



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
UTAH STATE OFFICE  
136 E. SOUTH TEMPLE  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

600697

IN REPLY REFER TO  
1120  
(U-912)

APR 7 1981

4-1

Dear Public Land User:

Proposed decisions concerning the wilderness intensive inventory phase of public lands in the Stateline Area (where Idaho joins with Oregon, Nevada, and Utah) have been announced by the Bureau of Land Management in Idaho. This announcement appeared in the Federal Register, April 8, 1981.

The Stateline Area inventory was not completed with the statewide inventories for each state, due to appeals received in Idaho on all of the Idaho Stateline inventory units that were proposed for intensive inventory. Although the states adjoining Idaho released their proposed inventory decisions in the Spring of 1980, they have withheld their final decisions pending the analysis of public comments on this joint Statewide report. Public comments received by the Oregon, Nevada, and Utah BLM offices during their 1980 90-day comment period on their proposed decisions were utilized to formulate this coordinated proposed decision now being released.

Attached is information on the one unit (UT-020-001) that contained acreage in Utah. If you desire information on the 10 other units in the Stateline Area, it may be obtained by contacting the BLM Idaho State Office, Attention WILDERNESS, Federal Building, 550 West Fort Street, Box 042, Boise, Idaho 83742 (208-334-1770).

Unit UT-020-001 (Little Goose Creek) is not recommended as a Wilderness Study Area because it lacks outstanding opportunities for solitude and for primitive and unconfined recreation.

A 90-day comment period on the proposed decisions for the Stateline intensive inventory began April 8, 1981. Any comment you have concerning unit UT-020-001 should be sent to the BLM Idaho State office.

Thank you for your interest and participation in BLM's Wilderness Review Program.

Sincerely yours,

State Director

ACT165

LITTLE GOOSE CREEK

NV-010-164

ID-22-1

UT-020-001

SIZE AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

The unit contains a total of 11,350 acres of BLM land; 7,695 acres in Nevada, 2,325 acres in two parcels in Idaho, and 1,330 acres in Utah. The unit is about 90 miles northeast of Elko, Nevada. Topography consists of gentle rolling hills. Vegetation includes low-growing big sagebrush with scattered juniper and pinyon pine at higher elevations.

NATURALNESS:

Within the unit are some 15 miles of two track ways and approximately six miles of fenceline. These imprints of man are substantially unnoticeable in the unit as a whole and do not detract from the apparent naturalness.

SOLITUDE:

The topography is rolling, but not diverse. The highest point in the unit (in the western portion of the Nevada acreage) is 6,375 feet. The majority of the unit varies from 5,200 feet to 5,600 feet. The rolling hills provide only moderate screening. The low-growing sagebrush provides poor vegetative screening. Juniper are scattered, thus providing only moderate screening. The unit does not offer opportunities for solitude that could be considered outstanding.

PRIMITIVE AND UNCONFINED RECREATION:

Potential recreation activities include hunting, hiking, camping, horseback riding, rockhounding, and photography. No real challenging terrain is available for hiking. Horseback riding and hiking would be limited in duration due to the unit's small size. Deer hunting could be considered good. Rockhounding is considered average in the unit. The unit does not offer opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation that could be considered outstanding.

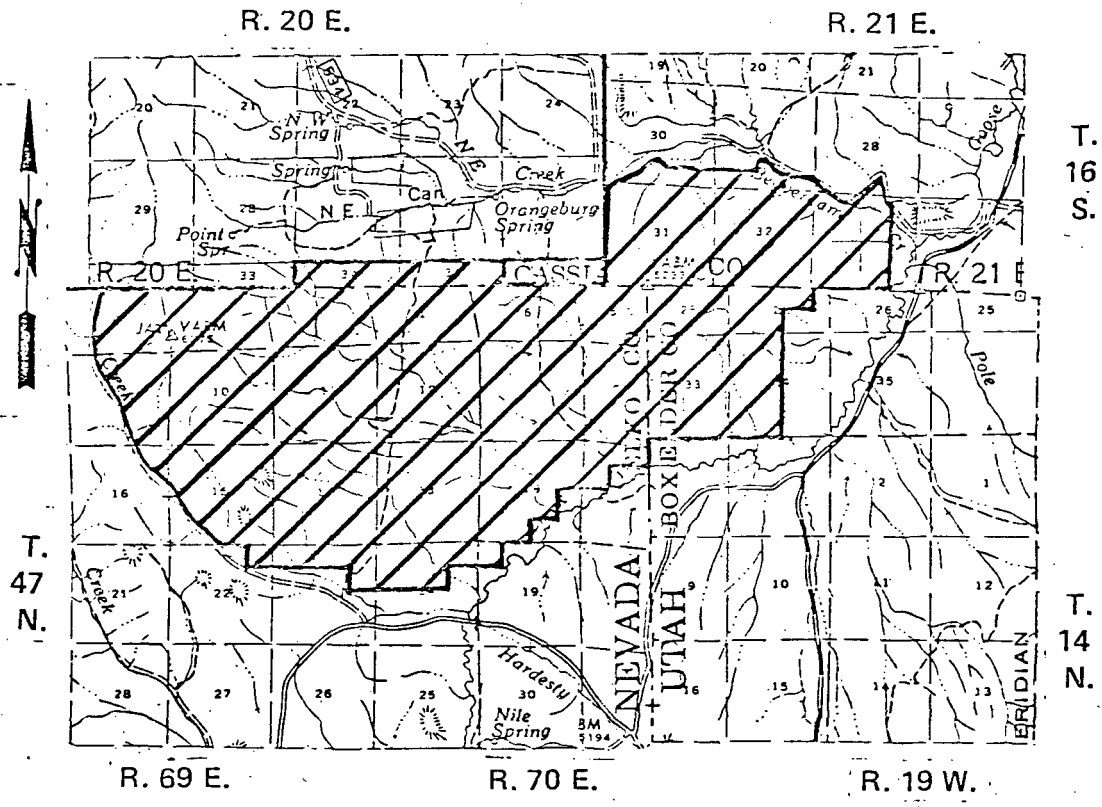
SUPPLEMENTAL VALUES:

The only known supplemental value is habitat for two sensitive species - the western burrowing owl and ferruginous hawk.



RECOMMENDATION:

Although the unit is natural in character, it does not qualify as a Wilderness Study Area because it lacks outstanding opportunities for solitude and for primitive and unconfined recreation.

LITTLE GOOSE CREEK  
 NV-010-164  
 ID-22-1  
 UT-020-001



LEGEND

-  WILDERNESS STUDY AREA
-  AREA WITHOUT CHARACTERISTICS

NEVADA - IDAHO - UTAH

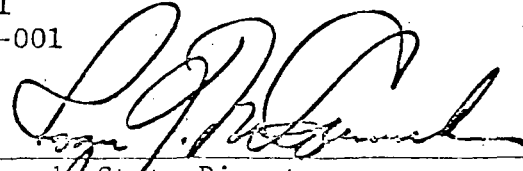
The following unit contains BLM lands in Nevada, Idaho, and Utah and is recommended as lacking in wilderness characteristics:

Little Goose Creek

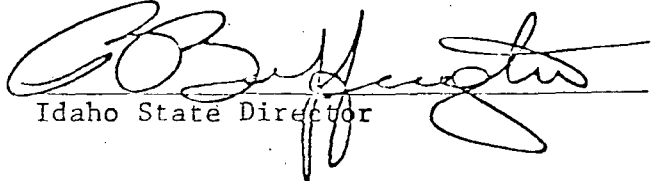
NV-010-164

ID-22-1

UT-020-001



Associate Nevada State Director



Idaho State Director

for Robert O. Buffington

for Utah State Director

UTAH - BLM INTENSIVE WILDERNESS INVENTORY  
SUMMARY BOOKLET

ERRATA SHEET

Page iii - Under Instant Study Areas

Cedar City District

North Escalante Canyon, The Gulch, Phipps-Death Hollow, Escalante Canyons (Tracts 2, 3, 4) (ISA)	120,307	21,436
Phipps-Death Hollow (ISA)	42,731	7,210
Escalante Canyons (Tract 1) (ISA)	0	806
Escalante Canyons (Tract 5) (ISA)	760	9,193

Moab District

Grand Gulch Primitive Area	34,928	0
Dark Canyon Primitive Area	<u>49,904</u>	<u>0</u>
SUBTOTAL	248,630	38,645

Page 257 - Under Rationale for Recommendation insert the following:

Though 101,000 acres of this unit were found to meet the criteria of naturalness, only a portion was found to meet the criteria of outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. This was due to the topographic and vegetative extremes found within the inventory unit. The lowlands consist of barren Mancos shale badlands and semi-barren flats, while the upper elevations surrounding Mt. Ellen have a diversity of topography and vegetation. Consequently, the Director has authorized boundary adjustments of the proposed WSA to exclude that portion not meeting the wilderness criteria. Therefore, a portion of the unit of approximately 24,000 acres is recommended for wilderness study.

Page 261 - Under Rationale for Recommendation insert the following:

The portion of sub-unit #241A which has remained in a natural condition contains two extremely different and distinct types of topography. While the portion containing the Dirty Devil, Marinus, Butler, and Stair Canyons meets the wilderness criteria; that portion above the canyon rims is relatively flat and lightly vegetated with low desert shrubs. Because of this distinct difference in topography, the Director has authorized boundary adjustments which would retain for further wilderness review only that portion which includes the canyons and slick rock areas. Therefore, approximately 26,000 acres of sub-unit #241A west of the Dirty Devil River are recommended for wilderness study.

Those natural portions of sub-unit #241B are not recommended for further wilderness consideration.

Page 273 - Under Rationale for Recommendation insert the following under the first paragraph:

Because of the distinct difference in both topography and vegetative cover found within sub-unit #248B, only a portion meets the wilderness criteria. In view of this, the Director has authorized the boundary adjustments of the WSA proposal which would retain for further study only that portion of sub-unit #248B which meets the wilderness criteria. Therefore, approximately 26,000 acres of sub-unit #248B surrounding Mt. Pennell is recommended for wilderness study.

