

2010
Operating Plan
Moab/Monticello Ranger District
Manti-La Sal National Forest
12/01/07 version

**CERTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE
OPERATING PLAN**

Holder Signature

Date

Forest Service Authorized Officer Signature

Date

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OPERATING SAFETY PLAN

Business Name: _____

Business License Number: _____

Company Status (check one):

Individual _____ Partnership _____ Corporation _____

Name of owner(s)/partner(s): _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Contact Name and Title of Person Authorized to Represent Your Business:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Phone Number: _____

Other Contact, if main contact is not available:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email/Web Page Address: _____

Year Company was established: _____

Years with current owner (s): _____

Date prepared: _____

_____ Ranger District

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I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this plan is to clearly define the responsibilities of the Manti-La Sal National Forest and the permit holder as they pertain to providing services and public safety as authorized through an outfitter/guide special use permit.

This plan does not supersede or nullify any clauses of the permit. It explains the general requirements to adequately provide for public service, health and safety. It defines required actions by the Holder and emphasizes the high degree of coordination and cooperation necessary to satisfactorily fulfill these responsibilities. The conditions of this operating and safety plan apply for all areas of operation as shown on the permit.

If your business has a standard Operating Plan, attach and reference where applicable.

II. THE HOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES

Holder is responsible for the safety of his/her employees, for the safety of the public, and for the conservation and protection of natural and cultural resources potentially affected by the Holder's operations while they are participating in activities covered by the terms of the permit. In redeeming this responsibility, the Holder will take the measures necessary to provide for safe conditions including: 1) providing safety equipment and supplies, 2) inspection, maintenance, and repairs of other equipment or animals used in connection with the permit, and 3) insuring all employees/guides are knowledgeable of terms and conditions of permits and operating and safety plans.

III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. Other Permitted Areas

Please list other permitted areas (or applied for) by another district, forest, federal agency, state, or private agency:

B. Compliance with Laws and Regulations

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS YES or NO.

Within the past five (5) years, have you or any of your company representatives or employees:

1. Been convicted of a Federal, State, or Local violation regarding Outfitting/Guiding operations or associated activities?

2. Had an Outfitter's license or Outfitter's Registration denied or revoked?

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3. Had a U.S. Forest Service permit denied, suspended, or revoked?

IV. OPERATION AND SAFETY

Please complete thoroughly, on additional sheets as necessary. Attach any brochures your company uses to advertise your guided services.

A. *Services offered to the public, equipment used:*

- If specific trip dates are not known, indicate an approximation of the number of trips that are anticipated within a specific time period. For example, you might estimate that 3 trips will occur each month from May through September.
- **Itineraries must include dates, locations, routes, camps, and/or trails that you will be using on National Forest lands. For hunting guides who do not know at the beginning of the season where they will be conducting their operations, you must call in once a hunt is booked and inform the District where you will be operating during the hunt. Failure to do so is a violation of the permit.**
- Attach a map that identifies the location of activities. Access points to each area must be indicated.

Use Area	Activity	Equipment Used (Boats, etc.)	Trip Dates	Number of Clients	# Client Days (leave blank)

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B. Describe accommodations available to people with disabilities:

C. Employee Information

1. Names of employees to be used and applicable License # for each:

Name	License #	Telephone #

2. Specific Training received by each employee

The topics the employer includes in the training of their employees should be listed here, i.e., if applicable, defensive driving, blood borne pathogens, mountain driving, etc.

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D. Training provided to clients

(i.e. walking in the woods, safe use of equipment, which minimum impact/no trace techniques are taught, other safety training provided to clients).

E. Emergency Survival Supplies and Safety Equipment:

List emergency survival supplies and safety equipment that is taken on trips. A sample list may be available for your specific activity in the appendices section.

F. Communication Equipment and Procedures:

What equipment do you use? How often do you check in with someone in town or with your base?

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G. *Lost and Overdue Procedures:*

What are your procedures in the event of lost or overdue clients or employees?

