

Christmas Tree Permits sold for BLM Lands

Provided are reports from several BLM offices regarding tree permits available this year.

BLM - MONTICELLO FIELD OFFICE
435 North Main
Monticello, UT 84535
435-587-1500

We do have Christmas tree tags. They officially went on sale the 1st of November (that is we put up a sign stating they were available) and cost \$5.00. Because of the area we live in they are for Pinyon or Juniper only - on the local BLM area of course.



We sell them at the front desk and we can be reached at 435 587-1500. I have never had someone call in and request one be mailed to them but I don't see why we couldn't do that if necessary. I would prefer they come in so I can show them

areas that are off limits to cutting or collecting of Christmas Trees or firewood.

BLM - KANAB FIELD OFFICE

318 North 100 East

Kanab, UT 84741

435-644-4600

CHRISTMAS TREE GUIDELINES 2007:

*Make sure you are cutting on BLM land. This permit is not valid on private, state, or forest service lands.



*Tree species that can be harvested are Pinyon Pine (single and double leaf) and Utah Juniper.
* Trees must be cut as close to the ground surface as possible.
* Stump height must not exceed

6 inches.

* Tree must be tagged at the location of harvest and the tag must remain on the tree until point of use.

* Limited to two permits per household.

PINYON PINE

Mature trees average 25 feet high

Double leaf Pinyon needles are 1 to 1½ inches long, in clusters of two.

Single leaf Pinyon needles are 1 ½ to 2 ½ inches long.

Needles feel sharp to the touch.

Found in elevations between 5,000 and 9,000 feet..
Usually found with Utah Juniper.

UTAH JUNIPER

Mature trees average 20 feet high.

Needles are 1/8 inch in length, scale like in appearance.

Needles feel soft to the touch.

Trees are usually bushy with rounded crown and a trunk that is forked or occasionally with a central dominant trunk.

Found in elevations between 4,500 and 8,500 feet.

Usually found with Pinyon Pine.



SAFETY TIPS

- *Notify someone of your plans
 - *Take water, warm clothes, food
 - *Include tire chains and a shovel in your vehicle and drive defensively
 - *Avoid traveling during periods of bad weather
- Enjoy your Christmas Tree cutting trip and have an enjoyable season.

BLM - SALT LAKE FIELD OFFICE

2370 South 2300 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84119
801-977-4300

Christmas tree permits go on sale the day after Thanksgiving (Nov 23). We will sale permits from 8-4:15. We will stop selling permits on Christmas Eve. They are \$5 with a limit of 2 per household. We have 2 areas in Tooele County one is called Big Hollow and the other is Government Creek. They are Juniper trees only and there are an unlimited amount of permits available. We have an area in Box Elder County (Utah/ Idaho border) called Raft Rivers and we will have 50 permits available for Pinyon Pine and an unlimited number of Juniper trees.

Christmas tree permits go on sale November 13

St. George, Utah – Christmas tree permits for Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands will be available for sale beginning Tuesday,

November 13. Permits will be available through December 24, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Interagency Information Center in St. George, located at 345 E. Riverside Drive. Federal offices will be closed November 22 for Thanksgiving.

Permits for the Dixie National Forest's Pine Valley and Cedar City Ranger Districts will cost \$10. Permits for BLM administered lands in southern Utah and the Arizona Strip will cost \$5. Payment must be made by check or cash in the exact amount. Maps of the cutting areas and additional information are available at the Information Center or by calling (435) 688-3246.

USFS permits for the Pine Valley Ranger District will also be available at the Mercantile in Veyo. The store will sell permits Monday through Saturday from 6:00 a.m. through 9:00 p.m. and on Sunday from 6:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m.

Skiing has Arrived!

Solitude Mountain Resort will be the first resort in Utah to open for the 2007-08 season tomorrow, Friday, November 16th. It is finally time to pull your sticks and boards out of the garage and get the first tracks of the season. The Utah winter season started out with a bang in October, but November's Indian Summer gave skiers and riders a few extra weeks to cram in some last minute cross training.



While the weather has been very pleasant, we're sick of it! We want snow. Luckily the temperatures are dropping, and talented snowmaking engineers have been able to supplement the snowpack. With some help from Mother Nature and a few more storms the rest of the resorts will soon open their lifts for another great Utah winter. Stay tuned to the Ski Utah Snow Report for the latest. It is time to put on your boots and do your best snow dance!

HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES AT WILLARD BAY

Willard - Willard Bay State Park hosts Fantasy at the Bay, a drive-through holiday

light display November 17 through January 1. Display hours are 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. nightly. Admission is \$7 per vehicle. Utah State Park passes are not valid during light display hours.

The Cottonwood Campground is filled with animation, lighted trees, roadway lights, and displays. A concession service will open after Thanksgiving and offers hot chocolate, hamburgers, chili, scones, s'mores, and other items around a large campfire. Horse drawn hay wagon rides are available every night for an additional cost of \$3 per person. To reach Willard Bay State Park, take exit 357 off I-15.

This year we are collecting donations to support Angels for Christmas. This is a community project to provide Christmas gifts for children that would otherwise not receive them. Donations of money, food, new unwrapped toys, and clothing are needed. Boots, coats, hats, gloves, and warm clothing are our most requested items.

For more information, please call Willard Bay State Park at (435) 734-9494 or Fantasy at the Bay at (435) 237-9506.

Utah Winter Games Clinics begin registrations

With Winter just around the corner I am excited to announce that at the Utah Winter Games registration has officially begun. Please check out the website for exact times, dates and requirements for all clinics- www.utahwintergames.org. We are excited to announce that the Utah Athletic Foundation has partnered with the UWG to host the 2007-2008 Utah Winter Games! You will notice that the registration page will take you to the UAF/ Utah Olympic Park website. From there please follow the directions on the websites as directed.



A few examples of this year's clinics include:

- Learn to Ski, Telemark Ski & Snowboard at 9 Utah Resorts.
- Learn to Cross-Country Ski
- Learn to Luge
- Learn to Figure Skate

= Learn to Snowshoe

- Learn to Curl, and much more!

Deeply discounted ski & snowboard rentals will again be offered thanks to the Sports Authority.

We are thrilled at the re-introduction of the Friends and Family Race Series! This will feature one (1) qualifying race at each of the following resorts: Brighton, Alta, Brianhead and Snowbasin. These races will be held on Saturdays in January with the final series invitational at Park City Mountain Resort the first weekend of February! Make sure to check out the schedule to see which races you and your family would like to attend and mark it on your calendar today!



If you don't see the clinic you are looking for, please don't panic. We are still adding clinics and hope to have the final schedule online by November 23rd.

****Are you a past participant who is looking to give back to the Games?** These events are made possible do to our fabulous volunteer community! If you are interested in being a part of the Games please contact Russell Baker at 801-891-3268 or specializedwoodworking69@yahoo.com - Thanks for considering to volunteer for the program!

We are excited to announce the second annual WinterFit program! This is a great motivational tool to keep you, your co-workers, family and friends inspired



to stay active and physically fit all winter. Competition starts soon and double points will be awarded to all participants in the month of December. Check out the website at www.winterfit.org and sign up today for a healthier 2008.

Please contact the Utah Athletic Foundation with any questions regarding registration at 1-866-OLY-PARK or

uwg@olymparks.com

We look forward to a great winter. Don't forget to tell your friends about the FREE opportunities to try out winter sports with the Utah Winter Games.

Thanks!

Utah Winter Games Staff

SNOW CANYON STATE PARK HOSTS CLIMBER CLEAN-UP DAY

Ivins - Snow Canyon State Park staff hosts their sixth-annual Adopt-a-Crag Clean-Up Day on Saturday, November 17, as part of the Access Fund's signature event. Participants should meet at the Black Rocks climbing area in Snow Canyon State Park at noon. Clean-up lasts until 3 p.m. and is followed by a barbecue, bonfire, and gear raffle.

Tools are supplied. However, participants should bring drinking water, work gloves, and wear sturdy shoes or boots. Non-climbers are welcome! Due to limited parking, participants are encouraged to park at the Chuckwalla Trailhead and carpool to Black Rocks.

"Adopt-a-Crag would not be possible without the generous financial support of outdoor industry leaders REI, Gore, and Clif Bar," said Adopt-a-Crag Coordinator Charlie Boas. "The commitment of these three companies to support grassroots activism to protect our climbing resources and climbers' access is outstanding."

Adopt-a-Crag is a national commitment by the climbing community centered on natural resource stewardship and volunteerism.

For site directions or more information, please call (435) 628-2255.



Brian Head's Winter Season Opening Date Has Changed

We continue to make snow whenever temperatures allow, but due to the lack of natural snow and recent unseasonably warm temperatures, Brian Head Resort will not be able to open on our scheduled date of November 17. We are therefore putting all of our efforts into getting as much terrain

open as possible for a Thanksgiving weekend opening on November 22.

Please visit our webcam page to stay up-to-date on our current conditions. The Brian Head Interconnect Project Update Chairlifts 1 and 8 are now complete and load tests will be completed this week. Work on the Skier Bridge is progressing rapidly.

Snow Jam Las Vegas

Join us at Snow Jam Las Vegas on November 16, 17 and 18 for free non-holiday lift tickets, a season pass sale, Warren Miller's "Playground" and more!

The Brian Head Resort Amateur Video Contest

We want to see all the great video that you've shot out on our mountains, so we're having a contest to see who's got the best of the best footage. First prize will be a 2007-08 adult season pass (or a voucher for a 2008-09 pass if you've already got yours), second prize will be a \$100 Snow Dough Gift Card, and third prize will be a \$50 Snow Dough Gift card. The winning videos (and maybe even some non-winning videos, if they're good enough) will be featured throughout the Winter season on the brianhead.com website, and the winner's photo and a short bio will be posted on the site.

Here are the rules:

1. The video must be shot and produced by an amateur, no professionals, please!
2. Footage may be submitted on a CD or DVD in .avi, .mp4 or .mov format.; or you may send ftp information to webmaster@brianhead.com.
3. The Skiers Responsibility Code at Brian Head Resort safety rules and regulations must be strictly followed. Videos containing reckless, dangerous, or potentially dangerous stunts or maneuvers will NOT be accepted.
3. All videos must take into consideration the family-friendly theme of Brian Head Resort, and must be suitable for ALL audiences.
3. Brian Head Resort employees and their immediate family members are not eligible to enter.

All entries must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, December 7, 2007. The winning entries will be announced on Friday, December 21, 2007. Send CDs or DVDs to: Video Contest, Brian Head Resort, P.O. Box 190008, Brian Head UT 84719. E-mail any questions to webmaster@brianhead.com.

Big Donation Will Get Even Bigger

Fishing groups provide money for state's Blue Ribbon waters

The largest donation ever given to the Division of Wildlife Resources by an



angling group was received Nov. 14.

That's when three anglers presented the agency with a \$10,750 check from the Utah Stonefly Society and Cache Valley Anglers.

DWR biologists will use the money to improve

fishing at waters in Utah that are part of the state's Blue Ribbon Fisheries program. Right now, the Weber River in northern Utah is their first choice. The DWR will use the money to buy land that anglers can use to access the river. The money will also be used to make habitat better for trout.

"What's really exciting is that these groups have actually provided more money than the original \$10,750 donation," says Walt Donaldson, Aquatic Section chief for the DWR. "Now that we have this money, other federal dollars can be used to 'match' the donation."

Donaldson says the DWR should receive \$12,000 to \$30,000, depending on which federal program the donation qualifies for. That means the groups' donation will result in the DWR receiving a total of \$22,000 to \$40,000 that it didn't have before.

And all of that money will be used to improve fishing on the Weber River or at other Blue Ribbon waters in the state.

Dave Serdar of the Utah Stonefly Society says donations like this one are critical to making fishing even better in Utah. "It's absolutely critical that the DWR receive funding beyond the dollars anglers provide when they buy a fishing license," Serdar says. "Through the Federal Aid (matching dollars) program, any donation that's given can grow to as much as three times the original amount."

"I want to compliment these guys for raising this much money," says Roger Wilson, cold water sport fisheries coordinator for the DWR. Wilson is referring to

Serdar and Cary Asper of the Stonefly Society, Paul Dremann, chairman of Utah's Blue Ribbon Fisheries Advisory Council, and all the members of the Stonefly Society and Cache Valley Anglers.