Page 513 - Should be as follows:

North Escalante Canyon, The Gulch, Phipps-Death Hollow, Escalante Canyons (Tracts 2, 3, and 4) (ISA)	X	
Phipps-Death Hollow (ISA)	X	
Escalante Canyons (Tract 1) (ISA)		X
Escalante Canyons (Tract 5) (ISA)	X	

Page 514 - Under Instant Study Area Name - delete Phipps Death Hollow.

After page 515, add maps 1 and 2 for ISA's

The following changes or additions have been made under the A. SIZE heading for certain Cedar City District units:

Page 59 - UT-040-061, Steep Creek

Change to The unit contains 24,391 acres of public lands and encloses 1,907 acres of state land. The area with wilderness characteristics contains 22,034 acres of public lands and encloses 1,907 acres of state land.

Page 70 - UT-040-077, Mud Spring Canyon

Add The proposed Wilderness Study Area contains 36,598 acres of public land and encloses 3,041 acres of state land.

Page 79 - UT-040-080, Fifty Mile Mountain

Add The area with wilderness characteristics contains 146,143 acres of public lands and encloses 12,341 acres of state lands.

Page 87 - UT-040-082, Scorpion

Add The two areas with wilderness characteristics contain 35,884 acres of public lands and encloses 1,280 acres of state lands.

Page 108 - UT-040-132, Red Mountain

Add The area with wilderness characteristics contains 18,250 acres of public lands and encloses 800 acres of state lands and 40 acres of private lands.

Page 127 - UT-040-143/AZ-010-041, Canaan Mountain

Change to The interstate inventory unit contains 69,500 acres of public lands (62,710 acres Utah/6,790 acres Arizona) and encloses 5,143 acres of state lands in Utah and 320 acres of private lands in Utah. The area with wilderness characteristics contains 53,619 acres of public lands (47,170 acres Utah/6,449 acres Arizona) and encloses 3,863 acres of state lands in Utah.

Page 128 - UT-040-143/AZ-010-041, Canaan Mountain

Under B. NATURALNESS, the following should be added:

Add The Arizona portion of the Canaan Mountain unit contains 6,790 acres, of which 80 acres have been eliminated in Sec. 5, T. 41 N., R. 6 W. because of the presence of the Colorado City landfill and a water storage reservoir right-of-way. An additional 120 acres in Sec. 8, T. 41 N., R. 6 W., has received cumulative ORV wood-cutting impacts. A windmill adjacent to the boundary and state line eliminates an acre and in accordance with OAD 78-61, Change 3, a 140-acre narrow finger of public land in Rosy Canyon on the east boundary of the unit is eliminated.

Page 131 - UT-040-143, Canaan Mountain

Replace Replace map with one attached.

Page 135 - UT-040-145, Orderville Canyon

Add The area with wilderness characteristics contains 1,480 acres of public lands.

Page 143 - UT-040-148, Spring Creek Canyon

Add The area with wilderness characteristics contains 1,607 acres of public lands.

Page 193 - UT-040-230, Parunuweap Canyon

Add The unit contains 47,696 acres of public lands and encloses 3,840 acres of state lands.

