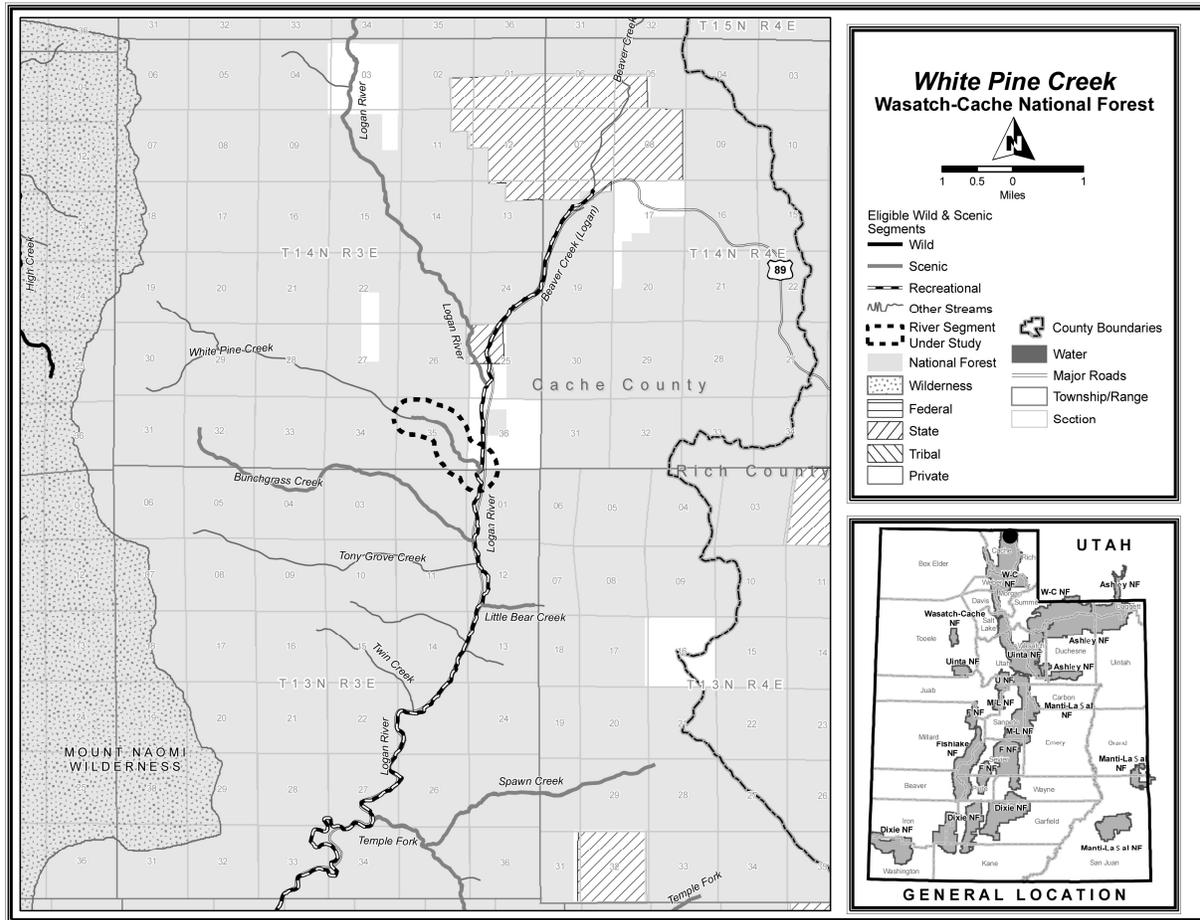


White Pine Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: White Pine Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 1.48 mile, from 1.5 mile below White Pine Lake to confluence with the Logan River

Eligible: Same

Location:

White Pine Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SW ¼ NE ¼ Sect. 35, T 14 N, R 3 E, SLM	NW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 1, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM	Scenic	1

*The starting point has been changed to reflect the fish habitat. The starting point for White Pine Creek was field verified at NAD 27 UTM 12 451738E 4640673N.

Physical Description of River Segment:

Elevations along this segment range between 8,400 and 6,400 ft. This stream is a tributary to the upper Logan River and has upland vegetation which includes sagebrush, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, aspen,

Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. About 1.5 miles downstream from its source at White Pine Lake, the creek emerges from a subsurface flow, marking the beginning of the segment. White Pine Creek supports Bonneville cutthroat trout (BCT). Gradients are fairly steep and step pools and plunge pools are common. Past surveys indicate White Pine Creek is used primarily as spawning and rearing habitat for BCT. The flammulated owl, a sensitive species, has been located within the area. The corridors include habitat suitable for boreal owl, goshawk, wolverine and three-toed woodpeckers; none of these sensitive species are known to occur within the corridor. Several beaver ponds lie within these corridors, and the lower reaches provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

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

Determination of Free-flowing Condition: White Pine Creek is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. This stream has not been modified to any significant extent by human uses and is considered free-flowing.

