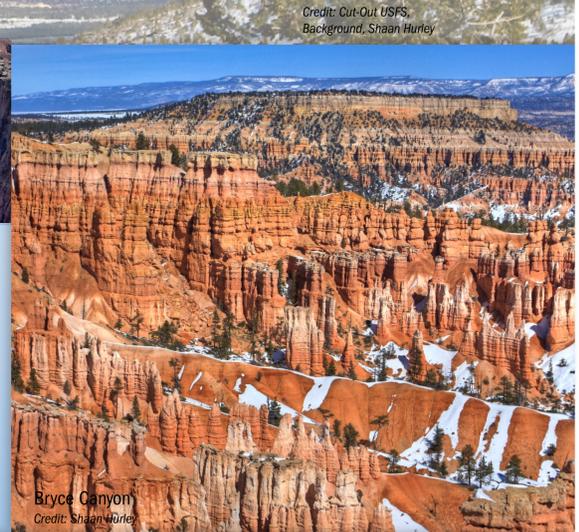


Welcome to THE DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST

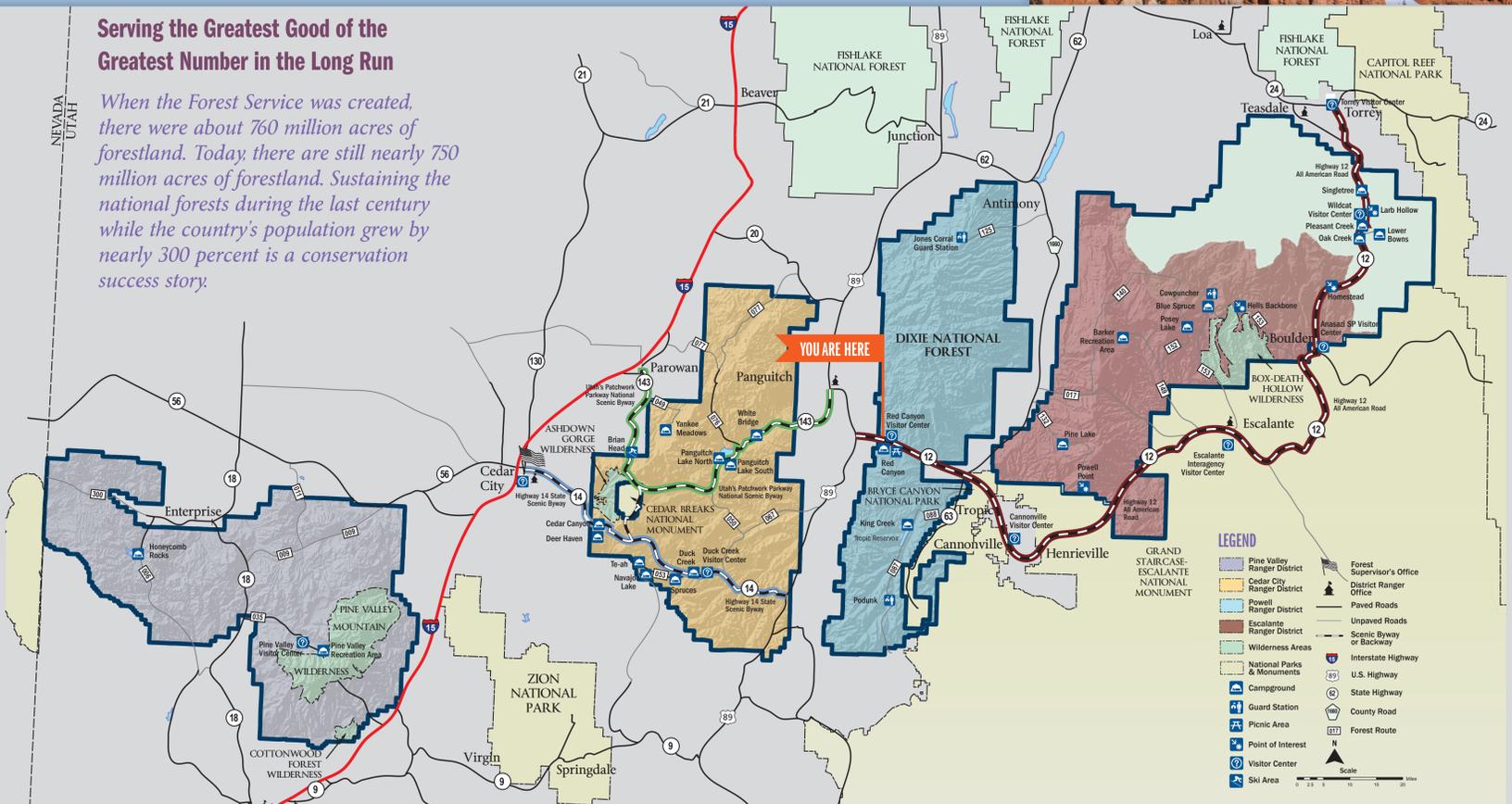
Red Canyon: Spectacular Scenery and Adventures in the Heart of the Dixie National Forest

The Dixie National Forest is the second largest National Forest in Utah, encompassing almost two million acres across 170 miles in southern Utah.



Serving the Greatest Good of the Greatest Number in the Long Run

When the Forest Service was created, there were about 760 million acres of forestland. Today, there are still nearly 750 million acres of forestland. Sustaining the national forests during the last century while the country's population grew by nearly 300 percent is a conservation success story.



SPANNING FROM HIGH TO LOW

Considered the rooftop of the Grand Staircase with the highest plateaus in North America, the defining geology of the Dixie National Forest includes the Colorado Plateau, Mohave Desert, and the Great Basin. Elevations range from 2,800 feet near St. George, Utah to 11,322 feet at Blue Bell Knoll on Boulder Mountain. The Aquarius Plateau is one of the largest high-elevation plateaus in the United States, and contains hundreds of small lakes at 10,000 to 11,000 feet above sea level.

ALL PART OF DIXIE

The Forest exists as separate tracts of land in distinct locations because the Forest Service consolidated four formerly independent National Forests to create the Dixie National Forest in the 1930s. The climactic extremes in this forest host a diversity of vegetation: sparse, desert plants at the lower elevations to stands of low-growing pinyon pine and juniper dominating the mid-elevations. At the highest points, aspen and conifers such as pine, spruce, and fir predominate.

In all endeavors, the Forest Service remains grounded in the belief that if natural resources are used wisely, they can be sustained for generations to come.



Why is This National Forest in Utah Named Dixie?

Settlers who belonged to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) were sent from the Southern United States (south of the Mason-Dixon line) to the southwest corner of Utah to grow cotton to provide clothing materials for the Church members. The warm climate and their newly planted cotton fields reminded them of their hometowns. They decided to share their region's nickname with this land and called it "Utah's Dixie."



Distance To Red Canyon Visitor Center From Nearby Cities

Red Canyon Visitor Center to
Las Vegas, Nevada: 246 miles

Red Canyon Visitor Center to
Salt Lake City, Utah: 252 miles

Credit: Cut-Out, USFS, Left: Map courtesy of Knusser

