

reclamation of the source site. Currently there are only negotiated sale sites, free use permits, and one community pit site near Wild Mountain active within the resource area. The public has access to nonexclusive disposal sites (i.e., community pits and common use areas). In the resource area, there are both types of nonexclusive sites. The Wrinkles Road building stone common use area covers about 30,800 acres. Agreements allow disposal of materials from some free use permit sites to the public under provisions similar to those provided for disposal from community pits.

## RECREATION

The resource area offers a wide variety of topography, terrain features, vegetation, scenic values, historic resources, wildlife and riparian resources. These all combine to make northeastern Utah, and thus DMRA, a valuable region for a myriad of recreational pursuits. Visitors wishing to enjoy a recreation experience on public lands may choose from camping in developed campgrounds along the Green River in Browns Park, travelling scenic highways and back-country byways, or primitive and unconfined activities throughout the resource area.

This wide variety for recreation opportunities should draw an increasing number of visitors to the resource area through the life of this plan (BLM, 1989a).



## RECREATION OPPORTUNITY SPECTRUM

BLM uses the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) as one tool to identify types of recreation settings and opportunities. It also helps identify the capability of public land to provide specific types of recreation experiences. Impacts to specific ROS classes can be used to identify and quantify effects of various activities to different types of recreation opportunities. Appendix 5 cites the factors considered for each ROS class.

To facilitate its use in planning the ROS is divided into the following six classes, listed in order of importance, from high to low: Primitive; semi-primitive nonmotorized; semi-primitive motorized; roaded natural; rural and, modern urban. ROS classes in DMRA were established as a result of an inventory conducted in 1980 and updated in 1990. Map 3-19 indicates locations of various ROS classes in the resource area. Table 3-14 cites the approximate acres in each class.

## RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREAS

Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs) are areas heavily used for recreation. They require special management to ensure the protection of identified recreation values. Two areas are currently designated SRMAs: Browns Park (about 18,650 public acres) and Pelican Lake (about 1,060 public acres). Refer to Map 3-20 for these SRMAs locations.

**TABLE 3-14:  
RECREATION OPPORTUNITY SPECTRUM**

OPPORTUNITY CLASSES	PUBLIC ACRES
Primitive	0
Semi-Primitive, Non-Motorized	60,776
Semi-Primitive, Motorized	513,662
Roaded Natural	114,956
Rural	19,606
Urban	0
Area Total	709,000

Source: DMRA Geographic Information System

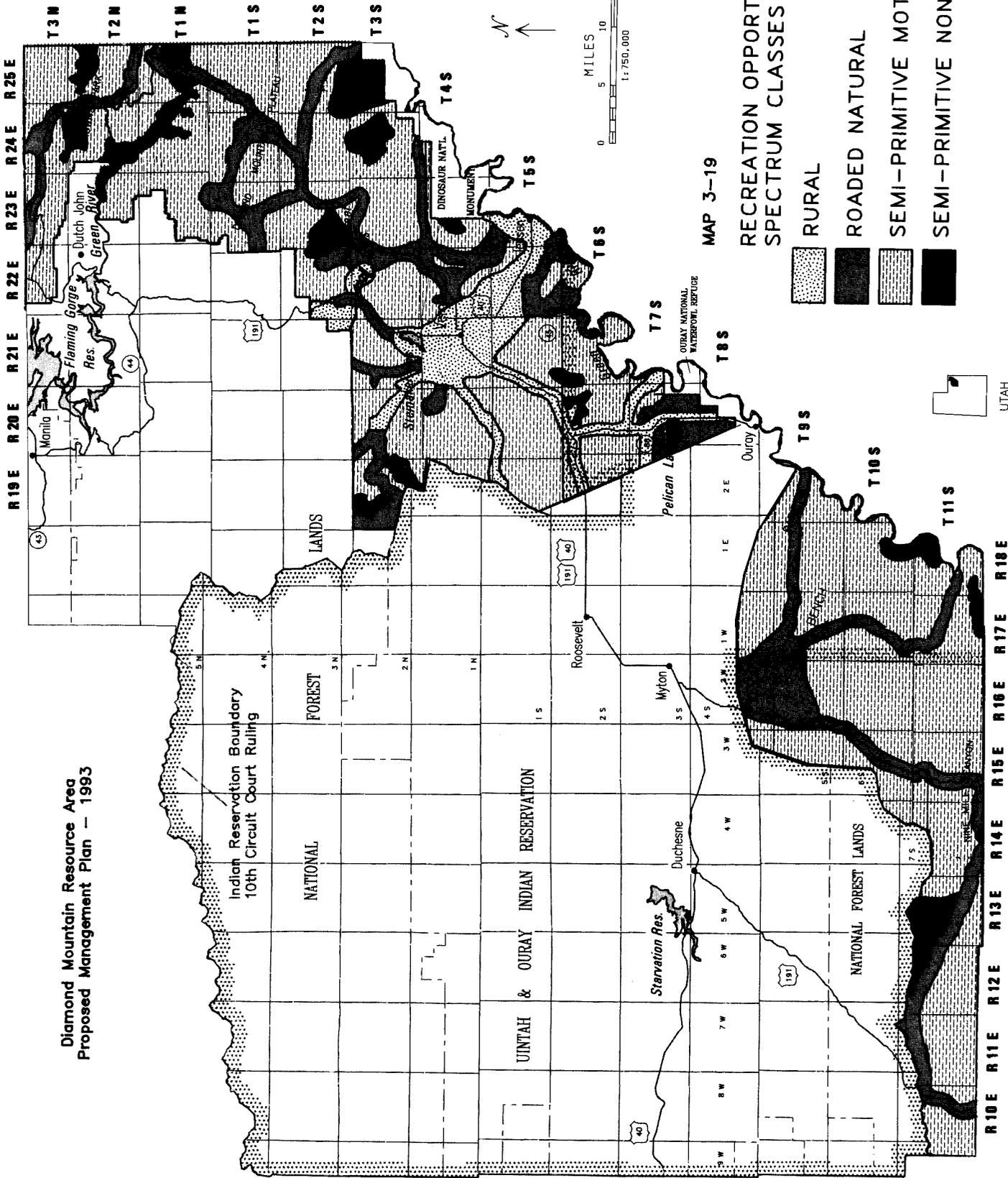
In 1984, the Browns Park SRMA was designated as the Green River Scenic Corridor Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). This action was taken to protect scenic, historic, cultural, biologic, and scientific values. A 1991 interagency review of recreational use of the Green River from Flaming Gorge Dam to the Colorado state line anticipates recreation pressure to continue to increase at approximately 3-4 percent per year.