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value. Fish species include rainbow, brown and brook trout, sculpin and Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. This stream, in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River, is occupied with a meta-population (that is, a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

White Pine Creek is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as a scenic river as it is free-flowing and for its remarkable Bonneville cutthroat fishery. The stream can be classified as a scenic river because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment
- Essentially primitive, little or no evidence of human activity
- Presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value is acceptable
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable
- Generally inaccessible except by trail
- No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular traffic within river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the area are acceptable
- Meets or exceeds Federal criteria of federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for

propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming) except when exceeded by natural conditions.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – Private land areas are zoned Forest Recreation. The purpose of the forest-recreation zone is to permit the proper use of the forest areas of the county for grazing, forestry, mining, recreation and other activities to the extent compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of the forests for the benefit of present and future generations (Ord. 2004-10, 8-10-2004).

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-1.48	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1853
	Total:	1853 acres

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

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of the eligible segment and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the Forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

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

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Access to the stream is from U.S. Highway 89, the Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway. A network of trails stem from the highway and the upper part of the drainage can be accessed from several areas. The most direct access is the White Pine Lake Trail 2025, providing access to the stream and lake, the White Pine-Bunchgrass Canyon Trail 2051, Highline N.R.T. 2005, and the Doubletop Trail 2137.

There are no dams or diversions on these segments. In some places U.S. Highway 89, Forest Roads, and other old roads affect the stream channels, flood plains, and water quality by crossing the segments or running along side them.

Recreation Activities – Dispersed camping and hiking use can be light to heavy depending on the season or day of the week. Fishing use along these streams is variable, dependent on access and seasons.

Grazing Activities – The majority of this segment is within the valley bottom portion of the Franklin Basin Cattle Allotment; a small section near the bottom of this segment is within the Logan Canyon Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor.

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

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

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor from the source of White Pine Creek to the private land near the confluence with the Logan River:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land approximately ½ mile upstream from the confluence and outside the 3.1A stream corridor buffer:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

(G4.4-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatment, road construction, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed to mimic historic conditions, to restore ecosystem functioning, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface, and are designed to be compatible with motorized recreation, but must not detract from the recreation setting over the long-term.

(G4.4-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G4.4-3) New recreation development and new trail construction are allowed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segment. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in

Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Cache County. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The private lands within this segment are subject to Cache County Countywide Comprehensive Plan, the primary land use ordinance for private land. The Comprehensive Plan is a planning tool for making policy decisions. The Land Use Ordinance is the instrument by which these policies are implemented.

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

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

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

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

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

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

The private land could be developed in the future. This development would be directed by the County Comprehensive Plan and zoning ordinances for the Forest Recreation (FR 40) zone, which allows for one seasonal cabin per forty acres. Regulations for sensitive areas, steep slopes, jurisdictional wetlands, natural waterways and areas lying within the floodplain, and areas of wildlife habitat are declared under Title 17.18.020. Title 17.18.060 specifies setbacks for development from natural waterways of 50 ft. for dwellings, 100 ft. for septic systems, and up to 100 ft. for dwellings if within the FEMA mapped floodplain.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife, provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft Inventory.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes White Pine Creek. One organization also thought White Pine's scenic value was

outstandingly remarkable. Cache County and others did not support designation

Several comments from individuals and Cache County received during the public comment period for the Draft EIS opposed designation for White Pine Creek. They thought designation may affect private property rights and mineral rights retained by the State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Land Administration. Others commented the creek is dry part of the year and likely does not contain Bonneville cutthroat trout. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes White Pine Creek.

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

Designation of this segment of the White Pine Creek, a tributary to the Logan River, complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for this river and current Forest management. Designation may conflict with the density of subdivision development on private land. Scenic classification allows the presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures but not more extensive residential or commercial developments. The designation also complements the Scenic Byway corridor at the bottom of the stream segment.