H. *Emergency Notification Procedures*

In the event of serious accident, guides will be responsible for ensuring proper first aid and procuring evacuation assistance if needed. Requests for medical evacuation, search and rescue, or law enforcement assistance should be made through the appropriate agencies such as the sheriff's office, etc. Please contact the appropriate district within 24 hours of an accident or the first business day, whichever comes sooner.

Moab Ranger District
62 East 100 North
P.O. Box 386
Moab, UT 84532
(435) 259-7155

Monticello Ranger District
496 East Central
P.O. Box 820
Monticello, UT 84535
(435) 587-2041

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I. Raptors

Disturbance to the following species of raptors will be minimized by maintaining the seasonal and spatial buffers as outlined in the “Utah Field Office Guidelines for Raptor Protection from Human & Land Use Disturbance” (US Fish and Wildlife Service, 2002) and 2000 Northern Goshawk amendment 14 to the Manti-La Sal Forest Plan.

Northern Goshawks

No camping is allowed within close proximity (1/2 mile) of known northern goshawk nests between March 1 and September 30.

Mexican Spotted Owl

No camping is allowed within ½ mile of a Mexican spotted owl nest site or within designated PAC’s (Protected Activity Center) between March 1 and August 31. Cliff climbing & rappelling activities will not take place in known Mexican spotted owl territories.

Peregrine Falcons

Permittees are not allowed to conduct activities above peregrine falcon eyries. No camping is allowed within 1 (one) mile of a known peregrine falcon eyrie between February 1 and August 31.

Eagles

Permittees will avoid disturbance to bald eagle roost and winter concentration areas.

No camping is allowed within ½ mile of a known golden eagle eyrie between January 1 – August 31. Permittees are not allowed to conduct activities above golden eagle eyries.

J. Bats

No outfitter and guide activities are allowed in suitable bat roosting or nesting sites, i.e. abandoned mines & caves.

K. Bear, Rattlesnake, and other Wildlife Safety

Safety in regards to wildlife will be discussed with clients as part of every client orientation/safety briefing. Clients will be advised of the proper behavior in the backcountry with potentially dangerous wildlife and what to do in case of an encounter. It is up to the outfitter/guide what type of defensive equipment to have in the event of an attack by wildlife. Clients will be made aware of the proper first aid procedures for snake bites.

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L. Wildlife Observations

Although voluntary, observations of rare/unusual wildlife species and raptor nesting activity would be appreciated by the Moab/Monticello Ranger District wildlife biologist. You can submit the information in your own format or call the district wildlife biologist, (435) 259-7155.

M. “Leave No Trace” Techniques

- Leave No Trace practices will be discussed with clients as part of every client orientation/safety briefing. Clients will be advised of the proper techniques for camping, hiking, garbage and human waste disposal, respecting wildlife, and the use of fire, as described brochures published by the National Outdoor Leadership School. One brochure suitable for non-winter trips is: “Leave No Trace – Outdoor Skill & Ethics – Desert and Canyon country.”
- All refuse will be packed out. No trash or food waste will be buried. If fire danger permits, combustible organic trash may be burned. All non-burnable materials including but not limited to foil, plastic, styrofoam or glass must be packed out to an approved sanitary disposal area.

N. Authorization in advance is required for the following uses:

- Improvements of any kind
- Additional use above authorized limit
- Use of Forest Service campgrounds and cabins.

O. Water and Heat Stroke

Be sure your clients are oriented to safely traveling in desert country including knowing how much water to carry and preventing heat stroke. Be sure your guides know how to treat heat-related ailments.

P. Riparian Zone

Camps should be at least 100 feet away from water, lakes, streams, wetlands, and riparian areas, unless a campsite already exists (USDA Forest Service; Land and Resource Management Plan, page III-18, 1986).