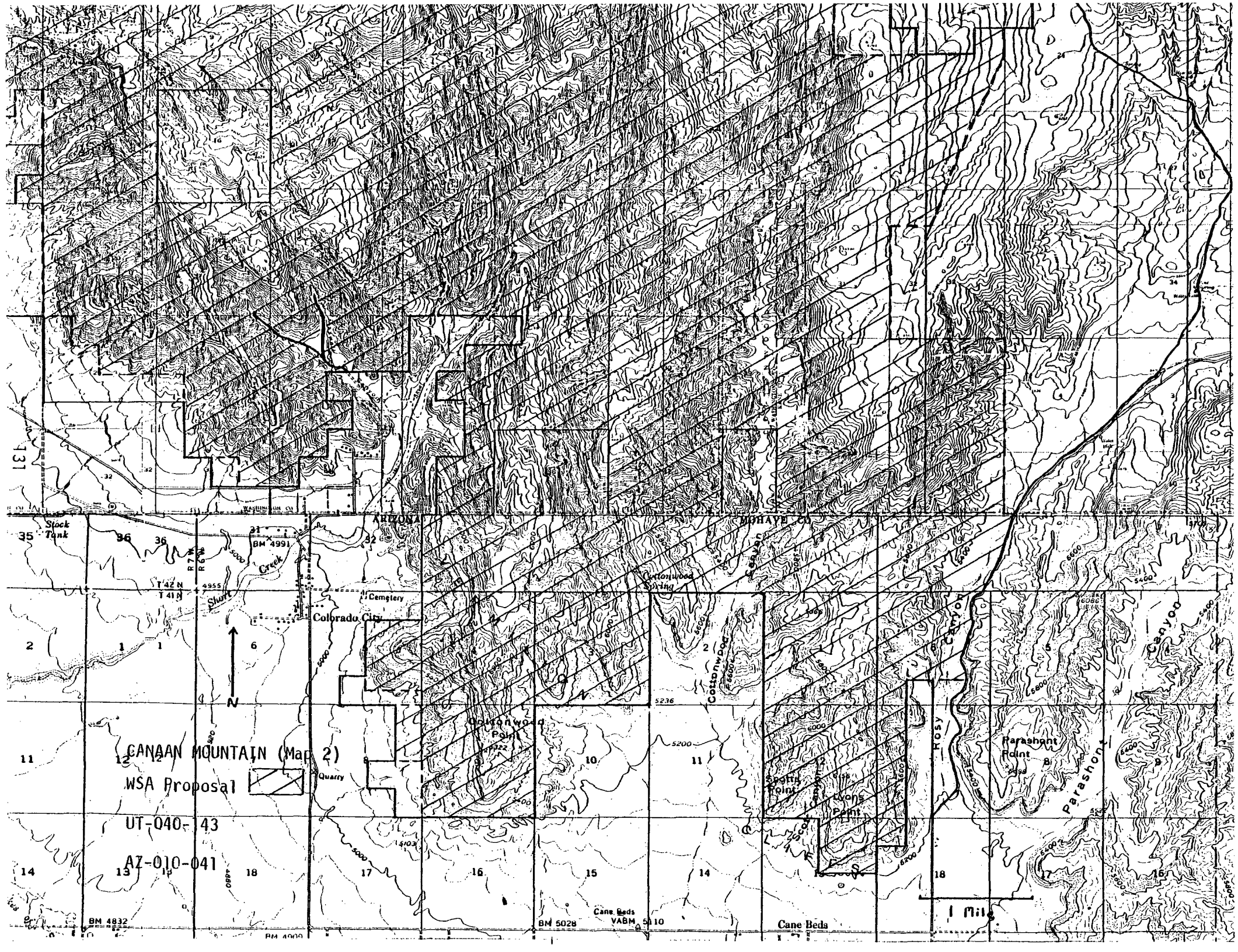
Page 205 - UT-040-247, Paria-Hackberry

Change to The unit contains 196,431 acres of public lands and encloses 19,640 acres of state lands and 400 acres of private lands. The size of the area containing wilderness characteristics is 150,080 acres of public lands and encloses 14,420 acres of state land. The 680 acres Nipple Ranch and road is exterior to the unit.

Page 233 - UT-040-268, The Blues

Add The combined area which has been determined to possess wilderness characteristics contains 19,030 acres of public land and encloses 1,280 acres of state land.