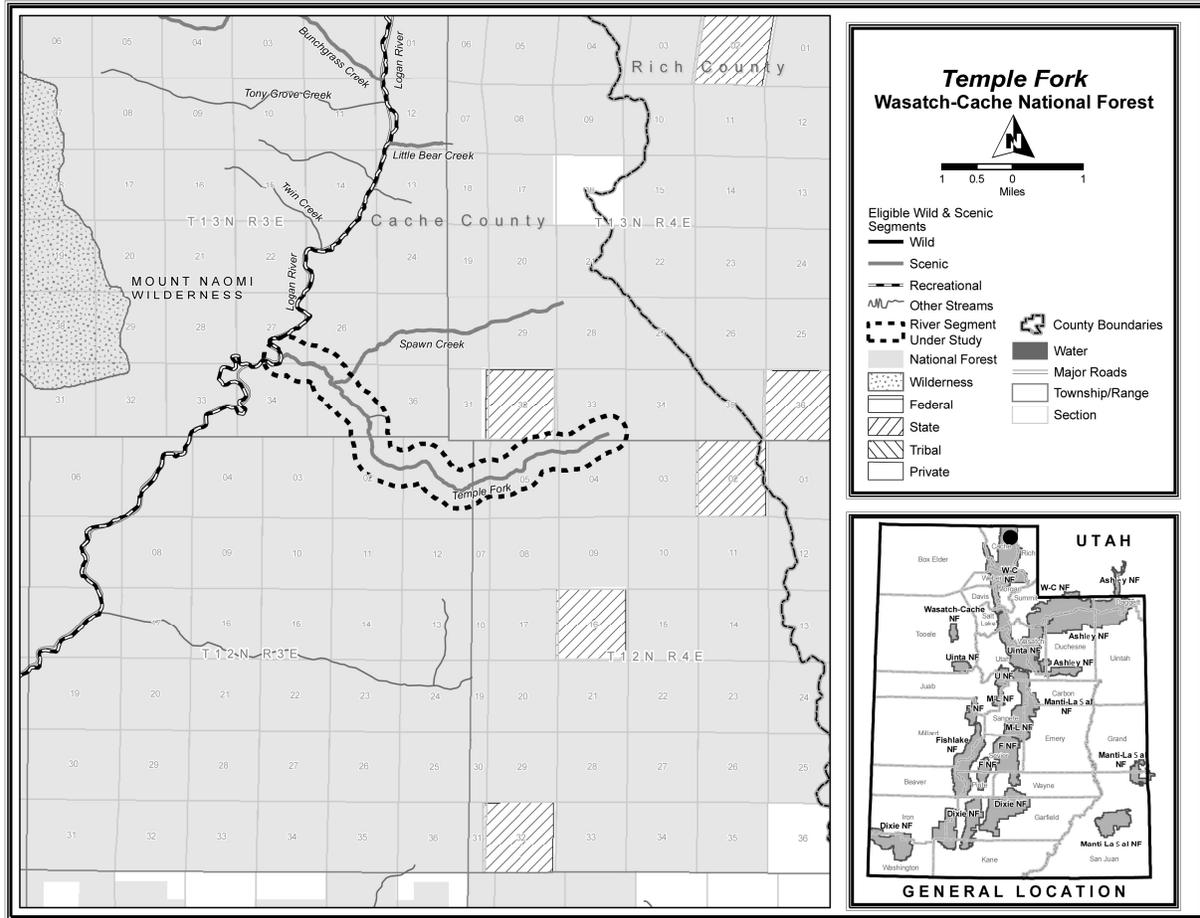
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

The segments of Beaver Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Temple Fork, Spawn Creek, Little Bear Creek, and the Logan River—when combined with White Pine Creek—contribute to the Logan River basin's integrity.

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

Local groups such as the Cache County Anglers, Bear River Watershed Council, the Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection as well as trash pick up.

Temple Fork Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Temple Fork

River Mileage:

Studied: 6.3 miles, source to confluence with Logan River
 Eligible: same

Location:

Temple Fork	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SE ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 33, T 13 N, R 4 E, SLM	SW ¼ SE ¼ Sect. 27, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM	Scenic	6.3

Physical Description of River Segment:

This stream is a tributary to the upper Logan River. Vegetation in uplands of this drainage includes sagebrush, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, aspen, Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. Several beaver ponds lie within

these corridors, and the lower reaches provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

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

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

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value.

Fish species include brown trout, sculpin and Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. These several streams in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River are occupied with a meta-population (that is, a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

This stream is listed is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and are free-flowing and for its remarkable fish value. This segment is a scenic stream because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity.
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable.
- Accessible in places by road.
- Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches on inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment is located on the Logan Ranger District in Cache County, Utah, and is a tributary stream to the Logan River.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-6.3	Forest Service	2057
*within 1/4 mile buffer	Utah State Land	10
	Total:	2067acres

State land would be managed for the purpose of grazing, forestry, mining, recreation and other activities to the extent compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of the forests for the benefit of present and future generations (Ord. 2004-10, 8-10-2004).

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of the eligible Temple Fork segment and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

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

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Service Road 2007a provides access to the stream and also the Temple Fork Sawmill Trail 2062. Trail 2062 has two full span bridges across the stream. A portion of FS Road 2007a has been relocated and reconstructed to reduce impacts to the stream. There is one full spanning bridge across the road and a culvert that constricts the flow of Temple Fork and creates a large scout pool below. A motorized vehicle trailhead is located at the bottom of this canyon. A portion of the Great Western Trail runs through the upper part of Temple Fork.

Recreation Activities – There is high use of the dispersed camping in the lower part of the stream corridor along the road. Fishing is popular and the use is moderate. There are few known prehistoric sites within these corridors, although occasional scatters of chipped stone materials attest to Native American use of the streambanks for seasonal hunting and fishing camps, as well as access ways to upland areas. The Temple Fork Sawmill historic site is within the corridor of consideration.

Grazing Activities – Sheep and cattle graze most of the areas within which this river flows. The upper north part of corridor falls within the Little Bear Sheep Allotment. The middle southern 2/3 of the stream corridor is within the Long Hollow Sheep Allotment. The lower portion of this stream is within the Logan Canyon Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor.

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

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor from the source of Temple Fork to the confluence with the Logan River:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Management Prescription 3.2 Terrestrial Habitats Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species.

Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

Management Prescription 3.2U consists of those terrestrial habitat areas protected from development because of potential impacts to key habitat elements.

(S-3.2U) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation developments are not allowed.

