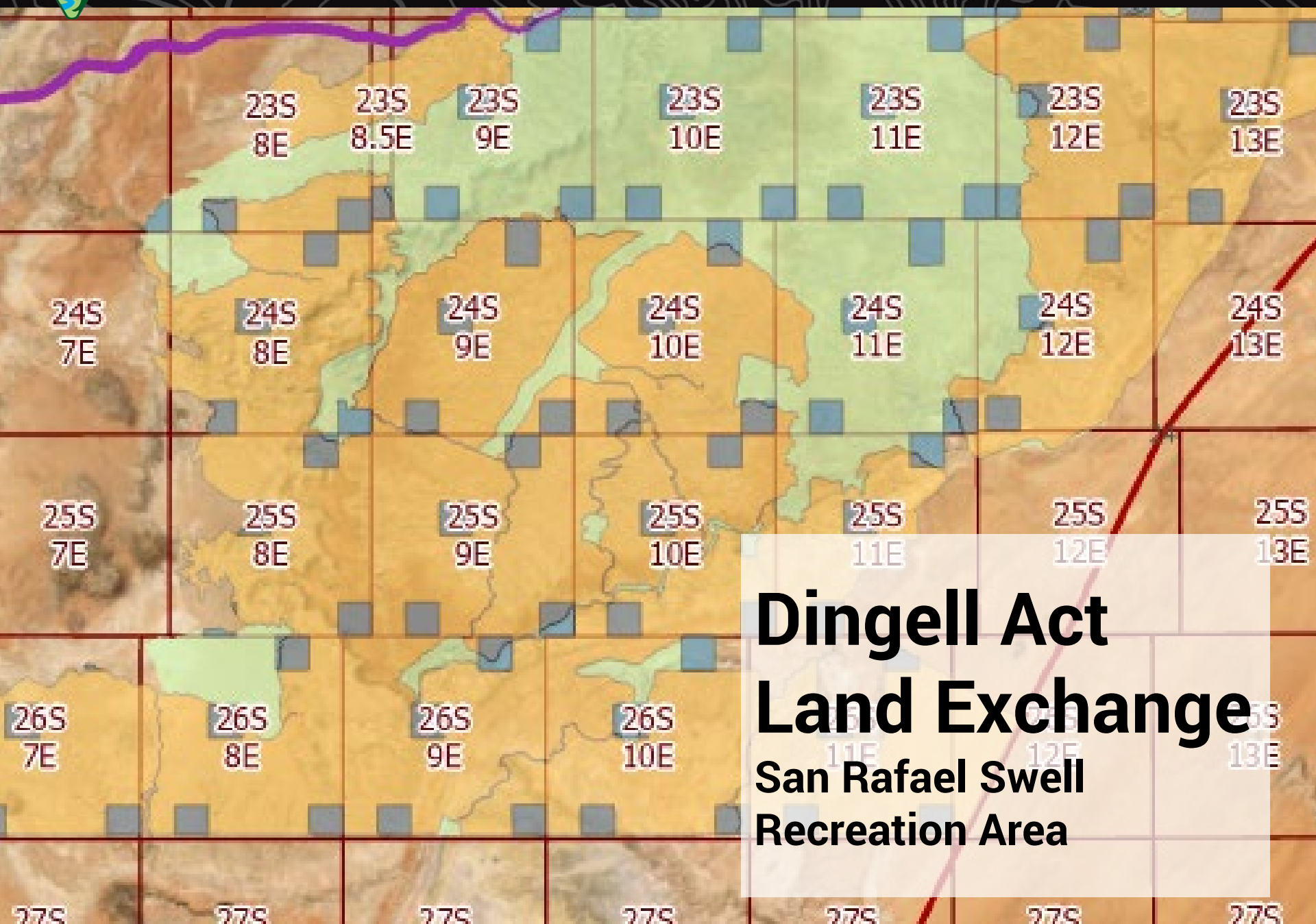




Dingell Act Land Exchange

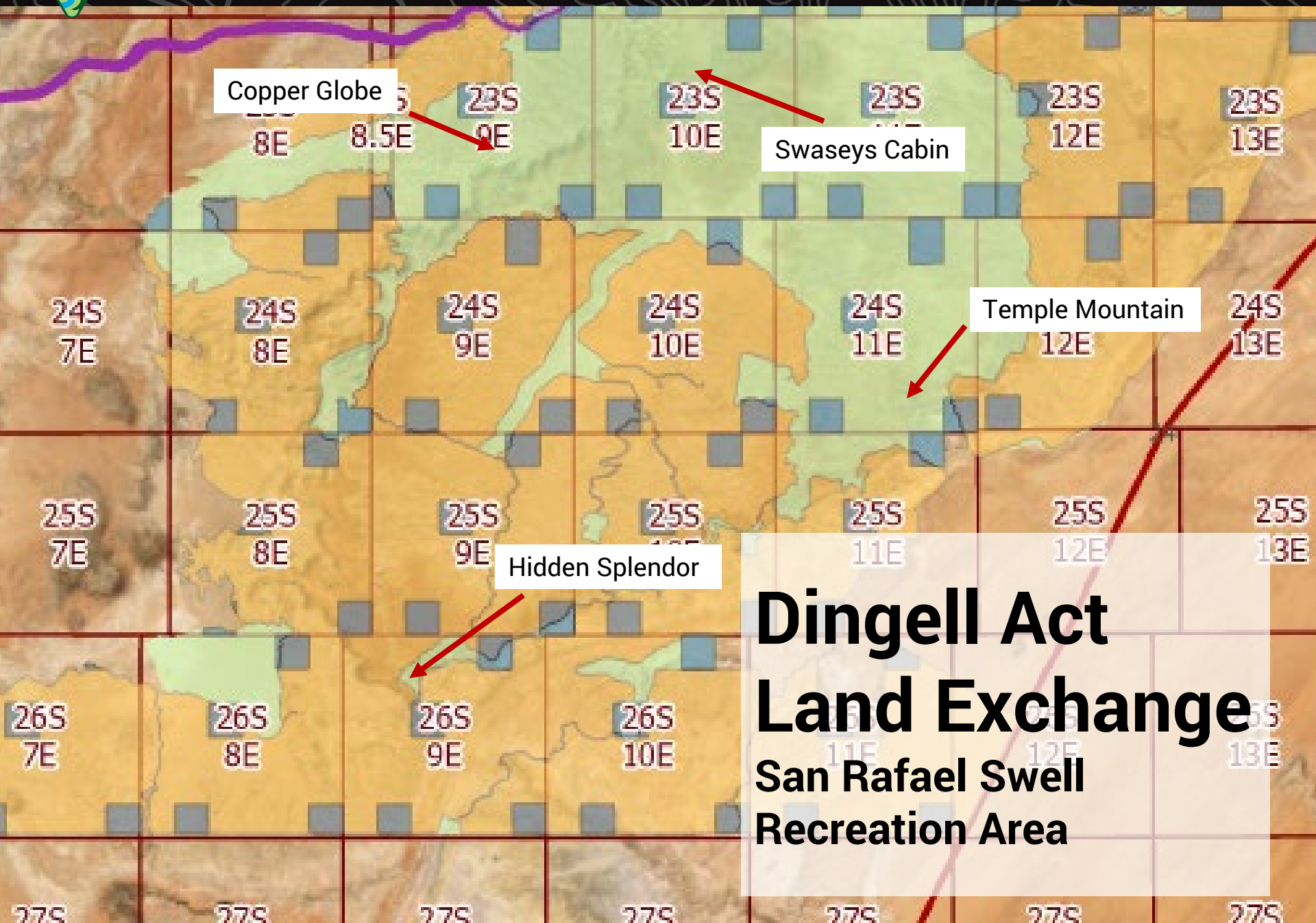
San Rafael Swell
Recreation Area





Dingell Act Land Exchange

San Rafael Swell
Recreation Area



Copper Globe

Swaseys Cabin

Temple Mountain

Hidden Splendor

**Dingell Act
Land Exchange**
San Rafael Swell
Recreation Area



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Questions??



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Molly Hocanson

NEPA Coordinator

435-636-3660 office

mhocanson@blm.gov

Bureau of Land Management

Price Field Office

125 South 600 West

Price, UT 84501



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San Rafael Swell Recreation Area

Resource Management Plan Amendment





Changes Based on Comments

- Name
- Boundary
- Scope
- Purpose & Need
- Planning Criteria





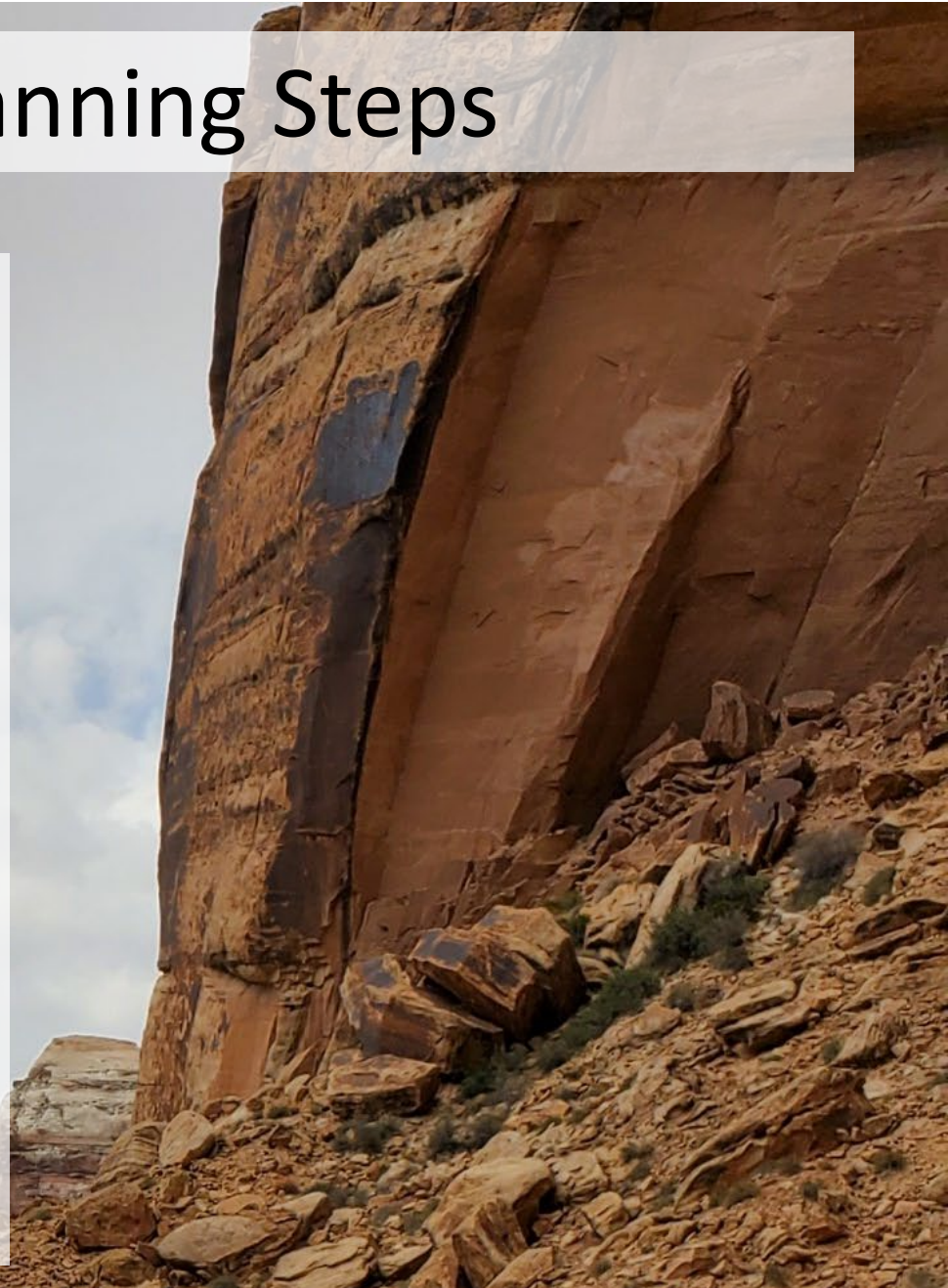
Comments to be Incorporated

- Identify management
- Identify impacts
- Identify natural and human environment



Pending Planning Steps

- Finalize the Analysis of the Management Situation
- Develop Alternatives
- Develop Environmental Assessment
- Public Comment
- Consultation
- Proposed RMP Protest
- Governor's Review
- Decision Record





Alternatives

- What management themes should the BLM consider?
- What areas or issues should have management options, and what circumstances would those options respond to?



