



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Fishlake National Forest



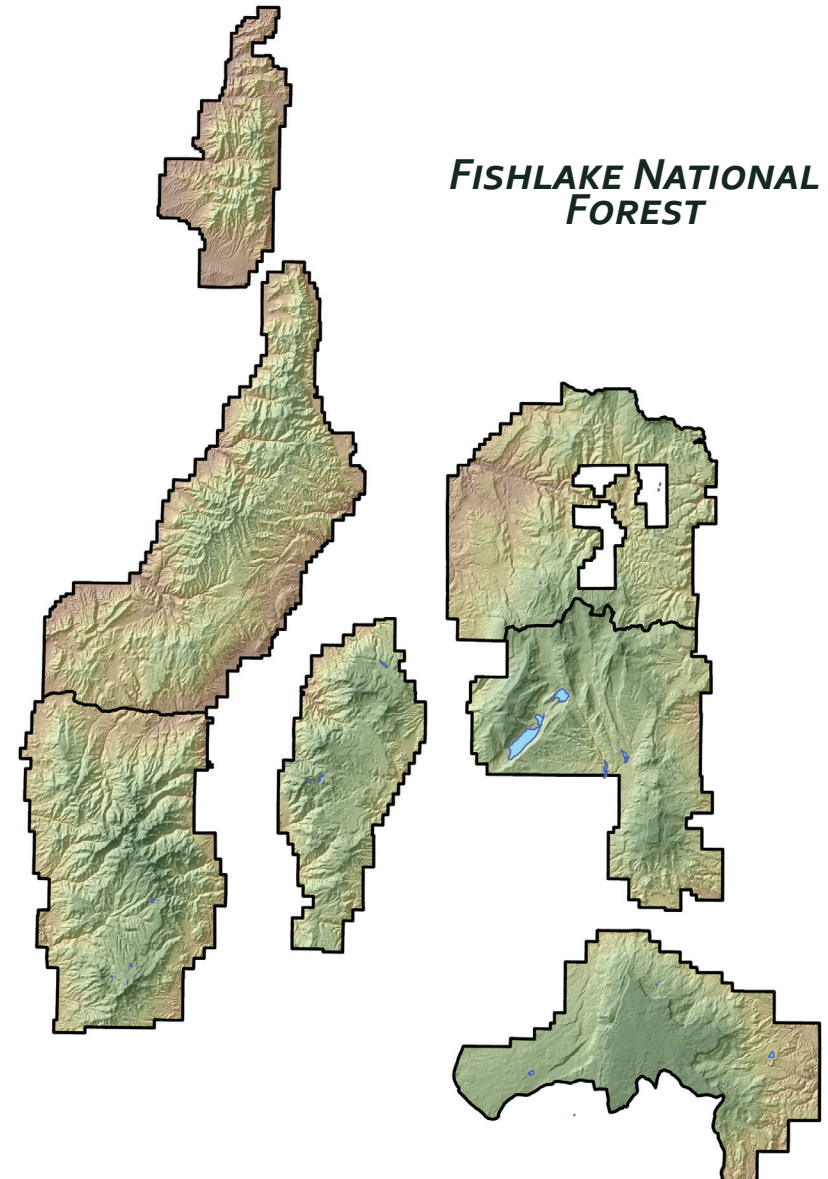
FOREST INFORMATION BOOKLET

About the Forest

Located in Central Utah

Highest Point: Delano Peak - 12,169 Feet

Lowest Point: Canyon Range - 4,740 Feet



Forest Supervisor



Mike Elson
Forest Supervisor

*W*elcome to the Fishlake National Forest! We are thrilled that you have taken the time to learn more about this spectacular landscape and the work that occurs here. The Fishlake National Forest covers approximately 1.8 million acres of Central and Southern Utah, from sandstone canyons to spruce and aspen forests to alpine tundra high above the tree line. This amazing part of our National Forest System includes many natural wonders, such as ancient bristlecone pines, the massive Pando aspen clone, and the deep, clear waters of Fish Lake. Major geographic regions of the Forest include Boulder Mountain/Aquarius Plateau, Thousand Lake Mountain, the Fishlake Basin and Fishlake Hightop, Beaver/Tushar Mountains, Monroe Mountain, Salina Canyon/Gooseberry, the Pahvant Range, and the Canyon Mountains. Wildlife and fish are abundant throughout the Forest and it's many streams and lakes. Visitors from throughout the country and across the world come here to enjoy one of the most beautiful places on earth, while many locals enjoy a deep, multi-generational connection to the land.

Fishlake National Forest is also a working landscape, supporting local communities with livestock grazing, water storage and delivery systems, timber harvest, mining, many kinds of summer and winter recreational activities, and numerous other permitted uses such as communication sites and utility corridors. Managing these uses and landscapes wisely and sustainably for the good of current and future generations is the work of the Forest Service. The Fishlake National Forest workforce is relatively small, but through our numerous partnerships we are accomplishing vital work that is helping us to fulfill our mission and improve the health and sustainability of these lands for everyone. That includes extensive work to restore more natural conditions and return fire as a natural process that keeps these productive landscapes healthy. Please enjoy this summary of the work we do together, and if you aren't already participating in this work, please consider how you too can become involved. We have district offices in Richfield, Beaver, Fillmore, and Loa where our friendly staff would love to answer your questions and help you become more involved in the management of our priceless National Forest!

Beaver Ranger District

**District Ranger:
Jared Whitmer**

435-438-2436
575 S. Main St., Beaver, UT 84713

The Beaver Ranger District lies in the southwest portion of the Fishlake National Forest, with the Ranger District Office located in Beaver, Utah.

The 301,105 acres managed by the district extends across the Tushar Mountain Range, in six counties; Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Millard, Piute,

and Sevier. With numerous motorized trails and roads, hiking trails, campgrounds, lakes, and streams visitors can enjoy a variety of outdoor experiences. The District is home to elk, deer, and black bear, as well as a population of mountain goats that roam the high elevation slopes of the Tushar Mountains.

FENCE & GUARD STATION IMPROVEMENTS

in 2023, the district staff worked many days to remove the old fence on the North Pasture at Big Flat Guard Station. The old fence was torn out, piled, and burned. It was replaced with a buck and rail fence system that matched the adjoining pasture fences in the area. Gravel and road base were also hauled in to improve the road in and around the Guard Station and parking areas.

GAOA CXT'S AND KENTS LAKE ROAD

The Great American Outdoors Act helped the district accomplish much-needed work in the Kents Lake Road Corridor. The entire Kents Lake Road was reworked with new road base and/or roto-milling and new CXT toilets and fencing were installed in the campgrounds to improve the experience for the public.



STREAM STABILITY SURVEYS ON THE DISTRICT

Located in Beaver and Sevier Counties

Highest Point: Delano Peak - 12,169 Feet

Lowest Point: District Boundary - 5,898 Feet



A Few Projects Completed This Year:

- 150 miles of trail work which includes: logging out trails, tread work, signage, and reroutes to keep people safe and on the right path while enjoying the trail system
- 2 Youth Environmental Education Days
- Focused Pinyon Jay surveys (One nest discovered in north cedars)
- Signed Kent's Lake Ditch Company Wier project Categorical Exclusions (CE)
- Signed Circleville/Torrey Town Spring and Pipeline Project Categorical Exclusions (CE)
- Started the Cove Fort Geothermal Environmental Assessment (EA)
- Started the Joe Lott - Fish Creek Range Improvement Categorical Exclusions (CE)
- Assist Utah Division of Wildlife Resources with Wolverine monitoring and camera trap placement on Circleville Mountain
- Brigham Young University and Utah Division of Wildlife Resources rare plant ungulate research
- Authorized ~15,000 Head Months of Grazing Use
- 2 Timber sale contract completions
- 3 Timber sales administered
- 1 Lop and Scatter contract implemented, inspected and completed
- 2 Prune, Hand Pile and Chip contracts
- 1 Forest-wide planting contract
- 1 Fuels reduction work contract (thinning) with Forestry, Fire and State Lands (in progress)
- 1 Fuels reduction work contract (thinning) with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (2,000 acres)
- 42 Log Deck measurements
- 5 Log Deck contracts prepared
- Post-season deer classification: aerial winter deer capture assistance, pre-season elk capture, nuisance beaver translocation, nuisance bear communication and assistance, etc.
- Treated 300+ acres for invasive species
- Signed Clear Creek Road Maintenance approval letter to file



New CXT toilets were installed in the campgrounds to improve the experience for the public. The public now has cleaner and nicer facilities to use while they recreate on the Beaver Ranger District.