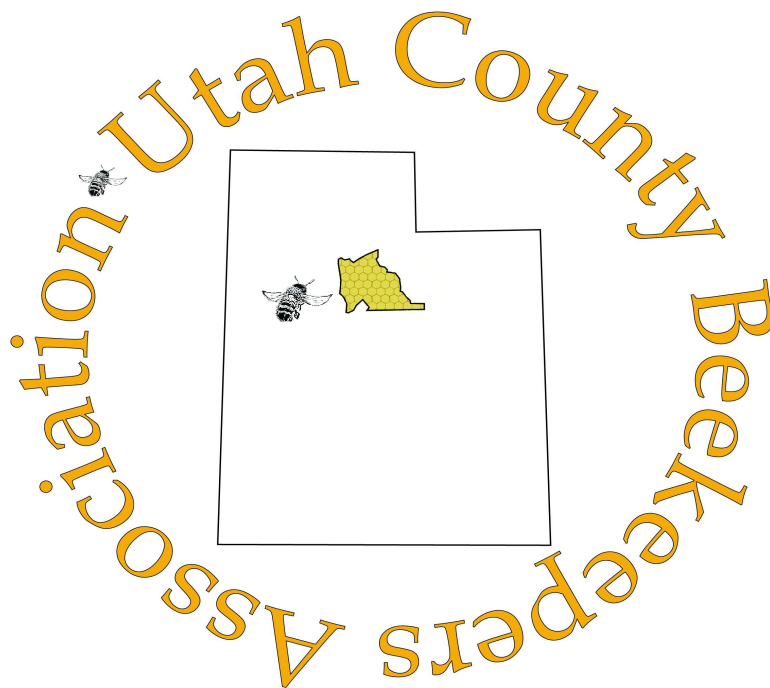
"We'll put the money to good use," Wilson says.

The Stonefly Society and Cache Valley Anglers raised the money through fly-tying and fly-fishing clinics they offered last spring.

More information about Utah's Blue Ribbon waters is available on the Web at www.wildlife.utah.gov/blueribbon .

Utah Valley Beekeeper News

We just couldn't wait to tell you all about some of the changes for 2008. We also need some feedback from you for some of the ideas presented.



2008 Presidency:

- President - Neil Shelley (by the way, Neil has a new cell phone - 822-4114 is the number)
- Vice-President - Charlie Sigler
- Secretary -
- Events Coordinator - Matt Parkin
- Treasurer - Doreen Robinson

As you can see, we were not able to elect a secretary in the November meeting. We are

looking for someone to fill this very important position so if you or someone you know can make it to the meetings and has good note taking skills, please, **PRETTY PLEASE** let us know. We will take all the volunteers and nominations hopefully vote someone in during the January meeting.

Meetings:

In 2008, we will begin meeting each month. We think this will give us the opportunity to cover more topics that are of interest to beginners and experienced beekeepers alike. In order to attempt to meet the needs of our members, we will

hold some of the meetings on days other than Saturday. So here is how it will work:

- Meetings held during the odd months (January, March, May, July, September, November) will continue to be held on the second Saturday at 10AM. These meetings will be held at the extension office in Provo and we are pleased to bring back the refreshments at each meeting.
- Meetings held during the even months (February, April, June, August, October, December) will be held on the FIRST Friday of each month at 6:30PM. These meetings are likely to be held at the Blendtec building in South Orem where we hold our classes (this location may change as needed). The Friday meetings will be a pot luck dinner with a themed main course prepared by a volunteer. The December meeting may be cancelled depending on the schedule of the Utah Beekeepers Association Annual Convention for next year. Spouses are welcome and if we can get a volunteer (we might even be able to pay a little) we can get a babysitter for younger children.



Presidency meetings will now be held 1/2 hour before each meeting and as always, members are free to attend. Also, an email reminder will be sent to members about the meeting several days before the meeting takes place. We do need some volunteers to help with refreshments for the Saturday meetings and some theme ideas for the Friday dinners so if you are interested, please speak up. We also intend to invite a press representative to attend our meetings - perhaps they will be inspired to put a story in local papers and help us spread the word about beekeeping.

We need your input on what you would like to learn about! Otherwise, the presidency will discuss topics that interest them!



2008 Swarm List:

We will be taking names, numbers and cities from all interested parties for the capture/retrieval of swarms. We need to hear from interested parties no later than February 1st. This will allow us time to distribute the swarm list to cities, county

government, extension offices etc. before swarm season begins. We are also hoping to coordinate with each city to publish our website and swarm list for that city in their monthly newsletters for March, April and May.

Bee a Beekeeper Program:

It was voted unanimously to continue the Bee a Beekeeper program. We will work with the FFA this year to find students and we will also form a committee to help us write grants for funding and to contact beekeeping supply houses to see if we can get some hard goods donated. We already have at least 2 packages of bees already committed to be donated for next year. If you are interested in participating in the group, please let us know. Currently, Louise Holdaway has volunteered to help the group and meeting can be held either before or after our regular meetings.



We will also gather funds or grants to give out a scholarship this year for a student who will be in college for the fall of 2008. More details will be coming, but we hope to give a \$500 scholarship.

Beekeeper Socials:

We will continue the Summer Joint BBQ and Charlie feels that he can convince his wife to allow us to use Benjamin Farms again. We will have more seating and tables for those of you who don't enjoy picnic style.

We will also continue with our Valentines Dinner that is catered and this dinner specifically raises funds for the Bee a Beekeeper Program.

Classes:

We will offer the following classes this year:

- Beginners Class - sometime in March; 4 hours on Friday, 4 hours on Saturday. The Saturday portion will include some in Apiary so participants will need to have a helmet and veil.
- Intermediate Class - sometime in April; 4 hours on Friday, 4 hours on Saturday. The Saturday portion will include some in Apiary so participants will need to have a helmet and veil.
- Advanced Class - sometime in April. The structure of this class is still being worked on but will include at least a portion on queen breeding.

Volunteer Work:

In 2008 we will continue to support the efforts of the Utah County Farm Bureau and their Farm Field Days. We will also support calls from schools, scout groups



and other interested parties. The state fair will also be a big event, and we will see what we can do to get a sign with the UCBA on it. Remember that the success of the volunteer work the association does it up to YOU - we need volunteers to help so don't be afraid if it is your first year - you already know more than a 2nd grader.

I would like to thank all of you for the fantastic experience that being president has been. I welcome each and every one of you to feel free to email or phone me with your suggestions on any of the above, the website, or any other topic you feel needs to be discussed.

Thanks again and best wishes to all!

Neil Shelley

Utah County Beekeepers Association President, 2006-2008

Changes Await Those Applying for 2008 Turkey Permit

You can start applying on Nov. 28

If you want to apply for a permit to hunt wild turkeys in Utah next spring, you need to be aware of two changes:

- You must have a hunting or combination license before you can apply for a permit.
- Applications will be accepted only through the Division of Wildlife Resources' Web site.

Start applying on Nov. 28

You can apply for a permit at www.wildlife.utah.gov starting Nov. 28. Your application must be received through the Web site no later than 11 p.m. on Dec. 26 to be entered in the draw for permits.

If you're not comfortable applying on the Internet, you can also apply over-the-phone. To apply over-the-phone, you must call (801) 538-4700 no later than 5 p.m. on Dec. 26.

Results of the 2008 Wild Turkey Draw will be posted by Jan. 31, 2008.

Changes

License required



Starting with the 2008 spring hunts, you must have a current Utah hunting or combination license before you can apply for a turkey hunting permit.

“This change is important to the future of the state’s wildlife,” says Jim Karpowitz, director of the DWR. “As costs continue to rise, the requirement that hunters buy a license will provide us the revenue we need to continue managing wild turkeys and other

wildlife into the future.”

Karpowitz has some advice for you as you decide which license to buy: the hunting license, which costs \$26 for residents, or the combination license, which costs \$30. "I'd encourage you to buy the combination license," he says. "It costs \$4 more than a hunting license, but it also allows you to fish."

Another change awaits turkey hunters this spring: in addition to allowing you to apply for a hunting permit, you must have one of these licenses with you in order to use your hunting permit.

Hunting and combination licenses are available at www.wildlife.utah.gov. You can also obtain one from DWR offices and more than 350 hunting license agents across Utah.

Karpowitz also reminds you that the cost for a wild turkey hunting permit has dropped by \$5. Wild turkey permits now cost \$35 for residents and \$95 for nonresidents.

Apply on the Web

In addition to the new license requirement, you'll also have to apply for a permit on the Internet this year.

"If you've never applied for a permit online before, and you have questions about how to do it, please drop by a DWR office," says Judi Tutorow, wildlife licensing coordinator for the DWR. "We have computers you can use and staff members who can help you through the process."

You can also apply for a permit over-the-phone by calling the DWR at (801) 538-4700.

"If you decide to apply over the phone, you must call us no later than 5 p.m. on Dec. 26," Tutorow says.

For more information, call the nearest Division of Wildlife Resources office or the DWR's Salt Lake City office at (801) 538-4700.

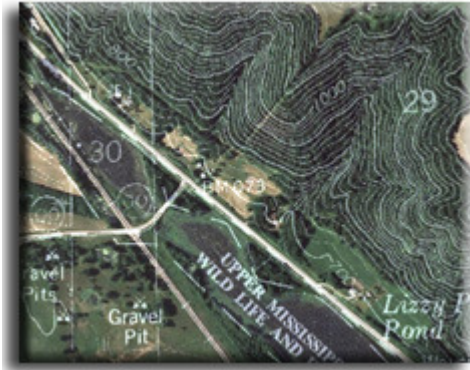
FREE LAMINATION

Offer expires November 30, 2007. No coupons necessary. Up to \$25 value per map!

Get a jump on your Christmas list with personalized maps from MyTopo.com. Through the end of November we're offering free lamination (up to a \$25 value) on

every map! There is no coupon code required, just select Laminated as the paper type when you order your map, and the discount will be applied.

TopoPhoto Hybrid Maps



In 2007, we introduced a new hybrid aerial photo and topographic map product. We've combined the best in color aerial photos with the USGS topographic maps... together in one map product. Now available for over 40 states.

[GET A HYBRID MAP >>](#)

November Map Tip: Get another copy of your maps

You can easily reorder any map you've ever created, or get a color aerial or TopoPhoto version of the map. Here's how:

1. Go to MyTopo.com
2. Click on "Your Account" in the top right corner, and log in
3. All your previously ordered maps are visible. Find the one you want and click on "Start a New Map Here"
3. Switch the imagery type to Color Aerial or Hybrid if desired
4. Add your topo or photo map to your shopping cart, and place the order

AAA UTAH TURKEY DELIVERY KICKS OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON

AAA Utah Marks 11th Year of Helping Feed the Hungry

WHEN: Thursday, November 15, 2007
10:00 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.

WHAT: Transported on the back of AAA's yellow tow trucks, AAA Utah will deliver more than 170 turkeys to Salt Lake City non-profit kitchens. The turkeys will be prepared into meals to serve the city's homeless and shut-ins, allowing more than 4,000 people to enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

WHO: AAA's annual Thanksgiving turkey delivery project is part of an ongoing effort to help meet the needs of our community during the holiday season. Throughout the morning, AAA will deliver more than 1,600 turkeys to nonprofit organizations in Utah, Nevada and Northern California to serve nearly 32,000 people Thanksgiving dinners.

WHERE: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church kitchen
(North side of building)
279 South 300 West
Salt Lake City, Utah
10:00 a.m.

The Salvation Army
252 South 500 East
Salt Lake City, Utah
10:30 a.m.

Whirling disease discovered in Springville State Fish Hatchery

SALT LAKE CITY — Late last week, fish pathologists with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources discovered DNA evidence of *Myxobolus cerebralis*, the parasite that causes whirling disease, in rainbow trout at the Springville State Fish Hatchery.



Whirling disease affects trout and salmon, resulting in deformations and neurological damage that cause the fish to "whirl."

None of the four-inch trout were stocked in Utah waters. Per DWR protocols, the population of 60,000 fish will be destroyed, and the hatchery will be shut down until a new water supply is secured. The infected fish, weighing approximately 6,000 pounds,

are a small fraction of the one million pounds of fish raised annually in state hatcheries.

