

CHAPTER 2. DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES

2.1 Introduction

This chapter describes and compares one no action alternative and five action alternative groupings of eligible river segments to recommend for wild and scenic river designation. It includes a map and list of rivers for each action alternative considered. It also describes alternatives considered, but dismissed from detailed study.

Section 2.4 of this chapter summarizes the environmental effects presented in Chapter 3 and presents the alternatives in comparative form, sharply defining the differences between each alternative and providing a clear basis for choice among options by the decision makers and the public. Some of the information used to compare the alternatives is based upon the design of the alternative and some of the information is based upon the environmental effects of implementing each alternative.

2.2 Alternatives Considered in Detail

The Forest Service developed six alternatives, including the no action and the five action alternatives, in response to issues raised by the public during the scoping process. Action alternatives range from an alternative with 22 river segments (203 miles) to an alternative with 50 river segments (530 miles) that are found suitable and recommended for designation in the National System. The no action alternative maintains the eligibility of all 86 rivers and continues interim management protections, but does not make a suitability determination at this time.

Alternative 1 – No action, maintain eligibility of all river segments.

In the no action alternative suitability findings would be deferred and current management practices would continue. All 86 river segments (a total of 840 miles) would continue to be managed as “eligible” for their potential inclusion into the National System, and the Forest Service would continue to use its existing authorities to protect free flow, water quality, ORVs, and recommended tentative classifications (interim management outlined in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 80 - Wild and Scenic River Evaluation). Management would continue to be in accordance with existing laws and regulations and land and resource management plans. No amendments to Forest Plans would be necessary as this alternative maintains the status quo.

For a complete list of all 86 river segments, see Chapter 3, Table 3.2.1.

Immediate Actions:

- Suitability study would not be completed.
- All 86 river segments would continue to be considered “eligible” for designation.
- Continue existing interim protection of free flow, ORVs and recommended classification as provided by direction in Forest Plans, and existing laws and regulations.
- Use conflicts between eligible river segments and other proposed actions would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Alternative 2 – No rivers recommended.

In this alternative, all 86 river segments would be determined “not suitable” for designation. Consequently, none of the river segments would be recommended for inclusion in the National System,

and interim protection as potential wild and scenic rivers would be removed. Protection of river values would revert to the direction provided in the underlying land and resource management plans for the area. Forest Plan amendments would be made as necessary to remove any specific interim protections as eligible river segments.

For a complete list of all 86 river segments, see Chapter 3, Table 3.2.1.

Immediate Actions:

- All river segments would be found not suitable.
- No rivers would be recommended for designation.
- All 86 river segments would have no wild and scenic river status.
- Forest Plans would be amended to remove any wild and scenic eligible river interim measures to protect free flow, ORVs, and recommended classification, for river segments in this study.
- These river segments would be managed under remaining Forest Plan direction, regulations and law.

Alternative 3 – Recommend rivers that best represent Utah ORVs while having the least affect on existing or reasonably foreseeable future water resources projects and other developmental activities.

In this alternative, a suitable determination would be made for 24 river segments including 132 miles classified as Wild, 56 miles classified as Scenic, and 24 miles classified as Recreational, that best represent Utah ORVs while having the least impact to future planned development. The Forest Supervisors chose river segments that would contribute regional uniqueness to the Wild and Scenic Rivers System that would also have the least affect on reasonably foreseeable future water resources projects (dam, diversion, and other modification of the waterway (WSR ACT 16B)) or other activities (e.g., potential road building projects, mining, etc.) that would result in an irretrievable commitment or loss of ORVs. This alternative contributes to the diversity of the National System while having the least adverse economic effect to the State of Utah.

Criteria:

- 1) Recognized those segments that contribute uniqueness and/or diversity of ORVs to a national system as represented by the best examples on the National Forests in Utah.
- 2) Reasonably foreseeable future water resources projects include those dams, diversions, or other modification of waterways that have existing decisions, funding, or identified plans.

Definitions: Other activities include reasonably foreseeable future road building projects, mining, incompatible withdrawals, that would result in an irretrievable commitment of ORVs. Reasonably foreseeable future actions are those activities not yet undertaken, for which there are existing decisions, funding, or identified plans.

Immediate Actions:

- 24 river segments totaling 212 miles would be determined suitable.
- 24 river segments including 132 miles classified as Wild, 56 miles classified as Scenic, and 24 miles classified as Recreational would be recommended for designation.
- Forest Plans would be amended, as needed, to provide interim measures to protect free flow, ORVs, and recommended classification for these 24 river segments as provided in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 80, Section 82.5.
- 62 river segments would not be recommended for inclusion in the National System, and interim protection as potential wild and scenic rivers would be removed. Protection of river values would

revert to the direction provided in the underlying land and resource management plans for the area. Forest Plan amendments would be made as necessary to remove any specific interim protections as eligible river segments.

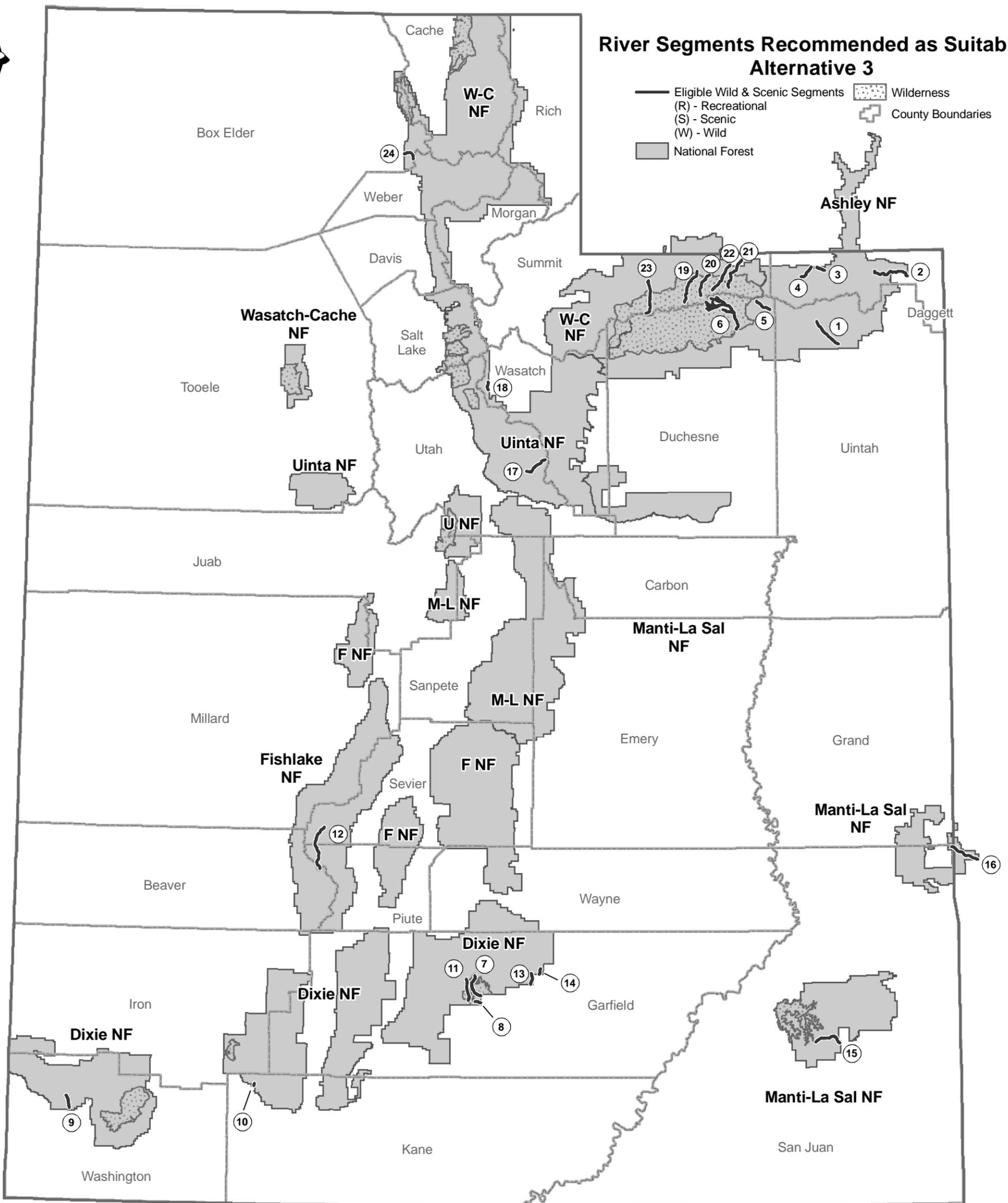
Table 2.2.1. River segments included in Alternative 3.