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Questions?

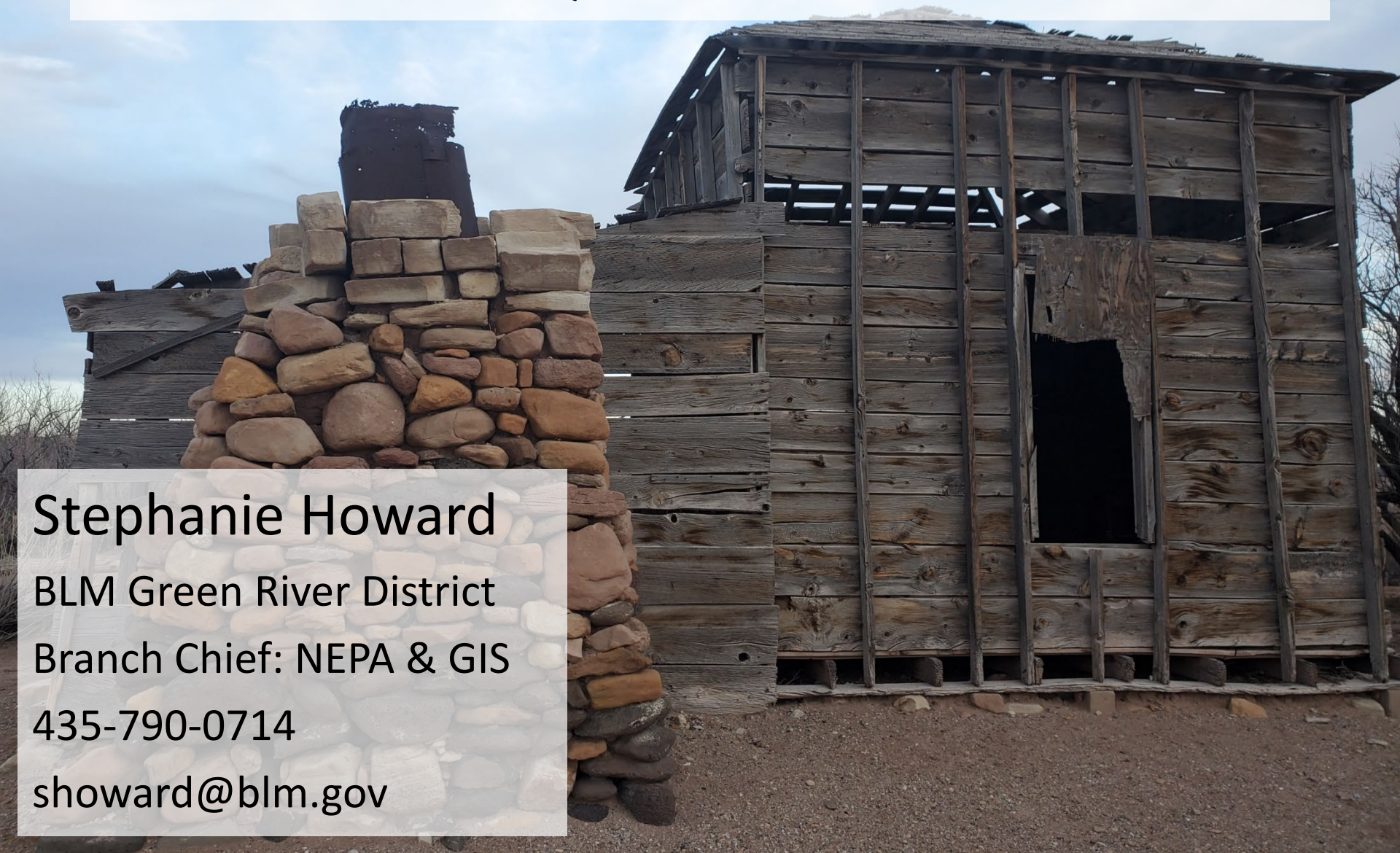
Stephanie Howard

BLM Green River District

Branch Chief: NEPA & GIS

435-790-0714

showard@blm.gov





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Recreation Area Highlights

Presented by: Jaydon Mead, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Photo from 2023 Green River Dirt Bike Rally





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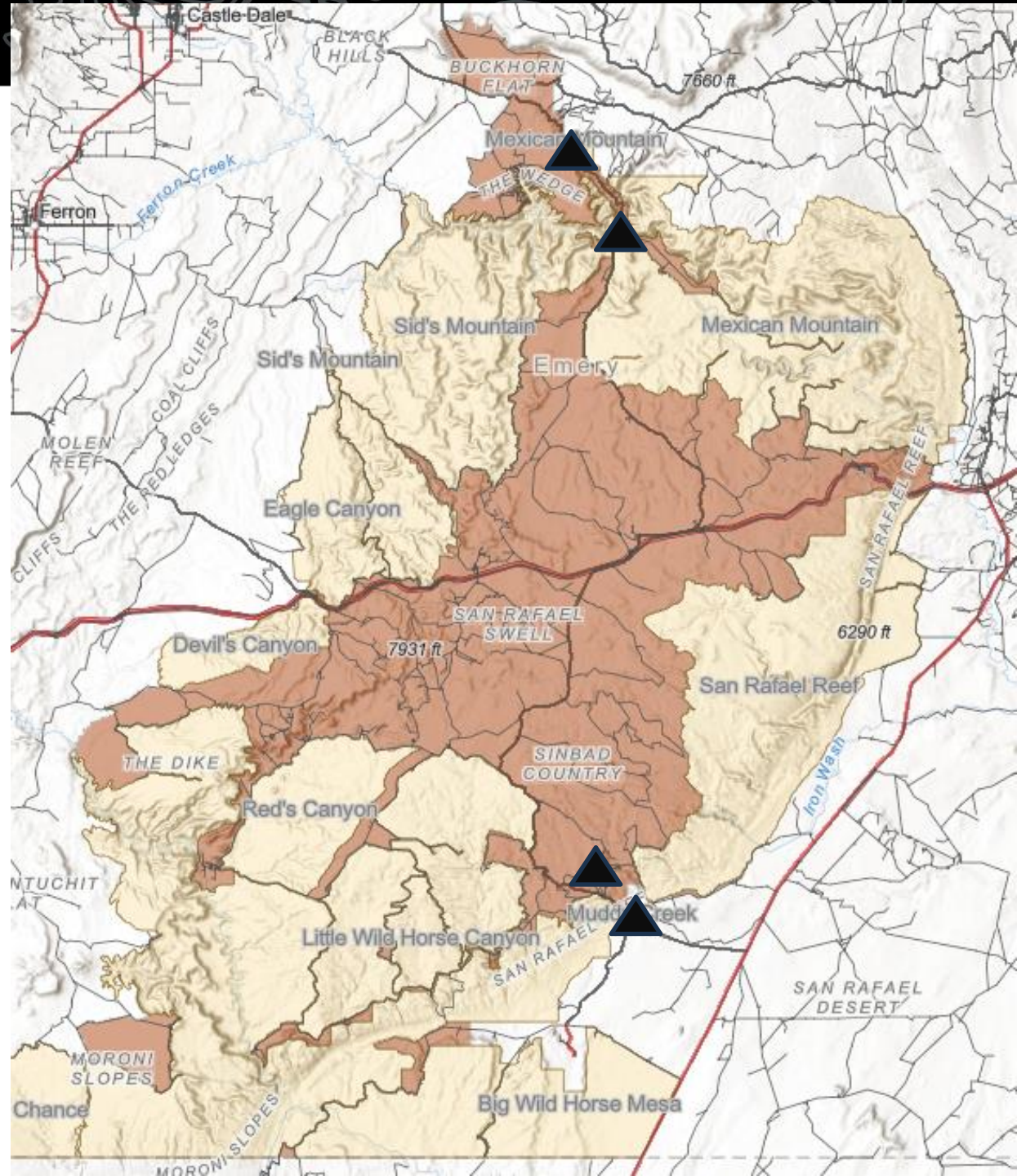
Campground Updates

Swinging Bridge
Campground

Buckhorn Draw
Campground

Temple Mountain
Townsite Campground

South Temple Wash
Campground





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Swinging Bridge Campground Updates

FY2019

1,391 Visitors

FY2020

2,117 Visitors

FY2021 (Increased Fees)

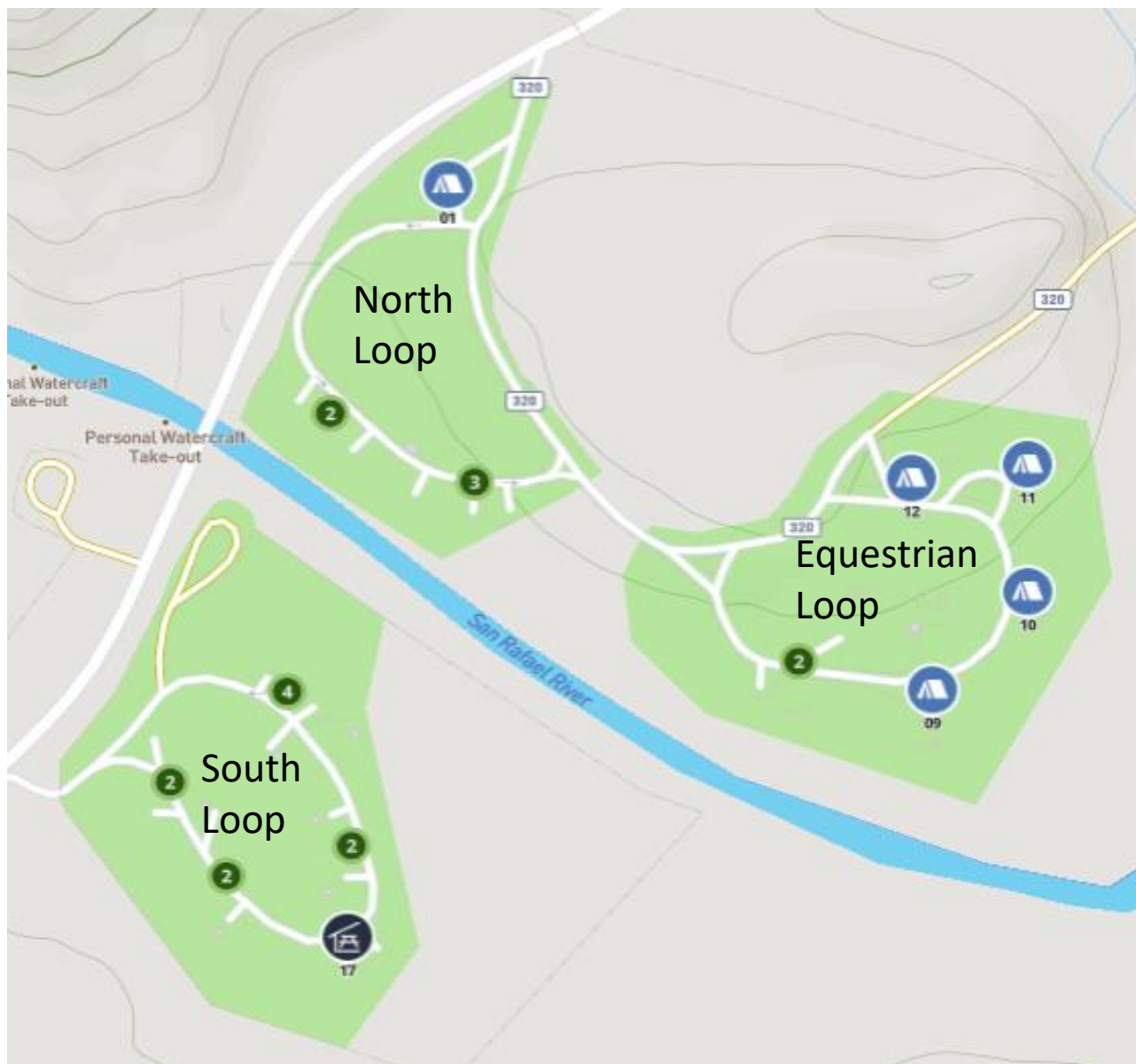
1,524 Visitors

FY2022

1,346 Visitors

FY2023 so far...