Suggestions for maintaining the high quality recreation experiences include: increased and improved recreational facilities along the river, and implementing a reservation system for use on the river (Pratt, et al., 1991).

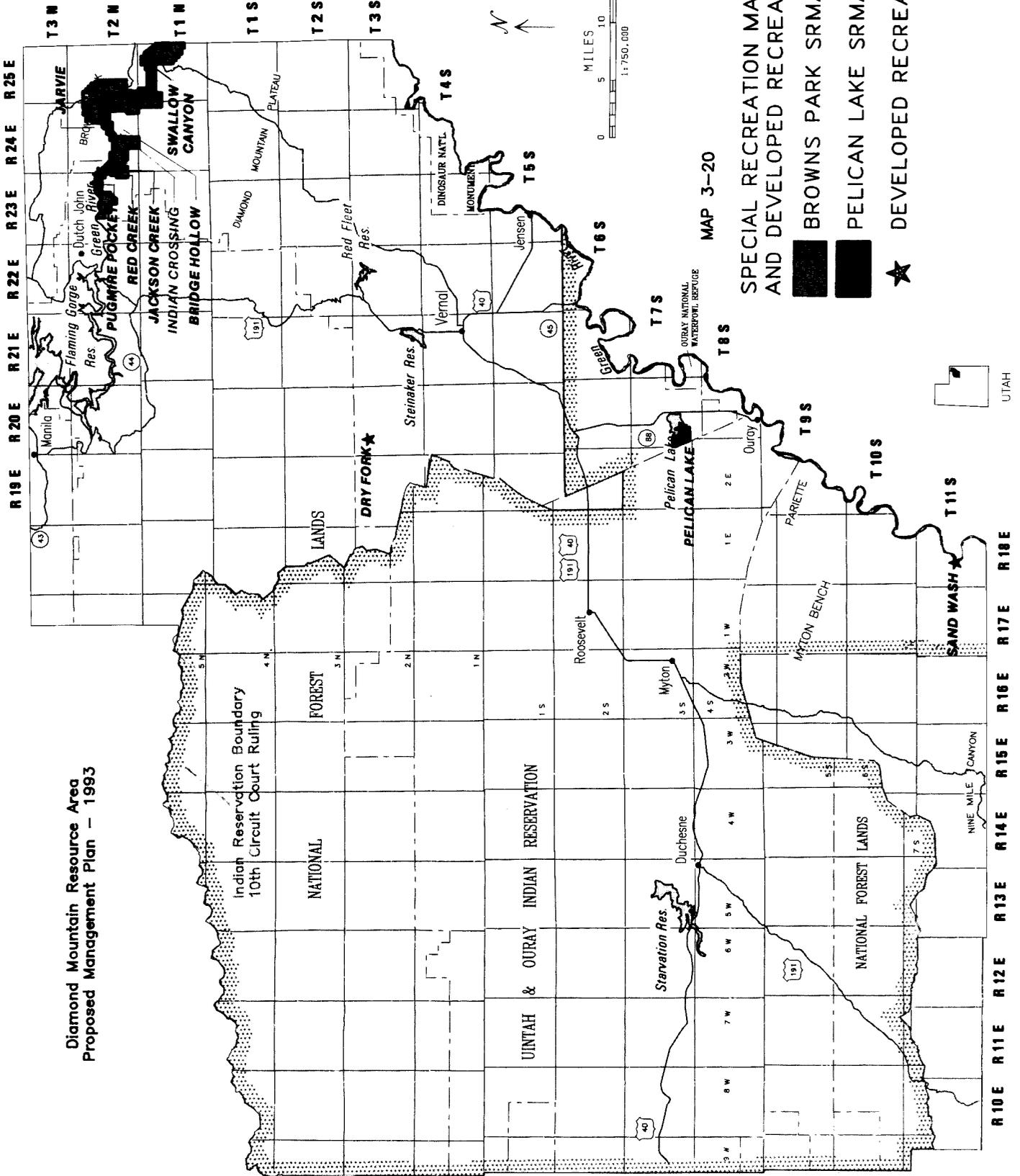
The remainder of DMRA, not included in the SRMAs, is included in the Diamond Mountain Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). Recreational pursuits center around unconfined activities such as hunting, fishing, sightseeing, and off-highway driving. Two exceptions are found in Dry Fork Canyon and Sand Wash.