Alternative 3 – River Segments	Miles	Classification
Ashley National Forest		
Black Canyon	10	Wild
Green River	13	Scenic
Lower Main Sheep Creek	4	Recreational
Middle Main Sheep Creek	5	Recreational
Reader Creek	6	Scenic
Upper Uinta River, including Gilbert Creek, Center Fork, and Painter Draw	40	Wild
Dixie National Forest		
Death Hollow Creek	10	Wild
Mamie Creek	2	Wild
Moody Wash	5	Wild
North Fork Virgin River	1	Scenic
Pine Creek	8	Wild
Fishlake National Forest		
Fish Creek	15	Wild - Upper (4.3 mi.); Recreational - Lower (10.5 mi.)
Steep Creek – Only 4 miles is recommended as suitable under this alternative. (This segment is located on the Dixie NF, but is administered by the Fishlake NF.)	4	Wild
The Gulch (This segment is located on the Dixie NF, but is administered by the Fishlake NF.)	2	Recreational
Manti-La Sal National Forest		
Hammond Canyon	10	Scenic
Roc Creek	9	Wild
Uinta National Forest		
Fifth Water Creek	8	Scenic
Little Provo Deer Creek	3	Recreational
Wasatch-Cache National Forest		
East Fork Smiths Fork: Red Castle Lake to Trailhead	12	Wild
Henry's Fork: Henry's Fork Lake to Trailhead	8	Wild
Middle Fork Beaver Creek: Beaver Lake to Confluence with East Fork Beaver Creek	11	Wild in Wilderness (6.9 mi.); Scenic below wilderness (4.2 mi.)
West Fork Beaver Creek: Source to Forest Boundary	10	Wild in Wilderness (4.6 mi.); Scenic below wilderness (5.5 mi.)
West Fork Blacks Fork: Source to Trailhead	12	Wild in Wilderness (8.0 mi.); Scenic below Wilderness (3.9 mi.)
Willard Creek: Source to Forest Boundary	4	Scenic
Total	212 miles	14 Wild classifications (131.8 miles) 9 Scenic classifications (55.6 miles) 5 Recreational classifications (24.5 miles)



River Segments Recommended as Suitable Alternative 3

- Eligible Wild & Scenic Segments
- (R) - Recreational
- (S) - Scenic
- (W) - Wild
- ▨ National Forest
- ▨ Wilderness
- ▭ County Boundaries



ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST

- ① Black Canyon (W)
- ② Green River (S)
- ③ Lower Main Sheep Creek (R)
- ④ Middle Main Sheep Creek (R)
- ⑤ Reader Creek (S)
- ⑥ Upper Uinta River, including Gilbert Creek, Center Fork, and Painter Draw (W)

DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑦ Death Hollow Creek (W)
- ⑧ Mamie Creek (W)
- ⑨ Moody Wash (W)
- ⑩ North Fork Virgin River (S)
- ⑪ Pine Creek (W)

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑫ Fish Creek (W) - Upper; (R) - Lower
- ⑬ Steep Creek (W) - only 4 miles recommended under Alt. 3
- ⑭ The Gulch (R)

MANTI-LA SAL NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑮ Hammond Canyon (S)
- ⑯ Roc Creek (W)

UINTA NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑰ Fifth Water Creek (S)
- ⑱ Little Provo Deer Creek (R)

WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑲ East Fork Smiths Fork: Red Castle Lake to Trailhead (W)
- ⑳ Henry's Fork: Henry's Fork Lake to Trailhead (W)
- ㉑ Middle Fork Beaver Creek: Beaver Lake to Confluence with East Fork Beaver Creek (W) in wilderness; (S) below
- ㉒ West Fork Beaver Creek: Source to Forest Boundary (W) in wilderness; (S) below
- ㉓ West Fork Blacks Fork: Source to Trailhead (W) in wilderness; (S) below
- ㉔ Willard Creek: Source to Forest Boundary (S)



Alternative 4 – Recommend rivers that best represent Utah ORVs that could be adversely affected by existing or reasonably foreseeable future water resources projects and other developmental activities.

In this alternative, a suitable determination would be made for 22 river segments including 47 miles classified as Wild, 64 miles classified as Scenic, and 92 miles classified as Recreational, that best represent Utah ORVs that are also most at risk of future planned development. The Forest Supervisors chose river segments that would contribute regional uniqueness to the Wild and Scenic Rivers System that would also be potentially adversely affected by reasonably foreseeable future water resources projects (dam, diversion, and other modification of the waterway (WSR ACT 16B)) or other activities (e.g., potential road building projects, mining, etc.) that would result in an irretrievable commitment or loss of ORVs. This alternative would protect the unique river values that are representative of Utah that are most in danger of being developed in the reasonably foreseeable future.

Criteria:

- 1) Recognized those segments that contribute uniqueness and/or diversity of values and features to a national system as represented by the best examples on the National Forests in Utah.
- 2) Reasonably foreseeable future water resources projects include those dams, diversions, or other modification of waterways that have existing decisions, funding, or identified plans.

Definitions: Other activities include reasonably foreseeable future road building projects, mining, incompatible withdrawals, that would result in an irretrievable commitment of ORVs. Reasonably foreseeable future actions are those activities not yet undertaken, for which there are existing decisions, funding, or identified plans.

Immediate Actions:

- 22 river segments totaling 203 miles would be determined suitable.
- 22 river segments including 47 miles classified as Wild, 64 miles classified as Scenic, and 92 miles classified as Recreational, would be recommended for designation.
- Forest Plans would be amended, as needed, to provide interim measures to protect free flow, ORVs, and recommended classification for these 22 river segments as provided in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 80, Section 82.5.
- 64 river segments would not be recommended for inclusion in the National System, and interim protection as potential wild and scenic rivers would be removed. Protection of river values would revert to the direction provided in the underlying land and resource management plans for the area. Forest Plan amendments would be made as necessary to remove any specific interim protections as eligible river segments.

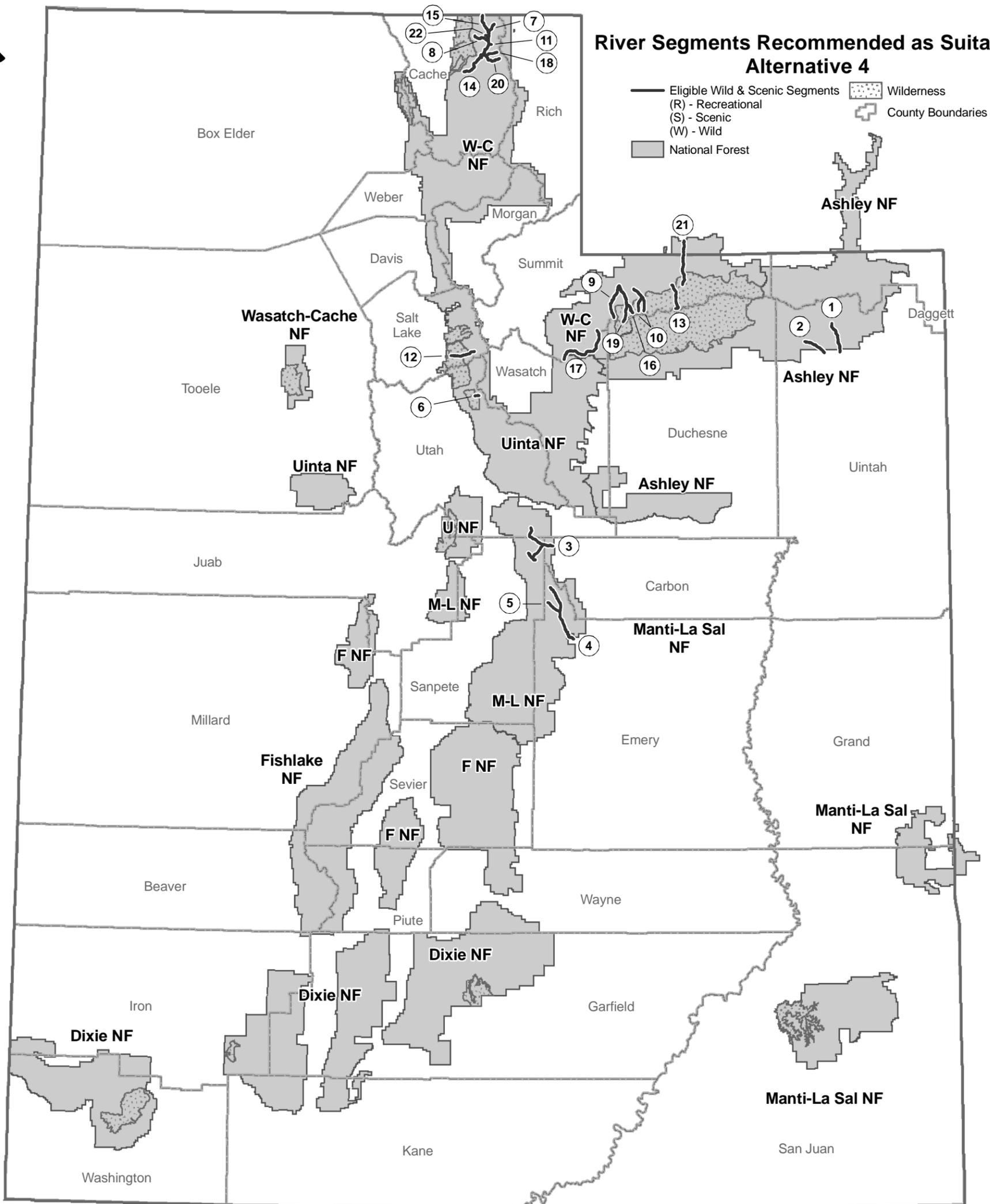
Table 2.2.2. River segments included in Alternative 4.