131

35

2

11

14

BM 4832

### CANAAN MOUNTAIN (Map 2)

WSA Proposal

UT-040-43

AZ-010-041

BM 4991



18

BM 4900

Colorado City

Quarry

BM 5028

Cemetery

Cottonwood Spring

Quarry

VABM 5110

Cottonwood Spring

Cottonwood Spring

Quarry

Cane Beds

Cottonwood Spring

Cottonwood Spring

Quarry

Cane Beds

Cottonwood Spring

Cottonwood Spring

Quarry

Cane Beds

Cottonwood Spring

Cottonwood Spring

Quarry

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Cottonwood Spring

Cottonwood Spring

Quarry

Cane Beds

Cottonwood Spring

Cottonwood Spring

Quarry

Cane Beds

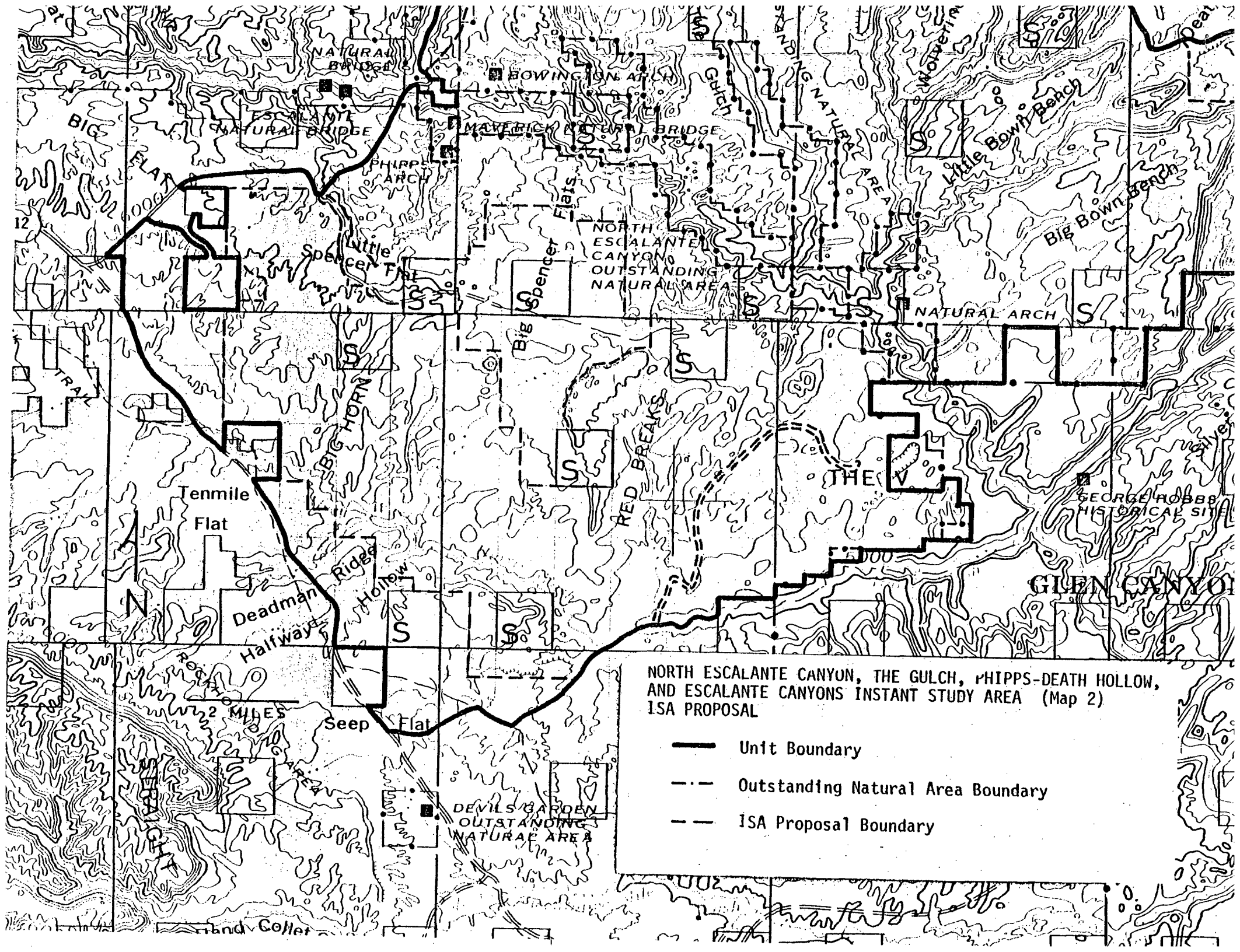
Cottonwood Spring

Cottonwood Spring

Quarry

Cane Beds

1 Mile



NATURAL BRIDGE

BOWLING GREEN ARCH

MAYHEW NATURAL BRIDGE

NORTH ESCALANTE CANYON  
OUTSTANDING NATURAL AREA

NATURAL ARCH

Tenmile Flat

Deadman Halfway

Seep Flat

DEVILS GARDEN  
OUTSTANDING NATURAL AREA

GEORGE ROBBS  
HISTORICAL SITE

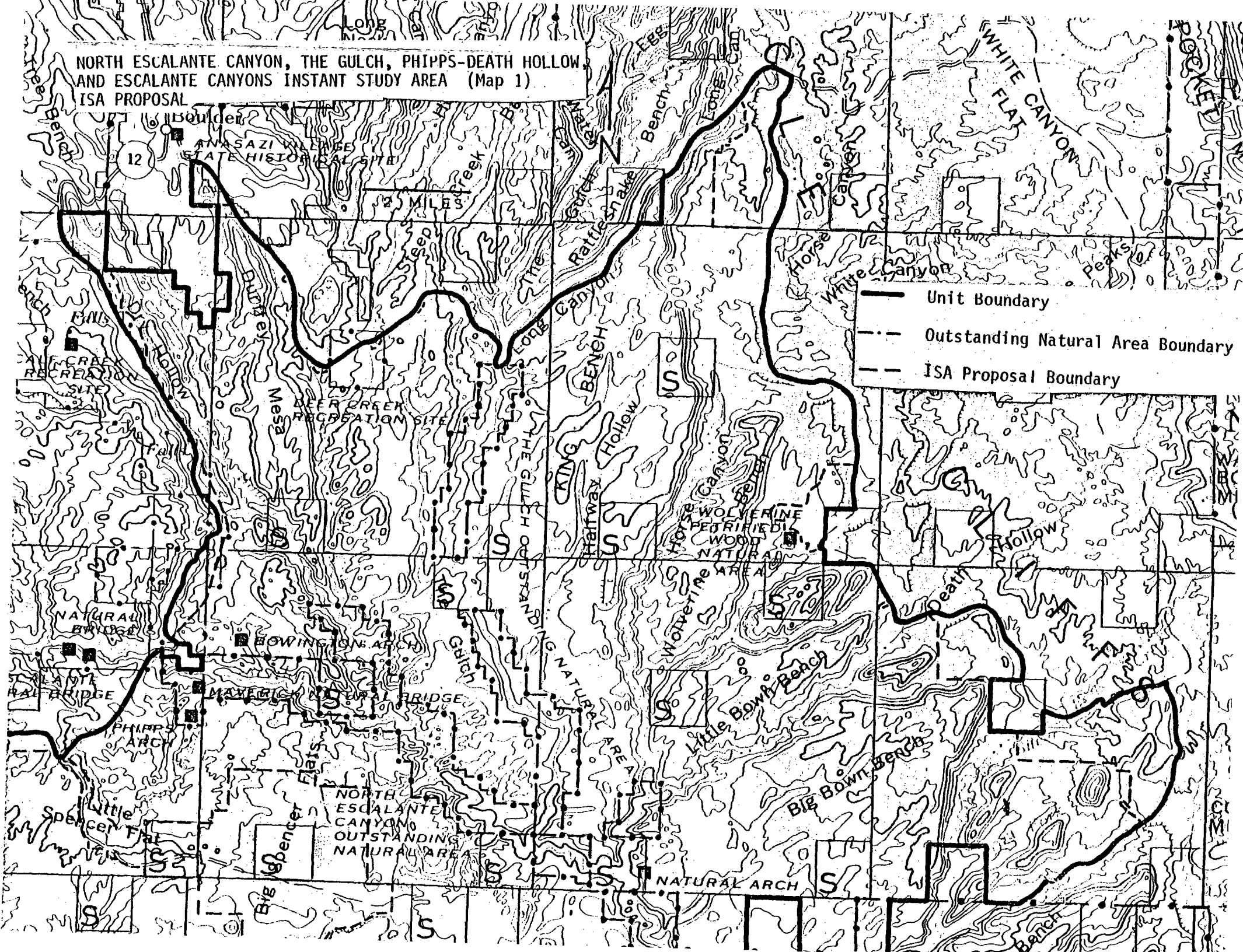
GLEN CANYON

NORTH ESCALANTE CANYON, THE GULCH, PHIPPS-DEATH HOLLOW,  
AND ESCALANTE CANYONS INSTANT STUDY AREA (Map 2)  
ISA PROPOSAL

- Unit Boundary
- - - Outstanding Natural Area Boundary
- · - ISA Proposal Boundary

2 MILES

NORTH ESCALANTE CANYON, THE GULCH, PHIPPS-DEATH HOLLOW  
 AND ESCALANTE CANYONS INSTANT STUDY AREA (Map 1)  
 ISA PROPOSAL





# United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO

1120  
(U-912)

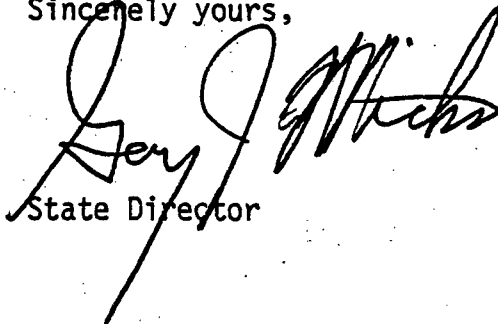
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
UTAH STATE OFFICE  
136 E. SOUTH TEMPLE  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

Dear Public Land User:

This publication and accompanying maps indicate the final decision on the intensive wilderness inventory conducted by the Bureau of Land Management on four Instant Study Areas (ISAs) in Utah. These ISAs are Joshua Tree, Link Flat, Bookcliff, and Devil's Garden. Based upon the findings of the inventory and comments received during the comment period, my final decision is that none of the ISAs possess wilderness characteristics as described in the 1964 Wilderness Act. These areas will be recommended to the Secretary of the Interior as nonsuitable for wilderness designation based on the lack of these wilderness characteristics. Section 603(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) provides "that the Secretary of the Interior shall report to the President by July 1, 1980, his recommendations as to the suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness on those areas which the Secretary had prior to November 1, 1975, formally identified as natural or primitive areas."

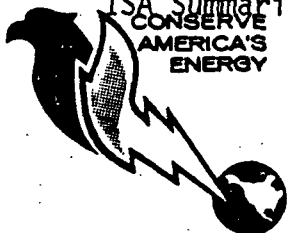