Surplus rainbow trout at the other hatcheries will ensure that plenty of fish are available to stock Utah waters in the coming year.

The discovery was made during routine disease testing of the young rainbows. While disappointed, DWR officials were not completely surprised. The Springville hatchery also experienced an outbreak in 2005 when whirling disease was discovered in the main water supply.

DWR Aquatics Section Chief, Walt Donaldson, notes that the agency is committed to stocking healthy fish, “Good science requires that we not stock infected fish. We discovered the problem, notified the Fish Health Policy Board and are committed to sustaining healthy fisheries.”

The agency is taking another critical step as well. It is currently digging a well to secure a clean water source from an underground aquifer. Officials hope this measure will prevent future occurrences of the disease at the Springville site when it reopens.

The public can also help prevent the spread of whirling disease across Utah. Officials urge anglers to take the following steps when fishing in Utah waters:

- Remove mud from all equipment, including boats, trailers, waders, boots, float tubes and fins before leaving a fishing area. Thoroughly dry equipment in the sun if possible before reuse. If you are traveling directly to other waters, clean your equipment with a 10 percent solution of chlorine bleach or use another set of equipment.
- Do not use felt-soled waders; they provide an ideal hiding place for the spores that cause whirling disease.
- Do not transport live fish between bodies of water.
- Do not dispose of fish heads, skeletons or entrails in any body of water. Fish parts should be disposed of in the garbage, by deep burying or by total burning.

For more information about whirling disease, call Dr. Chris Wilson at the DWR Fisheries Experiment Station. His number is (435) 752-1066.

For more information about the Springville hatchery, call either Walt Donaldson (801-538-4760) or Tim Miles (801-538-4808) at the Salt Lake City office.

FISHING REPORT FOR SOUTHEASTERN UTAH

ABAJO MOUNTAINS Conservation Officer Paul Washburn reports that fishing has been good at Blanding 3 and 4, using worms or PowerBait. Rapalas or spoons are recommended for pike at Recapture Reservoir.



BENCHES & BOULGERS

PONDS Fishing has been good for 10-12 inch rainbows, reports Todd Munford. He recommends straight nightcrawlers or Zeke's Sierra Gold.

ELECTRIC LAKE Fishing has been good on the north end. Try fishing off shore with a straight nightcrawler 2-3 feet behind a full bubble.

HUNTINGTON

RESERVOIR (also known as **Mammoth Reservoir**) Todd Munford reports good fishing for 14-16 inch tiger trout. Best success will be on the east shoreline with 18 inches of leader and a full bubble, trailing a straight nightcrawler. The best technique is to cast out and reel in very slowly and sporadically.

Tom Ogden indicates that fishing has been good for 12-16 inch tigers. The fly patterns that have worked best for Tom are

dark-colored leech or wooly buggers on size 8 long-shank hooks.

LAKE POWELL Visit <http://www.wayne@wayneswords.com> for the fishing report, provided by Wayne Gustaveson, DWR project leader.

LASAL MOUNTAINS Conservation Officer Tj Robertson reports that most LaSal Mountain lakes have slowed down. Hidden and Warner lakes, however, pick up on warm afternoons. Kens Lake has been good for smaller rainbow trout using worms, salmon eggs or PowerBait. In warm afternoons, spinners work well for trout and small jigs work well for bass. A week ago, Biologist Darek Elverud reported catching 10 rainbows in ½ hour with a gold spinner.

LOWER FISH CREEK Tom Ogden reports that the water is low and clear, and the fish are spooky. Earlier this month, he fished for four hours and caught one tiger, four browns and nine cutthroats. All fish were less than 14 inches. The best patterns were Montana nymphs and San Juan worms in size 8-10. Maroon was the best color for the San Juan worm.

SCOFIELD RESERVOIR

Conservation Officer Chris Pugliese fished with his family last week, and noted that the biggest fish were hitting dead minnows.

Todd Munford says that fishing continues to be good from shore or watercraft.

From a boat, the best fishing is in 12-14 feet of water. The best bait for both shore or boat angler is a nightcrawler tipped with a chartreuse garlic-flavored marshmallow. Fish the bait 3 feet behind a full bubble.

Tom Ogden indicates variable fishing success for all techniques from one day to the next. For fly fishermen, Tom recommends a beadhead blood leech or beadhead olive leech.

Thousands Welcome Winter at Ski Utah's Fat Flake Festival

Salt Lake City's downtown Gallivan Center outdoor venue lit up on Nov. 3, when thousands of winter enthusiasts gathered at the 2nd annual Ski Utah Fat flake Festival, managed by Mountain Sports International, to greet the arrival of the new ski and snowboard season.

The event was kicked off with the first-ever Fat Flake Festival Monster Rail Jam, featuring terrain features provided by Park City Mountain Resort and The Canyons, and snow from the Cottonwood Canyons. Athletes kept the crowd engaged with fierce and highly entertaining competition. When all was said and done, judges Aaron Bittner, Kimmy Fasani and Pep Fugas crowned MC Waryas as the best female ski athlete and Kyler Cooley best male. Alicia Trujillo won best female snowboard athlete and Zak Hale best male. Each winner was awarded with \$800, a bag from Dakine and a year's supply of Monster energy drink.



In addition to the Rail Jam competition, winners of the 2007 Ski & Ride Utah Photo Contest were presented by POWDER magazine senior editor Derek Taylor. Photographer Adam Clark won best ski photograph for his photo of skier Ben Wheeler in the Alta backcountry. Photographer Justin L'Heureux was awarded best snowboard photograph for his photo of rider Drew Fuller in Weber Canyon, Utah. Each photographer was awarded \$1,000.

Perhaps the most coveted prize, though, was winner of the '80s ski outfit contest. Despite numerous radical and worthy outfits, Wendell Whiting blew the competition away with overwhelming crowd support. Whiting said he had great confidence in his outfit, since it was what he actually wore 20 years ago. Whiting was awarded his choice of Rossignol skis and bindings, an Eider jacket, a Smith helmet and a Utah resort season pass.

Music by the Spazmatics and DJ Knucklz kept crowds dancing as resorts handed out swag, passes and prizes. [Click here to view a slideshow of the event.](#)

Utah Ski Resorts Ready to Open

The first of Utah's ski resorts are scheduled to open for the 2007-08 ski and snowboard season this week. Following is a listing of tentative opening dates:

Alta: TBA
Beaver Mountain: TBA
Brian Head: Nov. 22
Brighton: TBA
The Canyons: Nov. 17
Deer Valley: Dec. 8
Park City Mountain Resort: Nov. 16
Powder Mountain: TBA
Snowbasin: Nov. 22
Snowbird: Nov. 17
Solitude: Nov. 16
Sundance: Dec. 7
Wolf Mountain: Nov. 22

As always, season openings are weather-dependent, so check www.SkiUtah.com for the most up-to-date information.

Park City Mountain Resort Benefit Day to Assist Local Health Clinic

Park City Mountain Resort last week announced that the Park City People's Health Clinic, providing health care services for uninsured people of Summit and Wasatch counties, was selected as the benefactor of the proceeds from the ski resort's fifth annual Benefit Day, which will be held on Friday, December 7. Specially-priced tickets will be sold through several outlets prior to Benefit Day. Park City Mountain Resort's Benefit Day, in its fifth year, is an annual tradition that provides discounted lift tickets with all proceeds donated to a local non-profit organization.

"Benefit Day was established to give back to the Park City community and has set a standard for giving, raising more than \$200,000 in the last four years," said Peter Curtis, president and general manager of Park City Mountain Resort. "With so many deserving not-for-profit organizations in this community, it is always difficult to choose. We selected the People's Health Clinic because they provide help to the people who make Park City a viable resort town, which is important to us and the community."

Discounted lift tickets for the Park City Mountain Resort Benefit Day can be purchased in advance for \$25 in the Park City area at Jans, Cole Sport, White Pine Touring, Dolly's Bookstore, and Norda's at Redstone Plaza. In addition, tickets are available at Sports Den, Wasatch Touring and any Canyon Sports outlet in Salt Lake City.

Ski Patrol Strike Averted at The Canyons

Utah's only unionized ski patrol, The Canyons Professional Ski Patrol Association, voted on Nov. 3 to ratify a new two-year agreement with The Canyons ski resort and end contract negotiations with the resort.

The vote was "overwhelmingly supportive that they take this contract," says resort spokesperson Libby Dowd. Dowd's positive view was echoed by Lew Ellingson, staff representative of the Communications Workers of America (CWA), the union representing the patrollers. "The union is looking forward to a successful two seasons while continuing to build a strong, good working relationship with The Canyons," Ellingson said in a prepared statement.

Patrollers are back in training at The Canyons, preparing for the ski resort's scheduled November 17th opening to the 2007-08 ski and snowboard season. "I think that everybody is happy and got what they wanted without giving up too much," said Jake Hutchinson, Patrol Director at The Canyons. "We've had everybody back to work for two days now and everybody's happy."

Both sides credit the role of Mike Goar, the resort's new managing director who arrived at The Canyons in September following a long career at neighboring Solitude ski resort. "He jumped right in," Dowd explains. "He was a terrific leader."

Snowbird Customer Appreciation Days Generate 3,582 lbs of Food

Snowbird collected nearly two tons of non-perishable food for the Utah Food Bank during the ski and snowboard resort's annual Customer Appreciation Days last month. In addition, \$1,416 was raised for the Wasatch Adaptive Sports Program to help provide skiing and snowboarding experiences for those with special needs.



Customer Appreciation Days, during which one can of food equals one free Tram ride, took place Oct. 13-14 and 20-21. In lieu of food, customers were able to make a \$2 donation to the Wasatch Adaptive Sports Program for a Tram ride.

"The customer appreciation program is a wonderful way to give

back to our guests while contributing to a good cause," said Snowbird President Bob Bonar. "We are happy that we can help stock the shelves of the donation warehouse as we head into the winter months."

Ski Gear At Your Door

Imagine getting off the plane at Salt Lake International Airport, checking into your slopeside condo, and having your rental gear come to you. That's the concept behind Ski Butlers, a resort-based ski rental operation founded by Bryn Carey, a former captain of the University of New Hampshire's NCAA Division I ski team and current Park City resident. Putting his business degree to good use, Carey saw a market niche in 2004 and pounced on it.

"Our goal is to take the stress out of renting skis and all the hassles associated with going to a rental shop, standing in line, and lugging all the equipment back to your lodging," said Carey. "Once people experience our service they say, if avoidable, they will never go back to a rental shop again."

When the ski technicians arrive they are supplied with a variety of sizes and types of skis and boots for proper fit. Ski Butlers features equipment from Rossignol, Volkl, Nordica, Dolomite, Marker, Fischer, and Elan in three performance levels: sport, high performance, and elite demo for adults and children. Ski Butlers also rents helmets, boot dryers, and two-way radios and sells accessories.

In Utah, Ski Butlers operates in Park City, Deer Valley, The Canyons and Salt Lake City.

Deer Valley Continues Sponsorship of Freestyle Ski Team and Nate Roberts

Deer Valley Resort will once again sponsor

the Deer Valley Freestyle Team, a junior developmental team for moguls enthusiasts ages 8 to 16, as well as one of the world's best freestyle athletes, U.S. Ski Team member and World Champion mogulist Nate Roberts.

"We've been sponsoring Nate since 2005 and are thrilled to announce our continued relationship," says Coleen Reardon,

Deer Valley's director of marketing. "Nate is not only a great athlete, but also a great person. He grew up in Park City and is a living example of hard work and excellence, both attributes that Deer Valley admires."



As part of his sponsorship agreement, Roberts will display Deer Valley's name on his helmet and ski at Deer Valley Resort whenever he's home in Park City. Deer Valley also sponsors the Deer Valley Freestyle Team, a junior development team for young moguls skiers, by providing them with discounted season passes and allowing them to train on Deer Valley's terrain each weekend during the winter season, including on Champion, the 2002 Olympic Winter Games mogul run.

Alta Lodge Gets Facelift In Time for Ski Season

At 68 she's not too old for a facelift, but we're not talking about some washed-up Hollywood star. When the doors open this month at the Alta Lodge for the 2007-08 ski season, long-time fans of the venerable Utah hostelry will find a new front desk, lobby and deck room - big changes for the lodge that first opened as a ski hotel in 1939.