1,767 Visitors





Swinging Bridge Campground Updates



Improvements Made:
New Scan and Pay feature
North Fence was constructed.
Shade Structures
What is still needed?
Recreation/Multiple Use
Kiosk
New Campsite #s
Possible site reservations?





SWINGING BRIDGE NORTH

**BUY YOUR PASS ONLINE**
RECREATION.gov

REGISTER AND PAY WITH THE RECREATION.GOV APP

1 Use the Recreation.gov Scan & Pay app for first-time, first-visit campers at this campground.

2 Select an unoccupied campsite and place your tent and equipment down to claim the site.

3 Scan the QR code on your campsite post and follow the on-screen instructions to reserve your site.

4 Connected to cell service? We're all set! No call service! No problem - your transaction will be marked as "Pending" until you have cell service.

5 Be sure to follow any additional instructions at the kiosk or the table to indicate your campsite is paid for and accepted.

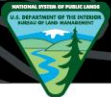
6 If asked for proof of payment, simply show the confirmation number and QR code on your phone.



Scan This Code To Get Started

Print your pass from the confirmation email or keep the pass on your phone.

Price Field Office



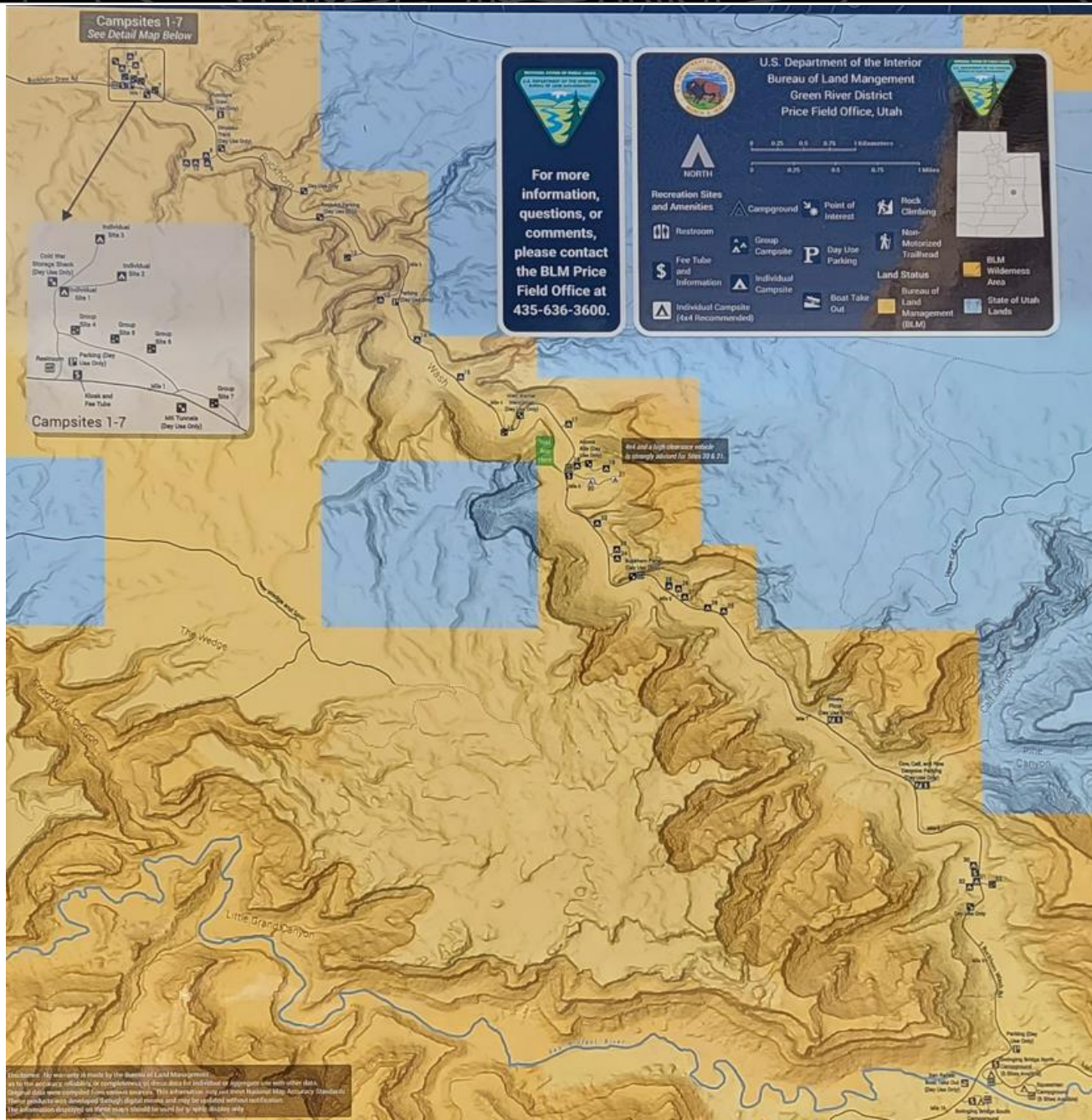
Buckhorn Draw Campground Updates

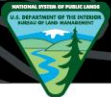
**New fee site as of
January 6, 2023**

33 Total Campsites
(7 group sites, 26
individual sites)

FY2023 so far...

2,529 User Days





Buckhorn Draw Campground Updates

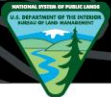
Improvements

- New Signs
- Campsite improvements.

What is still needed?

- More hardened/leveled campsite surfaces.
- Install culverts on access routes.
- Area/Recreation Opportunity Kiosk Signs.
- Historic/Cultural Site Signs
- Scan and Pay & Reservable Sites?





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Temple Mountain Townsite Campground Updates

**New fee site as of
January 6, 2023**

10 total campsites
(1 group site, 9
individual sites)

FY2023 so far...

1,723 User Days





Temple Mountain Townsite Campground Updates

Improvements:

- Campsite site redesigns
- Gravel/leveled sites
- New signs

What is still needed?

- Finish Campsite leveling/hardening
- Improve storm drainage
- Recreation/multiple use kiosk
- Plan for historic site signs
- Scan and Pay & Reservable sites?





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South Temple Wash Campground Updates

**New fee site as of
January 6, 2023**

12 Total Campsites
(2 group sites, 10
individual sites)

FY2023 so far...
2,031 User Days





South Temple Wash Campground Updates

Improvements:

- Campsite Delineation
- New Signs

What is still needed?

- Recreation/multiple use kiosks
- Scan and Pay
- Reservable Sites?
- Address displacement of day use OHV trailhead parking





Events held in the Swell Rec Area in 2023:

Green River Dirt Bike Rally (April, 352 Participants)

UTV Watermelon Crawl (March, 349 Participants)

Green River Rock Festival (March, 150+ Participants)

Swell OHV Jamboree (April, 92 Participants)

Bike the Swell Festival (April, 58 Participants)

Buckhorn Muzzleloader Rendezvous (May, 32 Participants)

Easter Jeep Safari (April, 30 Participants)





Commercial Use Update

**76 active Commercial Permits authorized to do business in the SRS Rec Area.
Only 7 of those operators reported more then 10 days of use in the Swell last year.**

- Elements (wilderness therapy) 944 User Days
- Moab Canyon Tours (canyoneering) 136 User Days
- Snow College (adventure and educational) 133 User Days
- Adventure Hideaway (guided dirt bike tours) 76 User Days
- Moab Cliffs and Canyons (canyoneering) 42 User Days
- Desert Solitude (Vehicle Tours) 38 User Days
- Colorado Rocky Mountain School (adventure/educational) 22 user days





Commercial Use and Events Update

PFO has recently transitioned to an online system (RAPTOR) for all new SRP Applications



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Recreation And Permit Tracking Online Reporting

[Home](#)[Special Recreation Permits](#)[Paleontology](#)[Scientific Research](#)[Login / Register](#)[Help](#)

Welcome to **RAPTOR**. This is the site where the public can submit applications to the BLM for Special Recreation Permits, Paleontological Resource Use Permits and Scientific Research Permits and Authorization. Choose your area of interest below to learn more about each type of permit.



Special Recreation Permits

Special Recreation Permits are issued to businesses, organizations, and individuals to allow the use of specific public land and related waters for recreational commercial, competitive, and organized group use. Special Recreation Permits provide resource protection measures to ensure the future enjoyment of those resources by the public.

[Special Recreation Permit Home Page](#)

Paleontology

Paleontological Resource Use Permits are issued to individuals who would survey for or collect fossils on public lands.

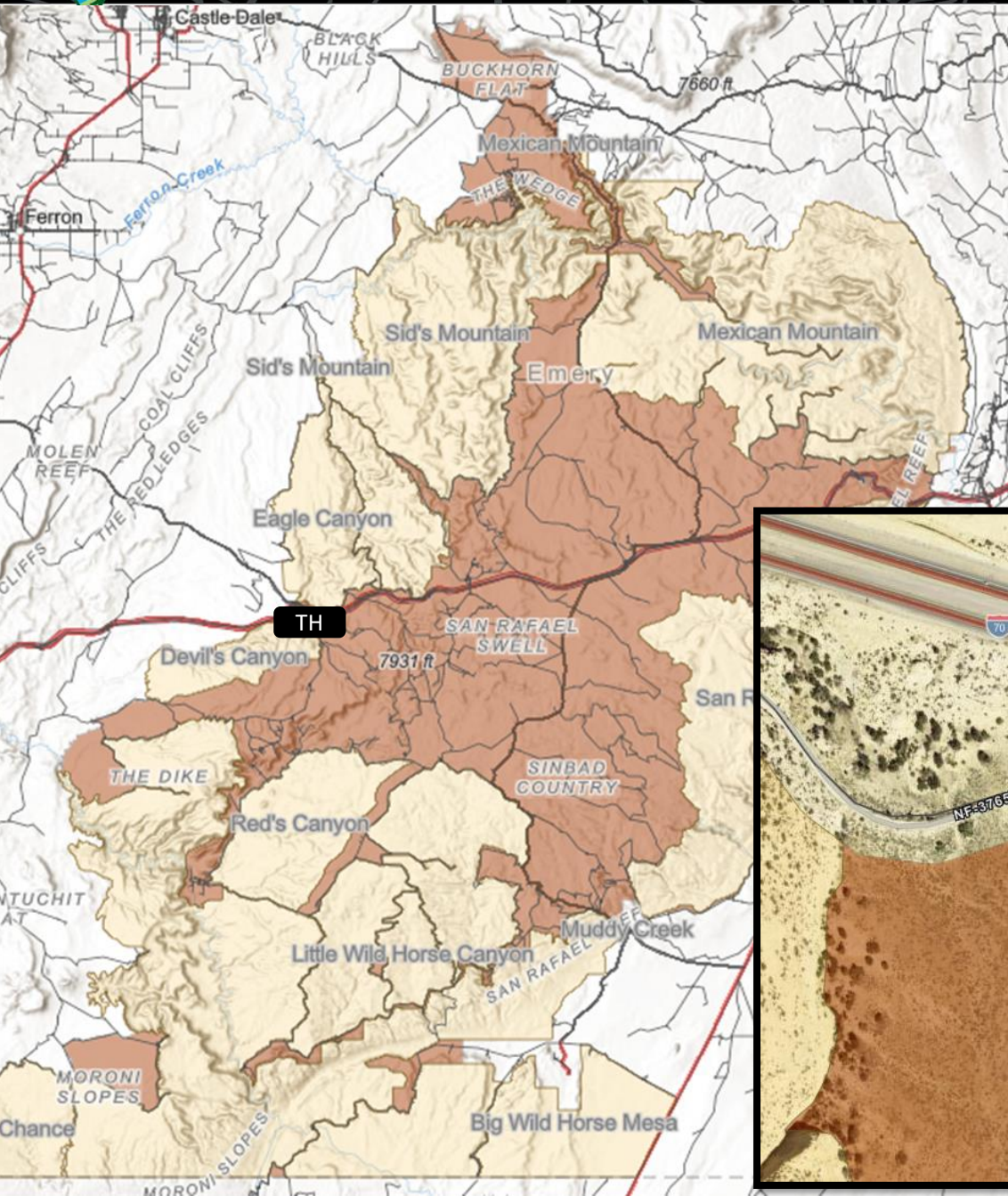
[Paleontology Home Page](#)

