

NEWS RELEASE

**USDA Forest Service
Ashley National Forest
355 North Vernal Avenue
Vernal, Utah 84078
(435) 789-1181**



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Subject: High Lake's Stabilization Project

Contact: Lisa Ross
Phone: (435) 781-5103
Email: lisaross@fs.fed.us

HIGH UINTA WILDERNESS HIGH LAKES STABILIZATION PROJECT TO START

Vernal, Utah, (March 21, 2006) - The High Lakes Stabilization Project will start in the summer of 2006 with three lakes in the Swift Creek Drainage: Farmers, White Miller, and Water Lily Lakes. These are the first of thirteen lakes to be stabilized as part of this project. There will be short-term disturbances from June through September because of construction activity in these areas. During stabilization operations, trail users may be detoured or delayed, and visitors may wish to consider alternate destinations.

“The effort to transfer water storage rights from aging reservoirs high in the wilderness to more modern and accessible locations outside the wilderness began many years ago. Many individuals, agencies, and organizations have worked for years to make this project a reality, says Acting District Ranger Mike Elson. It is exciting to be at the stage where we are now preparing to stabilize the first three reservoirs this year.”

Please call ahead for more current information before leaving on your trip. For more information contact the Duchesne Ranger District at (435) 738-2482 or visit the Ashley National Forest Web site at fs.fed.us/r4/ashley.

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