Alternative 4 – River Segments	Miles	Classification
Ashley National Forest		
Ashley Gorge Creek	10	Wild
Lower Dry Fork Creek	7	Recreational
Dixie National Forest		
No Segments.	0	N/A.
Fishlake National Forest		
No Segments.	0	N/A
Manti-La Sal National Forest		
Fish Creek and Gooseberry Creek	21	Scenic – Upper Fish Creek and Lower Gooseberry

Alternative 4 – River Segments	Miles	Classification
		(17.05 Mi.); Recreational – Fish Creek (3.6 Mi.)
Huntington Creek	19	Recreational
Lower Left Fork of Huntington	5	Scenic
Uinta National Forest		
North Fork Provo River	1	Wild within Wilderness (0.9 mi.); Recreational below Wilderness (0.4 mi.)
Wasatch-Cache National Forest		
Beaver Creek: South Boundary of State Land to Mouth	3	Recreational
Bunchgrass Creek: Source to Mouth	5	Scenic
Hayden Fork: Source to Mouth	12	Recreational
Left, Right, and East Forks Bear River: Alsop Lake and Norice Lake to near Trailhead	13	Wild
Little Bear Creek: Little Bear Spring to Mouth	1	Scenic
Little Cottonwood Creek: Source to Murray City Diversion	8	Recreational
Little East Fork: Source to Mouth	9	Wild
Logan River: Confluence with Beaver Creek to Bridge at Guinavah-Malibu Campground	19	Recreational
Logan River: Idaho State line to confluence with Beaver Creek	7	Scenic
Ostler Fork: Source to Mouth	4	Wild
Provo River: Trial Lake to U35 Bridge	20	Recreational
Spawn Creek: Source to Mouth	4	Scenic
Stillwater Fork: Source to Mouth	14	Wild within Wilderness (6 mi.); Scenic below Wilderness (8 mi.)
Temple Fork: Source to Mouth	6	Scenic
West Fork Smiths Fork: Source to Forest Boundary	14	Wild within Wilderness (4 mi.); Scenic below Wilderness (10 mi.)
White Pine Creek: Source to Mouth	1	Scenic
Total	203 miles	7 Wild classifications (46.9 miles) 10 Scenic classifications (64.05 miles) 9 Recreational classifications (92 miles)



River Segments Recommended as Suitable Alternative 4



ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST

- ① Ashley Gorge Creek (W)
- ② Lower Dry Fork Creek (R)

DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST

No Segments

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

No Segments

MANTI-LA SAL NATIONAL FOREST

- ③ Fish and Gooseberry Creek (S) Upper Fish Creek and Lower Gooseberry; (R) Fish Creek
- ④ Huntington Creek (R)
- ⑤ Lower Left Fork of Huntington (S)

UINTA NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑥ North Fork Provo River (W) in Wilderness; (R) below

WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑦ Beaver Creek: South Boundary of State Land to Mouth (R)
- ⑧ Bunchgrass Creek: Source to Mouth (S)
- ⑨ Hayden Fork: Source to Mouth (R)
- ⑩ Left, Right, and East Forks Bear River: Alsop Lake and Norice Lake to near Trailhead (W)
- ⑪ Little Bear Creek: Little Bear Spring to Mouth (S)
- ⑫ Little Cottonwood Creek: Source to Murray City Diversion (R)
- ⑬ Little East Fork: Source to Mouth (W)
- ⑭ Logan River: Confluence with Beaver Creek to Bridge at Guinavah-Malibu Campground (R)
- ⑮ Logan River: Idaho State line to confluence with Beaver Creek (S)
- ⑯ Ostler Fork: Source to Mouth (W)
- ⑰ Provo River: Trial Lake to U35 Bridge (R)
- ⑱ Spawn Creek: Source to Mouth (S)
- ⑲ Stillwater Fork: Source to Mouth (W) in Wilderness; (S) below
- ⑳ Temple Fork: Source to Mouth (S)
- ㉑ West Fork Smiths Fork: Source to Forest Boundary (W) in Wilderness; (S) below
- ㉒ White Pine Creek: Source to Mouth (S)



Alternative 5 – Recommend rivers with low cost for management that are consistent with other Federal wild and scenic studies and which have limited negative impact to community economic development.

In this alternative, a suitable determination would be made for 50 river segments including 394 miles classified as Wild, 89 miles classified as Scenic, and 48 miles classified as Recreational, that have low management costs if designated and that are compatible with other Federal agency wild and scenic river studies and recommendations. Forest Supervisors selected segments they thought would have limited negative impact to community economic development and might have the potential to stimulate tourism and related economic growth through designation. Rather than focusing on highlighting Utah’s diversity of river values, this alternative would recommend rivers where management costs are perceived to be low and that the impacts to community development would be limited or positive.

Criteria:

- 1) Other Federal agencies include, but are not limited to: the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- 2) Low cost for management includes those segments that would be relatively inexpensive for the administering agency to manage. For example, another agency already assists with management of the area or protection is already partially accomplished by another designation such as Wilderness or administrative management areas with protective restrictions. Monitoring would already be in place or compatible with existing efforts.
- 3) Include segments that will have limited negative impact to community economic development and/or would have the potential for economic growth and tourism development through designation.

Immediate Actions

- 50 river segments totaling 530 miles would be determined suitable.
- 50 river segments including 394 miles classified as Wild, 89 miles classified as Scenic and 48 miles classified as Recreational, would be recommended for designation.
- Forest Plans would be amended, as needed, to provide interim measures to protect free flow, ORVs, and recommended classification for these 50 river segments as provided in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 80, Section 82.5.
- 36 river segments would not be recommended for inclusion in the National System, and interim protection as potential wild and scenic rivers would be removed. Protection of river values would revert to the direction provided in the underlying land and resource management plans for the area. Forest Plan amendments would be made as necessary to remove any specific interim protections as eligible river segments.

Table 2.2.3. River segments included in Alternative 5.

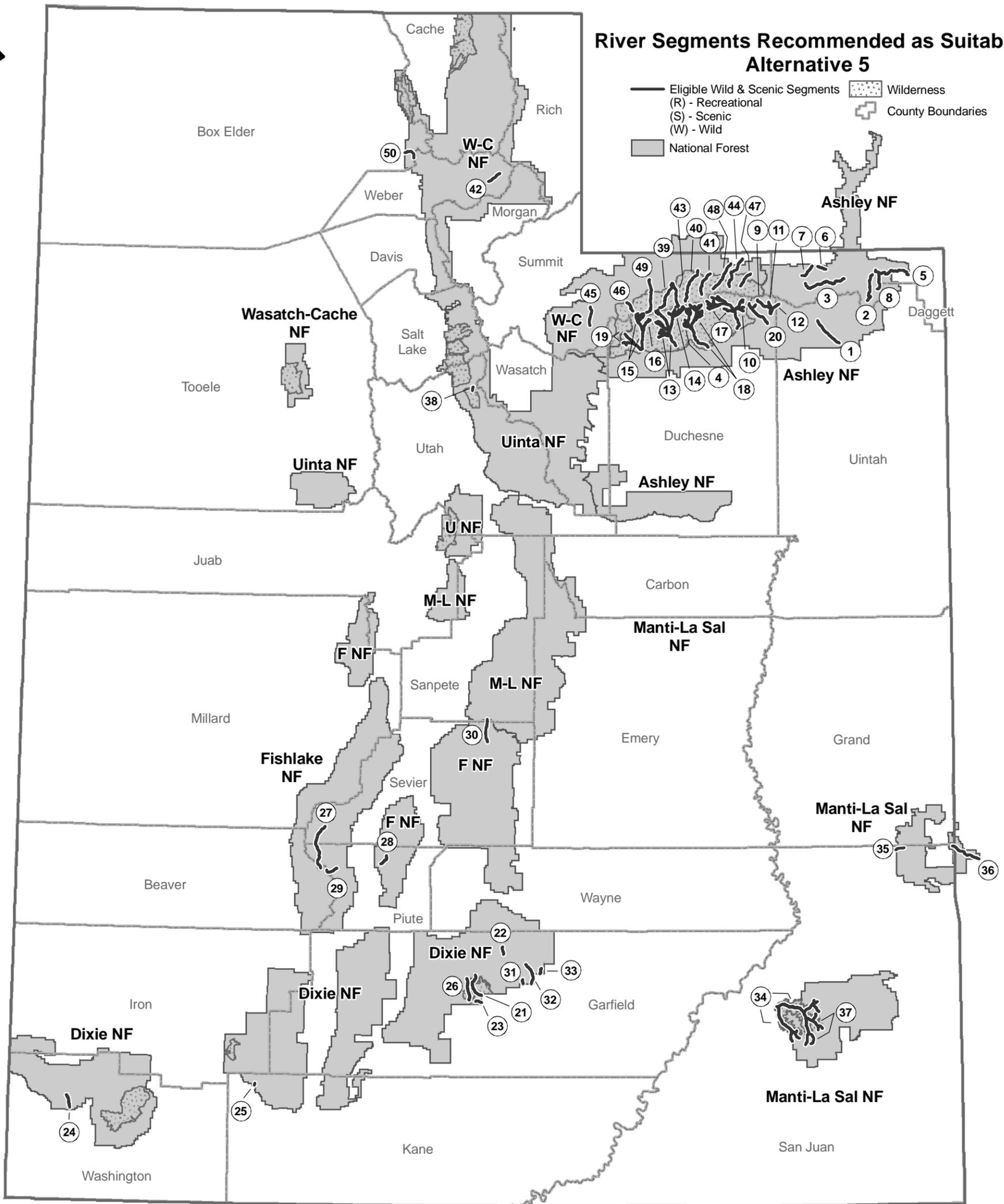
Alternative 5 – River Segments	Miles	Classification
Ashley National Forest		
Black Canyon	10	Wild
Cart Creek Proper	10	Scenic
Carter Creek	16	Scenic
Garfield Creek	17	Wild
Green River	13	Scenic
Lower Main Sheep Creek	4	Recreational
Middle Main Sheep Creek	5	Recreational
Pipe Creek	6	Scenic
Reader Creek	6	Scenic

