

Meadow Creek/Mineral Gulch



ESSENTIAL FACTS

Length: 9.2 miles

Corridor Acres: Approx. 2,460

Classification: Wild

Outstandingly Remarkable Values: Scenery, Recreation

LOCATION

Beginning at Meadow Creek and Hwy. 9 intersection in NWNW Sec. 8, T 41 S, R 8 W, SLM, and extending south to confluence of Mineral Gulch with East Fork Virgin River in NENE Sec. 12, T 42 S, R 9 W, SLM

Kanab Field Office

Color Country District

Kane County, Utah

2nd Congressional District



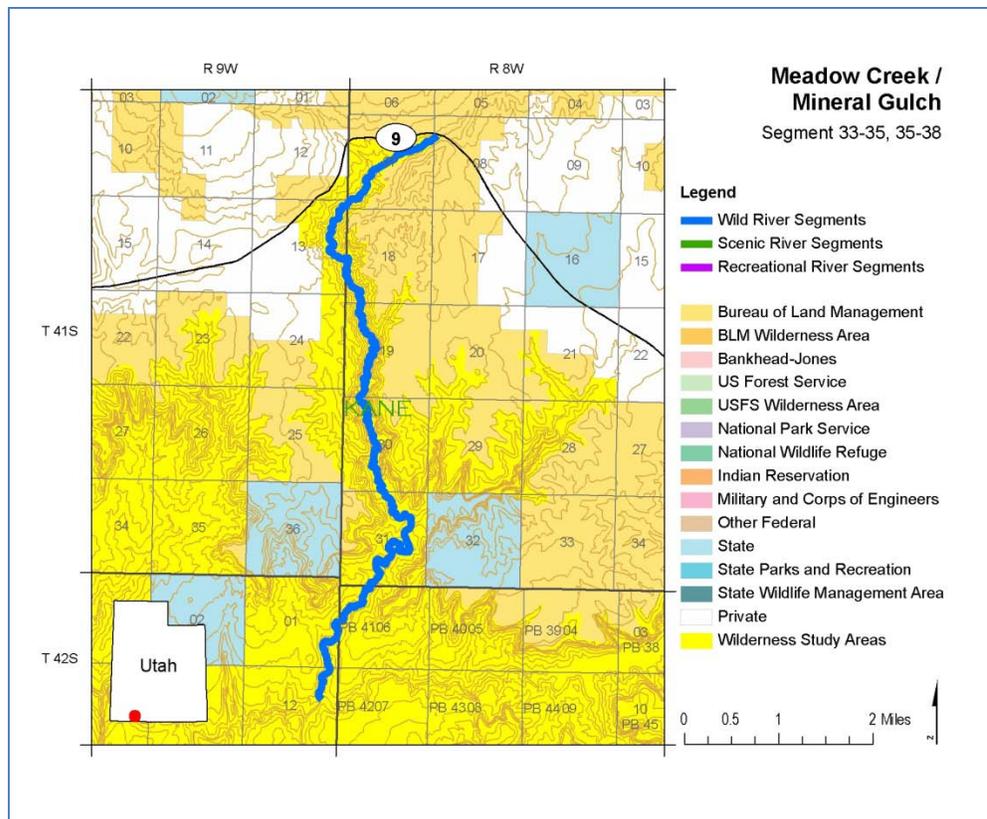
Meadow Creek/Mineral Gulch

General Description

The majority of this segment is class A scenery, with slickrock and canyon ledges untouched by human influence. Scenic values closely resemble those of nearby Zion NP and other side canyons of the East Fork Virgin River, of which Meadow Creek / Mineral Gulch is a tributary. Steep, towering canyon walls frame the winding creek bottom, with no road access and no human structures anywhere along the segment. Water flows are intermittent, with hundreds of yards of dry streambed often interspersed among the wetter, spring-fed portions of the canyon. Approximately 1 ½ miles up Mineral Gulch from the East Fork Virgin River is a series of slot canyons. Recreation use tends to be light because physical access is difficult. Activities and uses consist mainly of occasional hikers and backpackers and a few adventurous hunters. The wild, pristine nature of the canyon offers exceptional solitude and superb opportunities for photography and wildlife and nature study.

Summary

This segment has nationally significant Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs) and designation of this segment would provide an especially colorful and unique canyon and recreation experience to the National System. Future congressional designation would protect free flow and ORVs and complement the intent of WSA management strategies. While Kane County does not support the designation of this segment, since it is located within an existing WSA the county's opposition to this segment has not been as strong as to other segments outside of WSAs. There are no anticipated negative effects from designation because there are no competing resource considerations. Still, local and state agencies and water users oppose designation primarily over their concerns that current and potential water use could be affected. Finally, the East Fork Virgin River segment downstream in Zion NP has recently been designated a WSR and together these segments represent a significant contribution to the integrity of the Virgin River system.



Rivers Suitable for WSR Designation on Bureau of Land Management Lands in Utah

Contact: Bunny Sterin
Phone: (801) 539-4053
E-mail: Bernice_Sterin@blm.gov
Utah BLM State Office