Q. Archaeology

Archaeological sites are fragile, non-renewable resources that we need to respect and protect for the future. **If the site has been disturbed and/or vandalized, outfitter guides must notify the U.S. Forest Service.**

Outfitter Guides must report as part of their final use statement (due 30 days after the end of their operating season) the following:

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- 1. The location of archaeological sites visited.**
- 2. The date the sites were visited.**
- 3. The number of people visiting the site.**

Archaeological sites and artifacts are protected by laws and shall not be disturbed. Archaeological and historical sites are protected by the Antiquities Act of 1906 and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979. It is illegal to damage or disturb any site or to remove anything from the site. If you discover any illegal activity, you must notify the U.S. Forest Service and the county sheriff.

No more than five people are allowed to visit a site at one time (USDA Forest Service; Environmental Assessment; 1994).

To preserve these resources for future generations and research, outfitter guides and their clients must adhere to the following:

- Never stand, sit, climb, lean, or walk on roofs and walls. These activities can destroy in a moment what has lasted for hundreds of years. These are fragile and may topple, possibly causing injury and damage to the site. A bump with a backpack can easily break or chip the plaster.
- Never collect artifacts from sites, even if you see “thousands” of potsherds and other artifacts. If everyone collects just one piece, soon none would remain. Not only does this hamper archaeologist’s ability to date and investigate sites, but also it detracts from the enjoyment of future visitors to the site. It is also against the law. Please also refrain from putting pieces into piles, as this takes the piece out of context, exposes it to weather, and destroys clues needed by professional archaeologists gathering information about the site.
- A midden is a trash pile left by the original occupants of the site. Middens are recognized by darkened soil, and perhaps an area of higher artifact concentrations and other debris (ash, charcoal) where trash was deposited in the past. Do not walk through the midden. This can destroy valuable archaeological information and causes erosion which may undermine the walls of the structures above it, and by displacing artifacts, reburying artifacts, unearthing artifacts. Middens are layers of history that archaeologists can interpret. If they are disturbed, that record of history is lost forever.
- Never leave graffiti or trash at an archaeological site. Just as artifacts left many hundreds of years ago have been preserved through natural processes, your trash and markings may remain at the site for posterity.
- Do not eat within sites. Foods we eat may leave scraps that will be incorporated into deposits and alter the scientific qualities of a site. Imagine the discovery that Ancestral Puebloans grew oranges and bananas (orange peels and other items do not decay in this environment)!
- Never chalk, trace, or otherwise touch rock art. Any kind of direct contact causes these ancient figures to disintegrate. Do not add your name or any other modern-

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day rock art. This is vandalism and is punishable by law. Only viewing, sketching, and photographing is allowed.

These simple things can enhance our visit to these ancient treasures, as well as others in the future. Willfully damaging an archaeological site can lead to criminal prosecution.

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USDA Forest Service; amendment to the Manti-La Sal National Forest Land & Resource Management Plan; March 14, 2000.

USDA Forest Service; Manti-La Sal National Forest; Monticello Ranger District; “Biological Assessment/Evaluation (BAE) of Special Use Permits for Low Impact Outfitters and Guides on the Monticello Ranger District, Manti-La Sal National Forest”; February 23, 1994.

USDA Forest Service; Manti-La Sal National Forest; Monticello Ranger District; “Environmental Assessment (EA) – Special Use Permits for Outfitting and Guiding”; 1994 – 1999.

USDI Fish and Wildlife Service; USFWS “Recovery Plan for the Mexican Spotted Owl”; December 1995.

USDI Fish and Wildlife Service; USFWS “Utah Field Office Guidelines for Raptor Protection from Human & Land Use Disturbance”; January, 1999.

U.S. 98th Congress, Second Session; Utah Wilderness Act of 1984; Report 98-581; Designation of the Dark Canyon Wilderness; August 6, 1984.

U.S. 88th Congress, Second Session; Wilderness Act of 1964; Public Law 88-577 (16 U.S. C. 1131-1136); September 3, 1964.