Alternative 5 – River Segments	Miles	Classification
Shale Creek and Tributaries	10	Wild
Upper Whiterocks River and ----- East Fork Whiterocks River (Upper and East Fork discussed together in SER)	4 4	Scenic Scenic
Upper Lake Fork River, including Ottoson and East Basin Creeks and ----- Oweep Creek (Upper Lake Fork and Oweep discussed together in SER)	35 20	Wild Wild
Upper Rock Creek and ----- Fall Creek (Upper Rock and Fall Creek discussed together in SER)	21 6	Wild Wild
Upper Uinta River, including Gilbert Creek, Center Fork, and Painter Draw	40	Wild
Upper Yellowstone Creek, including Milk Creek	33	Wild
West Fork Rock Creek, including Fish Creek	13	Wild
West Fork Whiterocks River	11	Scenic
Dixie National Forest		
Death Hollow Creek	10	Wild
East Fork Boulder Creek	3	Wild
Mamie Creek	2	Wild
Moody Wash	5	Wild
North Fork Virgin River	1	Scenic
Pine Creek	8	Wild
Fishlake National Forest		
Fish Creek	15	Wild - Upper (4.3 mi.); Recreational - Lower (10.5 mi.)
Manning Creek	4	Wild
Pine Creek / Bullion Falls	4	Wild
Salina Creek	7	Wild
Slickrock (This segment is located on the Dixie NF, but is administered by the Fishlake NF.)	2	Wild
Steep Creek (This segment is located on the Dixie NF, but is administered by the Fishlake NF.)	7	Wild
The Gulch (This segment is located on the Dixie NF, but is administered by the Fishlake NF.)	2	Recreational
Manti-La Sal National Forest		
Lower Dark Canyon, including Poison Canyon, Deadman Canyon, Woodenshoe and Cherry Canyons	41	Wild
Mill Creek Gorge	3	Wild
Roc Creek	9	Wild
Upper Dark, Horse Pasture, Peavine & Kigalia Canyons in Upper Dark Canyon	26	Recreational
Uinta National Forest		
South Fork American Fork	1	Wild within Wilderness (1.1 mi.); Recreational below Wilderness (0.3 mi.)
Wasatch-Cache National Forest		
East Fork Blacks Fork: Headwaters to confluence with Little East Fork	10	Wild
East Fork Smiths Fork: Red Castle Lake to Trailhead	12	Wild
Henry's Fork: Henry's Fork Lake to Trailhead	8	Wild
Left Fork South Fork Ogden River: Frost Canyon/Bear Canyon Confluence to Causey	5	Wild
Little East Fork: Source to Mouth	9	Wild
Middle Fork Beaver Creek: Beaver Lake to Confluence with East Fork Beaver Creek	11	Wild within Wilderness (6.9 mi.); Scenic below Wilderness (4.2 mi.)
Middle Fork Weber River: Source to Forest Boundary	6	Wild

Alternative 5 – River Segments	Miles	Classification
Ostler Fork: Source to Mouth	4	Wild
Thompson Creek: Source to Hoop Lake Diversion	5	Wild
West Fork Beaver Creek: Source to Forest Boundary	10	Wild within Wilderness (4.6 mi.); Scenic below Wilderness (5.5 mi.)
West Fork Blacks Fork: Source to Trailhead	12	Wild within Wilderness (8.0 mi.); Scenic below Wilderness (3.9 mi.)
Willard Creek: Source to Forest Boundary	4	Scenic
Total	530	36 Wild classifications (393.9 miles)
		13 Scenic classifications (88.6 miles)
		6 Recreational classifications (47.8 miles)



River Segments Recommended as Suitable Alternative 5



ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST

- ① Black Canyon (W)
- ② Cart Creek Proper (S)
- ③ Carter Creek (S)
- ④ Garfield Creek (W)
- ⑤ Green River (S)
- ⑥ Lower Main Sheep Creek (R)
- ⑦ Middle Main Sheep Creek (R)
- ⑧ Pipe Creek (S)
- ⑨ Reader Creek (S)
- ⑩ Shale Creek and Tributaries (W)
- ⑪ Upper Whiterocks River (S)
- ⑫ East Fork Whiterocks River (S)
- ⑬ Upper Lake Fork River, including Ottoson and East Basin Creeks (W)
- ⑭ Oweep Creek (W)
- ⑮ Upper Rock Creek (W)
- ⑯ Fall Creek (W)
- ⑰ Upper Uinta River, including Gilbert Creek, Center Fork, and Painter Draw (W)

- ⑱ Upper Yellowstone Creek, including Milk Creek (W)
- ⑲ West Fork Rock Creek, including Fish Creek (W)
- ⑳ West Fork Whiterocks River (S)

DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑴ Death Hollow Creek (W)
 - ⑵ East Fork Boulder Creek (W)
 - ⑶ Mamie Creek (W)
 - ⑷ Moody Wash (W)
 - ⑸ North Fork Virgin River (S)
 - ⑹ Pine Creek (W)
- ### FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST
- ⑺ Fish Creek (W) - Upper; (R) - Lower
 - ⑻ Manning Creek (W)
 - ⑽ Pine Creek / Bullion Falls (W)
 - ⑾ Salina Creek (W)
 - ⑿ Slickrock (W)
 - ⓫ Steep Creek (W)
 - ⓬ The Gulch (R)

MANTI-LA SAL NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑳ Lower Dark Canyon, including Poison Canyon, Deadman Canyon, Woodenshoe and Cherry Canyons (W)
 - ㉑ Mill Creek Gorge (W)
 - ㉒ Roc Creek (W)
 - ㉓ Upper Dark, Horse Pasture, Peavine & Kigalia Canyons in Upper Dark Canyon (R)
- ### UINTA NATIONAL FOREST
- ㉔ South Fork American Fork (W) in wilderness; (R) below
- ### WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST
- ㉕ East Fork Blacks Fork: Headwaters to confluence with Little East Fork (W)
 - ㉖ East Fork Smiths Fork: Red Castle Lake to Trailhead (W)
 - ㉗ Henry's Fork: Henry's Fork Lake to Trailhead (W)
 - ㉘ Left Fork South Fork Ogden River: Frost Canyon/Bear Canyon Confluence to Causey (W)
 - ㉙ Little East Fork: Source to Mouth (W)
 - ㉚ Middle Fork Beaver Creek: Beaver Lake to Confluence with East Fork Beaver Creek (W) in wilderness; (S) below
 - ㉛ Middle Fork Weber River: Source to Forest Boundary (W)
 - ㉜ Ostler Fork: Source to Mouth (W)
 - ㉝ Thompson Creek: Source to Hoop Lake Diversion (W)
 - ㉞ West Fork Beaver Creek: Source to Forest Boundary (W) in wilderness; (S) below
 - ㉟ West Fork Blacks Fork: Source to Trailhead-(W) in wilderness; (S) below
 - ㊱ Willard Creek: Source to Forest Boundary (S)



Alternative 6 – Recommend river segments recognized by public groups that represent a diversity of river systems in Utah and those that face future threats.

Alternative 6 was submitted by a coalition of environmental groups, including Utah Rivers Council, Utah Environmental Congress, and Grand Canyon Trust in response to scoping. In this alternative, a suitable determination would be made for 40 river segments including 216 miles classified as Wild, 113 miles classified as Scenic, and 112 miles classified as Recreational to protect the most outstanding river segments that represent the diversity of river systems in Utah and those segments that face future threats to development as recognized by these groups. This alternative represents the viewpoint of conservation groups interested in wild and scenic river designations.