Fillmore Ranger District

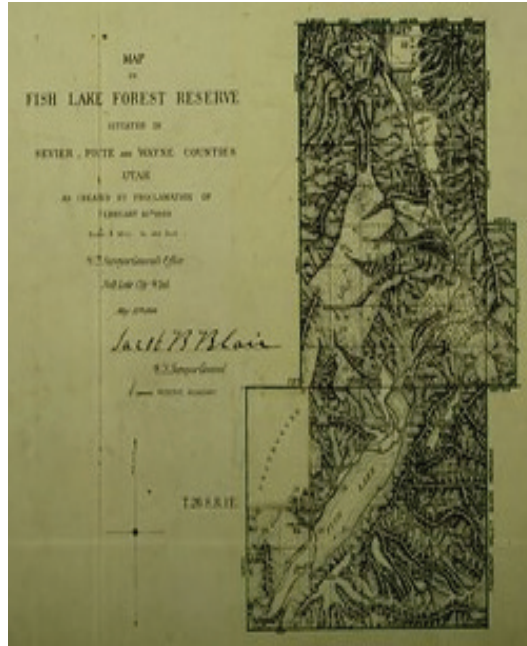
District Ranger: Brian Monroe

435-896-1010
390 S Main St, Fillmore, UT 84631

The Fillmore Ranger District encompasses the northwest portion of the Forest.

The Pahvant Range dominates the east side of the district, with the Canyon Mountains to the west of Interstate 15.

Visitors will enjoy All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) riding, camping, hiking, picnicking, hunting, fishing and sight seeing.



FILLMORE DISTRICT WAS A FOREST!

May 2, 1906

Fillmore Forest Reserve of 399,600 acres was established by Pres. Theodore Roosevelt.

June 18, 1908

Beaver and Fillmore Forests combined to form the Fillmore National Forest.

Sept. 24, 1923

Fillmore National Forest became part of the famed Fishlake National Forest



A Few Projects Completed This Year:

- 105 Grazing Utilization Annual Monitoring Studies
- 7 Fenced Riparian Recovery Projects
- Completed Capacity Assessments for a mountain bike shuttle service permitting vendors to operate on the CCC road to White Pine
- Installed cameras to monitor bike trail use and daily shuttle service
- Implemented the Sevier County Recreation grant to maintain non-motorized trails in the county by using an American

Conservation Experience Crew on the bottom end of South Cedar Canyon

- Responded to flooding in Chalk Creek (to restore Copleys Cove Campground)
- Hosted Southern Utah University Inter-governmental Internship Cooperative (IIC) Interns
- Coordinated with Millard County to remove debris from Chalk Creek and complete road maintenance work
- Implemented Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) treatments on Halfway Hill,

Meadow Creek, and Dry Creek Fires

- 4 Commercial Recreation events supported:
 - Days of the Old West Rodeo Poker Ride
 - National ATV Jamboree
 - Crimson Canyon Ultra Marathon
 - Enduro Bike Race
- Treated 1659 acres of noxious weeds
- Collected 475 utilization points for grazing
- Coordinated with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Biologist, to identify potential bighorn sheep guzzler locations in Oak Creek and Fool Creek Canyons
- 722 hours of volunteer work on Oak Creek Cabin restoration, Oak Creek campground clean up and burnt fence rebuilding

- Migratory Bird Surveys: Finished transitioning the Breeding Bird Survey routes from Forest employees to volunteers this year which gave us more time to focus on project related surveys

- Managed 81 active, Special-Use permits

- The Fillmore Ranger District office also received some much needed renovation this year. The siding was replaced and painted, as well replacing the wooden shingle roof. The office sign had been deteriorating and the base was rebuilt using rock from the Scipio quarry. New signs were placed on top.

Located in Millard and Juab Counties

Highest Point: Mine Camp Peak - 10,222 Feet

Lowest Point: Canyon Range - 4,740 Feet



Non-Motorized Trails

Fillmore Ranger District has 286 miles of non-motorized trails. On average, 80 miles of trails are maintained annually.

Work on the trails is accomplished by a district trails crew of between two and eight employees and through a partnership with the Millard County Sheriff's Office (they provide an inmate crew of six to eight individuals for a few days a month), American Conservation Experience (ACE) crews, and volunteers.

Motorized Trails

• There are 350 miles of motorized trails on the district

• A large portion of the Paiute ATV trail system is on the Fillmore Ranger District

• The district provides opportunities for the National ATV Jamboree, Richfield ATV Jamboree, Piute ATV Jamboree, and the Beaver ATV Jamboree



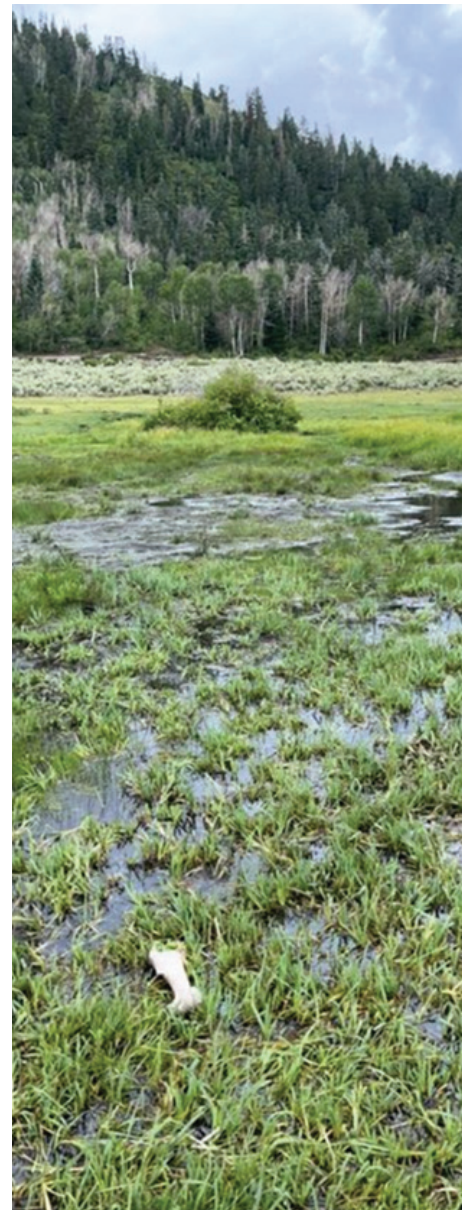
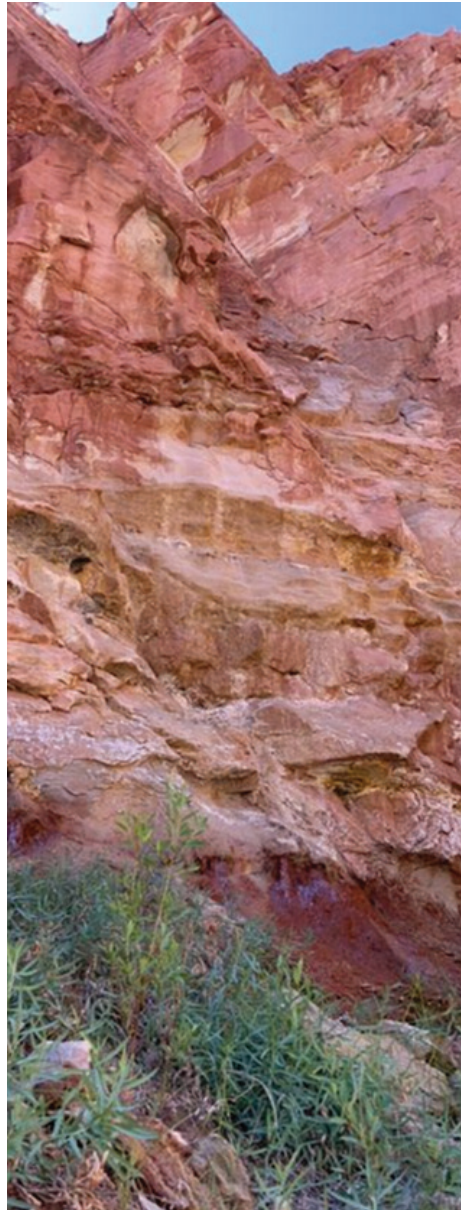
Fremont River Ranger District

**District Ranger:
Kurt Robins**

435-836-2800
138 South Main Street, Loa, UT 84754

Projects Completed This Year:

- Used Great American Outdoor Act funding to make some much needed renovations in the Doctor Creek Camp Ground
- Multiple fuels reduction projects:
 - Teasdale Front - 2000 acres
 - Pine Creek - 250 acres
 - Thousand Lake - 2000 acres
 - Last Chance - 400 acres
 - Steep Creek - 300 acres
- Pine Creek Enclosure Reconstruction Project
- Big Flat and Mt. Terrill Guard Stations projects
- Park Ridge prescribed burn, a Ponderosa Pine understory burn, located on the east end of the Boulder Mountain
- Continued work on the Teasdale Front and Pine Creek slash pile burning areas
- Timber Sales in Silas, Rust Timber, Daniel's Pass, and Lost Creek
- Reforestation on old wildfire areas:
 - 2002 Johnson Fire
 - 2009 Solomon Basin Fire
 - 2012 Lost Lake Fire
- Broadcast seeding of native grasses and forbes in Crater Lakes Timber Stand



Located in Wayne and Garfield Counties

Highest Point: Fish Lake Hightop - 11,633 feet

Lowest Point: Unnamed Wash at the Crossing of U-24 and Capitol Reef National Park Boundary Line - 6,380 feet



Richfield Ranger District

**District Ranger:
Jason Kling**

435-836-2800
115 E 900 N, Richfield, UT 84701

The Richfield Ranger District is in the northeast portion of the Fishlake National Forest, with the Ranger District Office located in Richfield, Utah. The 412,859

acres managed by the District includes the Monroe Mountain Range southeast of Richfield, Cedar Mountain, Willow Creek, Salina Creek and the Old Woman Plateau

north of Interstate 70, and the Gooseberry area south of Interstate 70 to the Fremont River Ranger District Boundary. The District lies within the counties of Sevier and Piute.