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APPENDICES: SPECIFIC STIPULATIONS

Specific stipulations listed in the following appendices apply if the Holder is authorized for the particular activity and/or location in their permit. If the specific stipulation applies, the stipulations are part of the permit and will be monitored for permit compliance. The following lists all the appendices:

- A. Hiking, Camping, and Campfires
- B. Mountain Biking
- C. Fishing and Boating
- D. Use of Livestock
- E. Access through Moab/Monticello Ranger District Recreation Facilities
- F. Winter Travel
- G. Motorized Travel
- H. Maximum Group Size for all types of activities
- I. Dark Canyon Wilderness

Appendix A: Hiking, Camping, and Campfires

The following stipulations are to be included in the Operating Safety Plan if the Holder is authorized for the particular activity and/or location in their permit. If the specific stipulation applies, the stipulations are part of the permit and will be monitored for permit compliance.

Trail Use

- Shortcutting switchbacks or trails is prohibited.
- Authorization to use or maintain existing non-system trails must be obtained from the District Ranger or his or her delegate.

Camp Operations

- All dispersed areas to be used including any campsites will be specifically identified in the Annual Operating Safety Plan (USDA Forest Service,, Environmental Assessment; 1994).
- **No camping is allowed in close proximity to active raptor nest areas. Specific species and seasonal/spatial buffers are listed in section I.**
- Camping in undeveloped sites within ¼ mile of a developed fee site is prohibited (USDA Forest Service; Land and Resource Management Plan; page III-18; 1986).
- Avoid camping near lakes, streams, wetlands or in municipal watersheds to protect riparian and aquatic ecosystems and to maintain the quality of the

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- recreation experience (USDA Forest Service; Land and Resource Management Plan; page III-18; 1986).
- Outfitter guide companies will assure that dispersed recreation sites are not used at the same time by more than one commercial operator by coordinating their schedules directly with other outfitter guide companies that use the area. If outfitter guide companies cannot decide among themselves, the Forest Service may need to assign campsites on a first-come, first-serve basis (USDA Forest Service; Environmental Assessment; 1994).
 - Select a site that is not visible to others.
 - If a fire breaks out in camp, the outfitter will take immediate charge for suppression of the fire. Employees will be aware at all times of the location of buckets, shovels, fire extinguishers, and other firefighting equipment.
 - Permanent camps and/or improvements are not allowed.
 - **Caches of equipment or gear are not allowed, unless specifically allowed in the permit.**
 - Care shall be taken to prevent contamination or pollution of natural water sources. Equipment, dishes, clothes, and bodies will be washed at least 300 feet from any water source (lakes, streams, springs, ponds, or wetlands).
 - All refuse will be packed out. No trash or food waste will be buried.
 - When the campsite is dismantled, the area is to be left clean. All evidence of use will be removed and the site will be naturalized by scattering organic material over the area.
 - **Standing dead or live trees or branches of live trees will not be cut.**
 - Food, food related items, and garbage must be stored acceptably. Acceptable storage is: 1) stored in animal-resistant container, 2) stored in a closed vehicle constructed of solid, non-pliable material, or 3) suspended at least 15 feet clear of the ground at all points and four (4) feet horizontally from any supporting tree or pole.
 - Cooking/eating areas need to be separated from sleeping areas to reduce human/animal interactions.
 - Disturbance to vegetation will be minimized by: 1) not chopping, carving, or cutting live trees or disturbing plants, 2) not leveling ground for tent sites, 3) not building drainage trenches around tents or campsites.
 - Guides must provide for client health and safety while camping. This includes but is not limited to food preparation and storage, water treatment, toilet facilities, and refuse disposal.
 - Propane, gas, or butane stoves shall be maintained in accordance with local ordinances and Underwriter's Laboratories standards.
 - Propane tanks shall be stored end up in cool dry place marked "No Smoking".
 - Propane tanks shall be transported with top end up, fastened down, and fixtures tight.