Criteria:

- 1) The conservation groups ranked each river based on the identified ORVs. They ranked some ORV values heavier than others and acknowledged the importance of multiple ORVs.
- 2) The conservation groups considered current and future development threats to each river segment based on published sources.
- 3) The conservation groups considered possible public support for protection.
- 4) The conservation groups considered representation of different riparian systems and areas with special status (e.g., rare habitat for a species, wilderness areas).
- 5) The conservation groups considered additional values provided by protecting multiple pieces of a system (such as a headwaters area or upstream/downstream stretches).

Immediate Actions:

- 40 river segments totaling 441 miles would be determined suitable.
- 40 river segments including 216 miles classified as Wild, 113 miles classified as Scenic, and 112 miles classified as Recreational, would be recommended for designation.
- Forest Plans would be amended, as needed, to provide interim measures to protect free flow, ORVs, and recommended classification for these 40 river segments as provided in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 80, Section 82.5.
- 46 river segments would not be recommended for inclusion in the National System, and interim protection as potential wild and scenic rivers would be removed. Protection of river values would revert to the direction provided in the underlying land and resource management plans for the area. Forest Plan amendments would be made as necessary to remove any specific interim protections as eligible river segments.

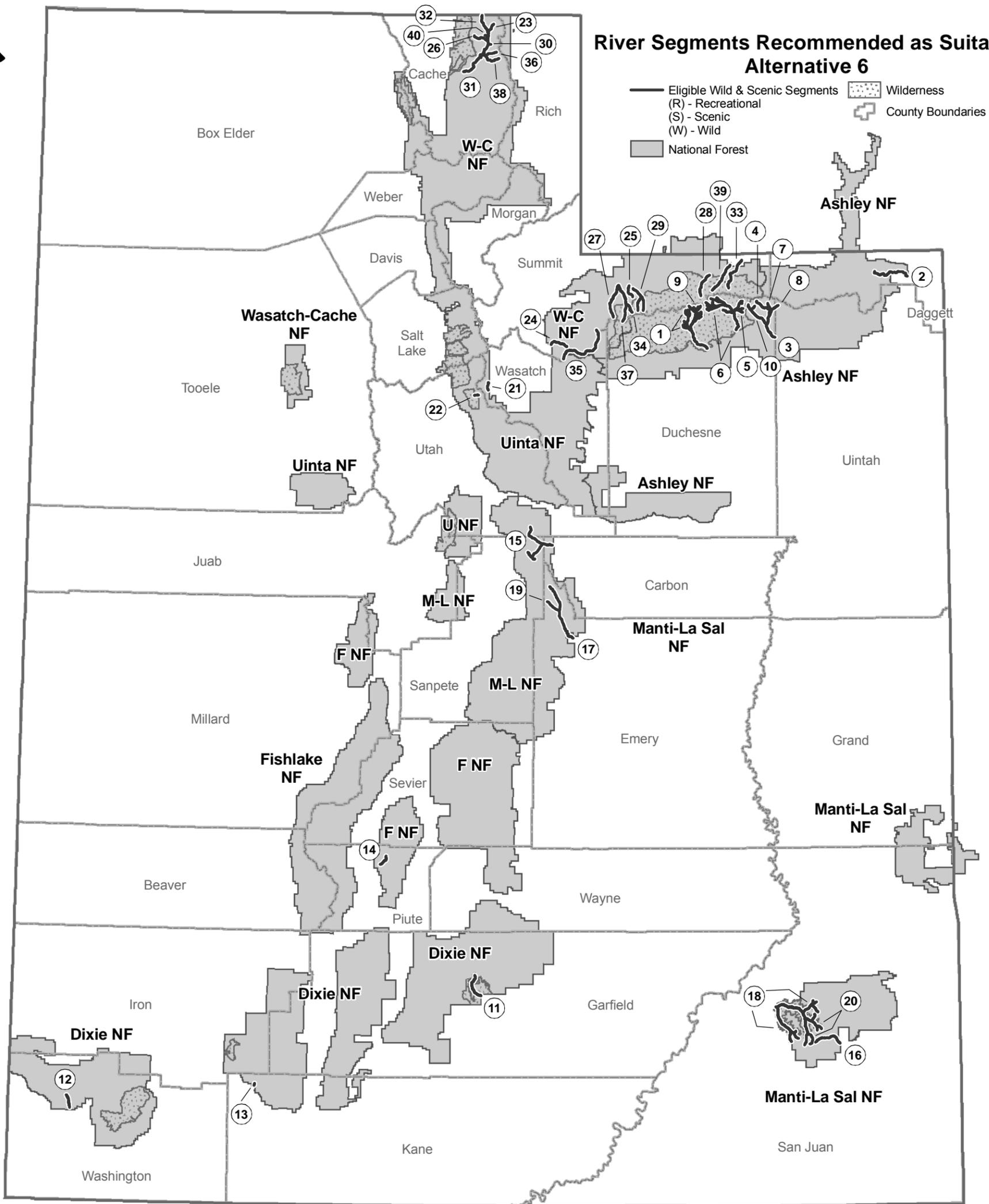
Table 2.2.4. River segments included in Alternative 6.

Alternative 6 – River Segments	Miles	Classification
Ashley NF		
Garfield Creek	17	Wild
Green River	13	Scenic
Middle Whiterocks River	9	Wild
Reader Creek	6	Scenic
Shale Creek and Tributaries	10	Wild
Upper Uinta River, including Gilbert Creek, Center Fork and Painter Draw	40	Wild
Upper Whiterocks River and East Fork Whiterocks River (Upper and East Fork Whiterocks discussed together in SER)	4 4	Scenic Scenic
Upper Yellowstone Creek, including Milk Creek	33	Wild
West Fork Whiterocks River	11	Scenic
Dixie NF		
Death Hollow Creek	10	Wild
Moody Wash	5	Wild
North Fork Virgin River	1	Scenic*

Alternative 6 – River Segments	Miles	Classification
Fishlake NF		
Manning Creek	4	Wild
Manti-La Sal		
Fish and Gooseberry Creek	21	Scenic – Upper Fish Creek and Lower Gooseberry (17.05 miles); Recreational – Fish Creek (3.6 miles)
Hammond Canyon	10	Scenic
Huntington Creek	19	Recreational
Lower Dark Canyon, including Poison Canyon, Deadman Canyon, Woodenshoe and Cherry Canyons	41	Wild
Lower Left Fork of Huntington Creek	5	Scenic
Upper Dark, Horse Pasture, Peavine & Kigalia Canyons in Upper Dark Canyon	26	Recreational
Uinta		
Little Provo Deer Creek	3	Recreational
North Fork Provo River	1	Wild within wilderness (0.9 miles); Recreational below Wilderness (0.4 miles)
Wasatch-Cache		
Beaver Creek: South Boundary of State Land to Mouth	3	Recreational
Beaver Creek: Source to Forest Boundary	6	Recreational
Boundary Creek: Source to Confluence with East Fork Bear River	4	Wild
Bunchgrass Creek: Source to Mouth	5	Scenic
Hayden Fork: Source to Mouth	12	Recreational
Henry's Fork: Henry's Fork Lake to Trailhead	8	Wild
Left, Right, and Forks of Bear River: Alsop Lake and Norice Lake to near Trailhead	13	Wild
Little Bear Creek: Little Bear Spring to Mouth	1	Scenic
Logan River: Confluence with Beaver Creek to Bridge at Guinavah-Malibu Campground	19	Recreational
Logan River: Idaho State Line to Confluence with Beaver Creek	7	Scenic
Middle Fork Beaver Creek: Beaver Lake to Confluence with East Fork Beaver Creek	11	Wild within Wilderness (6.9 miles); Scenic below Wilderness (4.2 miles)
Ostler Fork: Source to Mouth	4	Wild
Provo River: Trial Lake to UT-35 bridge	20	Recreational
Spawn Creek: Source to Mouth	4	Scenic
Stillwater Fork	14	Wild within Wilderness (6 miles); Scenic below Wilderness (8 miles)
Temple Fork: Source to Mouth	6	Scenic
West Fork Beaver Creek: Source to Forest Boundary	10	Wild within Wilderness (4.6 miles); Scenic below Wilderness (5.5 miles)
White Pine Creek: Source to Mouth	1	Scenic
Total	441 Miles	17 Wild classifications (216.4 miles)
		18 Scenic classifications (112.75 miles)
		10 Recreational classifications (112 miles)



River Segments Recommended as Suitable Alternative 6



ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST

- ① Garfield Creek (W)
- ② Green River (S)
- ③ Middle Whiterocks River (W)
- ④ Reader Creek (S)
- ⑤ Shale Creek and Tributaries (W)
- ⑥ Upper Uinta River, including Gilbert Creek, Center Fork and Painter Draw (W)
- ⑦ Upper Whiterocks River (S)
- ⑧ East Fork Whiterocks River (S)
- ⑨ Upper Yellowstone Creek, including Milk Creek (W)
- ⑩ West Fork Whiterocks River (S)

DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑪ Death Hollow Creek (W)
- ⑫ Moody Wash (W)
- ⑬ North Fork Virgin River (S)

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑭ Manning Creek (W)

MANTI-LA SAL NATIONAL FOREST

- ⑮ Fish and Gooseberry Creek (S) Upper Fish Creek and Lower Gooseberry; (R) Fish Creek
- ⑯ Hammond Canyon (S)
- ⑰ Huntington Creek (R)
- ⑱ Lower Dark Canyon, including Poison Canyon, Deadman Canyon, Woodenshoe and Cherry Canyons (W)
- ⑲ Lower Left Fork of Huntington Creek (S)
- ⑳ Upper Dark, Horse Pasture, Peavine & Kigalia Canyons in Upper Dark Canyon (R)

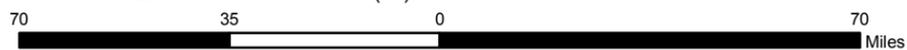
UINTA NATIONAL FOREST

- ㉑ Little Provo Deer Creek (R)
- ㉒ North Fork Provo River (W) in Wilderness; (R) below

WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST

- ㉓ Beaver Creek: South Boundary of State Land to Mouth (R)
- ㉔ Beaver Creek: Source to Forest Boundary (R)
- ㉕ Boundary Creek: Source to Confluence with East Fork Bear River (W)
- ㉖ Bunchgrass Creek: Source to Mouth (S)
- ㉗ Hayden Fork: Source to Mouth (R)
- ㉘ Henrys Fork: Henry's Fork Lake to Trailhead (W)
- ㉙ Left, Right, and Forks of Bear River: Alsop Lake and Norice Lake to near Trailhead (W)

- ⑳ Little Bear Creek: Little Bear Spring to Mouth (S)
- ㉑ Logan River: Confluence with Beaver Creek to Bridge at Guinavah-Malibu Campground (R)
- ㉒ Logan River: Idaho State Line to Confluence with Beaver Creek (S)
- ㉓ Middle Fork Beaver Creek: Beaver Lake to Confluence with East Fork Beaver Creek (W) in Wilderness; (S) below
- ㉔ Ostler Fork: Source to Mouth (W)
- ㉕ Provo River: Trial Lake to UT-35 bridge (R)
- ㉖ Spawn Creek: Source to Mouth (S)
- ㉗ Stillwater Fork (W) in Wilderness; (S) below
- ㉘ Temple Fork: Source to Mouth (S)
- ㉙ West Fork Beaver Creek: Source to Forest Boundary (W) in Wilderness; (S) below
- ㉚ White Pine Creek: Source to Mouth (S)



Future Actions Associated with Interim Protection Direction (Alternatives 1, 3-6)

For all action alternatives suitable river segments will be protected to preserve the opportunity for designation by Congress. Specific interim protection direction varies by activity and is described in detail in FSH 1909.12, Chapter 80, Section 82.5. This direction is intended to protect the free-flowing character of each river from modification, to protect outstanding remarkable values, and to ensure maintenance of the existing classification (setting and development scale, e.g. wild, scenic, or recreational).

Future Actions Associated with Designation (Alternatives 3-6)

For all action alternatives there are specific consequences associated with recommending and then designating river segments. Management responsibilities associated with a designated wild and scenic river (WSR) are explained in detail in the Interagency Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council's (Council) technical report, *Wild and Scenic River Management Responsibilities (March 2002)*. A synopsis of effects associated with designation is described in Appendix D "Effects of Managing a River as a Component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System v. 042607" a distillation of the Council paper by the Forest Service. These two documents describe the effects of managing a river as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (National System), based on the direction in the Wild and Scenic Rivers (Act).

2.3 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Study

Federal agencies are required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to rigorously explore and objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives and to briefly discuss the reasons for eliminating any alternatives that were not developed in detail (40 CFR 1502.14). Public comments received in response to the Proposed Action provided suggestions for alternative methods for achieving the purpose and need. Some of these alternatives may have been outside the scope of project, duplicative of the alternatives considered in detail, or determined to have components that would cause unnecessary environmental harm. Therefore, a number of alternatives were considered, but dismissed from detailed consideration for reasons summarized below.

Find suitable all river segments that were determined to be eligible.

In this alternative, all of the 86 river segments would be recommended for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic River System. This would protect all of the eligible rivers and their outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs). It forecloses impoundment of these rivers for water supply or other uses. Native and sensitive aquatic species which require free-flowing water for their survival would be protected. Sensitive plant species and habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive wildlife species would also be protected. All of the inventoried river classifications would be represented under this alternative.

This alternative was dismissed from detailed study because it is too expensive and not practical. This alternative assumes all the costs, while not recognizing competing trade-offs for other planned development and uses on these river segments. It fails to recognize the differing levels of support that exist for and against designation.

From a strictly cost standpoint, if a river is designated by Congress, "the Federal agency charged with the administration of each component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System shall prepare a comprehensive management plan for such river segment...3 full fiscal years after the date of designation." (Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Section 3(d)(1)). Based on 2001 data (which doesn't account

for inflation over the past six years, but is the best available data), 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, it would cost the Forest Service around \$9.1 million dollars annually to administer 100 rivers or around \$7.8 million annually for 86 segments. The actual cost of preparing the comprehensive management plans for 86 segments would range from \$100,000 to \$300,000 over a two to three year period, dependent on complexity of issues. As an example, using an average of \$200,000 per plan, it would cost approximately \$17.2 million the first two to three years to develop comprehensive management plans. This cost far exceeds funding available for this task. (Estimated Costs of Wild and Scenic Rivers Program - V. 091104).

Find suitable those segments with existing and potential water resource projects that also have underrepresented outstandingly remarkable values in the National System.

In this alternative a determination is made that all river segments with existing and potential water resource projects (dam, diversion, and other modification of the waterway) that also have underrepresented ORVs in the National System are suitable.

This alternative was dismissed from detailed study because threats from water resources projects are covered under Alternative 4. Unique Utah river values are also adequately covered in Alternatives 3, 4, and 6.

Find suitable those segments with underrepresented outstandingly remarkable values when compared with the National System of rivers.

Under this alternative, a determination is made that all segments with ORV values that are underrepresented in the National System are suitable. This alternative would include river segments with ORVs that are not currently represented, or those with only a minimal number of similar ORVs represented on rivers currently in the National System.

This alternative was dismissed from detailed study because unique Utah ORV values that might be underrepresented nationally were thoroughly considered in Alternatives 3, 4, and 6.

Find suitable those segments within specific geographic areas of the State.

In this alternative, a determination is made that all segments within certain geographic areas are suitable.

This alternative was dismissed because it did not produce results much different than the other action alternatives. Alternatives 3-6 consider river segments from different geographic areas while also representing the uniqueness of the State of Utah.

Find suitable those segments located within designated Wilderness.

In this alternative, a determination is made that all river segments located within designated Wilderness areas are suitable.

This alternative was dismissed from detailed study because some river segments and ORVs do not end at the Wilderness boundary. By ending a river segment at a boundary on a map, this alternative may compromise the integrity and value of finding suitable a complete river segment or system. In addition, this alternative would exclude segments located outside of Wilderness boundaries that might make a worthy addition to the system.

River segments located within Wilderness areas were considered in Alternatives 3, 4, 5, and 6. More specifically, one of the criteria used for Alternative 5 was to consider river segments with a low cost for management, i.e., those segments that would be relatively inexpensive for the administering agency to manage.

Find suitable those segments located within an inventoried roadless area.

In this alternative, a determination is made that all river segments located within an inventoried roadless area are suitable.

This alternative was dismissed from detailed study because some river segments and ORVs do not end at an inventoried roadless area boundary. By ending a river segment at a boundary, this alternative may compromise the integrity and value of the river system. In addition, this alternative would exclude segments located outside of roadless area boundaries that might make a worthy addition to the system.

River segments located in inventoried roadless areas were considered in Alternatives 3, 4, 5, and 6. More specifically, one of the criteria used for Alternative 5 was to consider river segments with a low cost for management, i.e., those segments that would be relatively inexpensive for the administering agency to manage.

Find suitable those segments that are not wholly or partially protected by Congressional designation or agency designated Research Natural Areas (RNAs).

In this alternative, a determination is made that all river segments not partially or wholly protected by Congressional designation or agency designated RNAs are suitable.

This alternative was dismissed from detailed study because it represented all segments under some type of threat which is covered by Alternatives 4 and 6. This alternative was dismissed from detailed study because some river segments and ORVs do not begin at these administrative boundaries. This alternative may arbitrarily compromise the integrity and value of the river system. In addition, this alternative would exclude segments located inside of a Congressional designation or RNA that might make a worthy addition to the system.

Find suitable those river segments that could receive support from the State of Utah.

In this alternative, a determination is made that all river segments that could receive support from the State of Utah are found suitable.

This alternative was based on comments regarding consistency with Utah State Law Codified at Section 63-38d-401(a and b). There is not enough information at this time to determine which river segments are supported by the State of Utah. The Team also dismissed this alternative because two segments are located in Wyoming and Colorado.

Find suitable all river segments with public support.

This alternative was dismissed from detailed study because it is highly variable. Responses to scoping ranged from finding suitable no river segments to all river segments, and many combinations in between. Alternatives 3-6 capture river segments with some degree of public support.