Public land along Dry Fork Creek, in scenic Dry Fork Canyon near Vernal, contains a small picnic area, heavily used in the spring of the year. BLM operates a ranger station at Sand Wash on the Green River near Nine Mile Canyon. It is the main launch point for raft trips down the Green River through Gray and Desolation Canyons.

**Diamond Mountain Resource Area  
Proposed Management Plan — 1993**



**Diamond Mountain Resource Area  
Proposed Management Plan - 1993**



6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

SECTIONED TOWNSHIP

**SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREAS  
AND DEVELOPED RECREATION SITES**

-  BROWNS PARK SRMA
-  PELICAN LAKE SRMA
-  DEVELOPED RECREATION SITES

MAP 3-20

## RECREATION DEVELOPMENTS

DMRA manages 10 recreation sites in the resource area (Table 3-15 and Map 3-21). In addition, Moab District, under cooperative agreement with Vernal District, administers the Sand Wash Recreation Site. It is anticipated that this agreement will remain in effect until conditions warrant a change. There are 38 sites identified as having potential for development (refer to Table 3-16).

**TABLE 3-16:  
POTENTIAL RECREATION SITES**

NAME OF SITE	NAME OF SITE
Allen Draw Camp Site	Little Mountain Overlook
Ashley Creek Camp Site	Little Mountain Picnic Site
Aspen Picnic Site	Little Swallow Canyon Camp Site
Big Tree Camp Site	Lone Tree Camp Site
Brough Reservoir Recreation Site	Long Bend Camp Site
Butch Cassidy Camp Site	Pariette Camp Site
Cottonwood Grove Camp Site	Pariette Recreation Site
Devil's Hole Boat Camp Site	Pine Pocket Picnic Site
Diamond Mountain Picnic Site	Pine Ridge Picnic Site
Dry Hollow Camp Site	Plateau Picnic Site
Fire Flat Picnic Site	Pot Creek Camp Site
Gadson Draw Picnic Site	Red Mountain Recreation Area
Grassy Draw Camp Site	Riverside Camp Site
Hatch Cove Camp Site	Rye Grass Camp Site
Horseshoe Bend Camp Site	Sears Canyon Camp Site
Hoy Mountain Camp Site	Three Corners Camp Site
Jones Hole Camp Site	Wickiup Camp Site
Jones Hole Picnic Site	

Source: DMRA files

## RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

The entire DMRA is used for hunting, generally concentrated in the fall and winter months. However, setting out bait by archery hunters to attract bear for hunting takes place in both the spring and fall months. Fishing is also a popular pursuit with most use occurring along the Green River in Browns Park. Observing wildlife species in their natural environs is becoming a very popular activity. No cave resources are presently known within the resource area. The following opportunities have been identified under current management.

