

## **NEWS RELEASE**



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

**Contact:** Louis Haynes  
**Title:** Public Affairs Officer  
**Phone:** (435) 781-5105  
**Email:** [ljhaynes@fs.fed.us](mailto:ljhaynes@fs.fed.us)

**For:** Immediate Release

**Date:** April 23, 2007

**Subject:** Open Houses for Wild and Scenic River Study

### **OPEN HOUSES SCHEDULED FOR STATEWIDE STUDY**

The Forest Service and State of Utah will host open houses to inform the public of a suitability study for wild and scenic river segments in National Forest System lands throughout the State. Attendees will have an opportunity to receive information and provide comments about the river segments found eligible by the Forest Service and the process for proceeding with nominations for suitable segments.

During the next 1 ½ years, in partnership with the State of Utah, the Forest Service will conduct a suitability study for 81 river segments that have previously been determined to be eligible for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic River system. These segments were identified by each national forest in the state through individual forest planning efforts. As part of this planning process, extensive public involvement opportunities were provided. None of the national forests took the next step, which is to determine suitability. The study will address this next step in the process.

In order for a river to be included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system it must be determined eligible, given a tentative classification (wild, scenic, or recreation), found suitable, and recommended for designation to Congress or the Secretary of Interior. Congress then may designate the river through the legislative process.

## Open House Schedule

May 3, 7:00 p.m. Lyman Town Hall, Lyman, Wyoming

May 7, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Paradox Community Center, Paradox, Colorado

May 8, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Arts and Recreation Center, Moab

May 9, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Emery County Courthouse, Castle Dale

May 10, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Rasmussen Conference Center, Snow College, Ephraim

May 15, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Snow College, Richfield

May 16, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Library in the Park, Cedar City

May 17, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Interagency Visitor's Center, Escalante

May 22, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Bear River Assoc. of Gov. Conference Room, Logan

May 23, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Miners Hospital, Park City

May 24, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Western Park Convention Center, Vernal

May 29, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Wasatch County Senior Center, Heber City

May 31, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Courtyard by Marriott, Provo

June 7, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Salt Lake City Library, Salt Lake City

For additional information, Contact: Cathy Kahlow, Team Leader, 435-783-4338, or visit the website at [www.fs.fed.us/r4/rivers](http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/rivers).

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