"We wanted to create a fresh new look while maintaining the feel of a traditional mountain lodge," commented Alta Lodge CEO Marcus Dipppo. "Carrie Snyder, Principal of Avatar Design worked with us on designing a look using modern touches to update the look while combining natural materials with renewable and recyclable building products."

Despite the update, the common areas of Alta Lodge still exude an understated elegance consistent with Alta Lodge's historical tradition. The end result is that guests who have been coming to the Lodge for years will still feel the same homey lodge environment while appreciating the new life that has been infused into the historic structure. The original Lodge was built in 1939 and two additional wings were added in the 1970's, designed by locally renowned architect John Sugden, who used glass and steel to showcase the mountains.

New England Ski Museum to Honor Stein Eriksen

Stein Eriksen, Deer Valley Ski Resort's Director of Skiing and namesake of the luxury Deer Valley hotel, the Stein Eriksen Lodge, will receive the Spirit of Skiing Award from the New England Ski Museum at the Museum's annual meeting this Saturday at Sugarbush Resort in Warren, Vt. The award is intended to recognize a person whose life exemplifies the adage that "skiing is not just a sport, it is a way of life," and who has influenced skiing in a positive manner and enabled others to benefit from the sport.

After dinner Eriksen will speak on his career in skiing, which extends back into his youth, when his parents Marius and Birgit Eriksen manufactured and sold Eriksen skis in Norway.

Eriksen's graceful, acrobatic style of skiing defined elegance on snow for the generation of skiers who were active in the 1950s and 1960s, just as the sport was enjoying a burst of popularity and development. After coming to prominence in the 1952 Olympics with a gold medal run in giant slalom and a silver in slalom, Eriksen moved from his native Norway to the U.S., where he operated ski schools at Boyne Mountain, Heavenly Valley, Sugarbush, Aspen Highlands, Snowmass and Park City, before settling in at Deer Valley, where he remains today as Director of Skiing.

Pre-dawn Fire Forces Evacuation at Stein Eriksen Lodge

An early morning fire in a first-floor room at Stein Eriksen Lodge on Oct. 21 prompted the evacuation of the hotel's guests. The hotel and Park City Fire Department responded immediately and the fire was resolved at approximately 5:00 a.m.

Fire sprinklers activated and guests were evacuated from sixteen rooms on the first and second floors for precautionary measures at the luxury Park City-area property at Deer Valley Resort. Guests residing in the immediate vicinity of the fire were notified of the incident via telephone and guests requiring evacuation were alerted at their door by hotel management.

The 180-room hotel was 66% occupied at the time of the incident and evacuations were limited to one wing of the acclaimed property. Less than 10% of the hotel was affected and the occupants re-accommodated to other rooms immediately. No serious injuries were reported.

Denver Court Denies Vail Resorts' Injunction to Block Sale of The Canyons to Talisker

A state District Court in Denver has denied a motion by Vail Resorts, Inc. for a preliminary injunction to prevent American Skiing Company (ASC) from selling The Canyons to Talisker Canyons Finance Co LLC. Vail had asked the Denver District Court to hold up the sale of ASC's subsidiary, ASC Utah, to Talisker, pending resolution of the claims made by Vail in the litigation it brought to challenge the sale.

"As a party that has not been accused of any wrongdoing in this matter, we are very pleased with the District Court's decision to allow the sale of The Canyons to go forward," said said ASC President and CEO B.J. Fair. "This ruling from the District Court is a first step toward a great future for the resort under Talisker's ownership. We will continue to work closely with Talisker to satisfy all remaining conditions to the closing of our sale."

"While we remain interested in The Canyons resort and are disappointed in the outcome of the preliminary injunction hearing, we respect the court's decision," said Rob Katz, chief executive officer of Vail Resorts. Vail Resorts has already spent nearly \$2 million since August 1 in activities related to The Canyons litigation.

THE NEST GIFT SHOP HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE AT OGDEN NATURE CENTER

Saturday, December 1, 9 am - 4 pm

FREE admission for all / all ages are welcome!

Come Shop!

- **Our signature fresh holiday greens, swags & centerpieces**
- Cozy fleece jackets, vests, headbands & hats
- New, colorful Nature Center T-shirts (short & long-sleeved)
- Jewelry by local artists
- Fabulous puppets, toys & games for children
- New, nature-based home accessories
- Bird feeders of all shapes & sizes
- Nature books, field guides & children's books
- Imaginative stocking stuffers

Enjoy free gift wrapping, Christmas cookies and hot wassail provided by our Board of Directors.

Moose Droppings Tree

A silent auction will be held at the Open House for a living Christmas Tree decorated by staff and volunteers featuring moose stuffed animals and yummy chocolates.

Free Christmas Craft

Children can make a pinecone birdfeeder at the Holiday Open House from 9 am - 4 pm.

Open all winter!

Winter is a wonderful season to enjoy the nature preserve! We are open Monday - Friday, 9 am to 5 pm and Saturday, 9 am to 4 pm.

Members enjoy a 10% discount on all items in the gift shop. All proceeds benefit the Ogden Nature Center's programs and nature preserve.

The Ogden Nature Center is located at 966 W. 12th Street, Ogden, UT, 84404. For more information call 801-621-7595 or visit www.ogdennaturecenter.org

WARNER VALLEY DINOSAUR TRACKSITE CLEAN-UP

We will leave from the parking lot at the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm (SGDS) at 9:00 AM sharp on Saturday, December 8th.

Due to recent vandalism at the famous Warner Valley Dinosaur Tracksite, we have arranged with the BLM to go to the site and attempt to reverse damage. We will also be cleaning the tracksite surface and conserving/preserving certain portions of the site to make them more stable against the elements and wear and tear from visitors. Time permitting, we will also do some exploration in the area to search for new sites.

IMPORTANT!! We are only allowed to have a maximum of 30 people on this field trip, so please reserve your place with Andrew Milner (amilner@sgcity.org or phone 435-574-3466 ext. #2 and leave a message).

We will have a sign-up sheet for this field work at the next UFOP meeting on Wed., Nov. 14th (**ALSO IMPORTANT!!!** Don't miss Randy Irmis' talk at 7:00 PM!).

Also, if you are not BLM volunteers and/or site stewards for the Color Country Site Stewardship Program, then you are required to fill out a BLM liability waiver form. This will protect you in case of any accident or injury that may occur while volunteering for the BLM on this project.

Please be prepared for a day in the field. Bring lunch, water, hat, sunscreen, back pack, GPS unit (if you plan on searching for new sites), etc. The SGDS will bring any of the equipment and supplies needed for site clean up.

Look forward to seeing you then!

Regards,
Andrew

2007 MOAB BIGHORN SHEEP FESTIVAL

PRICE, UTAH—On November 16-17, 2006, the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) will once again sponsor its annual Moab Bighorn Sheep Festival. The event is free to the public. Participants of all ages are invited. No pre-registration is needed. Sheep watchers are encouraged to bring a pair of binoculars, spotting

scope, snacks, beverage and camera. The DWR will guide participants to locations where bighorns have recently been observed. DWR personnel will have extra spotting scopes and binoculars for public use. The DWR will also have several large 4WD passenger vehicles available for those who wish to carpool.

The event begins on Friday evening, November 17th at 7 p.m. in the Moab Information Center, located at the corner of Center and Main. Bill Bates, DWR Wildlife Program Manager for southeastern Utah, will present a PowerPoint program on



bighorn sheep ecology and life history. For Mr. Bates' Master's Degree thesis, he studied Desert Bighorn Sheep in the Moab area. Bates will display skulls and horns of bighorn sheep and will answer any questions the public may have.

The following morning at 8 a.m., participants will gather at the Moab Information Center once again, where they will split off into groups in search of bighorn sheep. Each caravan of vehicles will be guided by a wildlife biologist. All parties will be in radio contact with one another, so that everyone can be advised of any other group's success at finding sheep. Those who wish to drive their own vehicles may leave the group at any time. For those, who ride-share, fieldtrips generally finish by noon or early afternoon.

The festival has been scheduled for the November 16-17 weekend, because bighorn sheep are in the rut at that time. Bighorn rams seek out ewes for breeding

and engage other rams in head-butting and other ritual showmanship. This makes for exciting public viewing. Remember that no pre-registration is necessary, nor is there any cost associated with the event. Just show up and have a good time! For more information, contact Brent Stettler at 435-613-3707 or brentstettler@utah.gov

Experience China and its dinosaurs!

Tracking China's Dinosaurs

June 7 (Saturday) – 18 (Wednesday), 2008

(12 days)

SGDS

Type of Trip: Geotour (Paleontology)

Location: North central and northeastern China

(Beijing, Beipiao, Dalian, Xian, and Lanzhou cities)

Science Leaders: Andrew R. C. Milner and Dr. Hai-Lu You

Minimum Number: 5

Maximum number: 17

Trip Overview:

The Sinofossa Institute and St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site are proud to offer

a unique opportunity to experience the cultural, historical, and geological wonders of China while following professional paleontologists Andrew R. C. Milner (City Paleontologist, St. George, Utah) and Dr. Hai-Lu You (Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences) to explore dinosaur footprint-bearing sites at the feathered dinosaur-yielding Liaoning Province and China's first track-based national geopark in Gansu Province. The geotour will visit several well-known dinosaur holding museums, including the Beijing Natural History Museum, Chinese Paleozoological Museum, Liaoning Paleontological Museum, and the Dalian Natural History Museum. Last but not least, we will go on tours of the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, and the Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses.

Who Should Attend?

Professional or amateur paleontologists, or those studying to be.

Tour Fee, Deposit & Payment:

US\$ 2,700.00/person (Double occupancy)

US\$ 3,200.00/person (Single occupancy)

Deposit Deadline: US\$200.00, April 7, 2008

Full Payment Deadline: May 7, 2008



Included in Tour Package:

- ☐ Deluxe accommodations in Beijing and Dalian, and comfortable clean accommodations in Beipiao and Lanzhou.
- ☐ All meals with beverages.
- ☐ All transportation within China, including transfers between airports and hotels.
- ☐ All sightseeing ticketing throughout the trip.



☐ All tools for fossil digging, including hammers, gloves, chisels for individual use, equipments (spades, generator and jet-hammer if needed) and supplies (plasters, glues, burlaps, etc.) if necessary.

☐ English-speaking, professional leadership.

☐ Services of an English-speaking national travel guide for sightseeing and assistants from local fossil museums.

☐ Local permits for exploring and digging of fossils (dinosaurs).

☐ Full pre-trip information and assistance.

Not Included in Tour Price:

- ☐ International airfare.
- ☐ Passport and visa fees.
- ☐ Laundry.
- ☐ Gratuities.
- ☐ Travel insurance.

Your Science Trip



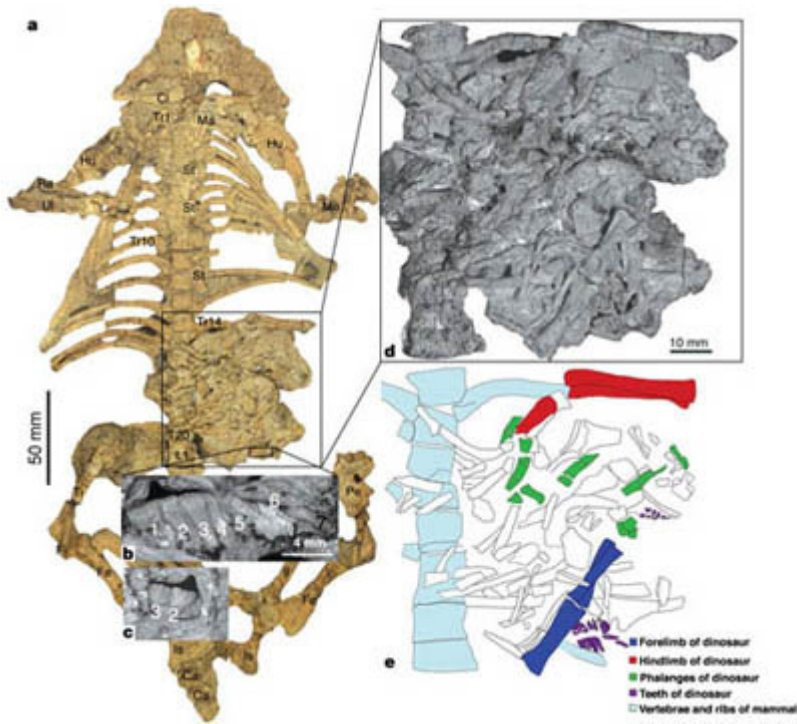
Leaders:

Andrew R. C. Milner

St. George City Paleontologist and SGDS Museum Curator

Andrew works with all scientific aspects of the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm dealing with paleontology and geology. Other research interests in southern Utah include the paleontology of the Triassic Moenkopi and Chinle formations, the Early Jurassic Moenave, Kayenta, and Navajo formations, and the Upper Cretaceous Iron Springs Formation. Andrew also works on Late Pleistocene Champlain Sea fossils from eastern North America. He lectures, provides higher educational services such as field trips, serves as an advisor for the Southwest Chapter of Utah Friends of Paleontology and has been a member of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology since 1988. He helped establish the nation's first BLM Paleontological Site Stewardship Program in Washington County, Utah, and he continues to work with the BLM and other federal and state organizations in recording and monitoring paleontological localities in the region.