Final Record of Decision
Southern Monroe Mountain Allotments
Livestock Grazing Authorization



 Forest Service Fishlake National Forest Richfield Ranger District January 2024

A Few Projects Completed This Year:

- The Forest completed the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Final Record of Decision (ROD) for the Southern Monroe Mountain Allotments Livestock Grazing Authorization analysis. The Final ROD reauthorizes livestock grazing to occur on the Dry Lake, Forshea, Kingston, Koosharem, Manning Creek, and Rock Springs Allotments while also making some adjustments to help improve resource conditions.



Located in Sevier and Wayne Counties

Highest Point: Fish Lake Hightop - 11,633 feet

Lowest Point: Unnamed Wash at the Crossing of U-24 and Capitol Reef National Park Boundary Line - 6,380 feet

- Cleared, maintained, and reconstructed about 97 miles of non-motorized trails
- Held the 49th Annual Gooseberry Third Grade Environmental Program for approximately 400 third grade students in Sevier, Piute and Wayne counties
- Performed Reforestation Assessments on historical fire areas including the:
 - 2000 Oldroyd Fire - 1329 acres
 - 2006 S. Water Hollow Fire - 1424 acres
 - 2012 Box Creek Fire - 2061 acres
- Completed a Commercial Christmas Tree Timber Sale near the Koosharem Guard Station
- Completed 100 acres of mechanical harvesting using a Good Neighbor Authority contract with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources on the Devil's Oven project on Monroe Mountain
- Completed the first year survival surveys of the Langdon Douglas-fir planting
- Hosted the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Fire and Smoke Model Evaluation Experiment (FASMEE) during the Old Woman Prescribed burn



Forest Fuels - Vegetation

WHAT IS FUELS? - Fuel is the combustible material found in forests that feeds wildfires. Fuels include everything from needles, grasses, and small twigs (fine fuels) to progressively larger pieces such as shrubs, branches on the ground, downed trees, and logs.

FUELS DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW - Fuels treatments across the Fishlake National Forest have been implemented to reduce and/or redistribute ground, surface, and canopy fuels by removing trees, masticating (shredding) small diameter trees and shrubs, mechanically and/or hand piling for later burning, or applying prescribed fire. An effective fuel treatment will slow the spread of fire and reduce the likelihood of crown fire (a fire that spreads across the tops of trees rather than from the ground up), aid fire suppression efforts, and reduce the intensity and severity of a wildfire under all but the most extreme weather conditions.



Fillmore Ranger District:

Prescribed Fire: 0 acres
Mechanical/Hand: 24,136 acres
Total: 24,136 acres

Fremont River Ranger District:

Prescribed Fire: 203 acres
Mechanical/Hand: 5,938 acres
Total: 6,141 acres

Beaver Ranger District:

Prescribed Fire: 800 acres
Mechanical/Hand: 22,319 acres
Total: 23,119 acres

Richfield Ranger District:

Prescribed Fire: 9,619 acres
Mechanical/Hand: 17,083 acres
Total: 26,702 acres

Old Woman Prescribed Fire Project

Partners:

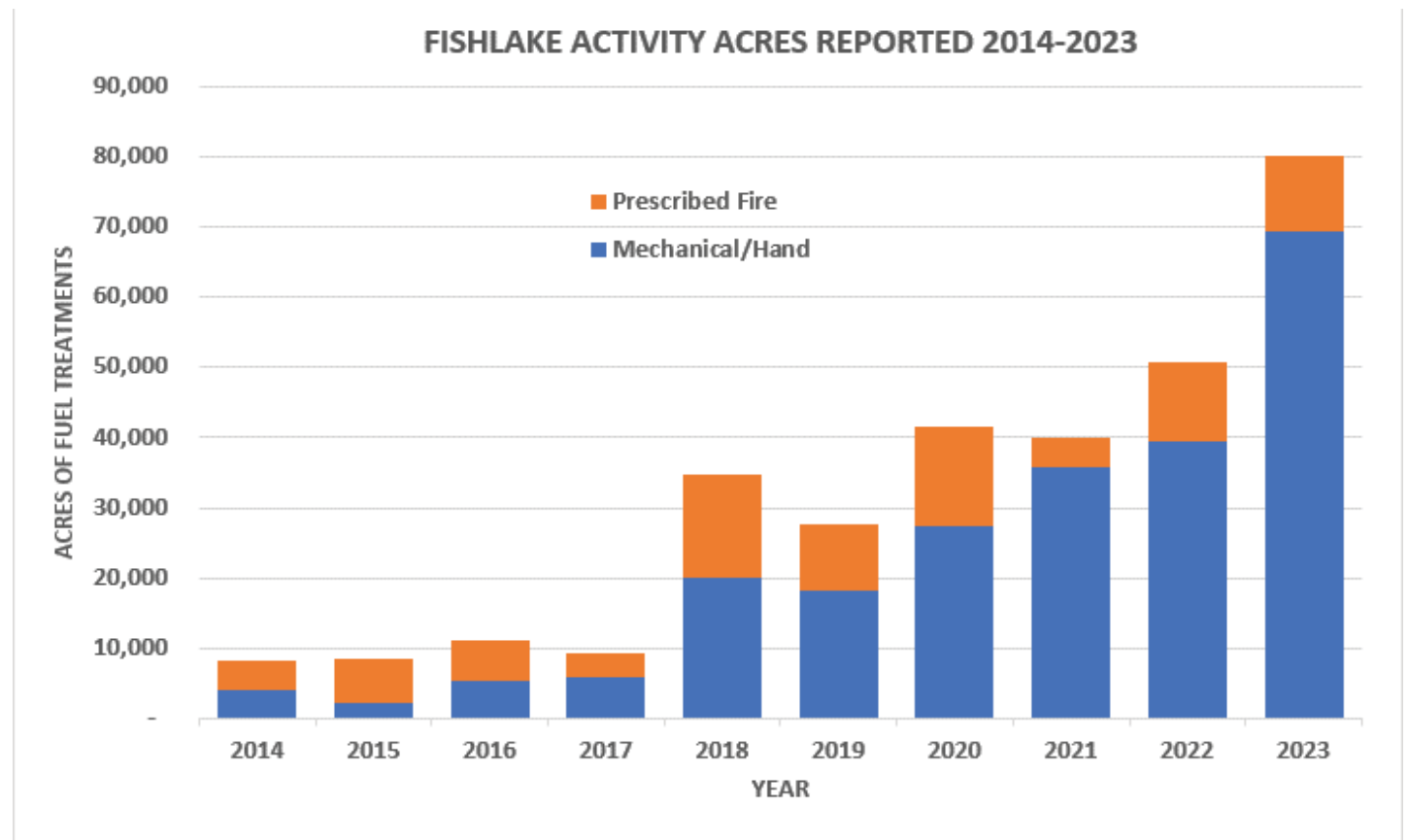
- Utah Division of Forestry Fire & State Lands
- Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
- Private Landowners

Total Acres Since 2022: ~ 14,000



80,098 Acres Treated =

Improvement Projects



125 Square Miles Treated!

Wildfires in 2023

Thompson Ridge Wildfire

The Thompson Ridge incident, which started on the afternoon of August 4th, proved to be a very challenging and complex incident with an aggressive extended attack managed by our local Type 3 Incident Management Team (IMT) for roughly 48 hours. Because of the logistical challenges the incident provided, it was quickly determined a Type 2 IMT would be needed and the order was placed for a Great Basin Incident Management Team (IMT) 5. Great Basin IMT5 assumed command of the incident and in conjunction with the Forest and its interagency partners developed a robust full-suppression strategy for managing the incident. During the entirety of the incident, excellent coordination occurred at all levels, this excellent teamwork proved instrumental in reaching identified objectives for the incident and preparing for the post fire effects. Upon containment, the incident burned a total of 7,253 acres.



Steep Creek Wildfire

The Steep Creek incident located on the east side of the Boulder Mountain near the community of Grover started on August 15th. Because of the location of the incident and the forest's desire to restore natural fire on the landscape, the forest adopted a Confine Strategy which included identifying natural barriers to limit fire growth to the desirable size and the right duration. Once identified, local fire managers utilized firing operations to proactively ignite the identified locations. A quality communication plan was in place and good public information was key to explaining the strategy and tactics employed with this incident. Much coordination with local forest fire managers, federal partners, State of Utah fire managers and local elected officials occurred and provided for a well-coordinated effort. Overall, the incident crews successfully contained 343 acres to achieve resource objectives as identified at the onset of the incident.