(G3.2U-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2U-2) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site-specifically developed habitat objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land near the confluence with the Logan River:

Management Prescription 2.7 Special Interest Areas and Special Areas: Manage to protect particular values or unique qualities of special interest. Objectives for Special Interest Areas is “to protect and, where appropriate, foster public use and enjoyment of areas with scenic, historical, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, or other special characteristics. To classify areas that possess unusual recreation and scientific values so that these special values are available for public study, use, or enjoyment” (FSM 2360.2). Objectives for Special Areas are: “To protect and manage for public use and enjoyment, special recreation areas with scenic, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, archaeological, or other special characteristics or unique values.” (FSM2372.02) Special Interest and Special Areas may have management plans developed to address specific needs and opportunities for the individual area.

(S2.7) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation development are not allowed.

(G2.7-1) Vegetation/fuels treatment such as prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed in circumstances where these activities help perpetuate the unique ecosystem, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G2.7-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.7-3) New trail construction is allowed if associated with resource interpretation and public study, use, or enjoyment.

(G2.7-4) Allow manipulative restoration where needed for scientific study and increased public understanding of the unique values of the area.

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

Current Administration and Funding Needs if Designated – The current administering agencies for lands along this segment are the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, and the State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA). If SITLA lands are sold and developed Cache County zoning would apply. The National Forest System lands along the segment are managed under the direction of the Revised Forest Plan, Wasatch Cache-National Forest, 2003. The State land along this segment is managed by SITLA, where the general land management objective for school and institutional trust lands is to optimize and maximize trust land uses for support of the beneficiaries over time through development of surface and mineral resources and real estate development. Any future private land within this segment would be subject to Cache County Countywide Comprehensive Plan, the primary land use ordinance for private land. The Comprehensive Plan is a planning tool for making policy decisions. The Land Use Ordinance is the instrument by which these policies are implemented.

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

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

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

Eligible rivers are protected and managed by the Forest Service according to standards included in Appendix VIII of the Revised Forest Plan until designated by Congress, or otherwise directed by other legal means. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest Revised Plan provides direction to implement

Management Prescriptions for stream segments that are suitable for Wild and Scenic River designation by Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescription numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

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

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

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

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife, provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft Inventory.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes Temple Fork. Cache County and others did not support designation

During the public comment period for the Draft EIS comments were received both supporting and opposing the designation of the Temple Fork segment. Temple Fork gains support from the public because of wildlife and fishery values. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes Temple Fork.

Others including Cache County voiced opposition to designation stating the segment was too short and already protected

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

Designation of this segment of the Temple Fork, a tributary to the Logan River, complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for this river and current Forest management. Designation may conflict with the density of subdivision development if SITLA land is sold to private parties. Scenic classification allows the presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures but not more extensive residential or commercial developments. The designation also complements the Scenic Byway corridor at the bottom of the stream segment.

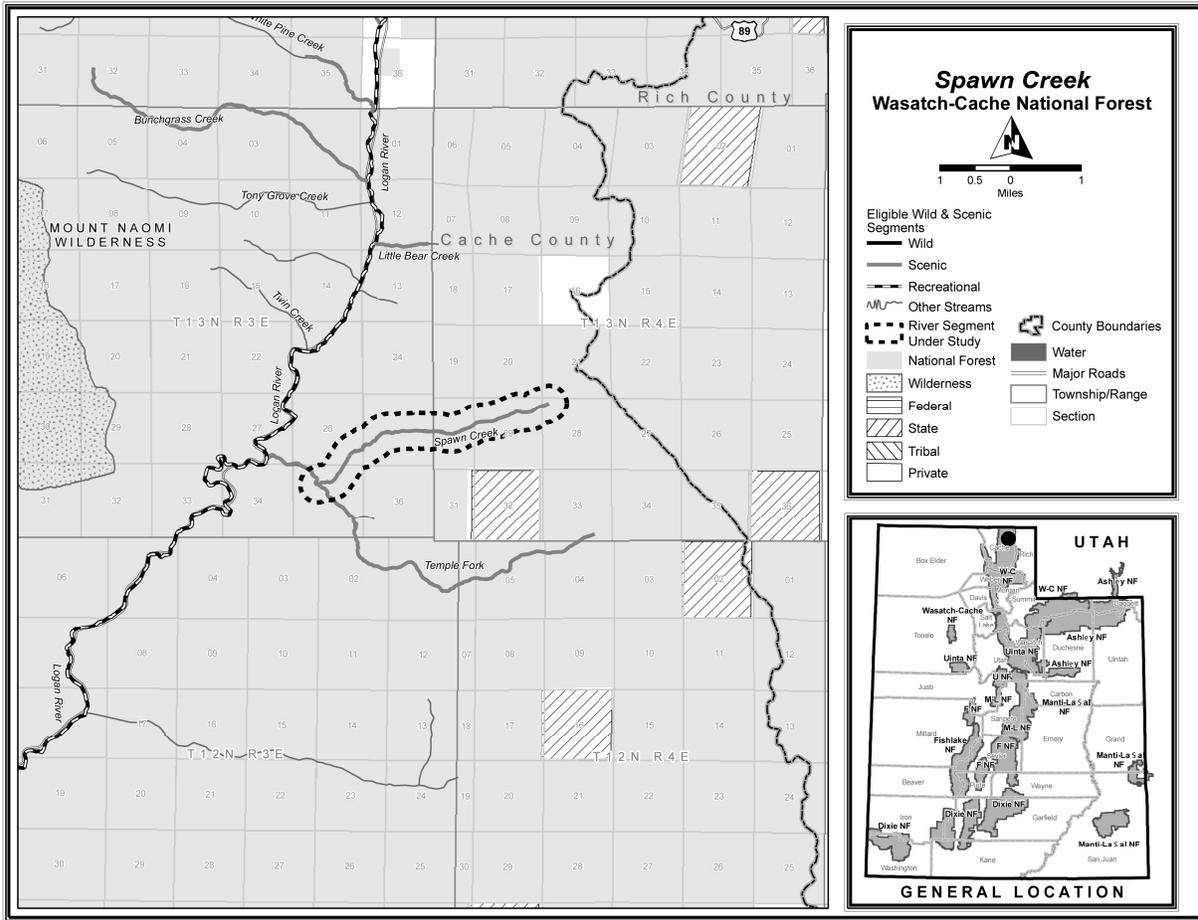
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