Photo courtesy of Colorado
Mesa University

Scientific Research

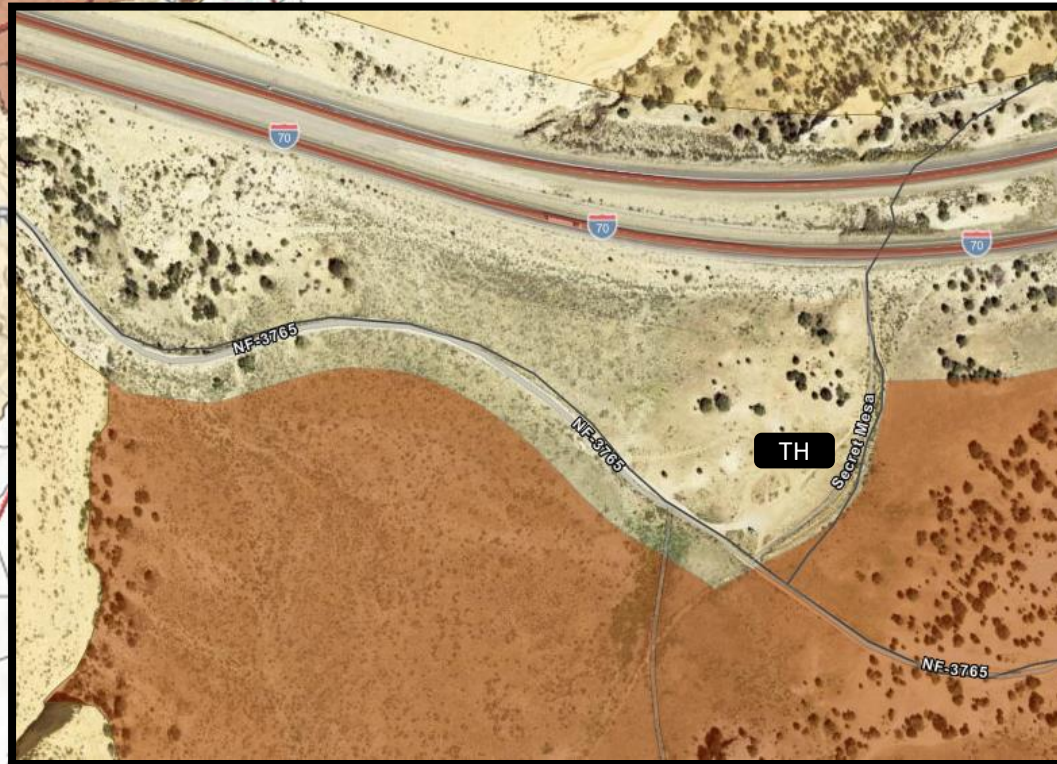
Scientific Research Authorizations are issued to organizations, universities, or other partners for conducting scientific research on BLM-managed land. Your research will contribute to a growing body of knowledge that will inform management decisions, the public, and contribute to the appreciation of the unique resources on our public lands.

[Scientific Research Home Page](#)



Justensen Flats Trailhead Development

Project Location Maps





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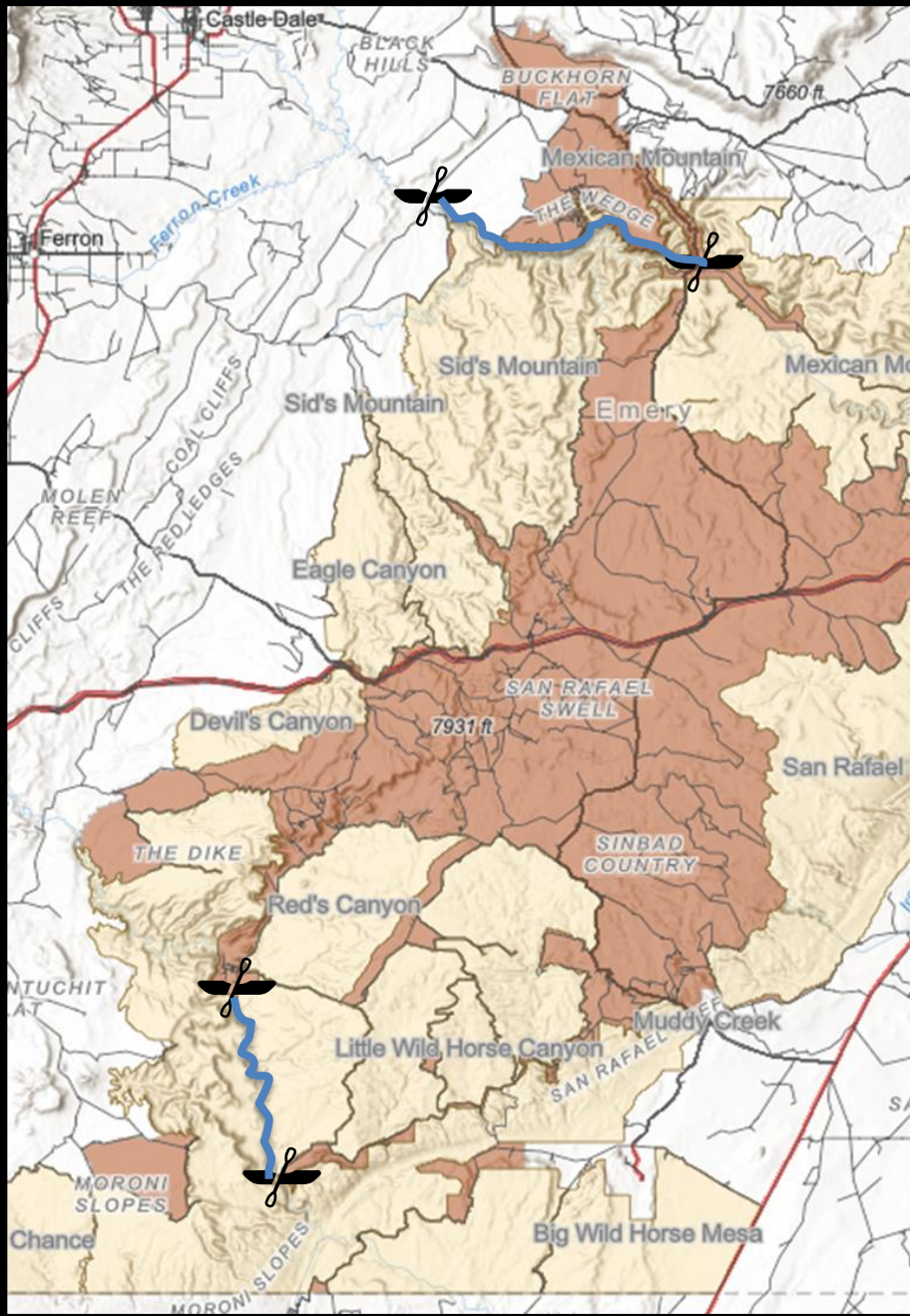
Justensen Flats Trailhead Development



\$150k project---\$35k grant awarded
Parking Area Improvements---New Toilet---Trail Maintenance---Signs
State of Utah OHV Fiscal Incentive Grant---Thank You!!!



San Rafael River and Muddy Creek

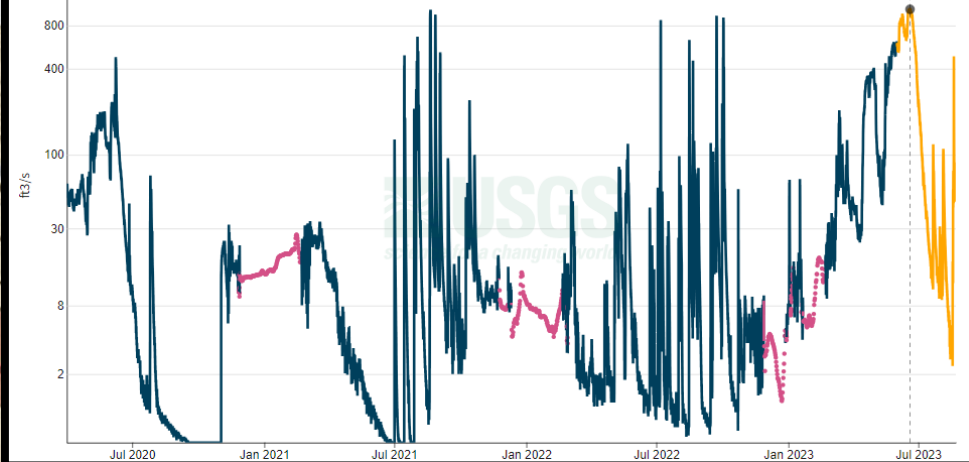


San Rafael River Near Green River, UT - 09328500

April 1, 2020 - August 21, 2023

Streamflow, ft³/s ⓘ

1040 ft³/s - Jun 19, 2023 09:30:00 AM MDT

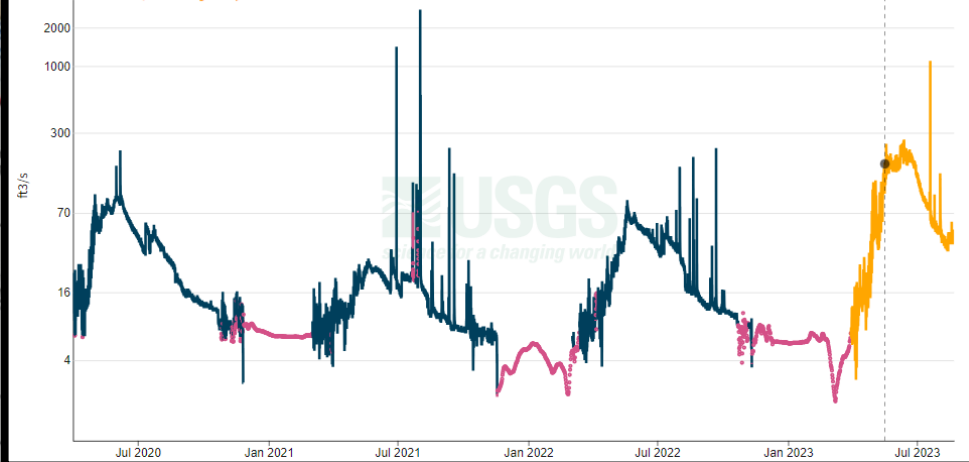


Muddy Creek Near Emery, UT - 09330500

April 1, 2020 - August 21, 2023

Streamflow, ft³/s ⓘ

171 ft³/s - May 16, 2023 09:30:00 PM MDT





San Rafael River and Muddy Creek



How did the historic snow packs on the Forest impact us downstream?

Successes:

Before: temporary signs to address flooding and river float information. Social media posts. Removed hazards.

During: Increased presence at parking areas and on river. Kept campsites clean. Removed trash/wrecked boats. Addressed new hazards as they came up.

After: No major search and rescue events!

Challenges:

Parking issues and impacts from unprepared visitors.

Public safety in wilderness, how much is too much/not enough?