The majority of comments received on these four ISAs supported the proposed decision as announced on January 17, 1980. Two commentators felt that both Link Flat and Joshua Tree ISAs had wilderness characteristics, however, they did not give evidence or information to indicate where and to what extent the wilderness characteristics existed. Both of the commentators also stated that the small size of the areas should not be a factor to consider. It is, however, a requirement of the 1964 Wilderness Act that an area be 5,000 acres or more. Therefore, my decision is to recommend to the Secretary that the four ISAs lack the appropriate wilderness characteristics and should not be designated as wilderness areas.

Sincerely yours,



State Director

Enclosures  
ISA Summaries  
CONSERVE  
AMERICA'S  
ENERGY



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## ISA Summaries

Devil's Garden - This ISA is located in Garfield County, Utah, and contains 640 acres. Man-made impacts within the area include two roads; a "way"; and a developed picnic area including two toilets, three picnic units and parking facilities. An old access road had been scarified and seeded but it is substantially noticeable. These impacts are highly visible from most of the inventory area due to the lack of topographic and vegetative screening. The location of the impacts and their cumulative impact have resulted in the loss of naturalness characteristics. The area's topographic and low growing vegetation preclude opportunities for solitude and make it difficult to avoid the sights, sounds and evidence of other people in the area. The Devil's Garden ISA does not satisfy the naturalness criteria nor does it contain outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Comments received during the comment period substantiated the inventory information and agreed that naturalness and outstanding opportunities do not exist within the ISA.

Joshua Tree - This ISA is located in the extreme southwestern portion of Utah and is 1,040 acres in size. The only evidence of man identified in this inventory area is a small area of mineral exploration located in the southern part of the area. The impact consists of two mine shafts, a spoil pile, and an adit. This is not substantially noticeable and does not detract from the naturalness of the area. It would be difficult to avoid the sights and sounds of other people in most of the inventory unit because of the small size, the openness of the desert shrub vegetative cover, and the general lack of topographic relief. Opportunities for solitude were not considered to be outstanding within the area. There was a limited number of opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation activities, but they were not outstanding.

