



## USDA Forest Service Intermountain Region **ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST**



### Ashley Forest Supervisor



**Sue Eickhoff** is the Forest Supervisor for the Ashley National Forest in the Intermountain Region. She has been in the Forest Service for 33 years, over 10 of which she has spent as a line officer working with a wide variety of partners, state and local governments, tribes, permittees, and non-profit groups in three regions. She finds motivation in her work through exploring opportunities, relationship building, collaborating with stakeholders, and by empowering creativity and innovation.

### ABOUT THE FOREST

The Ashley National Forest, with headquarters in Vernal, Utah, comprises 1.4 million acres located in the northeastern portion of Utah and southwestern portion of Wyoming. National Forest System lands are located in three major areas: the northern and southern slopes of the Uinta Mountains, the Wyoming Basin, and the Tavaputs Plateau.

The Ashley National Forest is bordered by the Uintah and Ouray Ute Indian Reservation, the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, private property, and lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and State of Utah. Dinosaur National Monument is located approximately 10 miles east of the Forest.

The Ashley National Forest was established by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908. Its forest and range lands are protected and managed to ensure timber, grazing, minerals, water, and outdoor recreation for the American people.

The vast Uinta Mountains watershed within the Forest boundary provides vital water supplies for power, industry, farm, and city use in Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, and California. Sheep, cattle, and horses graze under permit on over a half million acres of the Forest each season. Timber is managed in harmony with other resources to ensure a continuing supply and a quality environment. Over 2.5 million visitors come to the Forest each year to participate in outstanding outdoor recreation activities, such as boating, fishing, camping, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling.



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Forest landscape ranges from high desert country to high mountain areas. The elevation varies from a low of 6,000 feet to a high of 13,528 feet above sea level at the summit of Kings Peak, the tallest peak in Utah.

With a rich history of use recorded in petroglyphs etched into stone walls, to the tales from the old west, the geography and remoteness of the Forest provides visitors many destinations to explore. Destinations like the Sheep Creek Geological Area, the High Uintas Wilderness area (Famous for Kings Peak and the Highline Trail), the Ashley Karst National Recreation and Geologic Area, the Green River (A blue-ribbon trout stream), and the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area (A premier water recreation destination).

The Forest also hosts the Flaming Gorge-Uintas National Scenic Byway offering a drive through geographic time.



The 'crown jewel' of the Ashley National Forest is Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area. The 91-mile reservoir created by Flaming Gorge Dam supports trophy trout fishing, and its recreation possibilities are limited only by the imagination.



Uintah County campaigned for the protection of critical watersheds, resulting in the Congressionally designated Ashley Karst National Recreation Geologic Area in March of 2019.

A management plan was completed in 2022.



The High Uintas Wilderness contains Utah's highest peak, Kings Peak 13,528 feet, and the Highline Trail, a premier wilderness hiking trail destination for hikers.



The Forest actively manages the positions and skills needed in the workforce. Through the active use of hiring initiatives and thoughtful changes to the organization and job duties.



The Ashley National Forest is engaged in co-stewardship with the Ute Tribe to identify opportunities to work together across the landscape to manage and sustain the lands with an understanding of their values and knowledge.



Currently there are 150 oil and natural gas wells operating in the south unit of the Duchesne-Roosevelt Ranger District. Additional wells may be installed in the future to support local economic growth.



The Flaming Gorge Reservoir has three full-service marinas offering launching, storage, and maintenance facilities. There are nine developed boat ramps. The recreational area has campgrounds and hiking trails along the 360 miles of shoreline.



The Ashley National Forest is working through a Forest Plan Revision. An FEIS and Draft ROD have been published and the Forest is in the objection identification and resolution period.