DMRA has nominated several roads in the resource area for inclusion in the Back-country Byway System. These roads would be signed and managed to protect the

values responsible for their designation. Included are the following roads: Jones Hole (30 miles in length), Diamond Mountain-Browns Park-Clay Basin Loop (90 miles), Red Cloud Loop (5 miles on BLM), and Myton to Wellington (45 miles). The Myton to Wellington was recently designated as a federal back-country byway in 1991. Other roads would be added as they qualify for inclusion.

Several trails or portions of trails within DMRA are identified for bicycles: Dinosaur National Monument-Chew Ranch road tour (24 miles in length), Bonanza Loop (48 miles), Vernal-LaPoint Loop (49 miles), and Asphalt Ridge (7 miles).

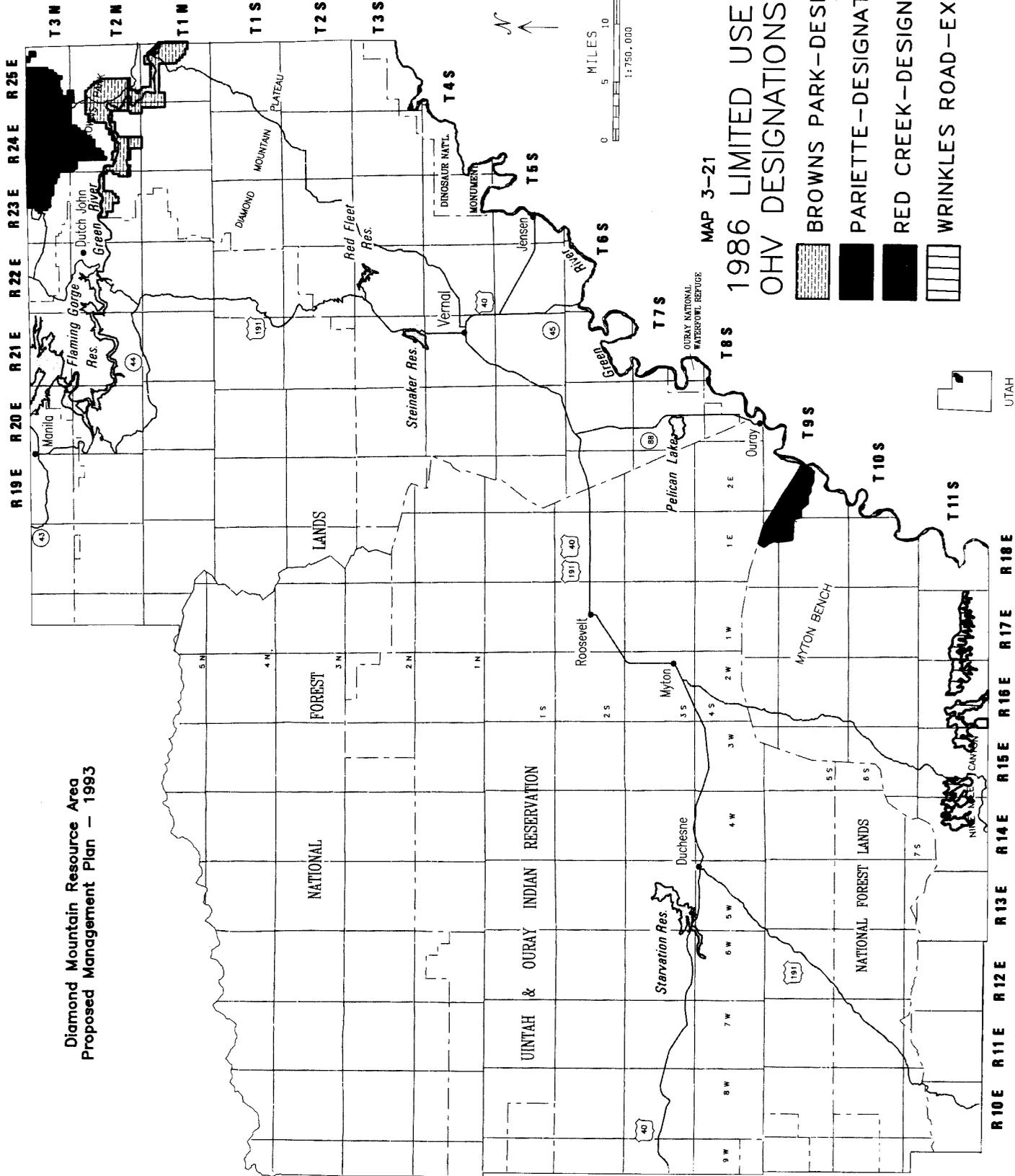
There is one existing motorbike four-wheel drive trail on the scenic Red Mountain near Vernal. Two hiking and horseback trails are in use and maintained: Sears Canyon trail follows the canyon from Diamond Mountain into Browns Park ending at the Jarvie Historic Site; and Green River foot trail along the Green River in Browns Park. The Sears Canyon trail is gaining regional significance as the site of the "Outlaw Trail" ride, an activity associated with Vernal's annual Outlaw Trail Festival.

