

Manti-La Sal National Forest



Buckeye Recreation Area Fee Proposal

Beginning June 2010, the Buckeye Recreation Area will be closed and undergoing major renovation. The project will be completed by the summer of 2011. When the recreation area reopens, the Manti-La Sal National Forest is proposing fees be charged at the Pioneer Campground and the Buckeye Group Site.

Buckeye campground has limited amenities at this time and all of those amenities are in extremely poor condition.

The new Buckeye Recreation Area is designed to maintain the character of the campground and those features the local community identifies with. There will be 19 free single areas, 4 free double areas and one free day use area located around the reservoir. Roads to these sites and parking areas will be defined and developed. Gravel pads will be constructed and a fire ring installed at each of the 19 single sites and 4 double sites. At the day use site, pathways will lead to five picnic areas that will have tables and pedestal grills. These areas will be free to the public on a first come first basis.

At the north end of the reservoir, the Pioneer Campground will be fenced to keep out cattle and barriers will be in place around the reservoir to keep motorized vehicles from damaging the wetlands. An interpretive kiosk will be located at the entrance to the campground and a host will be onsite to welcome and assist campers. Each of the 30 newly defined campsites will include parking, a gravel pad, table, fire ring, and utility table. We are proposing a \$10 fee per night to camp at one of these sites.

On the northeast corner of the reservoir will be the reconstructed Buckeye Group Site. The site will handle 50 visitors. New parking to accommodate large rigs, fencing to keep out cattle and barriers to protect wetlands will be installed. The Buckeye Group Site will feature two tables, one serving table, a fire ring and two dutch oven fire pans. We are proposing a \$50 fee per night to camp at this site.

Eight toilets will be strategically located around the reservoir and a new boat ramp will provide access to the reservoir. One double vault toilet will be located at the Buckeye Group Site and two double vault restrooms will be located at the Pioneer Campground.

Fees at the Pioneer Campground and Buckeye Group Site will be used to maintain the sites and provide a more pleasant camping experience.

A notice is currently in the Federal Register requesting comments on our fee proposals for the Buckeye Recreation Area. Please feel free to call the Moab Ranger District for more information. You can call Mike Diem, District Ranger at 435-636-3341 or Brian Murdock, Recreation and Wilderness Staff at 435-636-3367.

Written comments should be sent to Brian Murdock, Moab/Monticello Ranger District, 62 East 100 North, P.O. Box 386, Moab, Utah 84532