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Toilet Procedure

- All permit holders are encouraged to use washable reusable portable toilets, especially those using vehicle support at campsites.
- If not using a portable toilet all solid human waste must be buried in catholes at least 6 inches deep and 300 feet from a water source. All toilet paper must be packed out and not burned on site.
- If camping with a larger group (over 10 people) in the same location for several days a latrine may be used. The latrine must be at least 12 inches in depth. After each use waste should be covered with soil to encourage decomposition. When the latrine is within 5 inches of the surface it should be filled in with soil completely.
- All catholes and latrines need to be at least 300 feet from all water sources, trails, and camps.

Fires

- Use stoves to minimize the impacts from open fires.
- The amount of dead and down wood at the site, the fire hazard, and the need for the campfire will be evaluated before a fire is started. Fires will be built using a fire pan or using existing fire pits. Rock rings will not be constructed. Do not construct fires under trees, in roots, or on duff layers. Use dead and down wood that is no larger than the diameter of an adult's wrist. Burn wood down to white ash or very small coals. Before leaving camp, make sure all embers are dead out, scatter all ashes and cover fire site with a thin layer of sand, gravel, or dirt.
- Limit fires to existing fire areas.

Appendix B: Mountain Biking

The following stipulations are to be included in the Operating Safety Plan if the Holder is authorized for the particular activity and/or location in their permit. If the specific stipulation applies, the stipulations are part of the permit and will be monitored for permit compliance.

Mountain Bikes

- Maintain control of clients.
- Clients should be instructed in the techniques of "low impact riding", including walking through muddy areas rather than riding through them.
- Ride single file.
- Ride on the right side of the trail.
- Maintain slow speeds when there is minimal sight distance.
- Be courteous to other recreation users.

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- All other non-motorized users, including users with livestock, have the right-of-way. If there is not enough room on the trail to get by, pull over and/or dismount from bike to allow other recreational users to get by.
- Mountain bike trips are not allowed until snow has melted from the trails and the trails have had a chance to drain and dry out.
- Mountain bike personal protection gear needs to be worn at all times by the guide and the clients, including helmets, gloves, eyewear, and protective clothing.
- **Mountain biking shall be on authorized and designated routes only as shown on the U.S. Forest Service Travel Map for the Moab/Monticello Ranger District. No free riding off designated routes.**
- It is the responsibility of the outfitter guide to know if there are any fire restrictions in place for the dates of their trip. Any fire restrictions must be strictly adhered to.

Appendix C: Fishing and Boating

The following stipulations are to be included in the Operating Safety Plan if the Holder is authorized for the particular activity and/or location in their permit. If the specific stipulation applies, the stipulations are part of the permit and will be monitored for permit compliance.

Fishing

Protection of fisheries habitat and stream bank restoration

- Avoid steep banks and water saturated soils when entering and exiting creeks, streams, or lakes.
- Use existing trails when walking along the creek, stream, or lake.
- Reduce impacts to shore-side vegetation.
- Remove all trash, including broken fishing line and tackle.

Boating

- Boating life vests must be worn at all times.
- Use only established boat launch areas, so as to protect stream bank vegetation and fish habitat.

Appendix D: Use of Livestock

The following stipulations are to be included in the Operating Safety Plan if the Holder is authorized for the particular activity and/or location in their permit. If the specific stipulation applies, the stipulations are part of the permit and will be monitored for permit compliance.

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Use of Livestock (Horses, llamas, etc.)