Dr. Hai-Lu You



**Institute of Geology,
Chinese Academy of
Geological Sciences**

Hai-Lu's extensive knowledge on vertebrate paleontology, especially dinosaurs was gained through six years of Ph.D. study at University of Pennsylvania, as well as more than fifteen years of field and laboratory works on vertebrate fossils. As a lead scientist, Hai-Lu's recent research is focusing on two projects: in search

of the new evolutionary “missing links” from the Early Cretaceous of China, and the evolution of basal horned dinosaurs, in collaborating with his colleagues from Carnegie Museum of Natural History, University of Pennsylvania, Canadian Museum of Nature, and various Chinese institutions. Hai-Lu has named nine new dinosaur genera since 2003.

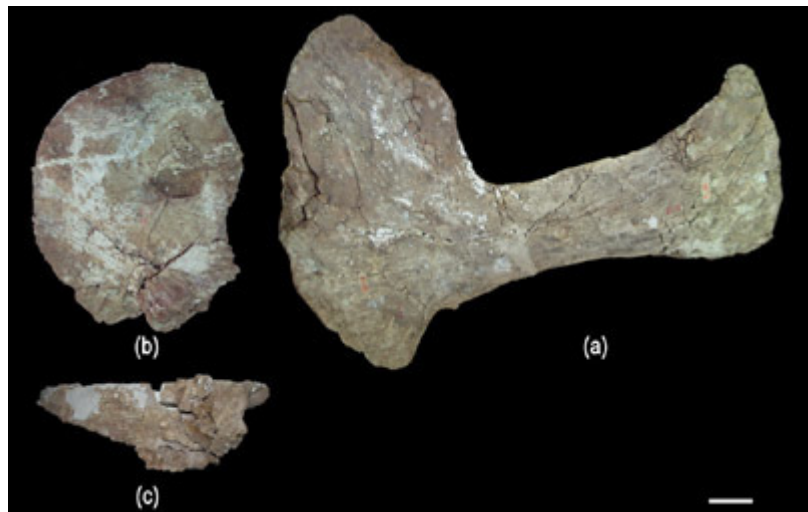
Itinerary:

Day 1 Beijing: Arrival and Welcome. Feel free to arrive at any time of the day. We will meet you at the Beijing Capital International Airport, and transfer you to the hotel. We will celebrate your arrival with a welcome reception in the evening.

Day 2 Beijing: Beijing Natural History Museum and Chinese Paleozoological Museum. Today, we will visit the Beijing Natural History Museum in the morning, and the unparalleled fossil collections at the Chinese Paleozoological Museum of the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology (IVPP) in the afternoon. IVPP is one of the leading and largest institutions in the world focusing on study of various groups of vertebrate fossils.

Day 3 Beijing > Beipiao. On the third day of our geotour, we will drive to Beipiao City in Liaoning Province, our base for the following 2 days' expeditions. Around noon on the way, we will visit Shanhaiguan Pass, the east end of the Great Wall, and have lunch there.

Days 4-5 Beipiao: Tracking Feathered Dinosaurs. Western Liaoning Province has recently produced some of the most fantastic paleontological discoveries ever made, including



feathered dinosaurs that lived in and around in a vast, mountain-bound lake 125-120 million years ago. We will spend two days here. In the morning of the first day, we will visit the Liaoning Paleontological Museum, where numerous fossils are preserved *in situ*, and we will study the rocks there. Later that afternoon, we will visit a dinosaur footprint site, and further explore the rocks nearby.

We will use the second day to explore several of the celebrated feathered dinosaur quarries near Beipiao City, considered by many to be the most scientifically important fossil localities in the world. These sites have produced dozens of new species of dinosaurs, primitive birds, and early mammals, as well as countless animals and plants that lived with them; however, our focus will be on searching for their footprints. Our scientists will teach you how to find fossils, especially dinosaur footprints (if you have not done this before). After some challenging work, you could be rewarded with exciting discoveries: maybe new footprints, plants, insects, fishes, possibly birds, and if you're exceptionally lucky, maybe even a feathered dinosaur*.

Day 6 Beipiao > Dalian: Dalian Natural History Museum. Today, we will drive about 400 km to Dalian City in the morning, and visit the Dalian Natural History Museum in the afternoon. Highlights of the dinosaurs include a nest of psittacosaurus with one adult and more than thirty babies, and the first sauropod dinosaur to be discovered that lived with feathered dinosaurs.

Day 7 Dalian > Xian > Lanzhou: Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses. We will fly to Xian in the morning, visit the Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses in the afternoon, and catch the evening flight to Lanzhou City, our base for the next 3 days' expedition.

Days 8-10 Lanzhou: discovering and excavating dinosaur footprints. We will visit the Liujiaxia National Dinosaur Geopark on the first day. Here, a diverse and well-preserved assemblage of dinosaur (theropod, sauropod and ornithomimid), pterosaur, and bird tracks from the Lower Cretaceous in the Yellow River valley represents the first significant fossil footprint discovery in Gansu Province, China. We will explore and excavate in the area over the following two days.

Day 11 Beijing: the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, and shopping. We will fly back to Beijing in the morning, and visit the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square in the afternoon. We will also leaving sometime for you to shop. We will enjoy Peking Duck for dinner.

Day 12 Beijing: Fond Farewells. We will take you to the airport, guide you to your terminal, and share a final lunch together if you depart in the afternoon.

* According to Chinese laws, all fossils belong to the country. All specimens we collect will be deposited in Chinese institutions.

Pre-trip 2-day sightseeing in Beijing:

Arrive in Beijing on June 5, 2008.

US\$ 400.00/person (Double occupancy) US\$ 500.00/person (Single occupancy)

Day 1 Beijing: The Lama Temple, Hutong Tour, and the Beijing Zoo. In the morning, we will visit the Lama Temple, and enjoy the Hutong tour. After lunch, we will see pandas at the Beijing Zoo.



Day 2 Beijing: The Great Wall and Ming Tombs. We will drive north to see the Great Wall and Ming Tombs for the whole day. In the evening, we will join other participants for dinner.

Questions? Please contact:

Andrew R. C. Milner

St. George City Paleontologist

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Email: amilner@sgcity.org
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Hai-Lu You
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Web: <http://www.sinofossa.org>

DOE AND FAWN SHOT AND LEFT TO WASTE

MOAB, UTAH—Recently, a doe and fawn deer were shot and left to waste near the LaSal Pass Road on the LaSal Mountains near Moab. Conservation officers need the public's help in finding the person or persons responsible for this atrocity.

On 10-23-2007, a concerned citizen contacted the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources' (UDWR) poaching hotline and stated that he had found a doe and fawn deer that had been shot and left to waste. Conservation officers investigated the area and were able to substantiate the report. Officers are looking for any



information that will help solve this crime. The deer were shot either late on October 22 or very early on October 23.

This kind of behavior gives hunters a bad name. The fawn was a buck, and deprives hunters from

the opportunity to legally harvest this animal in one or more years. The loss of the doe removes it from the breeding population and results in the loss of future fawns that may have been produced.

You can help! If you have any information regarding this or any other wildlife crime, contact the UDWR hotline at 1-800-662-DEER or the Division's southeast regional office at 435-613-3700. Confidentiality is guaranteed, and a reward of up to \$1000.00 may be offered.

BLM Enhances Features and Look of GeoCommunicator Website

The Bureau of Land Management recently released a new version of its National Integrated Land System's (NILS) GeoCommunicator Website, which is accessible at www.geocommunicator.gov. In addition to many new and exciting enhancements such as those listed below, the Website also has a fresh new look and feel to it – similar to the BLM's other newly redesigned Websites. “Based on customer feedback, the Bureau has given its popular NILS GeoCommunicator Website a bold new look,” said Michael D. (Mike) Nedd, the BLM's Assistant Director for Minerals, Realty, and Resource Protection. “Through this redesign, the Website is now easier for navigating and finding the information that is most important to our users. The Website has also added many new features in response to the President's Energy Policy Act of 2005, helping to ensure an even greater online experience for our users.”

GeoCommunicator is the NILS publication Website that provides interactive mapping of data for Federal surface management boundaries, the Public Land Survey System (PLSS), and other survey-based land descriptions, range allotments, land- and mineral-use authorizations, conveyances, classifications, withdrawals, and much more.

The Energy Map Viewer has been enhanced to include stipulations, which have been broken out into 16 categories on all energy and oil and gas map viewers. The Energy Map Viewer allows users to see most of the energy-related authorizations that the BLM issues, all in one map viewer. The latest release of GeoCommunicator also includes new features such as:

Site Mapper, which provides interactive mapping of abandoned mines from many agencies, and also shows BLM facilities (recreation sites, campgrounds, buildings, and administrative sites).

The Healthy Lands Map Viewer provides interactive mapping of range allotments, watersheds, and BLM facilities. This map viewer supports the BLM's Healthy Lands Initiative and lays the groundwork for the BLM to provide more resource

layers on the Website.

New alternate source Public Land Survey System (PLSS) data for much of the Central and Eastern United States has been added to the Website. The PLSS data is downloadable and will allow the BLM to show more case parcels in the future.

For more information on the National Integrated Land System's GeoCommunicator, please contact:

Leslie Cone

BLM Deputy, National Applications

P.O. Box 25047 - Denver, CO 80225

(303) 236-0815

E-mail: leslie_cone@blm.gov

The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on the public lands.

Agencies Publish Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Energy Transport Corridor Designations in 11 Western States

WASHINGTON, DC – The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the U.S. Departments of Energy, Agriculture, Commerce and Defense today released for public review and comment a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Draft PEIS) proposing designation of energy transport corridors on Federal lands in 11 Western States in accordance with Section 368 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The proposed energy corridors would facilitate future siting of oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines and electricity transmission and distribution on Federal lands in the West to help address growing energy demand while protecting the environment.

“The agencies involved in designating these corridors worked for nearly two years to develop the locations presented in the Draft EIS,” said Assistant Secretary of the Interior C. Stephen Allred. “From the beginning, we were

committed to avoiding the many unique areas and sensitive resources found on Western public lands, wherever possible. Designating these corridors will minimize the dispersal of rights-of-way for energy transport projects across Western landscapes.”

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 directs the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy, and the Interior to designate energy transport corridors for oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines and electricity transmission and distribution facilities on Federal lands in portions of Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. The Act further directs that environmental reviews be completed for the designation of such corridors, and that the designated corridors are incorporated into the relevant agency land use and resource management plans or equivalent plans.



“Meeting the Nation’s future energy needs will necessarily require some expansion of our capabilities for transporting energy resources,” said U.S. Department of Energy Assistant Secretary for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability Kevin M. Kolevar. “The infrastructure projects that could be constructed within these corridors may help assure the reliable delivery of electricity and fuels throughout the Western United States.”

Eighty-four percent of the corridors proposed and analyzed in the Draft PEIS are located on BLM-managed lands, while 14 percent are on USDA Forest Service lands. The remaining fractional percentages are on lands managed by the Department of the Interior’s Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation and National Park Service, or by the Department of Defense. The proposed corridors are agency-preferred locations for siting of future pipelines and transmission lines.