The scenic segments of White Pine Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Beaver Creek, Spawn Creek, Little Bear Creek, and the Logan River—when combined with Temple Fork—contribute to the Logan River basin's integrity.

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

Local groups such as the Cache County Anglers, Bear River Watershed Council, the Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society as well as scout and church groups have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection as well trash pick up.

Spawn Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Spawn Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 3.8 miles, source to confluence with Temple Fork
Eligible: same

Location:

Spawn Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	NW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 28, T 13 N, R 4 E, SLM	SE ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 35, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM	Scenic	3.8

Physical Description of River Segment:

This stream is a tributary to the upper Logan River. Vegetation in uplands of this drainage includes sagebrush, lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, aspen, Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. Several beaver ponds lie within

these corridors, and the lower reaches of some provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

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

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

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value.

Fish species include brown and brook trout, sculpin and Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. These several streams, in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River, are occupied with a meta-population (that is a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

This stream is listed is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and are free-flowing and for its remarkable Bonneville cutthroat fishery. This segment is classified as scenic because the stream and the stream corridor is or has:

- Free of impoundment.
- The presence of grazing, hay production or row crops is acceptable.
- Accessible in places by roads.
- Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – The entire segment of Spawn Creek is located on the Logan Ranger District, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, and Cache County, Utah.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-3.8	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1314
	Total:	1314 acres

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

value within the area of the eligible Spawn Creek segment and there are no known valuable deposits on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the Forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

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

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Forest Service Road 20164 provides access to the mouth of the canyon and to the Spawn Creek Trail 2134. This is a non-motorized trail used by hikers, mountain bikers, and skiers.

Recreation Activities – Dispersed camping and hiking use can be light to heavy depending on the season or day of the week. Fishing use along these streams is variable, dependent on access and seasons.

Grazing Activities – Cattle graze most of the area through which this stream segment flows. The upper part of the stream segment is within the Little Bear Cattle Allotment and the lower section is within the Logan Canyon Cattle Allotment. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor.

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

Approximately 3.6 miles of this stream corridor are within a Wasatch-Cache National Forest inventoried roadless area. These are areas that do not have developed and maintained roads, and that are substantially natural.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream corridor from the source of Spawn Creek to the confluence with Temple Fork:

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

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

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

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

to desired conditions or to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

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

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

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

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on the north side and the lower part of the south side of the stream segment outside of the 3.1a buffer:

Management Prescription 3.2 Terrestrial Habitats Emphasis: Manage upland habitats to provide for sustaining and/or recovering desired plant and animal species and/or communities. Maintain or restore lands to meet desired conditions of habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species.

Considerations for these areas include winter ranges and corridors for seasonal migrations as well as movement of genetic materials, individuals, and populations; vegetation composition, structure, and pattern needed for life cycle stages; needs for control or eradication of undesirable non-native species; and protection of special or unique habitats.

3.2U consists of those terrestrial habitat areas protected from development because of potential impacts to key habitat elements.

(S-3.2U) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation developments are not allowed.

(G3.2U-1) Vegetation/fuel treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed for the purposes of maintaining, improving or restoring terrestrial habitat, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G3.2U-2) New trail construction is allowed with consideration of existing road/trail densities and site-specifically developed habitat objectives.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on the upper portion of the southern side of the stream segment outside of the 3.1a buffer:

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

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

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

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

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land on a small part of the most northern portion of the stream segment outside ¼ mile corridor:

Management Prescription 2.7: Special Interest Areas and Special Areas: Manage to protect particular values or unique qualities of special interest. Objectives for Special Interest Areas is “to protect and, where appropriate, foster public use and enjoyment of areas with scenic, historical, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, or other special characteristics. To classify areas that possesses unusual recreation and scientific values so that these special values are available for public study, use, or enjoyment” (FSM 2360.2). Objectives for Special Areas are: “To protect and manage for public use and enjoyment, special recreation areas with scenic, geological, botanical, zoological,

paleontological, archaeological, or other special characteristics or unique values.” (FSM2372.02) Special Interest and Special Areas may have management plans developed to address specific needs and opportunities for the individual area.