- Only safe, sound, well-broken saddle and pack stock will be used.
- Racing and other hazardous horsemanship practices will not be allowed.
- All riders will be given specific instruction concerning stock handling.
- Stock should not be tied to trees for more than two hours or the time needed to pack, unload, or saddle animals. Stock restrained for longer periods of time will be high lined, picketed, or hobbled. Trees used for high lining or tying will be at least four inches in diameter, at chest height.
- Temporary electric fence corrals are authorized for control of livestock Corral facilities need to be moved regularly to avoid overuse of locations.
- Only livestock actually used for a particular operation shall be permitted.
- When camping is authorized, use of dead and down wood for camp accessories such as hitch and game hanging rails, and tent frames is permitted. When camps are dismantled, wood will be scattered or placed so as to blend into the natural setting.
- **If feed is packed in for livestock, it shall be weed-free feed.**
- **Livestock Operations: Please slow down and use caution around livestock operations, especially while operating machinery around cattle being driven. Livestock in this area require several days gathering prior to moving and driving courteously will help the livestock permit holders in their effort to stay gathered.**

- Appendix E: Access through Moab/Monticello Ranger District Recreation Facilities

The following stipulations are to be included in the Operating Safety Plan if the Holder is authorized for the particular activity and/or location in their permit. If the specific stipulation applies, the stipulations are part of the permit and will be monitored for permit compliance.

Campgrounds

Drop-offs and pick-ups within campgrounds are allowed to access trails, without charge. Vehicles cannot be parked in the campgrounds. Outfitter guide vehicles must park outside the campground in a safe pullout or make arrangements to park their vehicles on private land. While in the campground, campground rules and regulations must be adhered to. Use of the campground facilities needs to be specifically permitted in the outfitter guides' permit.

Private Property & Non-Forest System lands

It is the outfitter guides' responsibility to know the land status of the land they are traveling through, whether the U.S. Forest Service has a right-of-way to travel through the land for access, and whether the land is National Forest System lands, Bureau of Land

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Management lands, National Park Service lands, native lands, state lands, or private property. Permission must be obtained from the applicable agency or private owner.

Appendix F: Winter Travel

The following stipulations are to be included in the Operating Safety Plan if the Holder is authorized for the particular activity and/or location in their permit. If the specific stipulation applies, the stipulations are part of the permit and will be monitored for permit compliance.

All travelers

- Evaluate and monitor the hazards associated with your type of travel.
 - Avalanche conditions
 - Past, current & predicted weather conditions
 - Physical hazards
- Amount and type of safety gear should be commensurate with the type of winter travel i.e., snow machining vs. cross-country skiing. Examples include: first-aid kit, rope, fire starter, bow saw, shovels, tool kit/spare parts, space blankets, heat packs, flash light, signaling devices, compass, avalanche transceiver-beacons, probe pole, cell phone, radio etc.
- Evaluate clients' fitness, health and experience.
- Be courteous to other recreation users.
- Permanent camps and/or improvements are not allowed, unless provided for in the permit.
- Caches of equipment or gear are not allowed unless specifically authorized.
- Harassment of wildlife will not be tolerated. When wildlife is observed, adjust routes to avoid adverse impacts.
- All refuse will be packed out

Skiing, Snowboarding& Snowmobiling

- Provide transportation for clients to and from trailhead/parking areas to ensure there is enough parking room for all winter recreation users.
- All motorized use shall be consistent with the U.S. Forest Service Travel Map for the Moab/Monticello Ranger District.

Appendix G: Motorized Use

The following stipulation is to be included in the Operating Safety Plan for outfitter guide activities involving Off-highway Vehicles (OHV).

- Maintain control of clients.

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- Clients should be instructed in the techniques of “low impact riding”, including reducing speed through muddy areas to minimize impacts to the road and to prevent rutting and deepening of mudholes..
- Ride single file.
- Ride on the right side of the trail.
- Maintain slow speeds when there is minimal sight distance.
- Be courteous to other recreation users.
- All non-motorized users, including users with livestock, have the right-of-way. If there is not enough room on the trail to get by, pull over and/or dismount your motorized equipment to allow other recreational users to get by.
- Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) trips are not allowed until snow has melted from the roads and trails and they have had a chance to drain and dry out.
- OHV personal protection gear needs to be worn at all times by the guide and the clients, including helmets, gloves, eyewear, and protective clothing.
- **Motorized use shall be on authorized and designated routes only as shown on the U.S. Forest Service Travel Map for the Moab/Monticello Ranger District. No free riding off designated routes.**

Appendix H: Group Size

It is important that outfitter guide groups minimize the impact of their activities on the experience of other users. One way to do this is to control the group size of outfitter guide groups.