The Green River offers outstanding river rafting. The section of river between Little Hole and the Colorado state line runs through the Browns Park SRMA (discussed earlier in this section). The middle and lower sections of the river between Split Mountain and Sand Wash (a distance of 102 miles) receives very limited use. This section has the potential of becoming a very popular river rafting area by people preferring slow-moving water.

## OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES

There are four areas, totaling approximately 56,400 public acres, currently designated for limited use by off-highway vehicles (OHV), refer to Table 3-17 and Map 3-22. The remainder of the resource area (652,600 public acres, or 92 percent) remains open to OHV use. Presently OHV use on public lands is concentrated near populated areas. Seasonal OHV use also can be heavy on traditional hunting areas on public lands within the resource area. OHV use in 1990 for the resource area totaled an estimated 31,400 hours (refer to Table 3-17).

Diamond Mountain Resource Area  
Proposed Management Plan - 1993



6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36

SECTIONED TOWNSHIP



MAP 3-21

1986 LIMITED USE  
OHV DESIGNATIONS

- BROWNS PARK-DESIGNATED ROADS
- PARIETTE-DESIGNATED ROADS
- RED CREEK-DESIGNATED ROADS
- WRINKLES ROAD-EXISTING ROADS

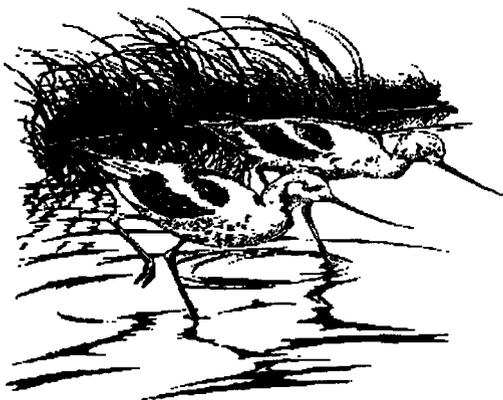
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**TABLE 3-15:  
DEVELOPED RECREATION SITES AND FACILITIES**

SITE	TABLES	COVERED TABLES	FIRE RINGS	TOILETS	WATER	RAFT RAMP	BOAT RAMP	BOAT DOCK	LOCATION
Bridge Hollow Campground	12		12	2	1	1			Browns Park SRMA
Dry Fork Picnic Area	6		6						Diamond Mtn. ERMA
Indian Crossing Campground	6		4	2		1			Browns Park SRMA
Jackson Creek Float Campground	1		1	1					Browns Park SRMA
Jarvie Historic Site	4		2	1	1				Browns Park SRMA
Pelican Lake Campground	9	5	13	2			1	1	Pelican Lake SRMA
Pugmire Pocket Float Campground	1		1	1					Browns Park SRMA
Red Creek Float Campground	2		2	1					Browns Park SRMA
Sand Wash* Campground	4		4	2	1				Diamond Mtn. ERMA
Swallow Canyon Raft Ramp						1			Browns Park SRMA
*Administered by Moab District									

Source: DMRA files



**TABLE 3-17:  
OHV DESIGNATION IN DMRA  
(IN PUBLIC ACRES)**

NAME OF AREA	DESIGNATION				
	Limited Use on Roads				Totals
	Closed	Existing	Designated	Open	
Browns Park	0	0	19,148	0	19,148
Parlette Wetlands	0	0	7,839	0	7,839
Wrinkles Area	0	13,810	0	0	13,810
Red Creek Watershed	0	0	24,552	0	24,552
Other Lands in RA	0	0	0	643,651	643,651
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13,810</b>	<b>51,539</b>	<b>643,651</b>	<b>709,000</b>

Source: BLM, 1987b

## RIPARIAN RESOURCES

Among the most productive and important ecosystem, riparian areas make up approximately 2 percent of the public lands within DMRA. Characteristically, riparian areas display a greater diversity of plant, fish, wildlife and other animal species and vegetation structure than adjoining vegetation communities. Healthy riparian systems filter and purify water as it moves through the riparian zone, reduce sediment loads and enhance stream bank stability and contribute to groundwater recharge and base flows (see Figure 3-4).

