

# INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

# MANTI-LA SAL

## National Forest

### AT A GLANCE

The Manti-La Sal National Forest is made up of four non-contiguous areas scattered across central and southeastern Utah and western Colorado.



**A** day on the Manti-La Sal National Forest is filled with activity. People come here for fun and adventure. With more than 476 miles of non-motorized trails including the Moab Trails system, they can enjoy a leisurely hike or the most challenging bike ride.

Driving for pleasure is also a favorite visitor activity. Nearly 2,900 miles of roads and motorized trails lead through some of the most spectacular scenery in Utah. The 370-mile Arapeen Trail system beckons ATV riders to explore the Forest.

Some visitors enjoy fishing the 1,600 miles of streams and 8,100 acres of lakes and reservoirs. For others, hunting for a trophy elk can become an obsession. But the favorite getaway on the Manti-La Sal is a weekend campout or family reunion.

Of course there is also snow - for snowboarding, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, backcountry skiing, and sledding. Big Drift, along SR-31 and near Skyline Drive, has become a favorite for snowkiters from throughout the world.

Speaking of world-renowned features, visitors from all over come to climb in Maple Canyon and boulder in Joes Valley.

### ▶ FOREST RESOURCES FOR A BETTER, RICHER LIFE

Coal miners extract millions of tons of coal from thick underground seams every day. Truckers, trains, and conveyors carry it to markets. Loggers cut trees and transport the logs by truck to sawmills and factories. Herders manage livestock that graze the high mountain meadows and return to farms and ranches in fall. Water managers watch over reservoirs and spring-fed water systems. Miners extract uranium and limestone. People gather seeds and plants for business and pleasure.



*The Manti-La Sal was named the best of the best national forests for mountain biking by the National Forest Foundation.*



*Water from the Manti-La Sal National Forest flows to homes, fields, and power plants. Essential to all life, every trickle is valued in the desert landscapes of Utah.*

TOTAL ACRES ON  
THE MANTI-LA SAL  
NATIONAL FOREST

**1.4 M**

### In 2016...

- **8 million tons** of coal mined
- **86,264 head** of livestock grazed
- **10,180 lbs.** of seed harvested
- **44,069 CCF** of timber sold

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### HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION INVIGORATES FOREST

Pile burning in early spring, when soil and vegetation are moist and temperatures are cool, helps managers reduce hazardous fuels in the wildland urban interface, where developed lands meet the Forest. In the past five years the Manti-La Sal has reduced hazardous fuels (flammable vegetation) on almost 39,000 acres through burning and mechanical means.

### BOISE STATE MONITORS MANTI-LA SAL BIRDS

Boise State University, with the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, facilitates a regional approach to bird monitoring and conservation. Surveys in 2015 detected 5,474 individuals of 105 bird species on the Manti-La Sal. Data is made available through the Rocky Mountain Avian Center.

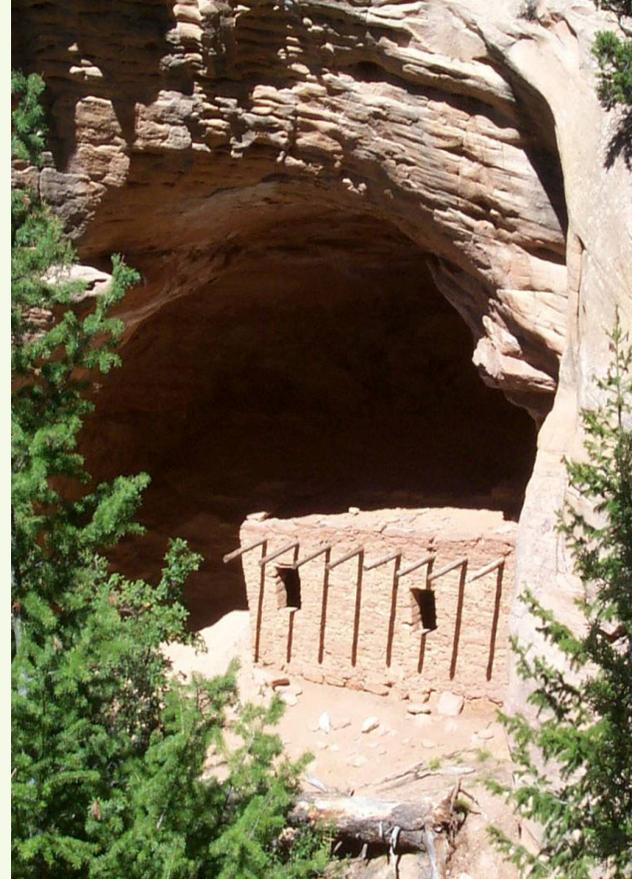
### THE HEARTS AND HANDS OF THE FOREST SERVICE

Volunteers make the Manti-La Sal a better place to visit. They host campgrounds and build trails, fences, and signs. They help with weed control, campground maintenance, and backcountry patrols. In 2015, volunteers on the Forest worked 28,523 hours or 15.85 person-years valued at \$658,025.



### PARTNERS HELP WITH SAGE GROUSE MONITORING

In a multi-year study, Forest Service biologists joined the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Southern Utah Fuels Company, and Utah State University Extension Service in fitting sage grouse with radio collars. The sage grouse from Wildcat Knolls and South Horn Mountain will be tracked to determine specific habitat use, distance of movements, and interaction between the two populations.



### MANTI-LA SAL LEGACY

The landscapes of the Manti-La Sal National Forest contain more than 5,000 known archaeological sites that date between 10,000 years ago and the 1900s. These places offer windows into the vibrant and complex communities that thrived in these rugged landscapes.

Millions of years earlier, the lands were home to animals such as crocodiles and apes. The only evidence of *Tyrannosaurus rex* in Utah was found on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. During the ice ages mastodons, short-faced bears, and camels lived here.

In 1988 the 9,500-year-old skeleton of a Columbian mammoth was unearthed in Huntington Canyon. It may represent the last of its species.

### CONTACT

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