The Joshua Tree ISA possesses wilderness characteristics of naturalness but lacks the outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation and does not contain minimum size required by the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Comments received during the comment period generally agreed with the findings of the inventory and proposed decision. Some disagreement was expressed but no specific information was given that would cause a change in the proposal. Therefore, this ISA is determined to lack wilderness characteristics.

Bookcliff - This ISA is located in eastern Utah, approximately 75 miles south of Vernal. The area is 400 acres in size. The naturalness of the area has been impaired by the imprints of man. These imprints are noticeable within the area and include a "way," a bladed fence line and a barbed-wire fence which divides the area north and south. The "way"



runs through the western half of the area and ends at the fence. Vegetative manipulation has occurred along the western edge of the area and is visually evident. Opportunities for solitude are not outstanding because of the small size of the area and the minimal topographic relief. The area offers few primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities due to its small size, which also limits the types of activities. The gently rolling topography presents no special challenge or interest.

The Bookcliff ISA does not satisfy the naturalness criteria nor does it contain outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation.

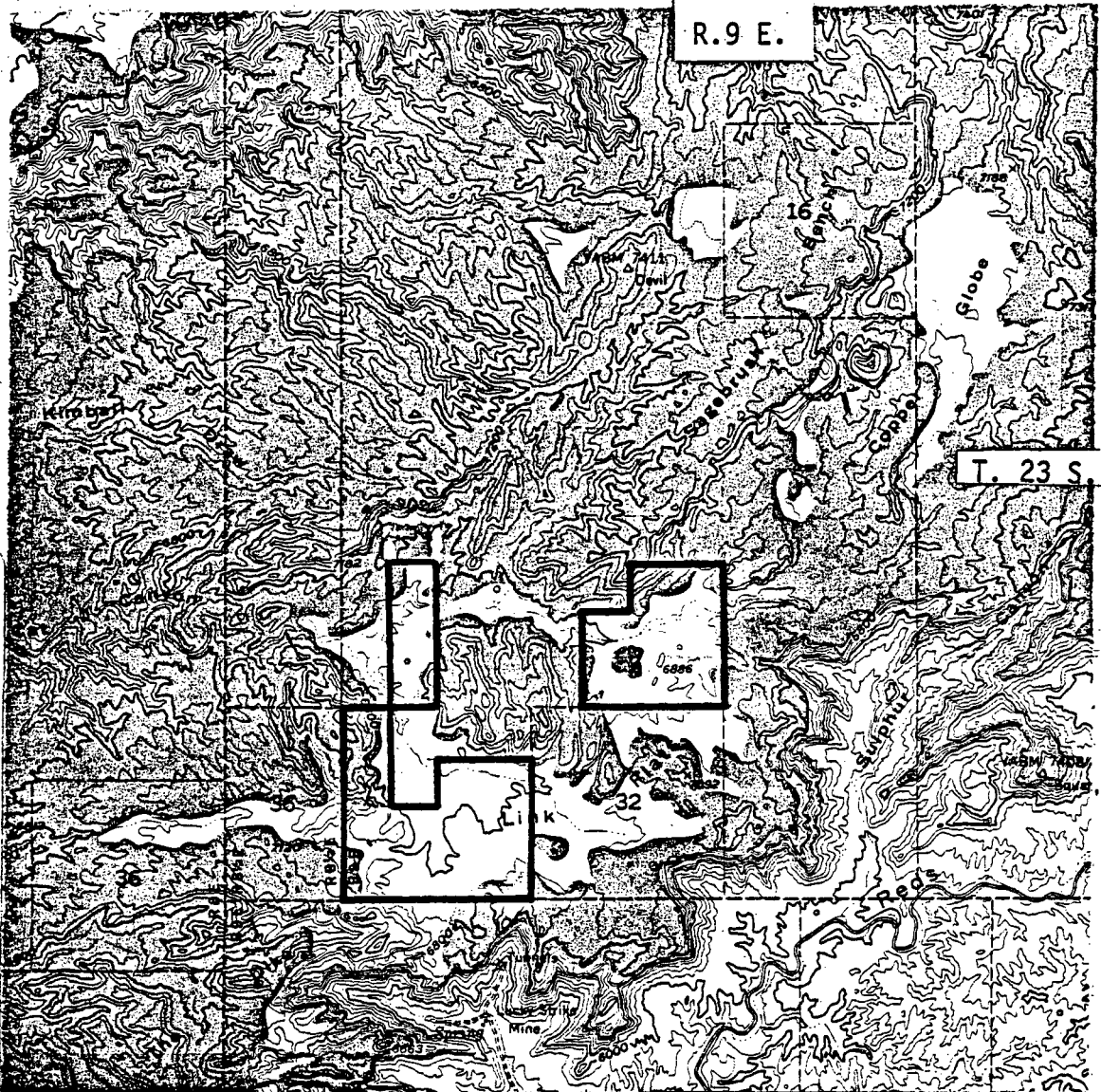
Comments received on this ISA supported the findings of the inventory and the proposed decision.