DMRA contains approximately 60,300 acres of riparian lands, including 272 miles of perennial and intermittent streams. Of this, approximately 15,650 acres are public land (refer to Map 3-22). An ongoing riparian inventory, begun in 1989, has evaluated approximately 125 miles (or 64 percent) of the stream riparian communities on public land. Of the streams inventoried, 24 percent were found to be in an early vegetation ecological condition, 55 percent in mid, and 21 percent in late. Approximately 18 percent of the mid and early ecological stage riparian is due to the presence of noxious weeds on the Upper Green River. The remaining streams have yet to be evaluated. Table 3-18 provides a summary of the ecological condition of the inventoried streams within the resource area. (Appendix 8 depicts the current ecological condition and management priority for these streams by grazing allotment.)

The best developed and most extensive riparian communities within DMRA occur at the Pariette Wetlands, along the Green River, and in certain sections along perennial streams on Diamond Mountain. Pariette Wetlands contains 20 impoundments inundating approximately 2,530 acres. Riparian vegetation consists mainly of bulrush, cattail, reed grass, and cottonwood trees.

The majority of the riparian ecosystem in the resource area is owned or controlled by private individuals. Other entities sharing ownership include: UDWR, USF&WS, and the Uintah and Ouray Ute Indian Reservation. This makes management of these systems extremely complicated, demanding close coordination among the affected parties.

There are approximately 225 reservoirs, 200 check dams and 85 springs on public land within the resource area. Although these areas have not been inventoried to date, many have the potential for appreciable riparian community development. These areas will be evaluated in the ongoing riparian inventory.

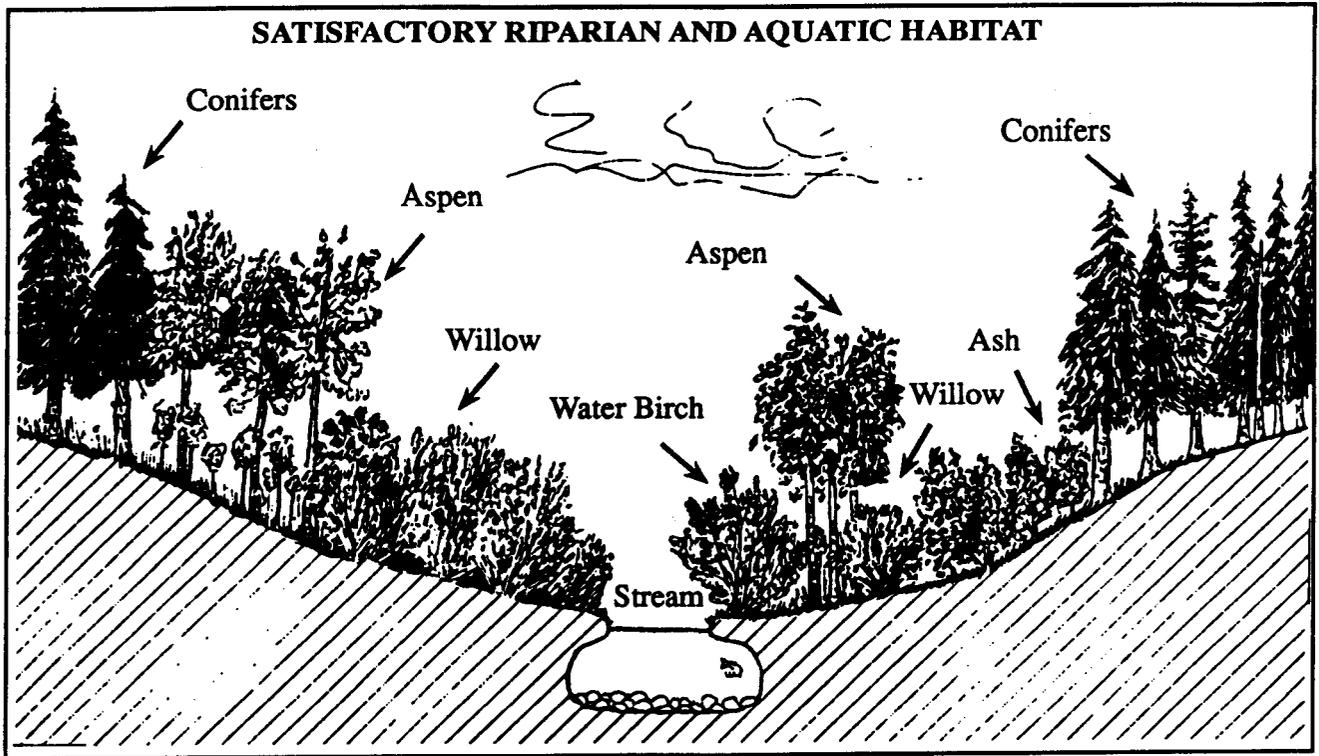
Riparian communities along the Green River have been affected by historical human and livestock overuse and