A maximum of 15 persons will be allowed per trip, including guides (USDA Forest Service, Environmental Assessment, 1994).

The following group sizes are required for the following activities.

Hiking/non-motorized groups, including skiing/snowboarding

13 clients/2 guides for a maximum group size of 15 people. If there are any groups larger than 15 people, they will be split into groups no larger than 15 people. They will be spaced at least a ½ hour apart on the trail.

Mountain biking

13 clients/2 guides for a maximum group size of 15 people. The intent is that spacing would develop among bicyclists, due to different ability levels. If there are any groups larger than 15 people, they will be split into groups no larger than 15 people. They will be spaced at least a ½ hour apart on the trail and will camp separately.

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Livestock

6-7 clients/1 guide, for a maximum group size of 8 people and associated livestock. A group size of 13 clients/2 guides is also allowed, for a maximum group size of 15 people, as long as the group splits up into 2 groups for travel, and are spaced at least ½ hour apart. Only livestock actually used for a particular operation shall be permitted.

Motorized groups, including snowmobiles

6-7 clients/1 guide, for a maximum group size of 8 people and 8 motorized vehicles. A group of 13 clients/2 guides is also allowed, for a maximum group size of 15 people, as long as the group splits up into 2 groups for travel, and are spaced at least ½ hour apart.

Appendix I: Dark Canyon Wilderness

It is important that those outfitter guides who are granted the privilege to operate within the Dark Canyon Wilderness know what the designation of Wilderness means, respect and appreciate the designation of Wilderness, treat the land accordingly, and teach their clients to do the same. It is the responsibility of professional outfitters to set the example for other Forest users regarding Leave No Trace Practices, backcountry ethics, and caring for the land and other users. Outfitters are expected to foster awareness knowledge and understanding of designated wilderness, the wilderness preservation system, basic principles of wilderness management and the unique ecosystem characteristics of the Dark Canyon Wilderness.

As a wilderness outfitter you have a responsibility to preserve and protect the wilderness resource. Listed below are the characteristics and performance expectations of wilderness outfitters:

- 1) Has an understanding of the Wilderness Act, and the law, policies and local special provisions of the wilderness in which they operate.
- 2) Places the wilderness resource above the ease and convenience of himself/herself and his/her clients.
- 3) Does not sacrifice the wilderness resource for economic gain.
- 4) Has the ability to interpret natural processes, and communicate to their clients.
- 5) Shares with clients wilderness history, cultural background, ethics and values.
- 6) Is knowledgeable about current “Leave No Trace” techniques and continually applies and improves these techniques.
- 7) Communicates with clients that natural processes like fire are a part of the wilderness ecosystem, and that natural processes will be allowed to operate freely and that they will change over time
- 8) Emphasizes the value of opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation in the wilderness.

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- 9) In his/her advertising, represents the experience as primitive and unconfined recreation, and prepares clients in advance for a "wilderness" experience in contrast with their daily life.
- 10) Ability to practice and teach traditional/primitive skills.

Describe below how you will inform your clients about wilderness values, leave no trace skills, and backcountry etiquette:

The following stipulations are to be included in the Operating Safety Plan for outfitter guide activities that are permitted within the Dark Canyon Wilderness:

- All activities conducted by the outfitter guides and their clients must be in compliance with the Utah Wilderness Act of 1984 and the Wilderness Act of 1964 (some excerpts are included below for reference).
- **Outfitter Guide use in the Dark Canyon Wilderness will detail which trails or areas are to be used and include locations of campsites. These will be identified in the Annual Operating Plan (USDA Forest Service; Environmental Assessment; 1994).**
- Trips shall be conducted to ensure a low incidence of contact with other groups or individuals. Trail encounters are usually less than six other parties per day. Campsite encounters are usually less than three other parties per day (USDA Forest Service; Land and Resource Management Plan, page III-89; 1986).
- Trips shall be conducted to prevent unacceptable changes to the biophysical resources in the Dark Canyon Wilderness (USDA Forest Service; Land and Resource Management Plan, page III-89; 1986).
- Trips will manage their use of and length of time near seeps and springs or other water sources to the absolute minimum necessary, to maintain water quality and quantity in the Dark Canyon Wilderness (USDA Forest Service; Land and Resource Management Plan, page III-89; 1986).
- **Motorized use in association with a commercial Outfitter and Guide permit will not be authorized within the Peavine Corridor.**

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Wilderness References

The Utah Wilderness Act of 1984 states:

The purposes of this Act are to designate certain national forest system lands in Utah as components of the national Wilderness preservation System in order to preserve the wilderness character of the land and to protect watersheds and wildlife habitat, preserve scenic and historic resources, and promote scientific research, primitive recreation, solitude, physical and mental challenge, and inspiration for the benefit of all of the American people.

The Utah Wilderness Act also states:

In furtherance of the purpose of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890), the following national forest system lands in the State of Utah are hereby designated as wilderness, and, therefore, as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System . . . certain lands in the Manti-La Sal National Forest which comprise approximately forty-five thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled “Dark Canyon Wilderness – Proposed”, dated November, 1983, and which shall be known as the Dark Canyon Wilderness.

The Utah Wilderness Act further states:

Subject to valid existing rights, each wilderness area designated by this Act shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 892).

Specifically about Dark Canyon Wilderness, the Utah Wilderness Act:

. . . designates 45,000 acres in the Manti-LaSal National Forest as the Dark Canyon Wilderness. Dark Canyon represents the first major Colorado Plateau Canyon terrain to be added to the National Forest Wilderness System. This diverse canyon country contains arches, springs, seeps and hanging gardens. Life zones range from ponderosa pine and aspen-covered high country to desert vegetation in the bottom of Dark Canyon at the national forest boundary. High red rock canyons dwarf visitors with terraced castle-like walls towering 3,000 feet above the canyon floors. Wildlife species are diverse and include mule deer, some cougar and desert bighorn sheep. The area is also rich with archaeological treasures, graineries, pottery and ruins are abundant. The Peavine Canyon Road was excluded from wilderness designation and is used for vehicular access to the area.

The Utah Wilderness Act addresses grazing as follows:

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Grazing of livestock in wilderness areas established by this Act, where established prior to the date of the enactment of this Act, shall be administered in accordance with section 4(d)(4) of the Wilderness Act and section 108 of Public Law 96-560.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 explains what the Wilderness designation by Congress means:

In order to assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the United States and its possessions, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness. For this purpose there is hereby established a National Wilderness Preservation System to be composed of federally owned areas designated by the Congress as "wilderness areas," and these shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, and so as to provide for the protection of these areas, the preservation of their wilderness character, and for the gathering and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness.

The Wilderness Act further explains what is meant by the Wilderness designation:

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in the Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

In addition, the Wilderness Act states:

Except as specifically provided for in this Act, and subject to existing private rights, there shall be no commercial enterprise and no permanent road within any wilderness area designated by the Act and except as necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purpose of this Act

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(including measures required in emergencies involving the health and safety of persons within the area), there shall be no temporary road, no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment or motorboats, no landing of aircraft, no other form of mechanical transport, and no structure or installation within any such area.

On grazing, the Wilderness Act states:

The grazing of livestock, where established prior to the effective date of this Act, shall be permitted to continue subject to such reasonable regulations as are deemed necessary by the Secretary of Agriculture.

On commercial services, the Wilderness Act states:

Commercial services may be performed within the wilderness areas designated by this Act to the extent necessary for activities which are proper for realizing the recreational or other wilderness purposes of the areas.