



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Ashley National Forest
355 North Vernal Avenue
Vernal, Utah 84078

Reply To: 1920
Forest Plan Amendment #07

Date: October 23, 1989

To Interested Parties:

It is my decision to amend the Ashley National Forest Plan of October 1986. This amendment in no way changes the desired future condition as presented in the Plan but rather brings the Plan current with the agreement made on Wild and Scenic Rivers.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT: The following streams are made part of the Ashley National Forest Wild and Scenic Eligibility summary.

1. NORTH FORK OF THE DUCHESNE RIVER. The entire river from the headwaters to the Forest boundary is ineligible.
2. ROCK CREEK. The river segment within the High Uintas Wilderness is eligible. The river segment below the Wilderness boundary is ineligible.
3. LAKE FORK RIVER. The river segment within the High Uintas Wilderness is eligible. The river segment below the Wilderness boundary is ineligible.
4. YELLOWSTONE RIVER. The river segment within the High Uintas Wilderness boundary is ineligible.
5. UINTA RIVER. The river segments within the High Uintas Wilderness and from the Wilderness boundary to the U-Bar Ranch are eligible. The river segment from the U-Bar to the Forest boundary is ineligible.
6. WHITEROCKS RIVER. The river segment from the headwaters to the Forest boundary is eligible.

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The determination of the suitability for eligible rivers will be deferred until the Forest Plan is revised. This is reasonable since most of the river segments are within the High Uintas Wilderness which helps preserve the rivers' status. Segments of the Uinta River outside the wilderness and the Whiterocks River have no Forest Plan prescriptions for development. If any proposals are made to change this status, the proposals will be preceded by suitability studies including appropriate NEPA and public involvement procedures. Additionally, the proposals may be modified so there is no impact on the potential suitability of the rivers for inclusion into the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Regulations permit amendments that may result in either significant or non-significant changes to the Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (36 CFR 219.10(e) and (f)). I have determined that this amendment is not significant because this action does not significantly alter multiple-use goals and objectives for long-term land and resource management.

In accordance with Forest Service Manual 1952.2, I have determined that this Amendment is categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement.

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to Secretary of Agriculture Appeal Regulation 36 CFR 217. Any written notice of appeal of this decision must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 217.9 (or 36 CFR 251.90), "Content of Notice of Appeal," including the reasons for appeal, and must be filed with: Regional Forester, 324 25th Street, Ogden, UT. 84401. Simultaneously, send a copy of the Notice of Appeal to, Forest Supervisor, Ashley National Forest, 355 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal, UT. 84078.

For further information concerning this decision or the Forest Service appeal process, please contact me at the above address or at telephone number (801) 789-1181.

Sincerely,

DUANE G. TUCKER
Forest Supervisor