Wildfire Averages

Yearly Fire Averages

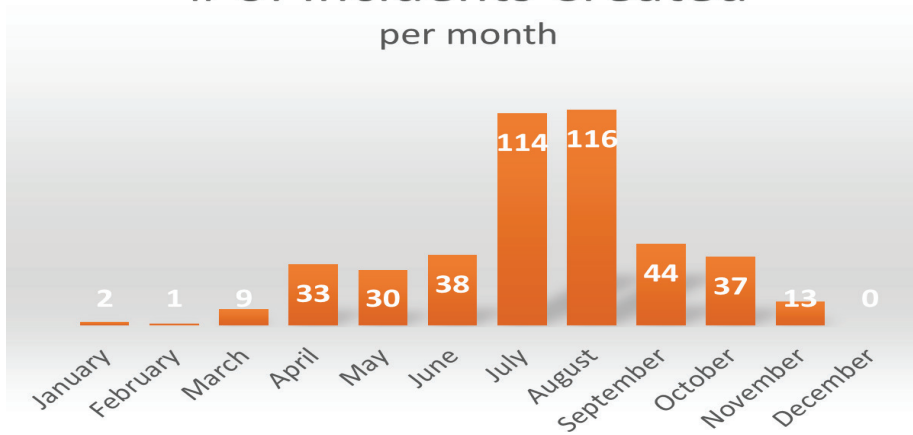
Years	Fires	Acres
2023	32	7,551
2022	29	11,890
2021	35	177
2020	42	26,160
2019	34	9,064
2018	36	5,211
2017	38	2,770
2016	31	15,374
2015	38	2,978
2014	32	197
Total	347	81,372
5 Year Average 2019 - 2023	34	10,958
10 Year Average 2014 - 2023	35	8,137



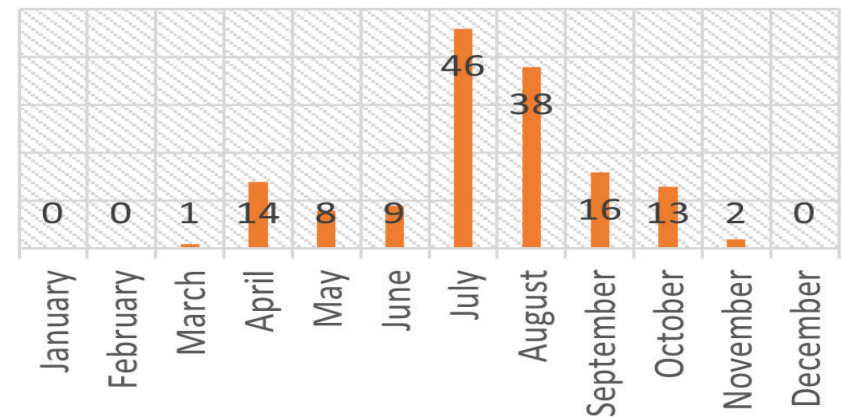
Dispatch

In 2023, the Richfield Interagency Fire Center documented and managed 444 incidents of which 223 were reported fires (147 became actual wildfire incidents)

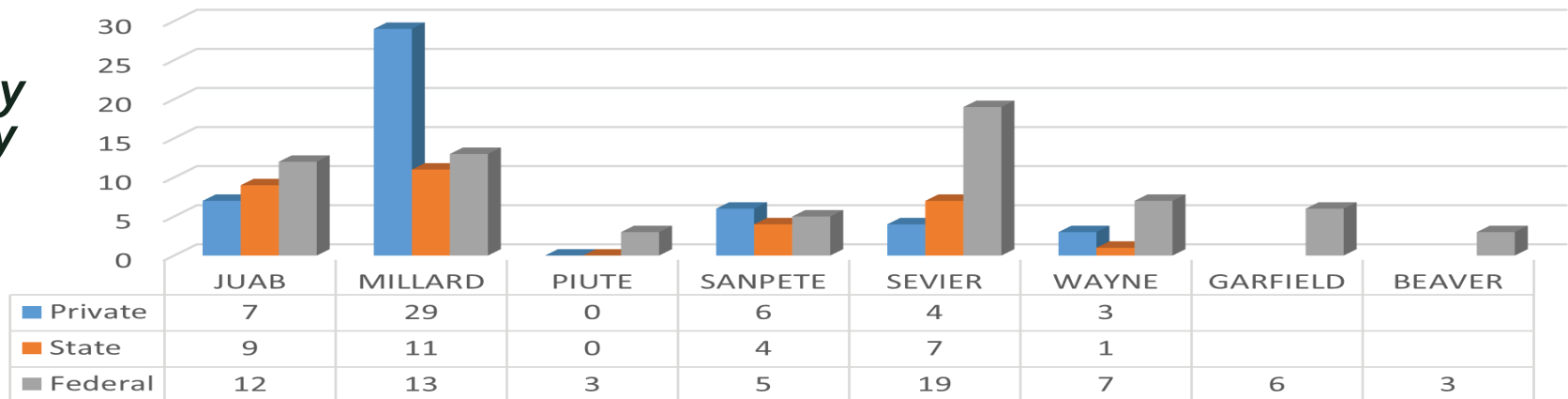
of Incidents Created
per month



Wildfire Occurences
by Month



Fires By
County



Resource Advisory Committee

The purpose of the Southern Utah RAC is to improve collaborative relationships among the people that use and care for the National Forests and to provide advice and recommendations to the Forest Service concerning projects and funding consistent with Title II of the Act.

The establishment of this RAC is required by statute where a county elects to share in the Act's State payment and allocates a portion of its share of the State payment for purposes authorized under Title II of the Act. The county's decision to allocate a portion of the State payment for purposes authorized under Title II is not within control of the Secretary of Agriculture and therefore each Secure Rural Schools RAC is considered to be required by statute (non-discretionary) under FACA regulations.

A committee is established by the Secretary for part of, or for one or more National Forests to ensure that each supervisor of a National Forest located in one or more eligible counties that have allocated funds to Title II has access to the advice of a RAC in accordance with the Act. A RAC is determined at the Secretary's discretion with consideration given to efficiency and effectiveness of the RAC in performing its duties and the efficiency in providing administrative support by the Forest Service.



DANISH MEADOW ROAD - \$108,000 Six miles of road was roto-milled and graded with appropriate water drainage. Before this project was completed, the only access to Danish Meadow was by All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) or horse back. Now it is passable with a two-wheel drive vehicle.

RAC -

The Southern Utah Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) is established pursuant to the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, 16 U.S.C.A. 7125, hereafter referred to as the Act, and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C., App.2.

BEAVER & FREMONT RIVER RANGER DISTRICT ROAD ROTO-MILLING - \$157,573.84

Finished roads are a great improvement from original condition. The completed project will aid in future maintenance efforts.

PONDS KINGSTON ALLOTMENT - \$40,000



Several of the ponds were cleaned in the late fall of 2021 and early summer of 2022. The remainder of the project was completed in the 2023 season. This will allow increased water storage for cattle and wildlife.

PAIUTE, GOOSEBERRY AND THE GREAT WESTERN TRAIL SIGNING - \$157,573.84

GAHEW SPRINGS PIPELINE - \$30,664

One mile of the Pipeline was completed in the spring of 2022 and the remaining one mile was completed in the summer of 2023.

ROUNDUP FLAT SPRINGS - \$16,000



This project was completed in late summer of 2023.



LOWER SEVENMILE PASTURE BOUNDARY FENCE - \$30,800

The riparian pasture portion of this fence was reconstructed in the late fall of 2021 and the remainder of the fence was completed in the summer of 2023.

SALINA CREEK RUSSIAN OLIVE TREATMENT - \$15,000

FISHLAKE/MANTI LA-SAL FOREST BOUNDARY FENCE - \$15,000

A burned fence has created an issue with cattle trespassing into the other forest. An additional problem was illegal ATV use where drivers would cross boundaries through the fence in many areas. Funds were used to close illegal trails and reconstruct the fence.

SMITH CANYON TROUGHS - \$9,600



The funding was used to purchase troughs and pipeline products.

SINGLE TREE SPRINGS - \$8,000

Funds were used for head boxes, troughs, pipeline & fencing.

RICHFIELD DISTRICT YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS - \$30,072

The funds were used to purchase materials, tools and safety equipment for building new fences around the Mt. Terrell and Dry Creek Guard stations.

SEVENMILE GODFREY CREEK FENCE - \$26,400



This project completed 2.2 miles of fence reconstruction.



Public Services

The Public Services Staff, stationed in the Fishlake National Forest Supervisor's Office in Richfield, Utah includes the following seven program areas: Cultural Heritage; Geographic Information Systems (GIS); Lands & Realty; Forest Planning; NEPA and Environmental Planning; Recreation and Motorized Trails; and Special Uses. The staff currently consists of 14 permanent employees, as well as multiple seasonal employees and interns.



Special Uses & NEPA



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The Fishlake NEPA Program is responsible for guiding the Forest units through National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance processes as they relate to project planning. From project conception to completion, the NEPA Shop supports interdisciplinary teams carrying out environmental studies and evaluations to address resource concerns and implement multiple use management on the Forest while adhering to environmental laws, regulation, and policy.