(S2.7) Timber harvest, road construction, and new recreation development are not allowed.

(G2.7-1) Vegetation/fuels treatment, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed in circumstances where these activities help perpetuate the unique ecosystem, for hazardous fuel reduction, and to protect property in the wildland urban interface.

(G2.7-2) Grazing is allowed on open allotments to meet site-specifically defined desired conditions.

(G2.7-3) New trail construction is allowed if associated with resource interpretation and public study, use, or enjoyment.

(G2.7-4) Allow manipulative restoration where needed for scientific study and increased public understanding of the unique values of the area.

Management Prescriptions

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Motorized vehicle use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

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

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

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

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

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

Congress. Once designated, the Wasatch-Cache National Forest will apply Management Prescriptions numbers to the designated Wild (2.1), Scenic (2.2), and Recreational (2.3) Rivers on Forest, which include land corridors that extend 1/4 mile from each bank.

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

(2) The state/local government's ability to manage and protect the outstandingly remarkable values on non-federal lands.

The segment lies entirely on national forest lands.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife, provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft Inventory.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes Spawn Creek. Cache County and others did not support designation

During the public comment period for the Draft EIS comments were received both supporting and opposing the designation of Spawn Creek. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes Spawn Creek.

Cache County and others opposed designation stating the segment was too short and already protected and that Bonneville cutthroat trout, the ORV, may not be present in the stream.

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

Designation of this segment of the Spawn Creek, a tributary to the Logan River complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for the Logan River and current Forest management.

Portions of the Spawn Creek corridor fall within Management Prescription 2.7, where the Forest aims to manage to protect particular values or unique qualities of special interest. A Wild and Scenic designation for Spawn Creek would also help to protect these special areas by offering a wider protection corridor to the stream. WSR protection would also be beneficial to a stream segment in the Utah State University Whirling Disease Study area by keeping the area in a natural state and helping to impede disturbance. The upper portion of the Spawn Creek corridor falls within Management Prescription 5.1, which is managed to allow for vegetation management. The WSR designation for Spawn Creek would place some restrictions on activities in the Spawn Creek area.

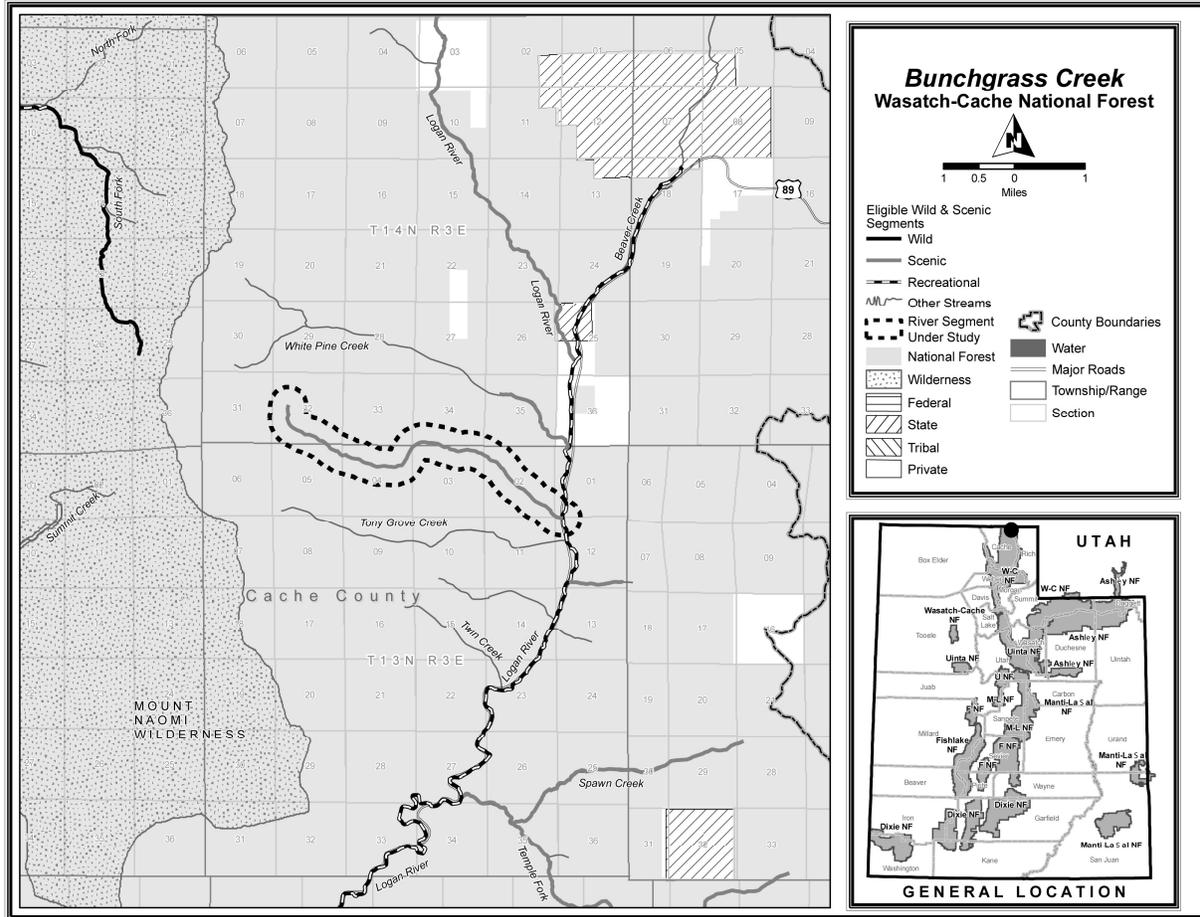
(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