Interested members of the public, government agencies, American Indian tribes, States, and non-governmental organizations are invited to submit comments on the Draft PEIS.

The Draft PEIS evaluated factors that constrain where a network of energy transport corridors could be located – including topographical, environmental and regulatory constraints – as well as the overall suitability of particular lands to support development and operation of energy transport infrastructure. As a result of an inclusive public scoping effort over the past two years, including regional meetings and public review of preliminary corridor location maps, the Draft PEIS proposal avoids major known and designated sensitive resource areas including wilderness areas and national parks, tribal lands, national monuments and national recreation areas, wherever possible. The few locations where the proposed corridors could not avoid sensitive areas are located along existing transmission lines, highways, pipelines or other rights of way.

The agencies will solicit comments during a 90-day public comment period on the Draft PEIS. Public meetings will be held in each of the 11 states and in Washington, D.C. During this period, briefings and consultation will continue to occur with each Governor's office, Tribes, Congress, and historic preservation officials.

Public meetings to take oral comments on the Draft PEIS will be held:

January 8, 2008 – Portland, Ore., and Sacramento, Calif.
January 10 – Seattle, Wash. and Ontario, Calif.
January 15 – Phoenix, Ariz. and Grand Junction, Colo.
January 17 – Las Vegas, Nev. and Salt Lake City, Ut.
January 23 – Window Rock, Ariz.
January 24 – Albuquerque, N.M.
January 29 – Helena, Mont., and Cheyenne, Wyo.
January 31 – Boise, Id. and Denver, Colo.
February 5 – Washington, D.C. vicinity

To submit comments and to review the Draft PEIS and related documents, including detailed maps, visit the project website at <http://corridoreis.anl.gov>. Review copies are also available at libraries and agency regional and field offices. The Draft PEIS will also be published in the Federal Register on Friday, November 16, 2007, which initiates the 90-day public comment period.

Volume 3 of the Draft is an atlas of maps showing the locations of the proposed corridors. The most powerful and flexible version of the map data is available on the project Web site within a geographic information system (GIS) database that allows users to merge, enlarge, and view multiple map data layers. Software and instructions to use the GIS data are available for free download from the Web site, which may be accessed from Internet-capable home or office computers, computers at public libraries, and from BLM and Forest Service public reading rooms.

Swan migration is underway

More than 30,000 swans counted on Nov.6

If you drew a permit to hunt tundra swans in Utah this fall, you might want to grab your gun and head to the marsh.



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

During a survey flown on Nov. 6, Tom Aldrich counted 30,906 swans in marshes along the eastern shore of the Great Salt Lake.

The week before, he counted just over 13,000. "The number of swans coming into Utah's marshes

is definitely picking up," says Aldrich, who serves as the migratory game bird coordinator for the Division of Wildlife Resources.

Where the swans are

Most of the swans Aldrich spotted on the morning of Nov. 6 were on Unit 1 at the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge west of Brigham City. He spotted almost 14,000 swans on the unit.

"You can't hunt on Unit 1, but the swans that are on the unit may fly over units 2, 1A, 3A and 3B, which are open to hunting," Aldrich says.

Another area where Aldrich saw lots of swans was the Bear River Duck Club east of the refuge. He counted more than 10,300 swans there.

The weekly swan surveys are usually flown on Tuesday mornings. You can stay updated on where the swans are at www.wildlife.utah.gov/waterfowl/swan/swansurvey.php .

Utah's swan hunting season ends Dec. 9. The only hunters who can hunt swans are those who drew a swan hunting permit earlier this fall.

Hunting tips

If you're one of the 2,000 hunters who drew a permit, Aldrich encourages you to spend time watching the swans and learning their flight patterns. Tundra swans are very consistent in the times of day they fly and the routes they take. "If you learn these patterns, you'll up your chance for success," Aldrich says.

Things that can change a swan's flight pattern include hunting pressure, changes in the weather and the availability of food.

Ice-up is another thing to watch for. As the water starts to ice-up, swans fly more as they search for areas with open water. "Being in the marsh when this happens can also increase the chance that you take a swan," Aldrich says.

Aldrich reminds hunters that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has closed all of the areas north of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge and north of Forest Street (the road leading from Brigham City to the refuge) to tundra swan hunting.

"The USFWS has restricted tundra swan hunting to try and lessen the number of trumpeter swans that are taken," Aldrich says. "Compared to tundra swans, trumpeter swans are less abundant."

Swan hunting reminders

Swan hunters are reminded about requirements that are designed to help the DWR and the USFWS obtain an accurate count of the number of trumpeter swans that are accidentally taken by hunters.

Within 72 hours of taking a swan, you must get your bird examined and measured at a DWR office, or the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. You must also return your harvest questionnaire within 10 days after the season closes, even if you don't hunt or take a swan.

If you don't do those things, you'll have to pay a \$50 late fee if you want to apply for a swan permit in 2008.

BLM Comment Period nearing end

The clock is ticking. There will be no comment extension on this one.

This Action Alert is designed to help you formulate your comment letter on this important plan. We are asking our members who have enjoyed the spectacular trails in Moab, or think they might sometime in the future, to read this alert and begin today to write your comment letter.

There will be no "click and send" action alert from BRC on this one. That's because the BLM has "rigged" the process and the Alternatives so that a comment that says something like "I vote for Alternative D" will not work.



But we've taken a lot of time to look hard at what the Moab BLM is proposing so you don't have to wade through thousands of pages to figure out what they are proposing and how to comment.

In order to help you write your comment, we've taken all the important parts of the DEIS and compiled them in summaries available via hyperlinks below. There are

several key issues that folks need to be aware of and comment on, so we also have formulated some specific comment suggestions on the most important issues (see below).

If you find yourself lacking motivation here, just take a second to look at the effort those anti-recreation zealots over at SUWA have put into this Moab plan.

(<http://www.suwa.org/>) SUWA's Executive Director has moved to the Moab area and their staff of attorneys is making a very strong push to eliminate most of the OHV use in the region. Their effort is professional and it is strategically designed to supplement SUWA's foundation-funded legal and political efforts.

Hey, that's what you get when you have 2 million samoleans-per-anum to work with!!

Trust us on this: this effort by SUWA is a serious problem for you, if you use a vehicle for recreation in Moab. Like our ad says: "These guys want to rub you out!"

Please read this Alert, click the links and check out the maps and other materials. Bookmark the important sites, as updates will be added right up to the comment deadline. Forward this Alert to your friends, family, club land-use officers and your ridding buddies.

We put a lot of effort into making the Moab BLM's plans easy to understand. Once you click the links and check out our comment suggestions, you'll know what to do. It won't be difficult.



But if you have any questions, concerns, or just need some help writing a comment letter -- *please call*.

Brian Hawthorne
208-237-1008 ext 102
Ric Foster
208-237-1008 ext 107

SITUATION:

The Draft Resource Management Plan (DRMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Moab Field Office has been released for public review and comment.

In addition to a new RMP, Moab BLM will be formulating a Travel Plan for motorized vehicles and mountain bikes. Travel will be limited to designated roads, trails and areas.



The BLM has set a deadline of November 30, 2007, for receiving information and comments pertaining to the Alternatives and the analysis presented in the DEIS. Feedback regarding the four proposed alternatives will be used to formulate a Proposed Resource Management Plan, and ultimately, a Final Resource Management Plan

and Travel Plan.

Comments and other information may be submitted electronically at:
UT_Moab_Comments@blm.gov.

Comments and other information may also be submitted by mail to:
Moab Field Office RMP Comments
Bureau of Land Management
Moab Field Office
82 East Dogwood
Moab, UT 84532

INFORMATION ON THE WEB:

BLM information and documents:

The Moab DRMP/DEIS and supporting information is available on the project web site at: <http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/planning.html>.

BlueRibbon Coalition Resources:

<http://www.sharetrails.org/alertlist/subscribeform.cfm>

http://www.sharetrails.org/public_lands/

http://www.sharetrails.org/public_lands/?section=MoabUpdate

What the anti-access groups are doing:

http://www.suwa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=work_moabrmmp

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

For maximum effectiveness:

1) Using the information provided from BLM and BRC's websites, as well as the info and the comment suggestions below, write a comment letter addressing Issues and Alternatives presented in the DEIS.

2) Copy your letter to your political representatives. Snail mail works best. Pen a quick personal note to your politico's staff and make sure they know you are PRO



access,
that you
visit the
area and
that you
oppose
both the
rhetoric
and the
proposals
of the so-
called

"environmental groups." Find the address of your politico's here: **Rapid Response Center** (just enter your zip code)

3) 'CC' your comments to BRC

CC your comments to BRC at brlandsinfo@sharetrails.org. In the Subject line please put Moab RMP Comments.

Extra Credit:

Comments will be most helpful if you can state very specifically what you like and what you don't like about each of the Alternatives. Suggest changes. Also, it is good if you can reference a section or page number.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Yes, this IS worth the time and effort to write a good comment letter. Public comment is extremely important and will help to move the Final Plan toward something that's good for the recreating public. Individual



comments like yours will also serve as a foundation for groups like BRC to challenge any arbitrary or unfair closures, as well as defend the inevitable attack from SUWA's lawyers.

If at all possible, your letter should address these issues (please see comment suggestions below):

- Comments regarding the Alternatives -- (please note that Alternative A (no action) is not an "action alternative." So the "I vote for Alternative A" comment will be a waste of time and effort.
- Comments about specific roads, trails and areas to be designated for motorized and mountain bike use, and responses to specific questions associated with BLM's #1 formal Planning Issue: *"How can increased recreation use, especially motorized vehicle access, be managed while protecting natural resource values?"*
- Comments on Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMA)
- Comments on Dispersed Camping
- Comments on White Wash Sand Dunes
- Comments on ATV Trails
- Comments on Mountain bike trails/areas
- Comments regarding special designations such as ACECs, Wild and Scenic Rivers and "Lands with Wilderness Character"

COMMENT SUGGESTIONS:

Comments may be submitted electronically to: UT_Moab_Comments@blm.gov.
Comments may also be submitted by mail to:

Moab Field Office RMP Comments
Bureau of Land Management, Moab Field Office
82 East Dogwood
Moab, Utah 84532.

Note:

A good comment letter starts with a brief paragraph about yourself and a bit, about what you like to do when you visit the Moab field office.

Issue: Comments about specific roads, trails and areas to be designated for motorized and mountain bike use.

Comment Suggestions:

BRC has several detailed maps for download that, for us anyway, are a lot easier to read. **Click here**, download the maps and talk amongst your friends, family and riding buddies.

NOTE:

Any specific comment on any road or trail, whether proposed as open or closed, is useful and we believe taking the time and effort to do so will be very worthwhile.

Issue: There is not a true range of management options in the Alternatives

Simply stated, there just isn't much difference between the "Action Alternatives." And, both Alt. B and Alt. D are completely unworkable as written, which naturally makes BLM's Preferred Alternative the only "reasonable choice." The motorheads



in the BRC Public Lands Department will forgive you if you think the BLM did that on purpose.

Finally, there are actually a bunch of alternatives here that the public should be commenting on. There are the three action alternatives for the RMP, then there are three action Alternatives for the Travel Plan, and there are an additional two alternatives for motorcycle (and ATV) trails.

Sheesh, BLM... how is the general public supposed to be able to figure all this out, especially when you give only a cursory discussion of the difference between the RMP and the Travel Plan in your own document?

Comment Suggestions:

- The fact that comments are needed on Alternatives for the RMP and the Alternatives for the Travel Plan is not made clear in the document.
- The difference between an RMP (general guidance) and the Travel Plan (implementation decision) is not clearly described in the DEIS. The FEIS should clearly articulate the difference.
- None of the Alternatives presented are acceptable as they stand, including the Preferred Alternative C, which mandates unworkable and impractical management of camping and motorized travel. In addition, in all of the Alternatives, management for the White Wash Sand Dunes is fatally flawed and must be reconsidered (see comment below).
- Alternative D fails to provide a true motorized focus.
- Tell the BLM that you are concerned that many of the restrictions in all of the Action Alternatives are simply not justified. Tell the BLM that the FEIS should clearly draw a connection between the facts on the ground and the decision made.