In 2023, the NEPA Program completed several projects including fish passage barriers, spring redevelopments, and a minerals-related road project. Analysis and project management were on-going for the Southern Monroe Mountain Allotment Livestock Grazing Authorization Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) project, as well as other important

projects including geothermal leasing, a campground and trail proposal, recreation enhancement projects, and an allotment management project.

Special Uses Program

The Fishlake Special Uses Program, which issues and administers special use permits for activities authorized on Forest Service land, was the first program in the Intermountain Region to implement a Civil Rights presentation to all permitted outfitters and guides in 2023. The in-person event was well-attended and helped permittees ensure compliance with federal civil rights and accessibility standards.

The program prides itself on customer service, and in 2023 the Fishlake National Forest led the Intermountain Region with 93 percent of its special use permits administered to standard.



Motorized Trails

Motorized Trails Off-Highway Vehicles

In 2023, the Fishlake's motorized trails program performed heavy dozer maintenance on 95.5 miles of motorized trail, and a total of 505.1 miles of trail were brushed/cleared/signed. Many new trail signs were installed, data was collected on over 65 counters and 7 cameras, and a total of 3 structures were installed on the trail system including one bridge and two barriers.

Several volunteer projects took place including projects with the Sevier Valley OHV Club, Paiute Trails Committee and Tushar Mountain OHV Club. We also have several individual volunteers involved in dozer operation, data collection and restroom maintenance. Total volunteer hours spent on the trail in FY23 was 1,274, and the dollar value for donated time and equipment was \$40,080.



Four Jamborees Scheduled in 2024

The National ATV Jamboree is scheduled for June 26-28, 2024 in Fillmore. This is the longest running Jamboree on the Forest.

The Paiute Trail Jamboree is scheduled for Aug. 7-10, 2024 in Marysville. This event typically draws more UTV's than the other three events.

The Rocky Mountain ATV Jamboree is scheduled for Sept. 16-20, 2024 at the City Park in Richfield. This is typically the largest jamboree on the Forest drawing between 600-800 participants.

The Beaver County ATV Jamboree is scheduled for Oct. 1-4, 2024 in Beaver. This is the newest jamboree on the Forest.



Riders from the Rocky Mountain ATV Jamboree cross the boardwalk on the Paiute Side Trail #89 near Anderson Dairy. Courtesy photo by Fred Christensen.

Recreation

Just a Few Recreation Activities Last Year



- Administered multiple state grants in support of our motorized and non-motorized trail maintenance program
- Helped coordinate solar eclipse response efforts
- Worked closely with Engineering to support and coordinate Great America Outdoor Act project planning and implementation
- Many staff members attended and supported the Gooseberry 3rd Grade education program



Heritage & Tribal

History of the Fishlake National Forest

Most National Forests were established at the turn of the 20th Century to allow wise use of the nation's resources. Many National Forests came into being after local residents asked for Government help to reclaim despoiled watersheds and overcut forests. Forest administrators were charged to provide "favorable conditions of water flow, and to furnish a continuous supply of timber for the use and necessities of the citizens of the United States."

People already were using these forest lands for other things. These activities continued after Congress officially designated the lands "National Forests." Land was used for grazing, hunting, prospecting, and occupied by roads, irrigation canals, mines, and schools. The Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act of 1960 officially recognized National Forests as lands of many uses. The Act stated that Forests would be "administered for outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed, and wildlife and fish purposes." The 1964 Wilderness Act added Wilderness as a legitimate use of National Forests.

With so much activity on the Forest, it may seem that things are getting crowded. They are. Recreation demand has grown dramatically since the 1950's and Forests today are the biggest supplier of outdoor recreation in the country. Because of this high demand, the Forest Service asks you to tread lightly and to obey the posted rules. The rules are there to help preserve the Forest for future generations.

Tribal Relations Work

Actively reached out to tribes including the Hopi, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe for forest business

Established a more formal and appropriate consultation document for tribal chairpersons/presidents and cultural resource managers

Initiated tribal consultations regarding campground names in the Fish Lake Basin

Range

The range program oversees the administration of grazing permits and regulates the grazing use of all kinds and classes of livestock. In 2023, the Fishlake National Forest permitted cattle, sheep, and horses to graze on public lands for a total of 141,043 Animal Unit Months (AUMs). Seven Rangeland Management Specialists and three Range Technicians worked to help ensure the health and sustainability of the rangelands by:

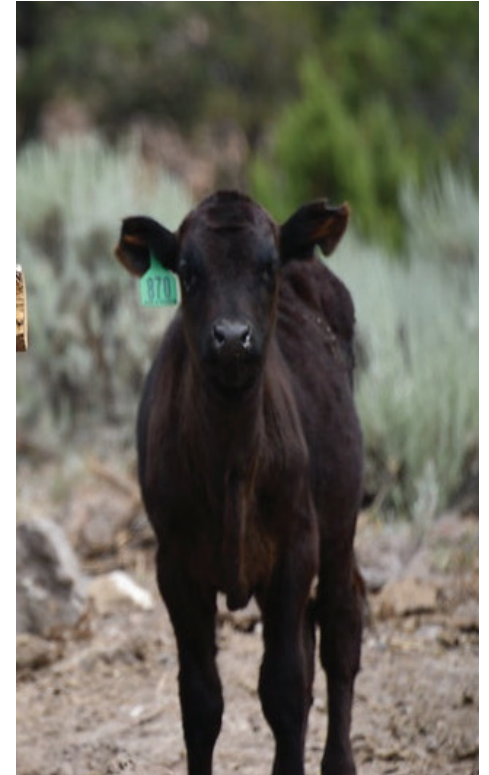
- Administered livestock grazing on 74 allotments
- Monitored 201 grazing permits, which includes billing and compliance inspections throughout the grazing season
- Collected data on over 270 range sites, to monitor livestock use and ensure the standards listed in the grazing permits were met
- Over 2000 acres were identified and treated for noxious weeds
- Spent \$40,000 on range improvements.

Several stock ponds were re-aligned with bentonite to hold water throughout the year.

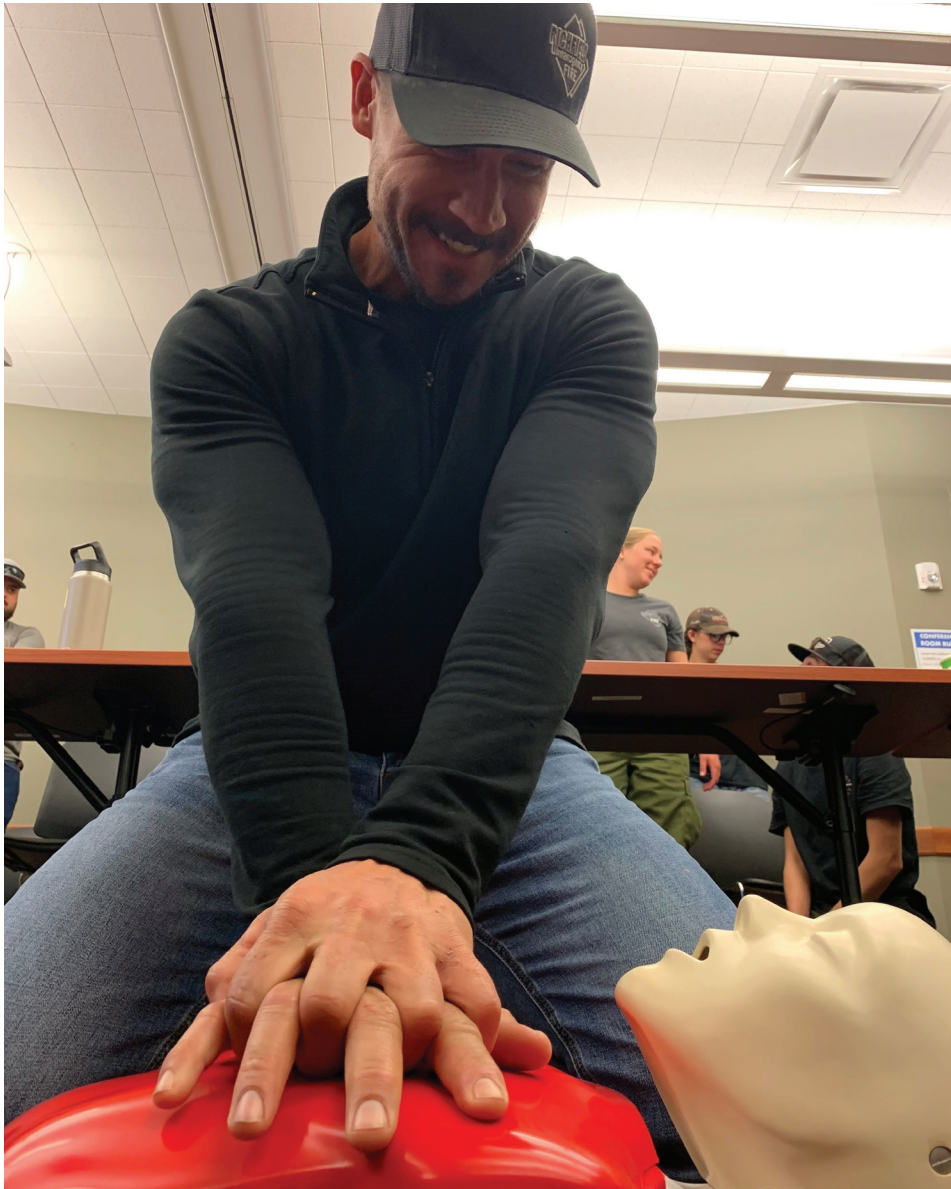
Leaking waterlines, ponds, and headboxes were replaced.