The segments of White Pine Creek, Bunchgrass Creek, Temple Fork, Little Bear Creek, and the Logan River—when combined with Spawn Creek—contribute to the Logan River basin's integrity.

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

Local groups such as the Cache County Anglers, Bear River Watershed Council, Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection as well as trash pick up.

Bunchgrass Creek Suitability Evaluation Report (SER)



STUDY AREA SUMMARY

Name of River: Bunchgrass Creek

River Mileage:

Studied: 5.0 miles, from source to confluence with Logan River

Eligible: same

Location:

Bunchgrass Creek	Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Logan Ranger District, Cache County, Utah		Congressional District 1	
	Start	End	Classification	Miles
Segment 1	SW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 32, T 14 N, R 3 E, SLM	NW ¼ NW ¼ Sect. 12, T 13 N, R 3 E, SLM	Scenic	5.0

Physical Description of River Segment:

This stream is a tributary to the upper Logan River. Vegetation in uplands of this drainage includes sagebrush, lodgepole pine, sub-alpine fir, aspen, Douglas fir and some limber pine. Riparian communities are typically narrow and include willows, dogwood, aspen and conifers. Several beaver ponds lie within these corridors, and the lower reaches of some provide big game winter range (moose, elk and deer).

ELIGIBILITY

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

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

Summary of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV):

Fish – Fish species include Bonneville cutthroat trout (a sensitive species). While all the fish species in these tributaries can add to visitor enjoyment or the overall wildlife diversity in the upper Logan River drainage, the Bonneville cutthroat trout population is of special interest and value. The range of Bonneville cutthroat includes most of the eastern Great Basin. These several streams in addition to the upper portions of the main Logan River are occupied with a meta-population (that is a genetically interactive larger population of the species) that, if protected, can insure the preservation of the species, which is currently under some considerable pressure to survive due to pressures of exotic species introduction, fishing pressure, and habitat fragmentation, destruction, and/or degradation. The upper Logan River population of these fish is probably the largest and most diverse subpopulation with habitat connectivity that remains. Fish abundance for the Bonneville cutthroat is high, and the population is self-sustaining through natural spawning in both the main Logan River and these tributaries. This river system is of critical importance to Bonneville cutthroat because of its lack of migratory obstructions, the large number of connected populations, and the overall strength and diversity of the population. The Bonneville cutthroat trout fishery within this tributary to the upper Logan River is a significant population, because of its size, diversity, distribution within several suitable habitats, self-sustaining natural reproduction and the size and vigor of the fish. The importance of this meta-population of Bonneville cutthroat trout is an outstandingly remarkable value.

CLASSIFICATION

Basis for the Classification of River – Scenic

This stream is listed is eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and are free-flowing and for its remarkable fish value. This segment is a scenic stream because the stream and stream corridor is or has:

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

SUITABILITY REPORT

Landownership and Land Uses – This segment is located on the Logan Ranger District in Cache County, Utah, and is a tributary stream to the Logan River.

River Mile	Ownership	Acres
0-5.0	Wasatch-Cache National Forest	1694
	Total:	1694 acres

Mineral and Energy Resource Activities – There are no known locatable mineral deposits of economic value within the area of the eligible Bunchgrass Creek segment and there are no known valuable deposits known on patented mining claims that now appear as private land in-holdings on the forest. Presently, there are no significant mining activities on the Forest. Also, this area is not a high oil and gas potential area.

Water Resources Development – There are no dams or diversions on these segments. Within the lower part of the segment, U.S. Highway 89 affects the stream channel, flood plain, and water quality by crossing the segments.

Transportation, Facilities, and Other Developments – Access to the stream segment is from U.S. Highway 89, the Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway. Trail 051 follows the stream corridor approximately halfway up the drainage and then connects to the White Pine drainage.

Recreation Activities – Dispersed camping and hiking use can be very light. Fishing use along these streams is variable dependent on access and seasons.

Grazing Activities – Sheep and cattle graze most of the areas within which these rivers flow. A portion of the Bunchgrass Creek flows through the Blind Hollow Sheep Allotment. The majority of this stream segment flows through the Franklin Basin Cattle and Logan Canyon Cattle Allotments. The river corridor itself is used by permitted livestock for short periods while trailing or herding and occasionally by recreation stock. The grazing allotment permittee must operate in compliance with an Allotment Management Plan (AMP) and Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Other Resource Activities – There are no current or planned Forest Service projects within this stream corridor.