Find suitable river segments with the highest number of outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs).

This alternative was suggested by the Utah Rivers Council and Center for Biological Diversity because it would provide priority for protection to segments where protection would deliver the most diverse values (by one measure – number of ORVs) to the American public. This alternative was dismissed from detailed study because it would eliminate those river segments that may have only one ORV, but which could be a worthy addition to the National System. This alternative is partially covered by Alternatives 3-6 which have river segments with multiple ORVs.

2.4 Comparison of Alternatives

This section provides a summary of the effects of implementing each alternative. Information in the table is focused on activities and effects where different levels of effects can be distinguished quantitatively or qualitatively among alternatives. Table 2.4.1 compares the totals and number of segments found suitable and number of rivers by classification for each of the alternatives.

Table 2.4.1. Comparison of Segments Found Suitable by Alternatives.

		Alt. 1	Alt. 2	Alt. 3	Alt. 4	Alt. 5	Alt. 6
Number of Classifications*	Wild	0	0	14	7	36	17
	Scenic	0	0	9	10	13	18
	Recreational	0	0	5	9	6	10
Total Number of River Segments*		0	0	24	22	50	40
Miles of River Segment by Classification	Wild	0	0	131.8	46.9	393.9	216.4
	Scenic	0	0	55.6	64.05	88.6	112.75
	Recreational	0	0	24.5	92	47.8	112
Total Miles of River Segments		0	0	212	203	530	441

* Some river segments have more than one classification (e.g., a portion of the river segment is classified as Scenic and a portion is classified as Recreational, etc.)

Table 2.4.2. Comparison of Environmental Effects by Alternative.

Resource Category	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5	Alternative 6
General	Suitability decisions deferred on 840 miles of stream. River's free-flowing, ORVs, and preliminary classification protected to the extent of Forest Service's authority; these values will not be protected under the WSR Act.	All 840 miles of stream determined not suitable. No miles recommended for inclusion in the National System. Forest Plans would be amended to remove any WSR interim protection measures.	212 miles determined suitable and would be recommend for designation; these river's free-flowing, ORVs, and recommended classifications will be protected to the extent of the Forest Service's authority; these river values are not protected under the WSR act until designation. 628 miles determined not suitable and interim protection is removed. Forest Plans would be amended to provide for/or remove interim protection.	203 miles determined suitable and would be recommend for designation; these river's free-flowing, ORVs, and recommended classifications will be protected to the extent of the Forest Service's authority; these river values are not protected under the WSR act until designation. 637 miles determined not suitable and interim protection is removed. Forest Plans would be amended to provide for/or remove interim protection.	530 miles determined suitable and would be recommend for designation; these river's free-flowing, ORVs, and recommended classifications will be protected to the extent of the Forest Service's authority; these river values are not protected under the WSR act until designation. 310 miles determined not suitable and interim protection is removed. Forest Plans would be amended to provide for/or remove interim protection.	441 miles determined suitable and would be recommend for designation; these river's free-flowing, ORVs, and recommended classifications will be protected to the extent of the Forest Service's authority; these river values are not protected under the WSR act until designation. 399 miles determined not suitable and interim protection is removed. Forest Plans would be amended to provide for/or remove interim protection.
Outstandingly Remarkable Scenic Value (Section 3.3a)	458 miles of stream with Scenic ORV would remain eligible for potential inclusion in the National System.	No long-term protection for 458 miles of stream with Scenic ORVs; streams would be managed to existing laws, regulations and Forest Plans.	123 miles of Scenic ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 335 miles of stream with Scenic ORVs.	121 miles of Scenic ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 337 miles of stream with Scenic ORVs.	290 miles of Scenic ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 168 miles of stream with Scenic ORVs.	212 miles of Scenic ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 246 miles of stream with Scenic ORVs.
Outstandingly Remarkable Recreational Value (Section 3.3b)	180 miles of stream with Recreational ORVs would remain eligible for potential inclusion in the National System.	No long-term protection for 180miles of stream with Recreational ORVs; streams would be managed to existing laws, regulations and Forest Plans.	80 miles of Recreational ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 100 miles of stream with Recreational ORVs.	58 miles of Recreational ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 122 miles of stream with Recreational ORVs.	104 miles of Recreational ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 76 miles of stream with Recreational ORVs.	117 miles of Recreational ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 63 miles of stream with Recreational ORVs.

Resource Category	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5	Alternative 6
Outstandingly Remarkable Fish and Aquatic Habitat Values (Section 3.3c)	107 miles of stream with Fish ORVs would remain eligible for potential inclusion in the National System.	No long-term protection for 107 miles of stream with Fish ORVs; streams would be managed to existing laws, regulations and Forest Plans.	43 miles of Fish ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 64 miles of stream with Fish ORVs.	46 miles of Fish ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 61 miles of stream with Fish ORVs.	54 miles of Fish ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 53 miles of stream with Fish ORVs.	74 miles of Fish ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 33 miles of stream with Fish ORVs.
Outstandingly Remarkable Wildlife Value (Section 3.3d)	233 miles of stream with Wildlife ORVs would remain eligible for potential inclusion in the National System. Wildlife resources within segments are protected by existing laws. However, designation would add additional protection to 19 segments containing Wildlife ORVs due to increased protection from development.	No long-term protection for 233 miles of stream with Wildlife ORVs; streams would be managed to existing laws, regulations and Forest Plans.	138 miles of Wildlife ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 95 miles of stream with Wildlife ORVs. Wildlife resources within segments are protected by existing laws. However, designation would add additional protection to 12 segments containing Wildlife ORVs due to increased protection from development.	38 miles of Wildlife ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 195 miles of stream with Wildlife ORVs. Wildlife resources within segments are protected by existing laws. However, designation would add additional protection to 3 segments containing Wildlife ORVs due to increased protection from development.	18 miles of Wildlife ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 215 miles of stream with Wildlife ORVs. Wildlife resources within segments are protected by existing laws. However, designation would add additional protection to 15 segments containing Wildlife ORVs due to increased protection from development.	142 miles of Wildlife ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 91 miles of stream with Wildlife ORVs. Wildlife resources within segments are protected by existing laws. However, designation would add additional protection to 8 segments containing Wildlife ORVs due to increased protection from development.

Resource Category	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5	Alternative 6
Outstandingly Remarkable Historic and Cultural Values (Section 3.3e)	244 miles of stream with Historical/Cultural ORVs would remain eligible for potential inclusion in the National System. Cultural resources within segments are protected by existing laws. However, designation would add additional protection to 20 segments containing cultural resources due to increased protection from development.	No long-term protection for 244 miles of stream with Historic/Cultural ORVs; streams would be managed to existing laws, regulations and Forest Plans.	40 miles of Historical/Cultural ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 204 miles of stream with Historical/Cultural ORVs. Cultural resources within segments are protected by existing laws. However, designation would add additional protection to 4 segments containing cultural resources due to increased protection from development.	31 miles of Historical/Cultural ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 213 miles of stream with Historical/Cultural ORVs. Cultural resources within segments are protected by existing laws. However, designation would add additional protection to 3 segments containing cultural resources due to increased protection from development.	171 miles of Historical/Cultural ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 73 miles of stream with Historical/Cultural ORVs. Cultural resources within segments are protected by existing laws. However, designation would add additional protection to 12 segments containing cultural resources due to increased protection from development.	117 miles of Historical/Cultural ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 127 miles of stream with Historical/Cultural ORVs. Cultural resources within segments are protected by existing laws. However, designation would add additional protection to 6 segments containing cultural resources due to increased protection from development.
Outstandingly Remarkable Geologic and Hydrologic Values (Section 3.3f)	233 miles of stream with Geologic/Hydrologic ORVs would remain eligible for potential inclusion in the National System.	No long-term protection for 233 miles of stream with Geologic/Hydrologic ORVs; streams would be managed to existing laws, regulations and Forest Plans.	99 miles of Geological/Hydrological ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 134 miles of stream with Geological/Hydrological ORVs.	57 miles of Geological/Hydrological ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 176 miles of stream with Geological/Hydrological ORVs.	148 miles of Geological/Hydrological ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 85 miles of stream with Geological/Hydrological ORVs.	156 miles of Geological/Hydrological ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 77 miles of stream with Geological/Hydrological ORVs.
Outstandingly Remarkable Ecological Values (Section 3.3g)	234 miles of stream with Ecological ORVs would remain eligible for potential inclusion in the National System.	No long-term protection for 234 miles of stream with Ecological ORVs; streams would be managed to existing laws, regulations and Forest Plans.	111 miles of Ecological ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 123 miles of stream with Ecological ORVs.	89 miles of Ecological ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 145 miles of stream with Ecological ORVs.	142 miles of Ecological ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 92 miles of stream with Ecological ORVs.	120 miles of Ecological ORVs will have interim protection and are recommended for designation into the National System; no WSR protection for 114 miles of stream with Ecological ORVs.