Fences were constructed or re-constructed in riparian areas and pasture boundaries.

The maintenance and functionality of these improvements not only help with the management and disbursement of livestock, but they also provide many benefits to wildlife, invertebrates, and aquatic species.



Safety Program



The Safety and Occupational Health Program supports and oversees safe and healthful workplaces and conditions for Fishlake National Forest employees and volunteers by instituting procedures and practices to help prevent accidents, injuries, and illnesses. During the peak season, we have as many as 250 employees operating throughout the forest.

Collateral Duty Safety Committee members from each office/district alongside their leadership, ensure the execution of the safety program and policies, ranging from facilities inspections, First Aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation training (CPR), and advising managers and supervisors on current trends and best practices. Collateral Duty Safety Committee members from all disciplines make it possible to implement an effective program for our teams, ensuring they are set up for success and can execute their jobs in managing the land and serving our communities.



Equity Action Plan

Goal #1

ENHANCE ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH TRIBES AND UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES THROUGH CULTURALLY RELEVANT STRATEGIES

A position has been created in the Organizational Chart for a new Archaeologist (Tribal Relations Specialist) and added it to the vacancy portal. This person is expected to be hired in 2024.



Goal #2

STANDARDIZE THE ONBOARDING EXPERIENCE FOR NEW EMPLOYEES

The Workplace Environment Team is compiling information to create an Onboarding Package to post to a Google Drive site that can be shared with new employees.

The team is actively seeking input from recently onboarded employees to create a comprehensive package to make the process easier.

A Program Specialist position has been offered and accepted which will fill the role as an Onboarding Coordinator for the Forest.

Additionally, two employees have gone through collateral duty training to become certified *This Is Who We Are Ambassadors*. These ambassadors will help our newest employees and will train new ones at the National New Employee Orientation Trainings that all new employees now attend.

Goal #3

ACHIEVE A REPRESENTATIVE, INCLUSIVE, AND THRIVING FOREST SERVICE WORKFORCE

The forest has attended a number of recruitment events to include:

- Spring Expo at the Sevier Valley Center
- Utah Outdoor Fest at Cabela's
- Southwest Applied Technology
- 3 events at Southern Utah University
- 6 events at Snow College, Ephraim
- 7 events at Snow College, Richfield
- South Sevier High School
- North Sevier High School
- Richfield High School

Our next plan of action is to start more recruitment efforts at the high school level, along with community events such as fairs, rodeo's, and livestock events. There has been communication with the local Workforce Services to share our recruitment effort.

Through Schedule A Disability and Veteran's Recruitment Authority (VRA) we additionally hired:

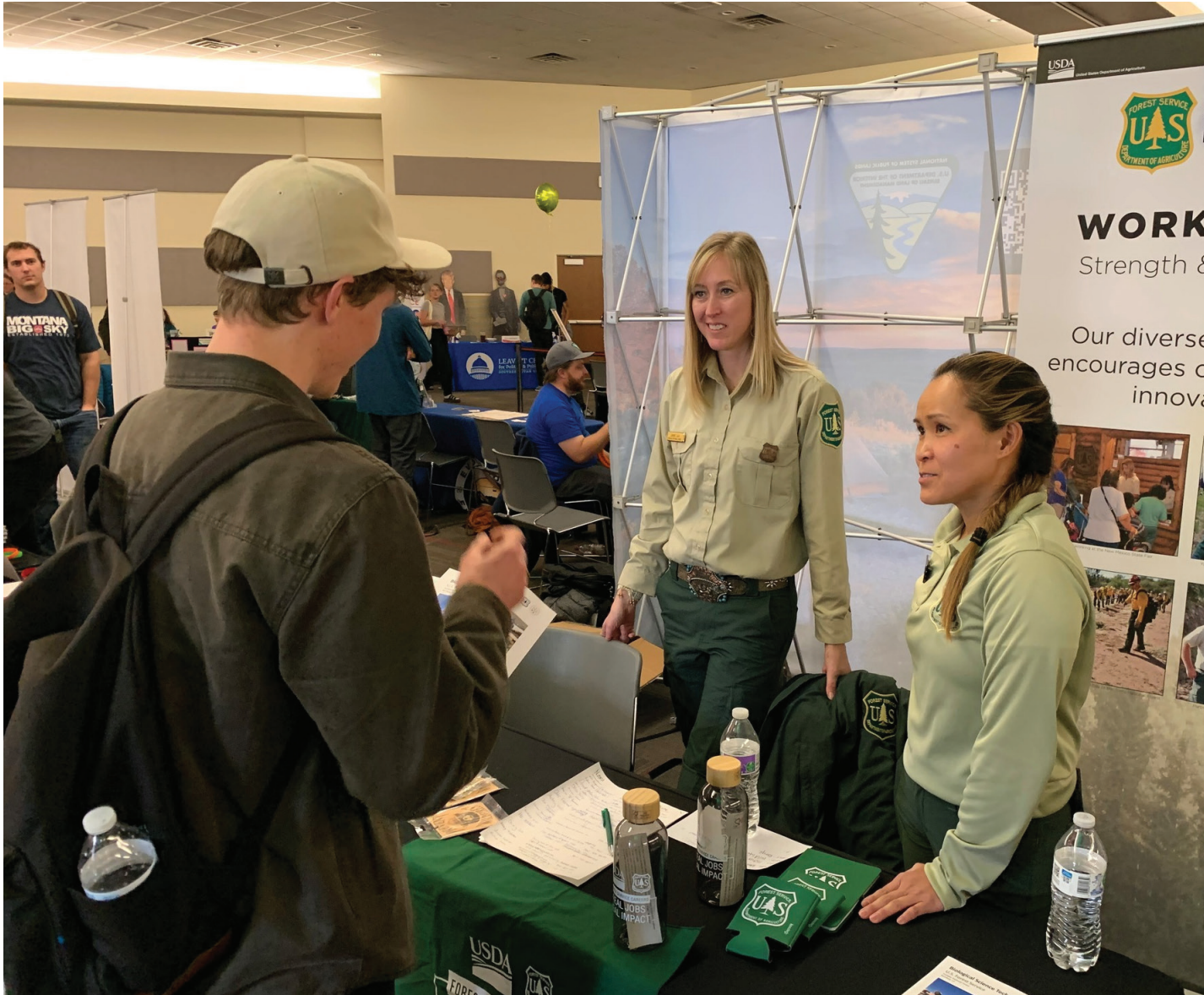
- 9 employees through Schedule (six female/three male)
- 8 employees through VRA



Part of our Recruiting Teams visiting Cabela's, Snow College - Richfield Campus, and Southern Utah University



Recruiting



CIVIL ENGINEER



WE ARE HIRING!

Please contact Steve at 435-558-0216 or Steven.Rodriguez1@usda.gov if you have questions.

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

Apply On:  USAJobs.gov

- Work will primarily be performed in the mountains
- Make topographic and alignment surveys
- Prepare topographic and detail maps
- Assist in inspecting construction projects

RANGELAND SPECIALIST



WE ARE HIRING!

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

Apply On:  USAJobs.gov

- Work Outdoors!
- Coordinate Range Programs
- Apply on USAJobs.gov

CIVIL ENGINEER



WE ARE HIRING!

Please contact Steve at 435-558-0216 or Steven.Rodriguez1@usda.gov if you have questions.

APPLY NOW

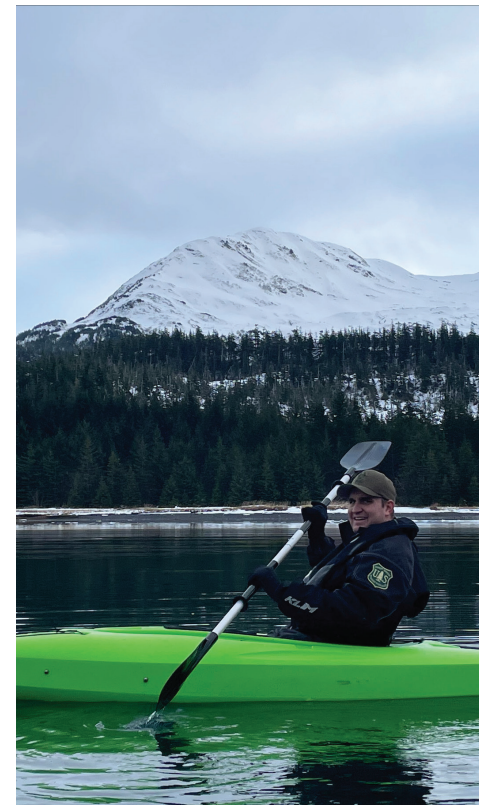
Apply On:  USAJobs.gov

- Utah
- Idaho
- Nevada
- Wyoming

Law Enforcement

Law enforcement is an integral part of the overall management of the National Forest System. Law enforcement personnel, line officers, and appropriate staff ensure that prevention, investigation, enforcement, and program management requirements are fully integrated into all National Forest System resource management programs. Law enforcement personnel operate as full partners within the Forest Service organization in carrying out the agency's mission, especially in upholding Federal laws and regulations that protect natural resources, agency employees, and the public. Accomplishment of the Forest Service law enforcement mission is a product of trust, cooperation, and collaboration between law enforcement.