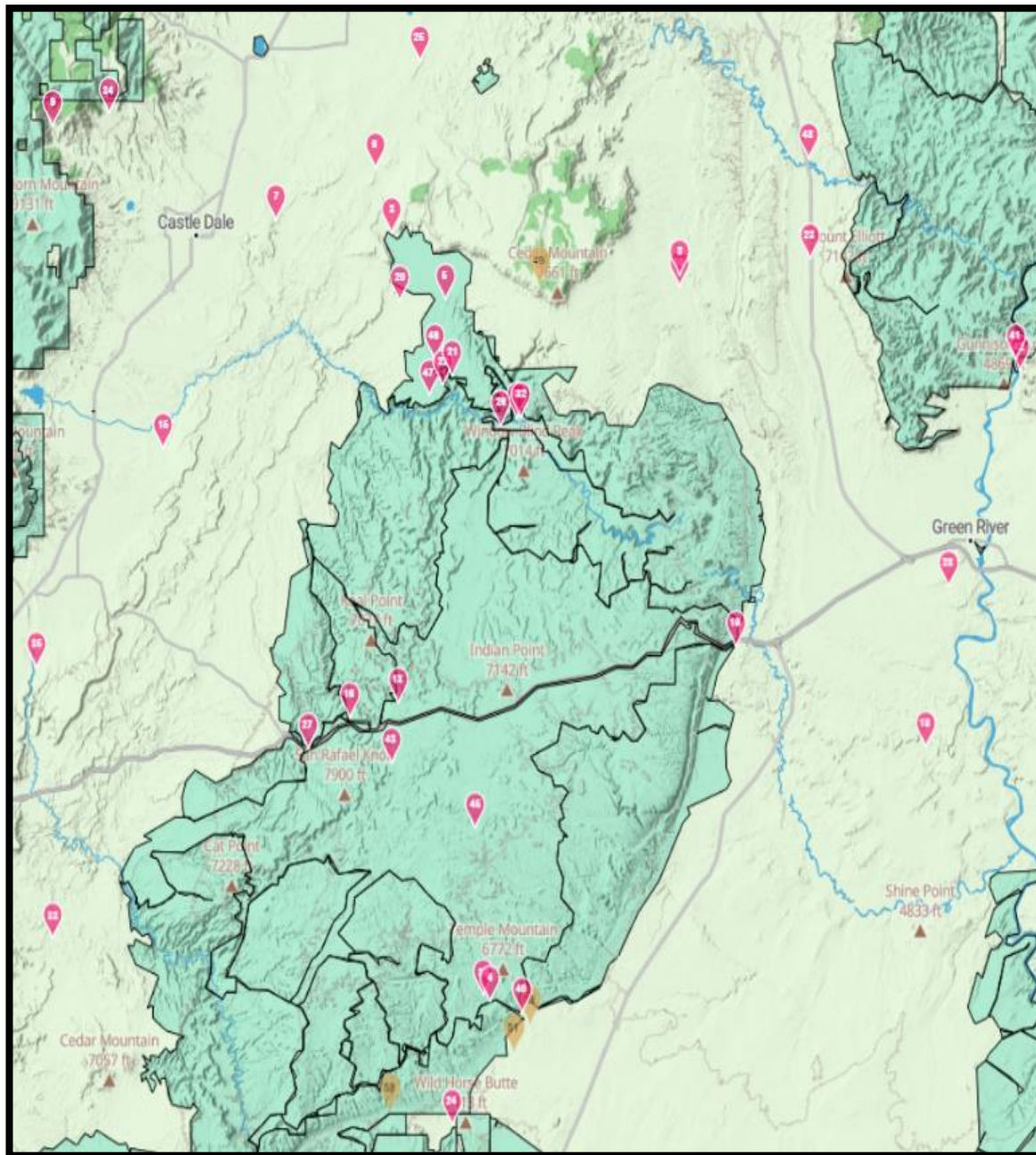


Visitor Use

10 new trail counters installed in partnership with Emery County!

- Green River Cut Off Road (Castle Dale)
- Green River Cut Off Road (Hwy 6)
- Dutch Flat Road (Ferron)
- Buckhorn Res. (Huntington/Cleveland)
- Fullers Bottom
- Mussentuchit
- Lower San Rafael Road (SRD)
- Good Water Rim Trail (East) Inferred
- Rochester Rock Art Panel Inferred
- Cane Wash (Not installed yet) Inferred

These will help us better understand how people are accessing the San Rafael Swell and give us better visitor use trends down the road.



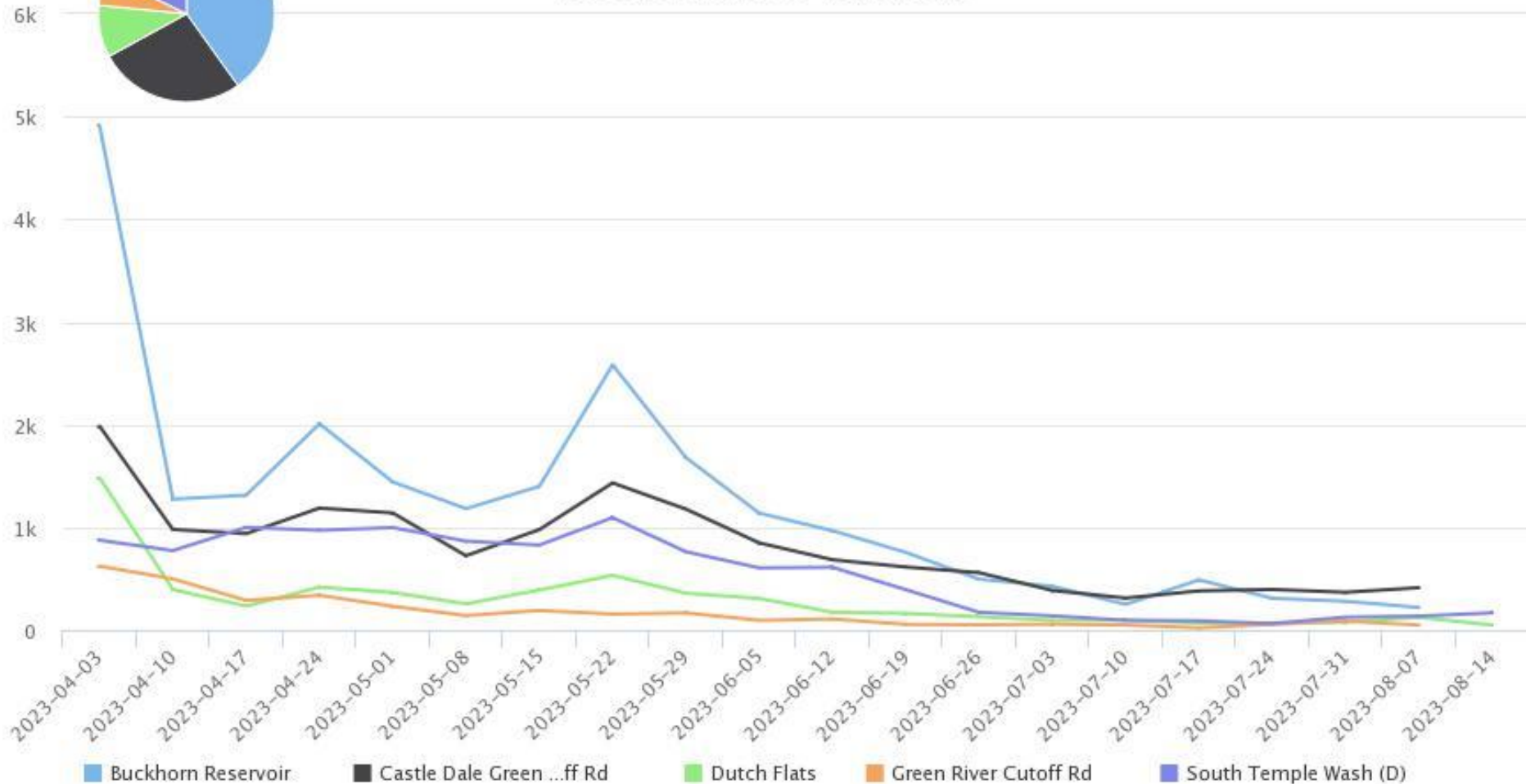


Access roads into the Swell Recreation Area that have trail counters

Avg

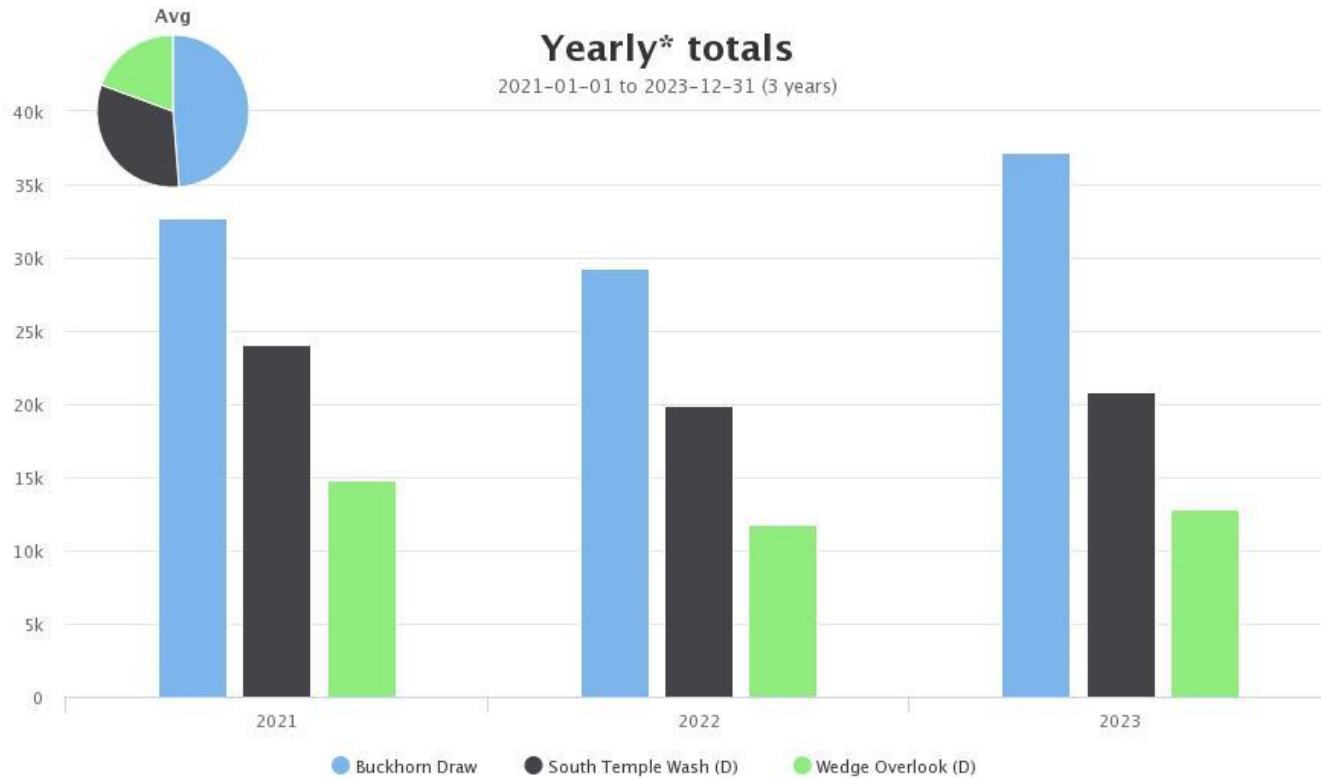
Weekly* totals

2023-04-03 to 2023-08-20 (20 weeks)