Issue: White Wash Sand Dunes management plan is totally unacceptable and unworkable ([BRC details here](#))

Months ago, when we blasted our Moab Update information to our members and supporters, we made fun of the BLM's management proposal for the White Wash Sand Dunes.

Months ago, when we blasted our Moab Update information to our members and supporters, we made fun of the BLM's management proposal for the White Wash Sand Dunes.

BLM's draft plan bans nearly all camping until (if) they get around to constructing a developed campground and would also implement a "fee system using individual Special Recreation Permits." The Draft Plan also requires fencing around all of the Cottonwood trees and "water sources" around the Dunes.

After meeting with the planning team and learning they are absolutely serious about that, I guess we aren't laughing anymore.

Comment Suggestions:

- BLM's open area in Alternative C and D must be expanded. The current proposal is unworkable because it confines a huge amount of vehicle use into a very small area and the area's boundaries are not well defined and cannot be easily identified on the ground.



- Requiring fences around the cottonwood trees and "water sources" is both impractical and unnecessary. We strongly oppose this provision of the Draft Plan.
- BLM's open area at White Wash Sand

Dunes should include the popular and challenging hill-climb on the Northwest of the Sand Dunes.

- BLM's open area should be located along easily identified geologic features, or preferably along boundary roads of Ruby Ranch Road on the West, Blue Hills Road on the North, and Duma Point/Ruby Ranch (back way) on the East.
 - You oppose the fee system contemplated in Alternatives C and D. Fee systems are inherently controversial and often unpopular with the recreating public. The Final RMP should not require a fee system. However, if funding for infrastructure needs cannot be met with existing funding and grant programs, then a fee system should be implemented only with the full involvement of the Recreational Fee Advisory Council and the affected user group.
 - Because the open area boundary will not be easily identifiable on the ground, and also because of easy access to the proposed "fee area" from all directions, it will make this proposal extremely difficult to enforce. We suggest the BLM consider other funding mechanisms to pay for needed management infrastructure.
-

Issue: Is BLM proposing a "close first - mitigate last" approach to OHV use?
In BLM's #1 Issue they ask: **Where should adaptive management practices be applied in response to unacceptable resource impacts?*

Given the popularity of Moab for recreation, and the fact that large areas are proposed to be off limits to most recreational users, considering NOT applying adaptive management practices to mitigate impacts is, well, not logical.

Comment Suggestions:

- The Final RMP should mandate that adaptive management practices be used across the Field Office
- The Final RMP should direct that mitigation efforts will be exhausted prior to closure
- The Final RMP should direct land managers to work with the affected public to ensure all available mitigation efforts have been exhausted before closure.
- When using adaptive management principles, The RMP should mandate the mitigation of closing routes and areas to recreational use by designating a more sustainable, but similar recreational opportunity elsewhere.

Issue: BLM states the 'user conflict' issue as a question: *How should recreational uses be managed to limit conflicts among recreational users?* (Read BRC's favorite statement on conflict by Art Seaman)

Contrasting the SRMA and Focus Areas with the Travel Plan indicates that Moab BLM's preferred answer is to create "exclusive use zones."

Providing opportunity for a non-motorized recreation experience is great, but by imposing a near categorical exclusion of other uses it removes the ability to designate key motorized uses that are needed in a well managed road and trail system.

Comment Suggestions:

- When addressing "user conflict," the Final RMP should avoid "exclusive use zones" where, based on perceived or potential "user conflict," one or more "conflicting uses" is categorically prohibited.
- Most of the non-motorized focus areas have designated routes open to motorized vehicles within them. If implemented as written in Alternatives B,

C and D, many visitors will perceive these focus areas as establishing blanket restrictions on motorized use. The unintended consequences will likely result in increasing, not reducing actual or perceived "user conflict."

- In order to address the "user conflict" issue, the Final RMP should direct land managers to educate the non-motorized visitors (who may perceive conflict with motorized uses) where they may encounter vehicle traffic in certain areas as well as informing them of areas where they may avoid such encounters.

-
- The Final RMP should direct land managers to educate vehicle-assisted visitors of where a road or trail might be shared with non-motorized visitors, and if appropriate, direct slower speeds.
- The Final RMP should direct land managers to re-route either



use so as to avoid sections of roads or trails that are extremely popular with both groups. For example, a hiking trail can be constructed to avoid a section of popular OHV route. Or an equestrian trail may be constructed to avoid a section of popular mountain bike route, etc.

Issue: Moab BLM is closing a huge number of dispersed campsites. (See BRC's details on BLM's proposal)

Because vehicles are not permitted to travel off designated routes - for any reason - the Moab BLM is proposing a "vehicle camping only in designated campsites" in the entire Field Office. Such a restrictive policy would be appropriate for National Parks or National Monuments, but for Public Lands this is truly unheard of.

Moab BLM staff argues that the impacts from dispersed camping warrant such restrictions, and claim that their Travel Plan kept open the route to nearly every existing vehicle campsite. They say that most every campsite that did not have a "resource problem" remained open. **Our review** says different, and we believe hundreds of campsites currently being used could be closed.

Comment Suggestions:

- Tell the BLM that you oppose the camping policy as outlined in **Appendix E**.
 - The Final EIS should disclose how many campsites would be closed under each Alternative.
 - Tell the BLM that you support a policy where existing campsites are open unless determined closure was necessary via lawful public planning process.
 - Tell the BLM that it is very important that the Final RMP mandate full public involvement in any establishment and management of "restricted camping areas" or "controlled camping areas."
 - Finally, and perhaps more importantly, check the BLM's maps (http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/planning/draft_rmp_eia.html) to see if YOUR favorite campsite will be closed (see if a road is designated right up to the campsite). If you can't tell from BLM's maps, you need to tell them that!
-

Issue: Special Recreation Management Areas

There are some "Action Alert" type comments below, but if you have the time we think it would be well worth the effort to review the BLM's proposal and give them your input.

Frankly, a lot of what they propose makes a creepy sort of sense. But there are "poison pills" that (unnecessarily) make future management uncertain. In other words, if BLM doesn't write this plan right, SUWA will be litigating them (and us) to death.

Check our info as well as BLM's proposals. Quick links and page numbers are provided to make it easy.

Comment Suggestions:

- The Travel Plan and the Administrative Setting must be consistent in all SRMAs!
- All SRMAs with a motorized focus should include direction regarding when and how additional or expanded routes/areas would be provided should there be a need.
- SRMAs and their "focus areas" should avoid excluding other uses categorically. The Preferred Alternative clearly shows Moab BLM

recognizes the importance of providing some motorized routes in non-motorized "zones."



- - The Utah Rims SRMA is necessary to properly manage this popular area. It should have a motorized and mountain bike focus, and include the ability to designate or construct routes should they be needed in the future. In addition, limiting camping to one small designated area, in the RMP, is not wise. The RMP should provide general direction and not limit camping in such a way.
 - The Utah Rims SRMA should extend further southwest to encompass Mel's Loop and beyond. Increased visitation there warrants the more active management of a SRMA. This larger area would also provide enough room for a full-day's motorcycle ride, and the establishment of a mountain bike focus area.
 - Yellowcat is increasingly popular for four wheeling and ATV riding. Designating a SRMA there would utilize the dense network of mine roads that already exist.
-

Issue: Although many popular ATV routes are classified as roads in Moab BLM's Travel Plan, some ATV trails are not proposed as open and some of the Motorcycle routes should be designated as ATV/Motorcycle trails as well.

Staff at the Moab office seem to realize the error in their so-called "motorcycle maps" (e.g. no ATV trails). Thankfully, "Action Alert" type comments are relatively easy on this issue because Clif Koontz, with Ride with Respect, has been working with key ATV leaders and identified what we think is a really good proposal. Clif will have specifics soon, and we'll update you on those as soon as possible.

Comment Suggestions:

- Some of the "motorcycle trails" are very popular with ATV users. The Final Travel Plan should designate a mix of single track and ATV trails.
- The FEIS should consider designating more ATV trails, especially between White Wash and Red Wash. We strongly suggest looking closely at the proposal developed by Ride with Respect.

Issue: In the Moab Field Office, true mountain bike single track trails are in short supply.

Comment Suggestions:

- The Mill Canyon - Sevenmile Rim biking focus area should be redrawn as Mill Canyon -Tusher Rims in order to provide better terrain for pedaling.
- The Final Plan should extend the South Spanish Valley biking area further south toward Black Ridge.

Issue: Though 'stay on the trail' is a critical policy for most places, recreationists need a few distinct areas for open-riding.

In 1.8 million acres, White Wash is not quite enough.

Comment Suggestions:

- An open area in addition to White Wash could provide different terrain for everything from bicycle free riding, to trials motorcycling, to hardcore rock crawling. As 99% of the Moab Field Office becomes limited to designated routes, open areas play an even more critical role for accommodating specialized sports. Perhaps parts of Black Ridge could remain unrestricted for this purpose.
- The Sand Flats Recreation Area could adopt special policies to permit slickrock exploration. We support Ride with Respect's recommendation that mountain bike travel be allowed on any barren rock surface. Slickrock within one hundred yards of a designated route could be open to motorized travel. This two-hundred yard corridor would accommodate the ways that people currently enjoy Sand Flats.

Issue: Some important motorcycle trails are missing from all alternatives.

The preferred alternative includes about 100 miles of true motorized single-track.



Alternative D adds another 100 miles. But in total, the final plan should spare

roughly 300 miles of non-road motorcycle routes from being closed.

**Comment
Suggestions:**

- Alternative D falls just short of providing sufficient motorcycling opportunities. Since no single-track inventory was performed, the BLM should continue accepting data on existing routes, and consider them for implementation.

- The Utah Rims single-track network should include at least 25 miles of additional routes, in order to be as complete as the Dee Pass network.
 - In particular, long-distance single-tracks and rugged roads that connect SRMAs offer a unique experience. The Copper Ridge Motorcycle Loop should be combined with Thompson Trail in the final plan.
 - A few more non-riparian washes should be left open, especially in the Cisco Desert. These travel-ways provide ATV and motorcycle riders an unconfined challenge that roads cannot.
-

Issue: In an incredible show of chutzpah, the Moab BLM has included the White Wash Sand Dunes as a proposed Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) in Alternative B.

Alternative B seems to be the; *"give SUWA whatever they want, despite the existing, traditional uses that have existed for decades"* alternative. Sheesh, I wish we got the same treatment in Alternative D!!

Comment Suggestions:

- I strongly oppose the ACEC proposals in Alternative B. The White Wash ACEC is especially inappropriate.
-

Issue: Comments regarding "Lands with Wilderness Character"

Decisions on this issue are being made at the highest levels. OHV users must begin now to pressure their elected representatives on this issue or many hundreds of miles of roads and trails will be closed throughout the West. (You can find the contact info for your political representatives on BRC's Rapid Response Center. Simply Click Here, http://www.sharetrails.org/rapid_response/ and enter your zip code)

Comment Suggestions:

- Congress gave very specific instructions to the BLM regarding Wilderness. Those instructions are contained in Section 603 of FLPMA. Congress instructed the agency to inventory all of their lands, identify which were definitely not of wilderness quality and then to begin an intensive inventory

and analysis to determine which of the remaining lands would be recommended for inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System.



- The process was completed in 1991. All stakeholders (including Wilderness Advocacy Groups) have exhausted the protest and appeal options. After 10 years the "603 Process" left Utah with approximately 3.2 million acres designated as Wilderness Study Areas. Of those, approximately 1.9 million acres were deemed "suitable and manageable" and were recommended to Congress for Wilderness designation. Section 603 requires the BLM to manage WSAs in such a manner so as to not impair the suitability of such areas for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System, subject to existing uses.
- There is no justification, no mandate in FLPMA and no process requirement for engaging in an ongoing Wilderness inventory and review. Once the "603 Process" was completed, the agency was done with its Wilderness review. The question of which lands should be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System is now between Congress and the American people. Other than the management of existing WSA's, the BLM should have no part in this issue. To do so is a tragic loss of management resources.

- When formulating land use plans and considering opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation, the BLM must consider all other resource values and uses and attempt to balance the competing uses and values using the Multiple Use/Sustained Yield paradigm.