Our objective is to protect the public, employees, natural resources, and other property under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service, investigate and enforce applicable laws and regulations which effect the National Forest System, and prevent criminal violations through informing and educating visitors and users of applicable laws and regulations.



Shared Stewardship

Shared Stewardship is a cooperative approach to managing Utah's forests. Utah's Shared Stewardship agreement provides a framework for the State, the United States Forest Service (USFS) and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to work together to identify forest health priorities that focus on restoration projects.

Beaver Canyon Partner Field Tour with Governor Spencer Cox and Forest Service Deputy Chief Chris French

The Region 4 Shared Stewardship Team out of Beaver Ranger District was honored to host the Deputy Chief of the Forest Service Chris French and Utah's Governor Spencer Cox. They gathered for a field tour that highlighted watershed initiatives on the forest. Other state, county and city dignitaries also attended.



Fire Prevention



Over 30,000 students, teachers, and community members from 10 counties had the opportunity to meet Smokey Bear and learn about Fire Safety



Fire Education



The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and The Fire and Smoke Model Evaluation Experiment (FASMEE) team prepared a Fire Science Day at Richfield Airbase for local high school and college students. The day highlighted a rare experimental prescribed fire (on Monroe Mountain) with lots of great science to help serve fire management into the future. Students rotated through several tables of learning about fire ecology, vegetation and soil management, technology, and partnerships. Students also toured three NASA airplanes to check out sensors that let you see visible and false color imagery from the prescribed burn. This was a great experience for everyone!

Ecosystem Group

Ecology consists of many aspects on the forests. Some of these include: Sage Grouse Habitat monitoring on both Upland and Riparian Monitoring, Seed Collection, Native Plant Program, Riparian Monitoring, Long Term/Repeat Photography, Monitoring Wildlife, and Pollinator Surveys. The Ecosystem Group Staff consists of 12 employees who provide the majority of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) support for Forest project planning.



Timber & Silviculture

The Timber and Silviculture Program consists of two zones: East and West. The East Zone is comprised of the Richfield and Fremont River Ranger Districts and the West Zone is the Beaver and Fillmore Ranger Districts. They also manage a portion of the Dixie National Forest (the old Teasdale District) via the Fremont River Ranger District.

What is Silviculture?

Most people recognize the name timber and equate it to selling forest products like tree stands, but few know what silviculture is. In layman's terms, silviculturists identify forest problems and prescribe treatments to fix those problems. Silviculture also focuses on regeneration (especially critical after a wildfire) and density management. Some of the problems they watch for are: high tree densities and/or fuel loads, insect and disease, and wildlife habitat.



Botany

Botanists and The Pollinator Coordinator at Fishlake are some of the luckiest plant and insect scientists in the world!



They work each day among the different plant forms like trees, flowers, shrubs, cacti, grasses, forbs, butterflies, bees, moths, flies, and wasps. Botanists will record ground cover type found at one foot increments along a 100-foot-long tape, with four or five tapes (like spokes of a bicycle that extend outwardly from a center T-post), for long-term allotment measurements.

They look for the survival and monitor the recovery of a plant species after a fire to keep old growth trees growing strong and removing overgrown ground shrubs that could turn a small fire into a stand replacing fire.

They protect and monitor threatened, endangered, and sensitive plant species, and plant species that are possible candidates for federal protection listing if their populations don't increase soon.

A new responsibility of some botanists is to also collect the data on pollinators within the forests, whether the pollinators are butterflies, moths, bees, flies, wasps, or other flying insects.

Botany is so cool!



Fisheries & Hydrology

Fisheries/Aquatics Biology Program:

The Fisheries program basically operates in four areas:

1. Support to other functions – primarily through determining NEPA data needs, conducting any needed inventories or monitoring, and providing resource analysis for Forest project planning
2. Conducting NEPA analysis and project implementation to improve forest fisheries habitat, primarily focusing on stream enhancement
3. Conducting monitoring and restoration projects for Forest sensitive aquatic species with Conservation Agreements or Conservation Plans with Interagency partners
4. Finally, the fisheries program focuses on general recreational fisheries and native non-game fish through habitat improvement projects and assisting the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources with monitoring activities



Hydrology Program:

The Hydrology staff conducts studies on water quantity and quality across the Forest. They are responsible for Hydrology and Soils resource analysis for Forest project planning. Other duties include:

- Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem (GDE) inventories across the forest to map new springs and wetlands, their characteristics, and how they are impacted by actions/activities
- Rosgen stream classification and Pfankuch stream stability surveys
- Assist other staff with riparian monitoring and fisheries activities
- Conduct outreach and public education
- Conduct detrimental soil disturbance (DSD) surveys across the forest pre- and post- implementation of projects like mechanical treatments and prescribed fires
- Best Management Practices (BMP) monitoring is conducted to determine the implementation and effectiveness of soil and water resource protections



Wildlife

In the third week of June of 2023 the Richfield Ranger District Wildlife Crew prepared two sites for wildlife guzzlers on the southern portion of the Old Woman Plateau.

Three days of preparations involved the wildlife crew, and help from the Youth Conservation Corps students. They used a mini-excavator and a Bobcat Skid-steer to transport the guzzler tank, plastic apron, and fencing materials to the site.

On the 24th of June, about 45 volunteers arrived to help finish installing the guzzlers and complete a fence around each site.

Volunteers were made up of Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF), Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Dedicated Hunters, and Sportsmen and Women interested in wildlife habitat improvements. The RMEF has used this project for their annual work assignment now for several years. The forest has used their volunteer help to install 28 different guzzlers on the Fishlake National Forest.

Pictures show the preparation and also elk and moose using the guzzlers once the summer rain started to fill them.



Youth Conservation Corps

Mt. Terrill Guard Station Pole Fence Building Project



Other Projects by the YCC Crew:

Reconstruction/Maintenance of multiple spring enclosure and watering systems.

Electrofishing in Clear Creek to perform survey's of native fish species.

Removal of a 10 foot fenced aspen enclosure in the Signal peak area.

Removal of an old barbed wire fence on the south end of Monroe Mountain.

Installation of post-assisted log structures in the South Fork of Box Creek.

Youth Conservation Corps

The Youth Conservation Core (YCC) program provides local youth (ages 15-18) with an opportunity to gain experience and working knowledge assisting many different departments within the Forest Service with important conservation projects. The 2023 season was the second consecutive year that the Richfield Ranger District has participated in the program, and it has been a great success.

During the 2023 season we had nine YCC employees. The season offered these employees the opportunity to help with conservation projects in areas such as Rangeland Management, Recreation, Wildlife, Timber, Fisheries, and Hydrology. Although the program does not allow for employees to be involved with the active side of wildland fire fighting, the crew was able to spend time with wildland fire program learning some of the basics associated with the program as well as, assisting them with project work across the district.

Thanks to the multiple departments, this allowed employees to have experiences in a wide range of conservation project work and learn about the different career opportunities within the Forest Service.

Guzzler Work

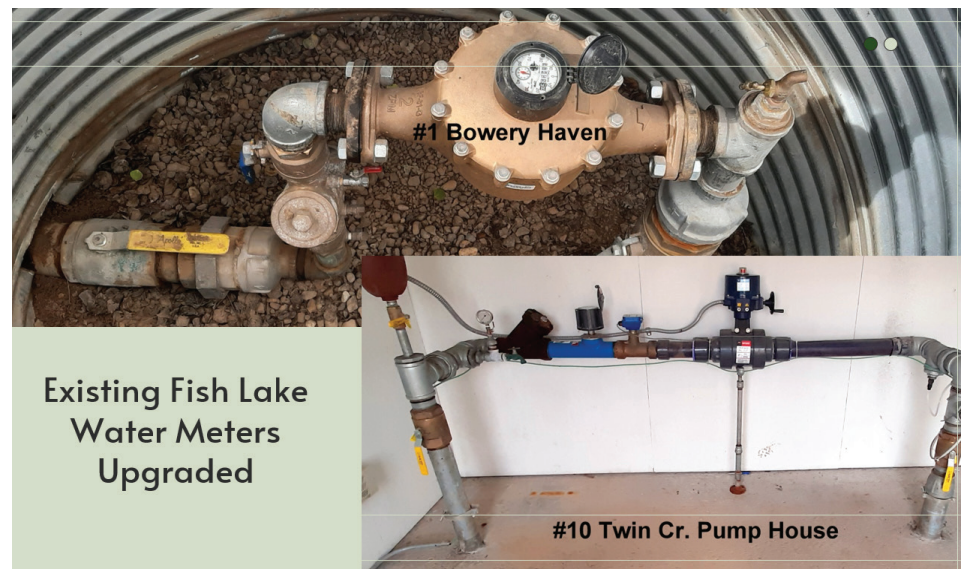


Great American Outdoors

Enacted into law on August 4, 2020, the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) continues to provide new opportunities for the USDA Forest Service to deliver benefits to the American public through major investments in infrastructure, recreation facilities, public lands access, and land and water conservation.