**TABLE 3-18:  
ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS OF RIPARIAN  
VEGETATION ALONG INVENTORIED  
PERENNIAL STREAMS**

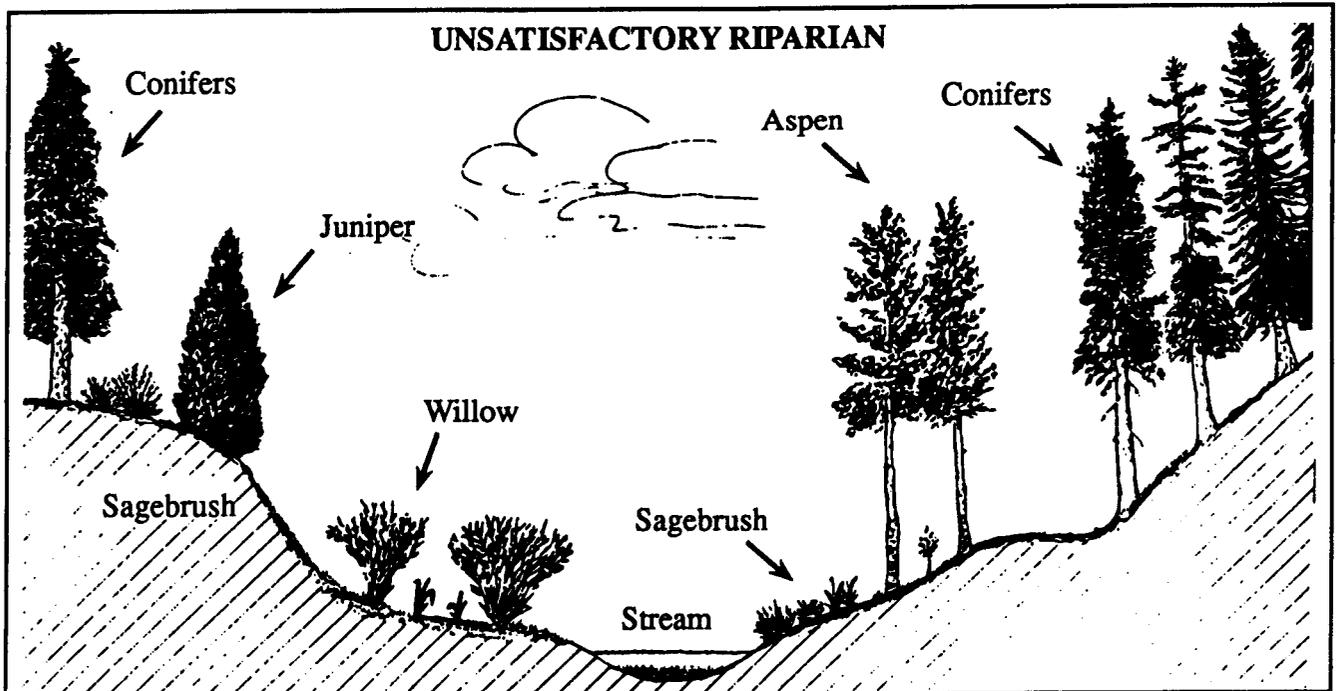
STREAM NAME	VEGETATION SERAL STAGE IN PUBLIC MILES		
	Early	Mid	Late
Upper Green River		22	2
Lower Green River	12		9.5
Ashley Creek		2	
Spring Creek		2.5	
Lower Willow Creek			3
Beaver Creek		1	
Birch Creek		1	
Little Brush Creek		2	
Red Creek	4		
Martin Draw	4		
Clay Basin Creek	5		
Grindstone/Spring Creek Wash		5	
Upper Willow Creek	.2		
Lower Tolivers Creek		1.5	
Lower Sears Creek		1	
Jackson Creek		1	
Little Davenport Creek			1
Gorge Creek			1
Brush Creek	1.5		
Upper Tolivers Creek			1.5
Upper Sears Creek			3
Diamond Gulch		7	
Pariette Wash		10	
Mosby Creek		1	
Nine Mile Creek		9	
Argyle Creek	2.5		
Four Mile Wash		1	
Pelican Lake Wash		1.5	
Dry Fork Creek			2
Crouse Creek			2
Coyote Creek			1
Pot Creek		.2	
Smelter Creek			.3
Deep Creek		.3	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>26.3</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>124.5</b>		

Source: DMRA files

FIGURE 3-4



Satisfactory riparian habitat is characterized by good vigor and canopy coverage, abundant reproduction of palatable plant species, and well developed, overhanging streambanks. Gravels dominate the stream substrate, which provides good habitat for fish spawning and aquatic invertebrates.