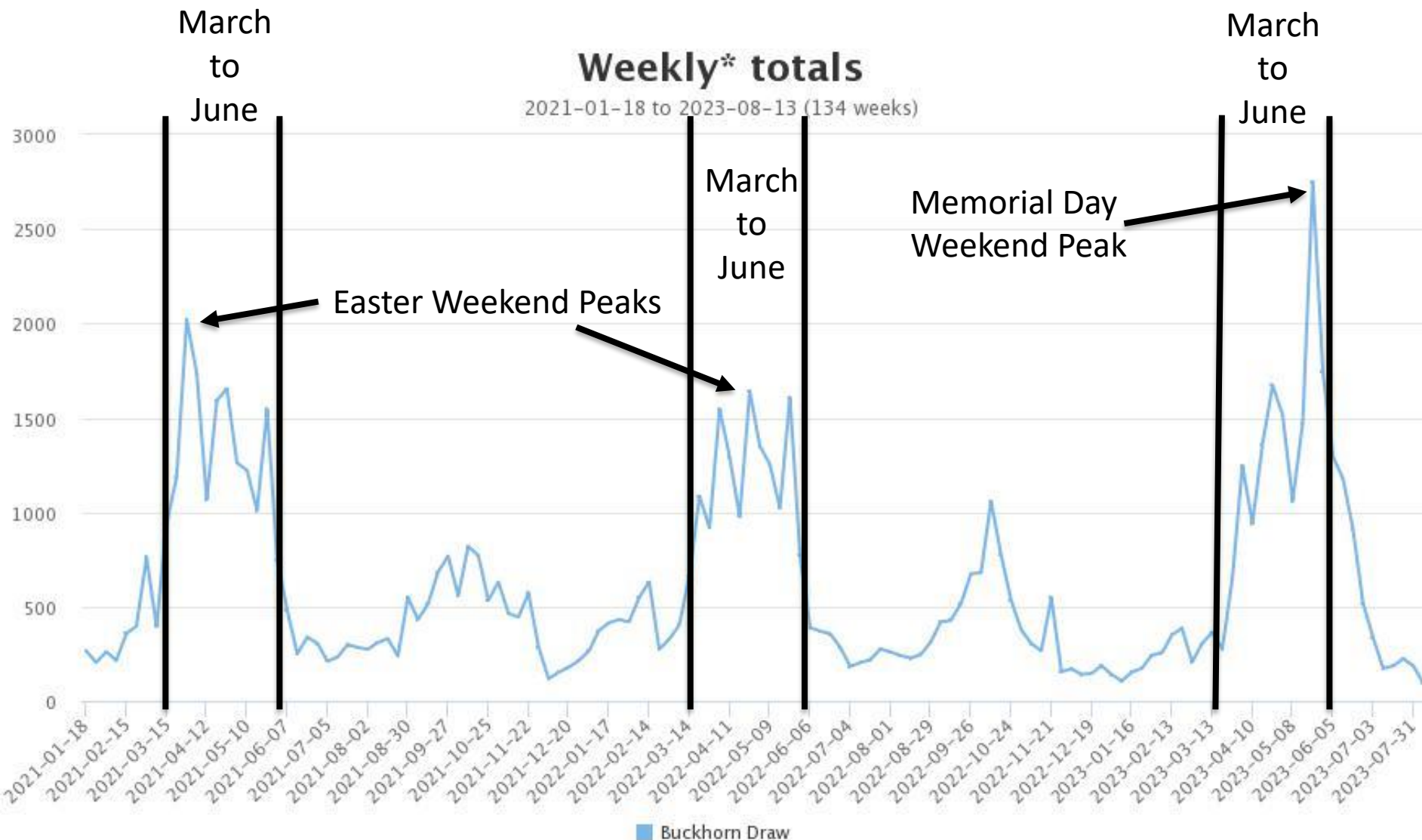
General Yearly Observations from a few sites

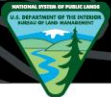


Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	ADT†	ADT†x365	Days with data
2021	Buckhorn Draw	1,000*	1,228	3,638	6,865	6,126	1,668	1,178	1,255	2,399	3,186	2,160	816	89.490	32,664	345
	South Temple Wash ^D	260*	551	2,959	5,630	4,383	1,337	629	602	1,767	3,074	1,278	340	65.797	24,016	344
	Wedge Overlook ^D	228*	420	1,446	3,215	2,789	926	627	604	1,235	1,366	986	273	40.487	14,778	345
2022	Buckhorn Draw	1,596	1,878	2,675	5,789	5,864	1,756	1,020	1,040	1,963	3,387	1,532	712	80.033	29,212	365
	South Temple Wash ^D	309	597	2,415	5,249	3,640	1,376	490	515	1,447	2,909	781	188	54.564	19,916	365
	Wedge Overlook ^D	405	538	1,116	2,326	2,369	924	524	482	1,024	1,403	508	193	32.362	11,812	365
2023	Buckhorn Draw	651	1,214	1,362	5,619	7,516	4,659	1,208	760*					101.932	37,205	220
	South Temple Wash ^D	173	346	1,495	3,893	4,069	2,205	460	616*					57.000	20,805	227
	Wedge Overlook ^D	156	234	421	1,950	2,503	1,742	608	461*					35.150	12,830	220

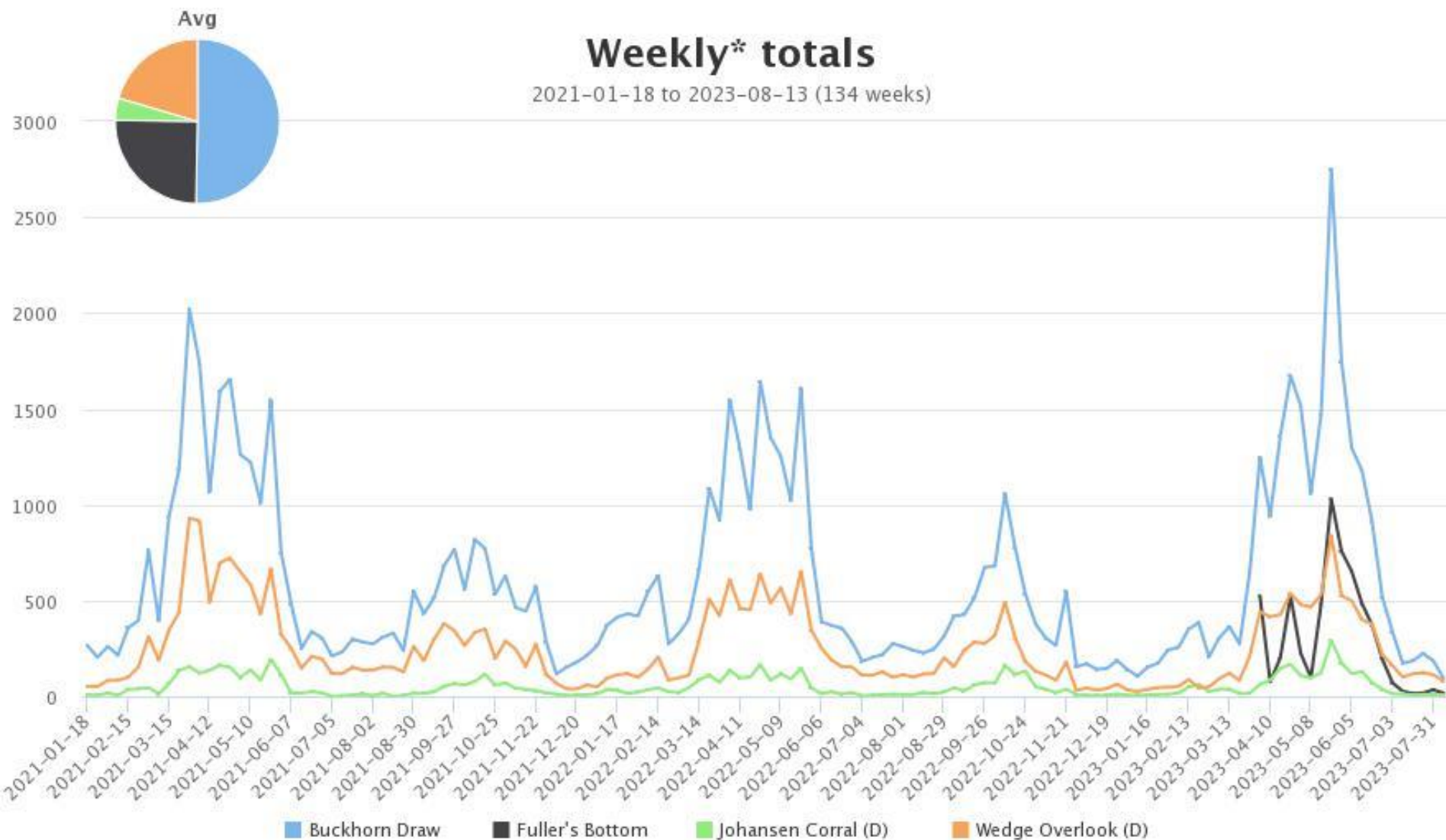


What was different in 2023?





How historic snowpack impacted visitor use in the Swell

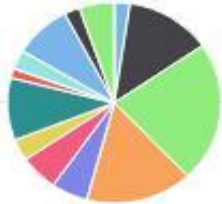




What stayed the same in 2023?