The GAOA has two components: (1) establishment of the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) and funded it for five years to address the maintenance backlog for five land management agencies (USDA Forest Service, National Parks Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Education) in fiscal years 2021-2025, and (2) permanent full funding of the Land and Water Conservation fund (LWCF) which provides for federal land acquisition and Forest Legacy grants to states under existing programs.

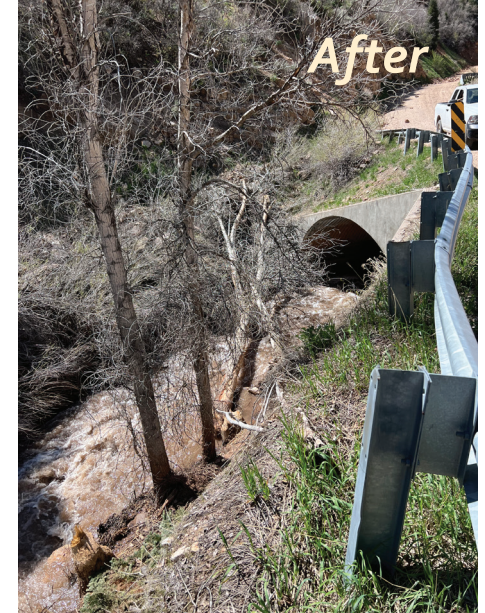
These investments in Forest Service infrastructure, recreation facilities, and public lands access demonstrate the agency's commitment to caring for the land and serving people.



Act (GAOA) Projects



Engineering





Construction - Districts

The Fillmore Ranger District received some much needed renovation this year.

The siding was replaced and painted, as well as replaced the wooden shingle roof. The office sign had been deteriorating and the base was rebuilt using rock from the Scipio quarry. New signs were placed on top. Forest employees spearheaded the project and did a great job!

The inside of the office, also got a makeover after some unexpected flood damage. New carpet and paint has been a nice upgrade to the outdated office. District employees pitched in to collect rock, hang the sign and move everything out and back into the office.

Thank you for all the hard work!



Supervisor's Office



Partnerships

We Love Our Partners!!

3-B's Forestry
American Conservation
Annabella Town
Aurora City
Aurora Fire Department
Back Country Horseman
Beaver City
Beaver County
BK Mechanical
Brigham Young University
Bureau of Land Management
Caribou-Targhee National Forest
Central Valley Town
Chuck Hammond
Circleville Town
Desert Research Station
Dixie National Forest
Elsinore Fire Department
Elsinore Town
Environmental Protection Agency
Fillmore City
Fire & Smoke Model Evaluation
Experiment (FASMEE)
Fountain Green Fire Department
Four North American Wild Sheep
Fremont Indian State Park
Friends of Pando
Glenwood Town
Hals Hammer Time
High Country Recreation
Joint Fire Science Program
Joseph Town

Junction Town
Kanosh Town
Koosharem Fire Department
Koosharem Town
Local Fire Departments
Local Law Enforcement
Long Flat Homeowners Association
Manti-LaSal National Forest
Markit Forestry
Management
Marysvalle Town
Meadow Town
Michigan Tech
Research Institute
Millard County
Monroe City
Monroe Mountain
Working Group
Mule Deer Founda-
tion
National ATV Jamboree
National Forest Foundation
National Park Service
National Weather Service
National Wild Turkey Federation
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Nature Conservancy
Otter Creek State Park
Ouray Reservation
Pacific Northwest Research Station
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah
Paiute Trail Committee



Payette National Forest
Piute County
Piute County Commission
Piute Jamboree
Piute State Park
Richfield City
Richfield Fire Department
Richfield Reaper

Rocky Mountain
ATV Jamboree
Rocky Mountain
Elk Foundation
Rocky Mountain
Research Station
Safari Club
International
Salina City
Salina Fire
Department

San Jose State University
Sand Rock Ridge Riders
Sevier County
Sevier County Commission
Sevier County Sheriffs Office
Sevier Valley OHV Club
Sigurd Fire Department
Sigurd Town
Snow College
Southern Utah OHV Association
Southern Utah University
Southwest Technical College
Sportsmen for Fish & Wildlife

Spring City Fire Department
State Institutional Trust Lands Administration
Student Conservation Association
Tall Timbers Research Station
Trout Unlimited
Tushar Mountain OHV Club
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
University of Idaho
University of Utah
University of Washington
USDA Farm Service Agency
Utah Bowman's Association
Utah Cattlemen's Association
Utah Department of Agriculture and Food
Utah Department of Natural Resources
Utah Department of Transportation
Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands
Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Utah Farm Bureau
Utah Forestry, Fire and State Lands
Utah Partners for Conservation Development
Utah Smoke Management
Utah State Parks and Recreation
Utah State University
Utah State University Extension
Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative
Utah Wool Growers Association
Ute Indian Tribe of Uintah and
Wayne County
Western Aspen Alliance
Wild Turkey Federation

Volunteers



55 Volunteers donated over 14,000 hours to the Fishlake National Forest in 2022!



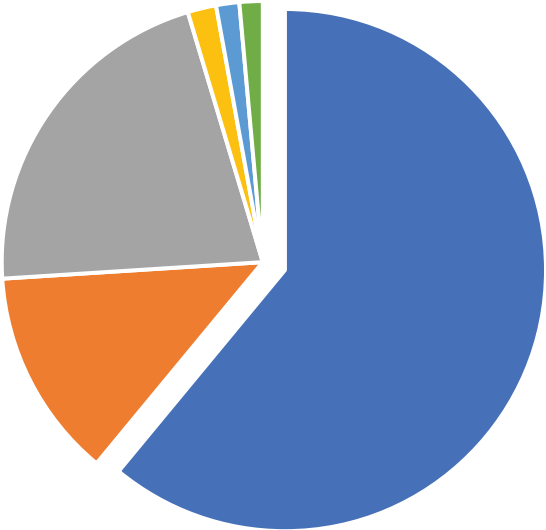
Drew and his wife Gloria. Courtesy photo by Drew Kreitzer.

Paiute Trail Hall of Fame Drew Kreitzer

Fishlake seasonal employee Drew Kreitzer was inducted into the Paiute Trail Hall of Fame this year by the Paiute Trail Committee. He was recognized at the annual banquet with a plaque. Drew has worked as a member of the motorized trail team for 21 years. He is responsible for the installation of trail counters and cameras to collect route-use data across the Forest. The information collected over the years has been very valuable in monitoring motorized use and trends, as well as, in helping officials make better informed decisions on projects. Congratulations Drew!

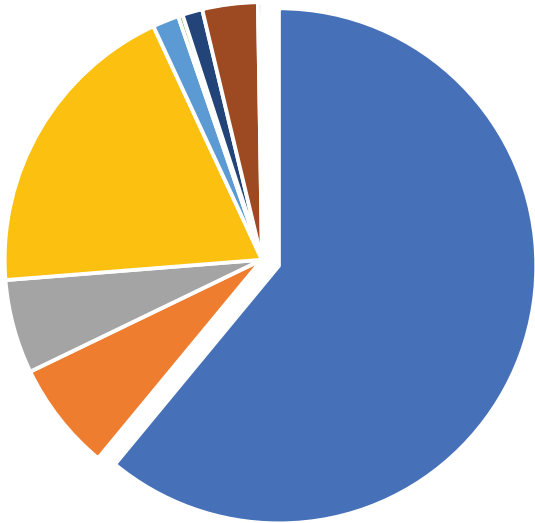
Budget

All Funding Sources Total – \$19,518,801



- Salary & Expense
- Program Funds
- Great American Outdoor Act
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- Disaster Relief
- Permanents & Trust

Expenditures Total – \$19,518,801



- Salary & Expense
- Great American Outdoor Act
- Program Funds
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- Fleet
- Carry Forward FY24
- Returned to the RO

Thank You!

Our Offices

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435-896-9233*

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138 South Main Street
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Loa, UT 84747
435-836-2800*

*Beaver Ranger District
575 South Main Street
P.O. Box E
Beaver, UT 84713
435-438-2436*

*Fillmore Ranger District
390 South Main Street
Fillmore, UT 84631
435-743-5721*

Pictured here: Great American Outdoors Act Project – The Beaver Ranger District placed large boulders in some of their busy, high-use dispersed camping and recreation areas to limit the resource damage that was taking place.



USDA Forest Service photos unless otherwise notated
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Created by the Fishlake National Forest Public Affairs Office, June 2024