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

The lower 0.6 miles of Bunchgrass Creek are within the Logan Canyon Scenic Byway. The National Scenic Byways Program is a collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States.

There are three areas within the stream segment’s corridor that are recognized by the State of Utah as a Transient Drinking Water Source Protection Zones; these are water sources for the Tony Grove, Lewis M. Turner, and Red Banks Campgrounds. This designation defines the area where contaminants are limited from the surface and subsurface areas surrounding a surface source of drinking water supplying a public water system (PWS), over which or through which contaminants are reasonably likely to move toward

and reach the source. Surface water means all water which is open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff, and subsurface water relates to any well, spring, tunnel, adit, or other underground opening from or through which ground-water flows or is pumped from subsurface water-bearing formations.

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

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the stream near the confluence with the Logan River:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land outside 3.1a corridor and adjacent confluence with Logan River:

Management Prescription 2.5 Scenic Byways: Manage Scenic Byways to protect and maintain their outstanding scenic quality. Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans may be developed for designated Byways to further define desired conditions and tail or management direction.

(G2.5-1) Timber harvest, vegetation/fuel treatments, prescribed fire and wildland fire use are allowed when these activities are necessary to maintain or enhance the scenic setting for the long term.

(G2.5-2) Grazing is allowed and managed for compatibility with other elements of Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plans.

(G2.5-3) Road building, new recreation development, and new trail construction are allowed for purposes of enhancing use and enjoyment of the scenic byway corridor, while maintaining or enhancing the scenic setting.

Land management direction for Wasatch-Cache National Forest land outside 2.5 areas to the confluence with Logan River:

Management Prescription 4.4 Emphasis on Recreation Motorized Settings: These areas provide recreation opportunities within a range of semi-primitive to rural settings. Visitors may be able to obtain a moderate degree of solitude, but this prescription area provides opportunities for increased social interaction. Access to and within these areas is primarily through the use of motorized trails and roads. Sights and sounds of others may be noticeable throughout the area. Management of recreation impacts range from semi-primitive to rural depending on the ROS category at the specific area and visitor desires for

convenience. Impacts to natural resources are dealt with through various management techniques and regulations. Management visibility is moderate to high with ranger patrols focusing on education, user ethics, and enforcement.

Land management direction for the rest of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest land within the Bunchgrass Creek corridor:

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

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

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

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

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

Socio-Economic Environment – The Logan River and its tributaries supply agricultural water to the Cache Valley. The Logan River has multiple dams below the eligible segments. The First Dam (upstream from the town of Logan) is one of three hydroelectric dams built to generate electricity for Logan City. Unlike the other two, First Dam was not built by Logan City but by Utah State University. About two miles further up the canyon is Second Dam, site of the Logan City Power Plant and the Morgan Smith Turbine. Logan City has been using Second Dam for power since the beginning of the 20th century. The Third Dam is used for storage of spring runoff until it is needed in the drier months of summer.

The local population of Cache Valley (estimated population of 98,622 in 2006) relies primarily on the university, agriculture, some light industry, and to increasing extent tourism and the services that support it. There is a high rate of growth expected in Cache Valley. As the population grows, a change in landscape is occurring, and agricultural and open lands are being converted for urban, commercial and industrial development. Off highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, fishing, biking, rock climbing, whitewater boating, skiing and snowmobiling are also popular recreation activities for locals and visitors in Logan Canyon.

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

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

SUITABILITY FACTOR ASSESSMENT:

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

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

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

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

Bunchgrass Creek flows entirely within National Forest lands and is approximately one mile from private or State of Utah land.

(3) Support or opposition to designation.

One public comment to the Draft Inventory of Rivers on Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Eligible for Inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System, USDA Forest Service, 1999, from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife provided clarifying information for some of the fish data used in the Draft inventory.

During scoping some comments supported designation of all eligible segments of the Logan River system which includes Bunchgrass Creek. Cache County and others did not support designation

Public comments received during the Draft EIS review period both supported and opposed designation for Bunchgrass Creek. Of the three organized campaign responses all three supported a positive suitability finding for the Logan River system which includes Bunchgrass Creek.

Cache County opposed designation stating the segment was too short and already protected. An individual was concerned that the State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Land Administration may have mineral rights and a need for access.

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

Designation of this segment of the Bunchgrass Creek, a tributary to the Logan River complements the State's Blue Ribbon Fishery designation for the Logan River, the Scenic Byway, nearby drinking water sources, and current Forest management.

(5) Contribution to river system or basin integrity.

The segments of Logan River, White Pine Creek, Beaver Creek, Temple Fork, Spawn Creek, Little Bear Creek, combined with the segment of the Bunchgrass Creek contributes to the Logan River basin integrity.

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

Local groups such as the Cache County Anglers, the Bridgerland Backcountry Horsemen, the Bear River Watershed Council, and the Bridgerland Audubon Society have demonstrated and expressed interest in continuing their projects related to habitat restoration and protection and trash pick up.