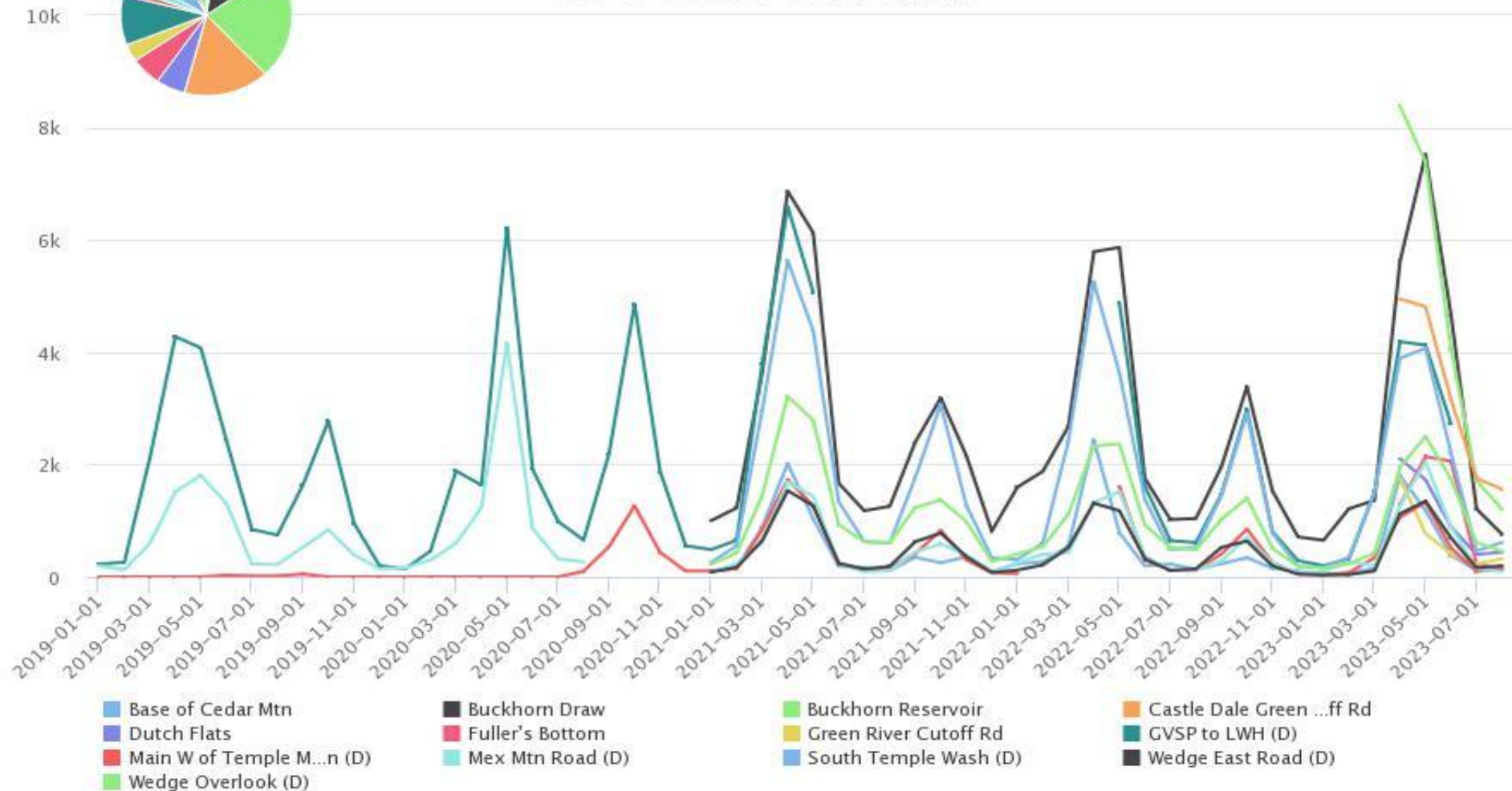
Spring and Fall peaks on Main Roads

Avg



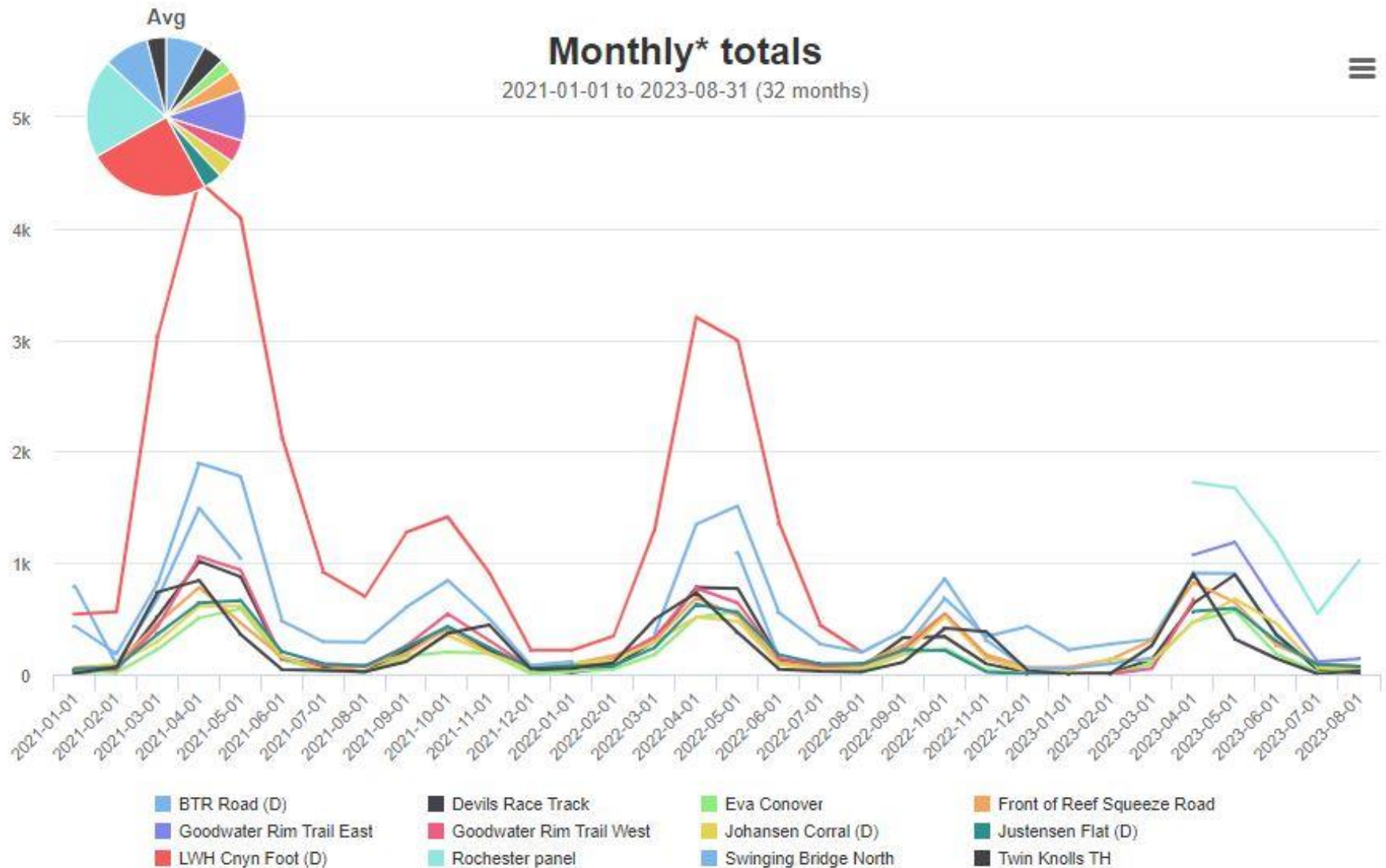
Monthly* totals

2019-01-01 to 2023-08-31 (56 months)





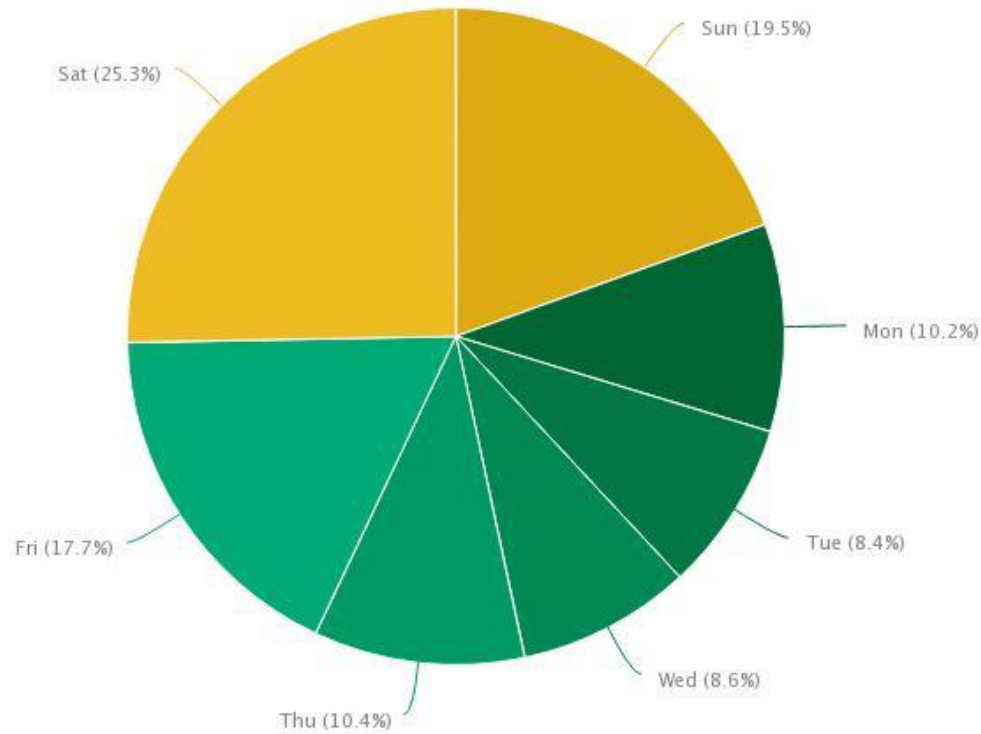
Spring and Fall peaks on Trails





Days of the Week

2019-01-01 to 2023-08-16



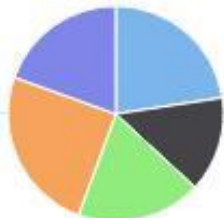
Site Name	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Base of Cedar Mtn	8.7	5.6	6.8	11.1	22.2	33.8	25.4
Buckhorn Draw	57.8	45.4	52	61.8	106.7	167.8	129.3
Buckhorn Reservoir	116.2	83.1	86.8	113.4	220.7	266.9	244.6
Castle Dale Green Rive...ff Rd	103.4	95.4	86.2	90.1	114.8	164.4	137.7
Dutch Flats	24.1	21.1	18.4	26.7	44.6	79.6	46.9
Fuller's Bottom	31.8	21.1	20.1	19	43.8	108.3	62.9
Green River Cutoff Rd	15.3	14.7	16.4	18.6	33.2	34.8	28.9
GVSP to LWH (D)	44.6	39.9	40.7	51	82.6	111.9	76.4
Main W of Temple Mountain (D)	6.4	5.3	5.6	7.4	12.3	16.4	12.4
Mex Mtn Road (D)	12.4	9.1	10.5	14.1	30.8	40.9	31.4
South Temple Wash (D)	40.9	36.7	39.9	51.7	78.3	95.5	71.9
Wedge East Road (D)	9.4	7.7	9.1	12.7	21.8	30.2	21.6
Wedge Overlook (D)	23.1	19.6	21.1	23.5	42.7	71.2	51

(D) = divide by 2 applied



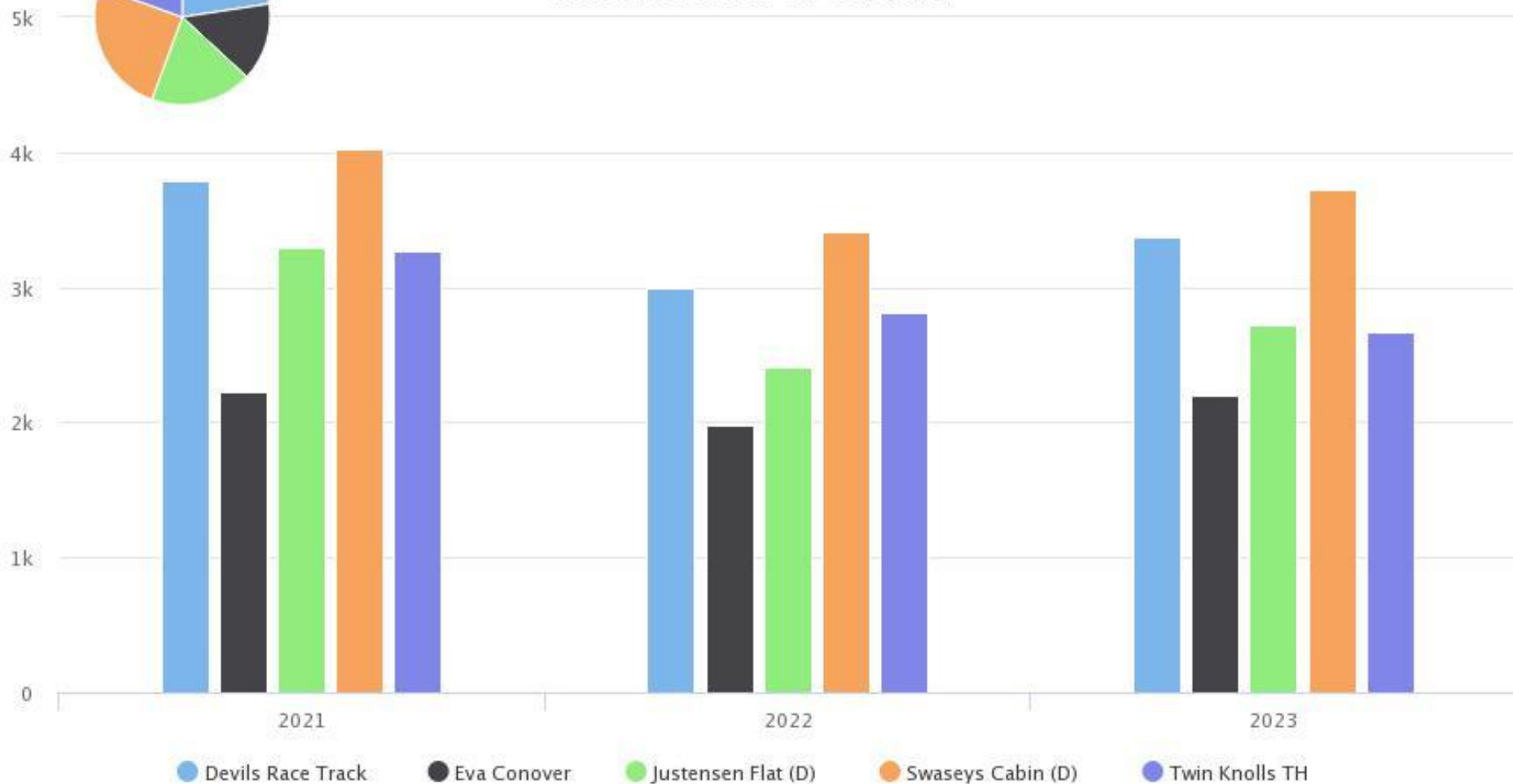
OHV Visitor Use Appears Steady

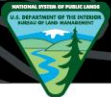
Avg



Yearly* totals

2021-01-01 to 2023-12-31 (3 years)





BLM Annual Visitor Use Reporting

Recreation Management Information System

What we have reported for the
San Rafael Swell Recreation Area

2020---197,501 Visitors

2021---255,419 Visitors

2022---244,348 Visitors

Projected 2023?