Resource Category	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5	Alternative 6
Botanical Resources (Section 3.4)	No impacts to management indicator species (MIS), endangered (E), threatened (T), candidate (C), or Forest Service sensitive (S) plants and habitat protected by existing Forest Plans and laws and regulations.	No impacts to management indicator species (MIS), endangered (E), threatened (T), candidate (C), or Forest Service sensitive (S) plants and habitat protected by existing Forest Plans and laws and regulations.	No impact to MIS or TESC plant species or habitat. Designation could give additional protection to plants beyond existing laws such as ESA and Forest Plans through development of comprehensive river management plans.	Same as Alternative 3.	Same as Alternative 3.	Same as Alternative 3.
Fish and Other Aquatic Species (Section 3.5)	Provides protection for the most miles of stream and related aquatic resources and offer protection above what exists in Forest Plans and laws and regulations.	No streams found suitable; No long-term protection for 840 miles of stream; streams would be managed to existing laws, regulations and Forest Plans.	No impact to MIS or TESC fish or other aquatic species or habitat. Designation could give additional protection to aquatic species beyond existing laws such as ESA and Forest Plans through development of comprehensive river management plans. However, would protect 212 miles of stream.	Same as Alternative 3. However, would protect less (203 miles) of stream.	Same as Alternative 3. However, would protect the most (530 miles) of stream.	Same as Alternative 3. However, would protect more (441 miles) of stream.
Minerals Development Potential (Section 3.6)	All segments receive interim management, using current tools to limit impact of mineral development. No additional miles would be withdrawn from mineral entry.	No streams found suitable, No long-term protection for 840 miles of stream; streams would be managed to existing laws, regulations and Forest Plans. No additional restrictions on mining, except to ~400 miles of stream corridor have already been withdrawn from mineral entry.	46 river miles and their corridors would be additionally withdrawn from mineral entry if designated. 41 river miles with active mineral development would be found suitable.	14 river miles and their corridors would be additionally withdrawn from mineral entry if designated. 101 river miles with active mineral development would be found suitable.	72 river miles and their corridors would be additionally withdrawn from mineral entry if designated. 32 river miles with active mineral development would be found suitable.	30 river miles and their corridors would be additionally withdrawn from mineral entry if designated. 82 river miles with active mineral development would be found suitable.

Resource Category	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5	Alternative 6
Range (Section 3.7)	Grazing practices continue in accordance with allotment management plans and Forest Plans and existing laws and regulations. No impact to grazing practices or activities on 727 miles of stream.	Same as Alternative 1.	No impact to grazing on 184 river miles. Grazing would be reviewed during comprehensive river management plan. If activities are inconsistent with protecting and enhancing ORVs, then changes to livestock and / or grazing practices may be required.	No impact to grazing on 180 river miles. Grazing would be reviewed during comprehensive river management plan. If activities are inconsistent with protecting and enhancing ORVs, then changes to livestock and / or grazing practices may be required.	No impact to grazing on 458 river miles. Grazing would be reviewed during comprehensive river management plan. If activities are inconsistent with protecting and enhancing ORVs, then changes to livestock and / or grazing practices may be required.	No impact to grazing on 386 river miles. Grazing would be reviewed during comprehensive river management plan. If activities are inconsistent with protecting and enhancing ORVs, then changes to livestock and / or grazing practices may be required.
Recreation (Section 3.8)	Recreation would continue to be managed in accordance with Forest Plans and existing laws and regulations.	Recreation would continue to be managed in accordance with Forest Plans and existing laws and regulations.	Would allow full range of recreation opportunities, and developments from primitive to facilities with boat ramps and roads. This Alternative would provide long-term protection to one blue ribbon fishery.	Would allow reduced range of recreation opportunities. This Alternative would provide long-term protection for three blue ribbon fisheries.	Would allow most opportunity for a variety of recreation opportunities in the widest range of landscapes, and developments from primitive to facilities with boat ramps and roads. This Alternative would provide long-term protection for one blue ribbon fishery.	Would allow a range of recreation opportunities, landscapes, and developments from primitive to facilities with boat ramps and roads. This Alternative would provide long-term protection for four blue ribbon fisheries.
Roads/ Rights of Way (Section 3.9)	No new roadways would be built in corridors classified as Wild under Forest Service authority. No withdrawal or comprehensive management plans would be created allowing rights of way and easements to occur in accordance with Forest Plans and existing laws and regulations.	No streams found suitable, No long-term protection for 840 miles of stream; streams would be managed to existing laws, regulations and Forest Plans. No additional restrictions on road construction or rights of way except on ~400 miles of stream corridor are already in areas which restrict road development, or rights of way authorization.	46 river miles and their corridors would have road restrictions if designated.	14 river miles and their corridors would have road restrictions if designated.	72 river miles and their corridors would have road restrictions if designated.	30 river miles and their corridors would have road restrictions if designated.

Resource Category	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5	Alternative 6
Social and Economic Resources (Section 3.10)	No change in social or economic effects from the current management situation is projected. No additional costs for designation or river management plans would occur.	Same as Alternative 1.	Negligible social and economic impacts due to segments not containing potential projects. No positive economic impacts from tourism or higher property values.	Most potential for social and economic impacts, due to several potential projects. Modest social and economic impacts due to tourism.	Same as Alternative 3.	Similar to Alternative 4.
Timber Harvest (Section 3.11)	Timber harvesting could not impact the ORVs on 281 river miles with reasonably foreseeable timber projects. River corridors would continue to be protected by Forest Plans, and existing laws and regulations to protect riparian zones and wetlands.	Same as Alternative 1.	Same as Alternative 1, only on 8 segments (52 miles)	Same as Alternative 1, only on 8 segments (79 miles)	Same as Alternative 1, only on 14 segments (127 miles)	Same as Alternative 1, only on 14 segments (131 miles)
Water Resources (Section 3.12)						
Free-flowing Stream	840 miles of stream with of free-flowing stream would remain eligible for potential inclusion in the National System. 840 miles of free-flowing stream is protected to the extent of the Forest Service's authority; the free-flowing value will not be protected under the WSR Act.	No long-term protection for free-flowing conditions for 840 miles of stream.	212 miles of free-flowing stream is protected to the extent of the Forest Service's authority; the free-flowing value will not be protected under the WSR Act until designated. 628 miles of free-flowing stream would not be protected under the WSR Act.	203 miles of free-flowing stream is protected to the extent of the Forest Service's authority; the free-flowing value will not be protected under the WSR Act until designated. 637 miles of free-flowing stream would not be protected under the WSR Act.	530 miles of free-flowing stream is protected to the extent of the Forest Service's authority; the free-flowing value will not be protected under the WSR Act until designated. 310 miles of free-flowing stream would not be protected under the WSR Act.	441 miles of free-flowing stream is protected to the extent of the Forest Service's authority; the free-flowing value will not be protected under the WSR Act until designated. 399 miles of free-flowing stream would not be protected under the WSR Act.

Resource Category	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5	Alternative 6
Existing Water Developments	May be restrictions to management of existing water developments to maintain free-flowing condition on 529 miles of stream	No restrictions to management of existing water developments to maintain free-flowing condition on 529 miles of stream	May be restrictions to management of existing water developments on 139 miles of stream. No restrictions to management on 390 miles of stream.	May be restrictions to management of existing water developments on 120 miles of stream. No restrictions to management on 409 miles of stream.	May be restrictions to management of existing water developments on 332 miles of stream. No restrictions to management on 197 miles of stream	May be restrictions to management of existing water developments on 263 miles of stream. No restrictions to management on 266 miles of stream
Potential Water Developments	May preclude potential projects on 259 miles of stream	No restrictions to maintain free-flowing condition on 259 miles of stream, projects could be built if feasible.	May preclude potential projects on 55 miles of stream. No restrictions on 204 miles of stream, projects could be built if feasible.	May preclude potential projects on 124 miles of stream. No restrictions on 135 miles of stream, projects could be built if feasible	May preclude potential projects on 86 miles of stream. No restrictions on 173 miles of stream potential projects could be built if feasible	May preclude potential projects on 206 miles of stream. No restrictions on 53 miles of stream, potential projects could be built if feasible
Wildlife Resources (Section 3.13)	Provides protection for the most miles of stream and related wildlife resources and offer protection above what exists in Forest Plans and laws and regulations.	Provides no additional protection for wildlife resources above what exists in Forest Plans and laws and regulations on 840 miles of stream.	No impact to MIS or TESC wildlife species or habitat. Designation could give additional protection to wildlife species beyond existing laws such as ESA and Forest Plans through development of comprehensive river management plans. Would protect 212 miles of stream.	Same as Alternative 3. However, would protect less (203 miles) of stream.	Same as Alternative 3. However, would protect the most (530 miles) of stream.	Same as Alternative 3. However, would protect more (441 miles) of stream.

2.5 Preferred Alternative

The Preferred Alternative is Alternative 3 - Recommend rivers that best represent Utah ORVs while having the least affect on existing or reasonably foreseeable future water resources projects and other developmental activities.

The Forest Supervisor's feel this alternative will provide recognition of Utah's unique river ORVs that would contribute to the Wild and Scenic River System, while resulting in the least impact to future planned development in the State while keeping long-term costs of management low.