Unsatisfactory riparian habitat is characterized by poor vigor and canopy coverage, low species diversity, and a lack of reproduction of woody plant species. Unpalatable plants, such as sagebrush are increasing in abundance. Aquatic habitat is characterized by eroded streambanks, and a "dished-out" appearance (because the banks are not overhanging). Fine materials (silt) dominate the substrate, which provides poor habitat for fish spawning and invertebrates.

regulation of river flows from the Flaming Gorge Dam. Reestablishment of a dynamic and stable riparian community along the river would be beneficial to special status fish and bird species, as well as aid in the reduction of sediment-loading of the Green and Colorado Rivers.

## **SOCIOECONOMICS**

### **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND CURRENT CONDITIONS**

Archeological evidence dating back to 10,850 BC witnesses the earliest human occupation of the Uinta Basin and Browns Park. The native peoples have occupied this region continuously since that time. It is believed modern Ute peoples migrated to the region from the east by 1500 AD. European explorers and fur traders began actively visiting and working in the region by 1776.

In 1886, the Uintah and Uncompahgre Indian Reservations were combined into the present Uintah and Ouray Ute Indian Reservation. During the period 1894-1981, approximately 24 percent of the original reservation lands had been for other non-Indian purposes. This led to the misinterpretation that the original reservation boundaries had been disestablished. In 1985, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals reestablished the reservation along the original boundaries in place prior to 1894. This decision did not affect the ownership of lands within the reservation for which BLM or other agencies or parties have jurisdictional responsibility.

The Uinta Basin was actively settled by Euro-Americans during the period 1878-1890. Settlers came from the Wasatch Front where they were experiencing an agricultural depression. By 1890, the basin had developed a rural-agricultural lifestyle and economic base.

### **DEMOGRAPHICS AND EMPLOYMENT**

The following information presents data on the socioeconomics pertaining to Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties during the period 1960 - 1990, unless otherwise stated. Additional information and extensive graphs are provided in Appendix 10.

#### **Employment and Earnings**

Comparing average unemployment rates, using 1991 data furnished by the Utah Office of Planning and Budget, demonstrates Duchesne County with the highest unemployment at an average rate of 9.2 percent. Uintah County's average unemployment rate of 6.5 percent is only a little higher than Daggett County's 6.1 percent

unemployment, which is just a few tenths of a percentage point above that of the state's average of 5.8 percent. Duchesne County's high unemployment may be due in part to the proximity of the Ute Indian Tribe, which has had a problem with unemployment for some time. Annual rates for each of these areas are graphed in the Appendix graphs A10-1 through A10-1c.

#### **Labor Force**

The State of Utah's steady increase in the labor force contrasts with the more variable rates of Daggett and Duchesne Counties. However, Uintah County exhibited a somewhat similar trend, until the early 1980's, when a strong downward phase came into being, see labor force graphs Appendix A10-2 through A10-2c.

#### **Population**

The labor force is often directly correlated to the population. Daggett County has shown little variation since 1965, while Duchesne and Uintah Counties have doubled since the late 1960's. There is an especially high degree of correlation between population and labor force for Duchesne and Uintah Counties, refer to the population graphs in Appendix 10 identified as A10-12a through A10-12c.

#### **Per Capita Income**

Per capita income in Utah has been steadily growing as a whole since 1960; however, as expected, more unstable rates are present in Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties (refer to Estimated Per Capita Income and Forecasts Appendix graphs A10-13 through A10-14c). Using non-agricultural jobs as an independent variable and regressing per capita income against it, estimates for per capita income may be generated. Plugging in non-agricultural job projections, per capita income may be forecast through 2020 (Utah Office of Planning and Budget, 1992). Depending upon the degree that BLM policies and plans affect non-agricultural jobs, per capita income for the different counties may also be affected. Since the coefficient for non-agricultural jobs (X Coefficient) is positive for regressions, we can assume a positive relationship between it and per capita income.

According to the analysis, Utah has the highest projected income, mostly due to the high  $R^2$  (correlation between actual and estimated values). Daggett County has a higher actual per capita income, but due to the weak relationship between non-agriculture jobs and per capita income, there is a lower and less reliable projected per capita income. The same situation holds true for Duchesne County. Uintah County illustrates a stronger