Swell Recreation Area Accounts for
approximately 38% of Total PFO Visitor Use.





Plans for this Fall

Campground
Maintenance/Improvements

More rocks and signs at the Wedge!

Field Work for Travel Planning and
Land Exchange Efforts

Volunteer Projects:
Trail Maintenance &
Wilderness Boundary
Work

Prepare for Solar
Eclipse, happening on
Oct 14th

Install New Range
Facility Signs





Plans for 2024

Maintenance and Management of Campgrounds and Trails

Deferred Maintenance Funds

Wedge Road Maintenance, Campground Maintenance and Modernization, other trailhead maintenance. We will be contracting out material deliveries this winter/spring.

Wilderness/Rec Area Boundary Work

External Project Requests in the Price Field Office have been funded, and our Internal Project Requests are still being considered.

Wedge Improvements----See next slide.

Utah Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Fund: Request for Full Proposals 2023

🏠 / Mitigating Impacts /

Colorado and Utah Lands with Wilderness Characteristics and Greater Sage-Grouse Funds / ...



Full Proposal Due Date: March 16, 2023

Overview

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation ("NFWF") requests Full Proposals under the Utah Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Fund ("Fund") for projects that will restore, reclaim, preserve, conserve, and/or enhance wilderness characteristics in Utah. NFWF established and administers the Fund with monies it received as compensatory mitigation for authorized impacts of the Gateway South Transmission Project to Lands with Wilderness Characteristics ("LWC") in Utah, as approved by the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") and its Record of Decision for the project.

NFWF, as the administrator of the Fund, will accept Full Proposals for projects through Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 9:59pm Mountain time. All proposed projects must provide adequate information in accordance with the evaluation criteria outlined below. Full Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated as described below. Funding awards will be made by NFWF to selected applicants for projects that best satisfy the evaluation criteria, as verified and approved by BLM. Thereafter, NFWF will execute project funding agreements with awardees that will implement the projects in accordance with the respective Full Proposals, applicable laws, and the terms and conditions of such project funding agreements, with monies provided from the Fund.

The requirements for responding to this Request for Proposals ("RFP") are described in the sections below. The process for responding to this RFP will be conducted using the NFWF Easygrants online application system as described in the How to Apply and Timeline sections at the end of this RFP.

Geographic Focus

The Fund will fund projects located in Utah, within lands determined by the BLM to possess wilderness characteristics (as further described below), or lands that are eligible for wilderness characteristics inventory. Such lands may include designated Wilderness areas, Wilderness Study Areas ("WSA"), and other lands managed to preserve wilderness characteristics. All project activities are to be located either on federal (public) lands within the following BLM administrative areas, listed here in descending order of priority: Vernal Field Office, Green River District, other BLM offices in Utah; or on non-federal lands adjacent to public lands identified as possessing wilderness characteristics. A map of these areas is shown [here](#).

Funding Available

NFWF expects to award up to approximately \$3.2 million from the Fund to projects through this RFP. Up to approximately \$800,000 of this amount may be made available for public outreach, education, and interpretation projects.

Related Content

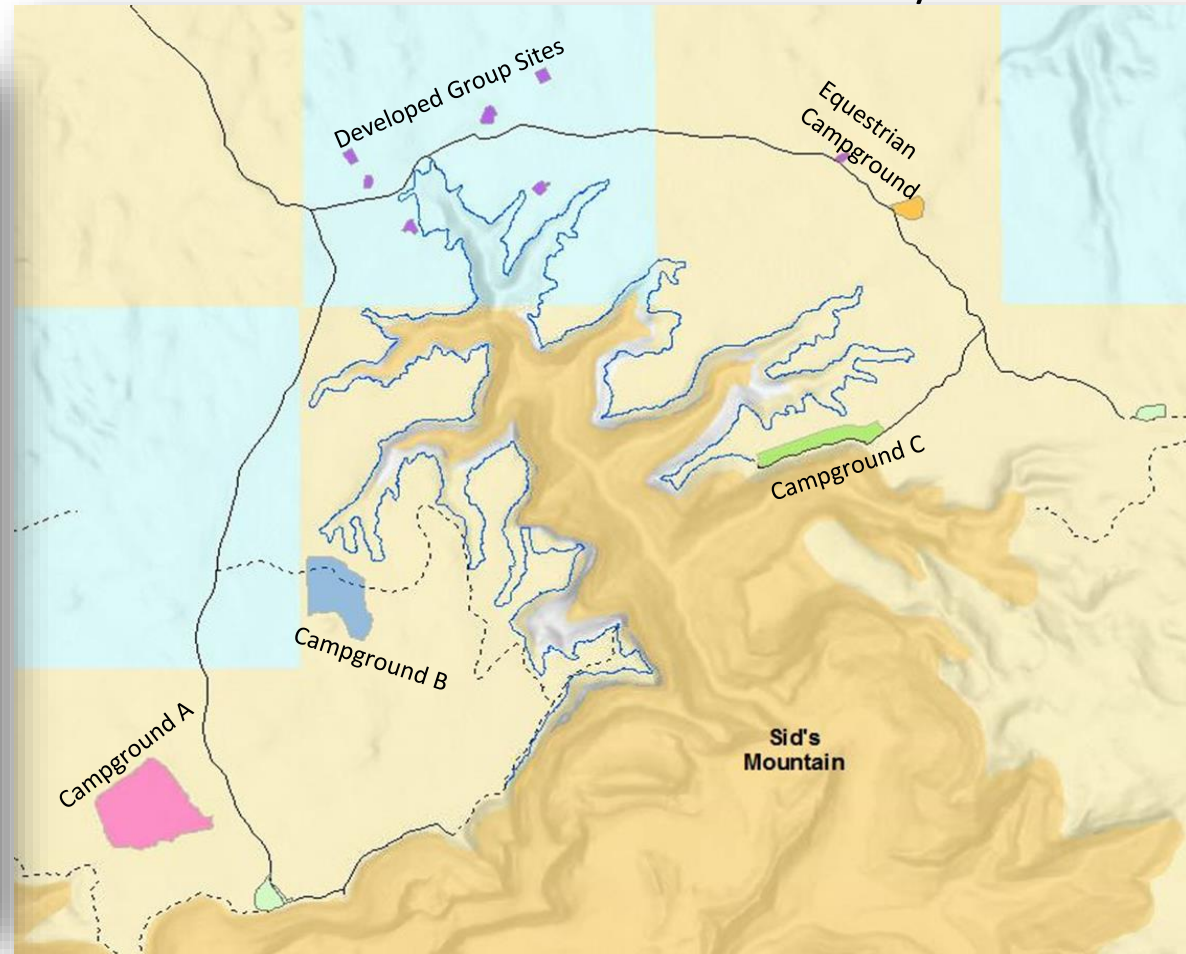
[Geographic Focus Map](#)

[Real Property Acquisition Proposal Requirements](#)



Wedge Area Campground Planning Updates

How do we develop camping at the Wedge to eliminate dispersed campsites creep and resource concerns, and at the same time still meet the visitors needs/desires?



Do we build traditional/compact campgrounds, or do we develop where we already have heavy dispersed campsite impacts?



Wedge Area Campground Planning Updates

**Been gathering more endangered species data.
The data will help aid our future planning and site design efforts.**

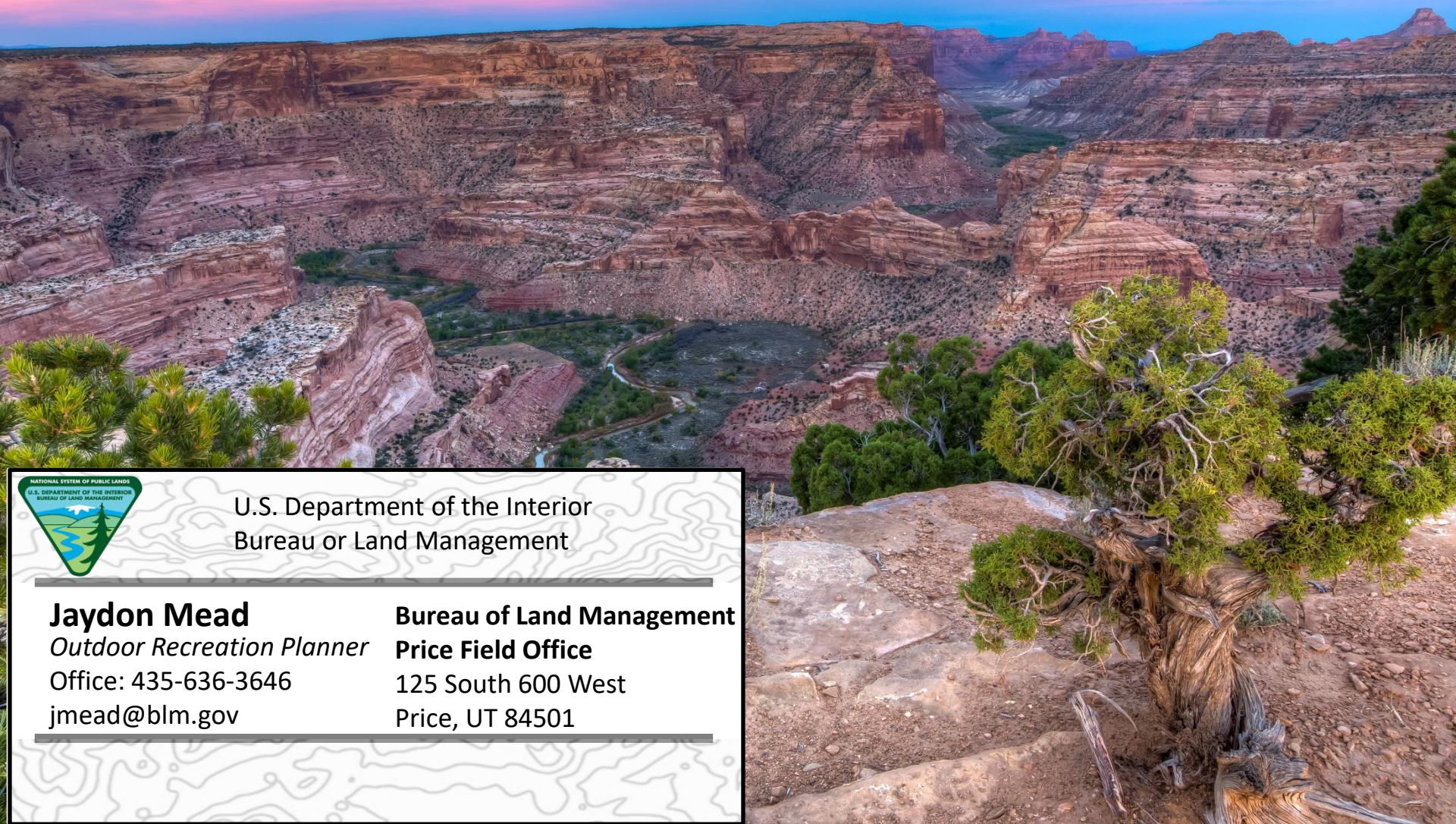
San Rafael Pedio Cactus Surveys & Mexican Spotted Owl Surveys





U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Questions?



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Jaydon Mead

Outdoor Recreation Planner

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Bureau of Land Management

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