UTAH BOAT REGISTRATION FEES INCREASE, FUND FACILITIES

Salt Lake - The Utah State Parks Boating Program reported that for the first time in 20 years, Utah boat registration fees have increased. Since 1987, the boat registration fee has been \$10. All the while, inflationary costs for motor vehicles, gasoline, and home purchases increased approximately 150% over those 20 years.

Effective October 1, 2007 registration fees are \$25. This fee goes toward building and maintaining boating facilities, educating youth and adult boaters, and developing public safety programs.

According to Utah Boating Coordinator Dave Harris, boat registration fees return to the state boating program to fund upgrades, maintenance, and develop new facilities at 24 water-based state parks and other boating waters around the state.

“More money is being drawn out of the boating fund than is going into it,” stated Utah State Parks Director Mary Tullius. “This fee increase will enable State Parks to continue to pay for operations and maintenance in water-based parks, cover capital needs including launch ramps, courtesy docks and other boating needs at state park and non-state park areas without having to be subsidized by the general fund.”

The number of registered boaters has increased 40 percent since the last registration fee increase. Harris stated the Utah Boating Program receives no legislative general fund appropriation. Utah State Parks relies on registration fees, gas taxes spent on boat fuel, and funds from the U.S. Coast Guard for all program costs. Current boating facility improvements are underway at Bear Lake, Piute, Utah Lake, Jordanelle, Yuba, Palisade, and Willard Bay state parks.

Registration fees are also matched with Federal Motor Boat Access grants, which are administered by Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. Projects this year include Deer Creek, Hyrum, Sand Hollow and Willard Bay state parks, and Strawberry Bay and Joe’s Valley that are managed by the USDA Forest Service.

For more information on boating in Utah, please call (801) 538-BOAT within the

Salt Lake calling area or 1-800-RIDE-PWC.

Utah State Parks is the state boating authority, providing access, education, and search and rescue on Utah's boating waters.



Central Region Fishing Report

AMERICAN FORK RIVER: (Nov 14) Light fishing pressure and fair success.

BURRASTON POND: (Nov 14) Fair to good fishing success.

DEER CREEK RESERVOIR: (Nov 14) Over 70,000 10- to 12-inch rainbow trout were stocked in the reservoir last month. Fishing success is good. State Park Ranger reports that boat ramps are closed but at the Island ramp it is "launch at your own risk". Some vehicles have been getting stuck in the mud. You may want to reconsider using large boats because you have to back into the water quite a ways to reach deeper water. Call State Park for boat launching information at (435) 654-0171. Remember Bass limit is six, but immediately release all bass over 12 inches long. Walleye limit was increased this year to 10 but only one over 24 inches may be kept.

DIAMOND FORK RIVER: (Nov 14) Angler Brent reports fair success for brown trout on the lower stretch of the river by using flies. The closed area above three forks will open up to angling on January 1 (The DWR treated Diamond Fork River last year with rotenone from Three Forks to its headwaters to remove all fish — mostly browns). Over 20,000 Bonneville cutthroat trout fingerlings were

stocked last October into this area to help restore this sensitive species and to provide anglers a good sport fishery. The restoration stretch is closed to fishing but the first 10 miles of Diamond Fork (from the turnoff of Hwy 6) is not affected by this treatment and anglers report slow success for brown trout. Diamond Fork, from Springville Crossing to its headwaters, is artificial flies and lures only, and it is closed to cutthroat trout possession.

HOBBLE CREEK & CATCH BASIN: (Nov 14) Angler Bob reports catching several trout, including a 16-inch brown this week by using flies. Most anglers report that the best fishing on Hobble Creek is in the early morning or evening with flies, small spinners or lures.

JORDANELLE RESERVOIR: (Nov 14) Anglers report that the water level is down but fishing is reported as "good" for smaller trout from both boat and shoreline and "slow" for bass. Gorgeous scenery. Bass limit is six, but immediately release all bass over 12 inches long.

MILL HOLLOW: Drained! No fishing until 2009!

PAYSON LAKE: (Nov 14) Officer Bagley reports low pressure with fair to good fishing for both rainbow and brook trout.

PROVO RIVER: (Nov 14) Spawn of brown trout is occurring and fish aggressively take lures or flies. Read the fishing proclamation for the different regulations on the river some areas allow bait and others do not. Size restrictions and reduced limits ("two brown trout under 15 inches") in place in some stretches.

SALEM POND: (Nov 14) Officer Bagley reports Fair success for trout and bluegill. The park is closed to at 10:00 p.m. each night. Remember that regulations include: limit is four fish (Daily bag and possession limit is a total of four fish in the aggregate for all species, for example: one trout, two channel catfish and one bluegill.

SALT LAKE WATER: (Nov 14) Most urban ponds have been recently stocked over the last week or so these waters continue to produce fair to good fishing.

SPANISH OAKS RESERVOIR: (Nov 14) Officer Bagley report limited success on trout.

SPRING LAKE: (Nov 14) Officer Bagley reports that anglers are still catching catfish. Fair success for trout as well. Worms and PowerBait work best.

STRAWBERRY RESERVOIR: (Nov 14) Boat docks have been pulled for the season, making launching and loading a little difficult. Good fishing success reported by most anglers. Morning can be very cold so dress warmly. Some very large cutts are being caught (over 23–27 inches). Try tube jigs, dark wooly buggers, minnow-imitating lures (pointer minnows are very popular) or simply traditional baits. Regulations for the reservoir include an aggregate limit of four trout or kokanee salmon. No more than two of which may be cutthroat trout under 15 inches and no more than one may be a cutthroat over 22 inches long. All cutthroat between 15 and 22 inches must be immediately released (any trout with cutthroat markings is considered a cutthroat). Don't feel compelled to harvest fish on every trip. Please do your part to ensure the future of this heavily utilized fishery by voluntarily releasing fish!

THISTLE CREEK: (Nov 14) Low Pressure, with fair to good success.

TIBBLE FORK RESERVOIR: (Nov 14) Fair to good success by using traditional baits.

UTAH LAKE: (Nov 14) Officer Bagley reports that night fishing for catfish is still productive. Walleye limit was changed this year to 10 but only one can be over 24 inches. There is no limit on white bass. Largemouth and smallmouth bass bass limit is six, but immediately release all largemouth and smallmouth bass over 12 inches long. For more information on conditions call Utah Lake State Park at (801) 375-0731.

VERNON, GRANSTVILLE & SETTLEMENT CANYON RESERVOIRS: (Tooele Co.) (Nov 14) Fair fishing success at Vernon, Grantsville and Settlement Reservoirs.

YUBA RESERVOIR: (Nov 14) Slow success for walleye, northern pike and trout. Perch are being caught, but they must be immediately released. New regulations on perch take place next year which will allow anglers to keep 10 perch. For more info call the State Park at (435) 758-2611.

Universal Gun Cleaning System From Birchwood Casey® Offers Shooters An Easy To Transport Way To Maintain Their Firearms



Birchwood Casey's new Universal Gun Cleaning System makes cleaning rifles, pistols, and shotguns a snap.

The entire kit is self-contained and features a four-piece rod, v-groove handle, a universal shotgun adapter, slotted patch holder (for 22 caliber and up), two jags; one small and one large, and a flathead screwdriver adapter.

The rod has 8x32 threads to fit most brushes, swabs, and tips on the market. The specially designed swivel end of the rod turns with the bore's rifling for more thorough cleaning.

Press Release and Image in high and low resolution can be found on www.howardcommunications.com or by clicking on the above image.

The kit is constructed of 304 stainless steel for strength, durability, and corrosion resistance and it breaks down for easy storage and travel.

The Universal Gun Cleaning System is available for a suggested retail price of \$31.20.

South Dakota...Still the “Pheasant Capital” of the world

PIERRE, S.D. – Two weeks into this year’s pheasant season and things couldn’t be better in South Dakota. A large population of birds, coupled with great weather, is providing some of the best pheasant hunting in the country.

“We were fortunate to have good weather on opening weekend,” said Tony Leif, director, Wildlife Division of Game, Fish and Parks. “We were worried that the weather was going to put a damper on opening weekend, but the moisture we did receive didn’t have much of an impact on the hunting.”

The weather isn’t the only factor that will play a part in determining the number of birds in the fields. Another, and one that seems to be on the minds of hunters and conservationists from around the country, is the upcoming Farm Bill, which could drastically decrease the amount of acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) around the country.

“This will undoubtedly have an impact on the pheasant population in South Dakota,” said Leif. “Without those acres enrolled in CRP, we will lose valuable habitat for pheasants and other wildlife in South Dakota.”

It remains to be seen, however, how immediate this impact will be on the pheasant population in our state.

“The pheasant population will always bounce around,” stated Leif. “If the habitat does decline, we will see a lower pheasant population long-term. Of course, in addition to the loss of habitat, the weather will still play a large part in determining the pheasant population in South Dakota.”

Don’t let the potential decline in habitat fool you. South Dakota is among the top



ten in the nation in CRP acreage at just over 1.5 million acres enrolled in the program. Any loss of acreage will be detrimental to our wildlife population, but South Dakota will continue to work toward developing the best habitat around.

While the future is hard to predict, it is safe to say that South Dakota will still reign as the pheasant

capital of the world.

Pheasant hunting in South Dakota is an integral part of Goal 1 of the 2010 initiative to double visitor spending in South Dakota. The Office of Tourism serves under the direction of Richard Benda, Secretary of the Department of Tourism and State Development.

Sam Whittington Named Director of the Denver Service Center

(Washington, DC) – National Park Service Director Mary A. Bomar announced that Sam Whittington will become the new manager of the agency’s Denver Service Center on November 11, 2007. The center is responsible for the National Park Service’s large scale planning, design, and construction projects. Whittington has served as the center’s deputy director since 2003.

Whittington will supervise a staff of more than 240 specialists and oversee almost

\$1billion in line item construction programs, \$3.3 million in general management planning projects, and \$108 million in transportation funding.

“Sam has directed many park service projects from start to finish,” said Bomar in making the selection. “His vision, work ethic, and years of experience will be relied on to guide the center into the future. I am confident that he will continue the tradition of excellent leadership at the Denver Service Center.”

Whittington has 27 years of federal government project management experience. He has been the contracting officers’ technical representative and project manager on more than 100 architectural and engineering contracts, construction projects, grants and interagency agreements with a total value of over \$300 million. While working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Whittington was responsible for managing the planning, design, and construction of the \$150 million state-of-the-art National Conservation Training Center in West Virginia.

Whittington earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Louisiana Tech University and is a Registered Professional Engineer. Earlier this year, he was selected for the Department of the Interior Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program. He recently completed a two month detail in New Orleans, working on the restoration of the New Orleans City Park damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

Whittington resides in Denver, Colorado with his wife Tammy, also a National Park Service employee. They have two grown children, Betsy and Brad.

TEACH OTHERS ABOUT WILDLIFE AND THE OUTDOORS

DWR is looking for volunteers—learn more at Nov. 28 workshop

SALT LAKE CITY — If you like the outdoors and wildlife—and you want to share your enthusiasm with others—the Division of Wildlife Resources wants you in one of its volunteer programs.

You can learn more about the programs at a workshop on Nov. 28. The workshop will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI), 3285 E. 3300 S. in Salt Lake City.

"Not all of our volunteers are hunters, and not all of our projects involve backbreaking work," says Jill West, volunteer program coordinator for the DWR. "If you have enthusiasm for the outdoors and you like to work with kids, you're the kind of person we're looking for."

Here's what you can do in the following DWR programs:

Wild Guides Naturalist—this brand new program will give you a chance to get into your community and teach 8- to 9-year-olds about wildlife and the places they live. The DWR will provide all of the lesson plans you'll need.

You'll also receive neat items to show the kids (snowshoe hare pelts, elk and deer antlers, etc.).

Community Fishing—teach kids in youth fishing clubs about fish and how to catch them. The clubs meet in the spring at community fishing waters in Utah.

Watchable Wildlife—staff booths at wildlife festivals in Utah. You'll learn more about Utah's wildlife, and then you'll get to share your enthusiasm for that wildlife—including peregrine falcons, mountain goats, bald eagles and bighorn sheep—with those who attend the festivals!

Hunter Education—teach the next generation of Utah's hunters how to be safe, responsible and ethical.

At the workshop, West will provide additional information about the programs. She'll also answer any questions you have. The workshop is free, and everyone is welcome. For more information, call West at (801) 538-4717.