Link Flat - This ISA is approximately 75 miles west of Moab, Utah, in Emery County and contains 912 acres of public land in three separate parcels. The naturalness of the area has been impaired by the imprints of man. These imprints are noticeable and include three and three-quarter miles of road, approximately one mile of "way," a stock reservoir, and evidence of mining claim assessment work. The small size of the three parcels, the configuration, and the general lack of vegetative and topographic screening make it difficult to avoid the sights, sounds and evidence of other people in most of the unit, thus the opportunities for solitude would not be outstanding. The area also lacks outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation because of many of the same factors.

The Link Flat ISA does not possess wilderness characteristics of naturalness or outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation.

Comments received on this ISA generally supported the proposed decision and findings of the inventory. Some disagreement was expressed but no specific information was given relative to wilderness characteristics either existing in the quantity or quality to be considered outstanding.

LINK FLAT INSTANT STUDY AREA

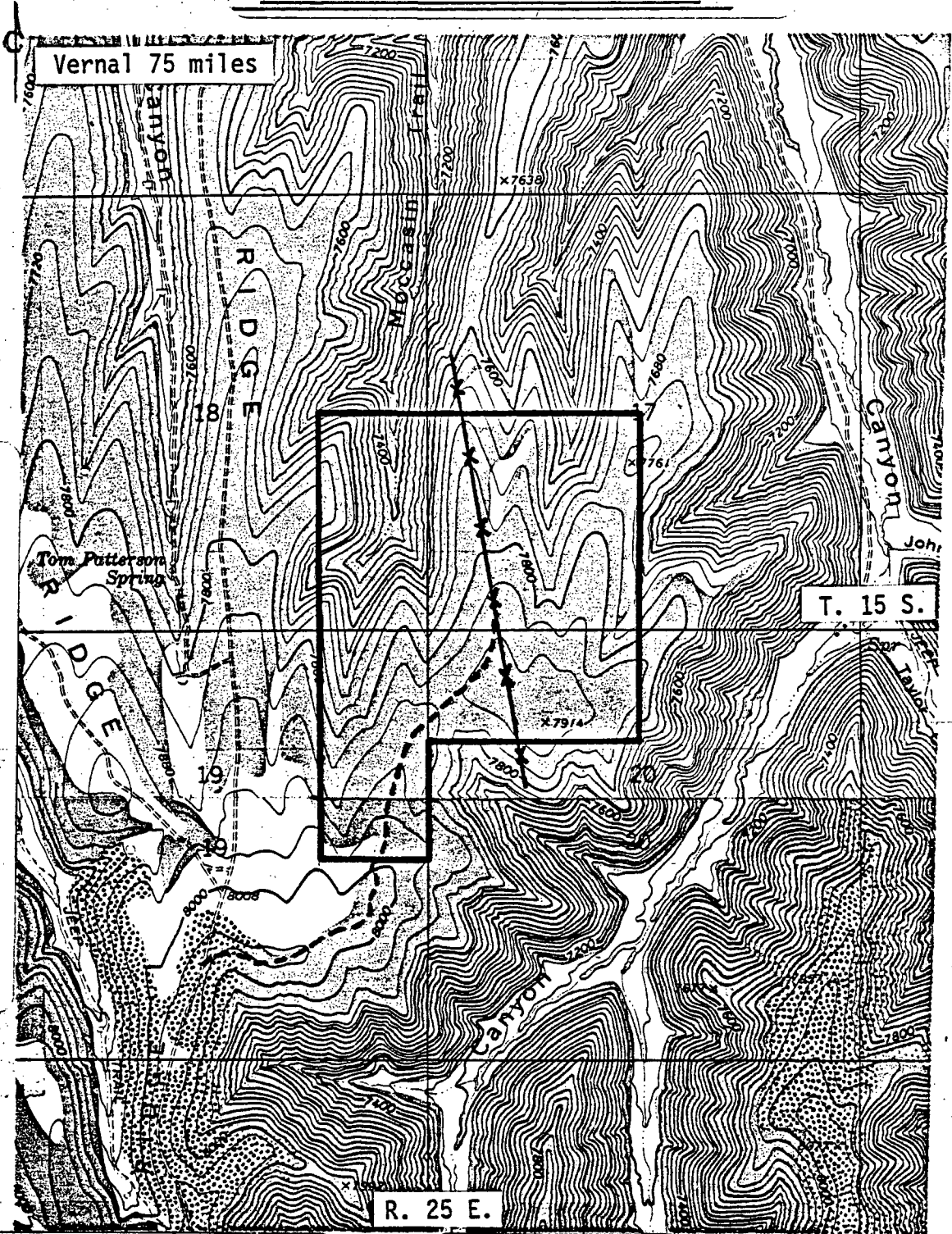


LEGEND

———— Boundary of Natural Area

Scale: 1:62,500

BOOKCLIFF INSTANT STUDY AREA



NORTH

Scale: 1:24,000

LEGEND

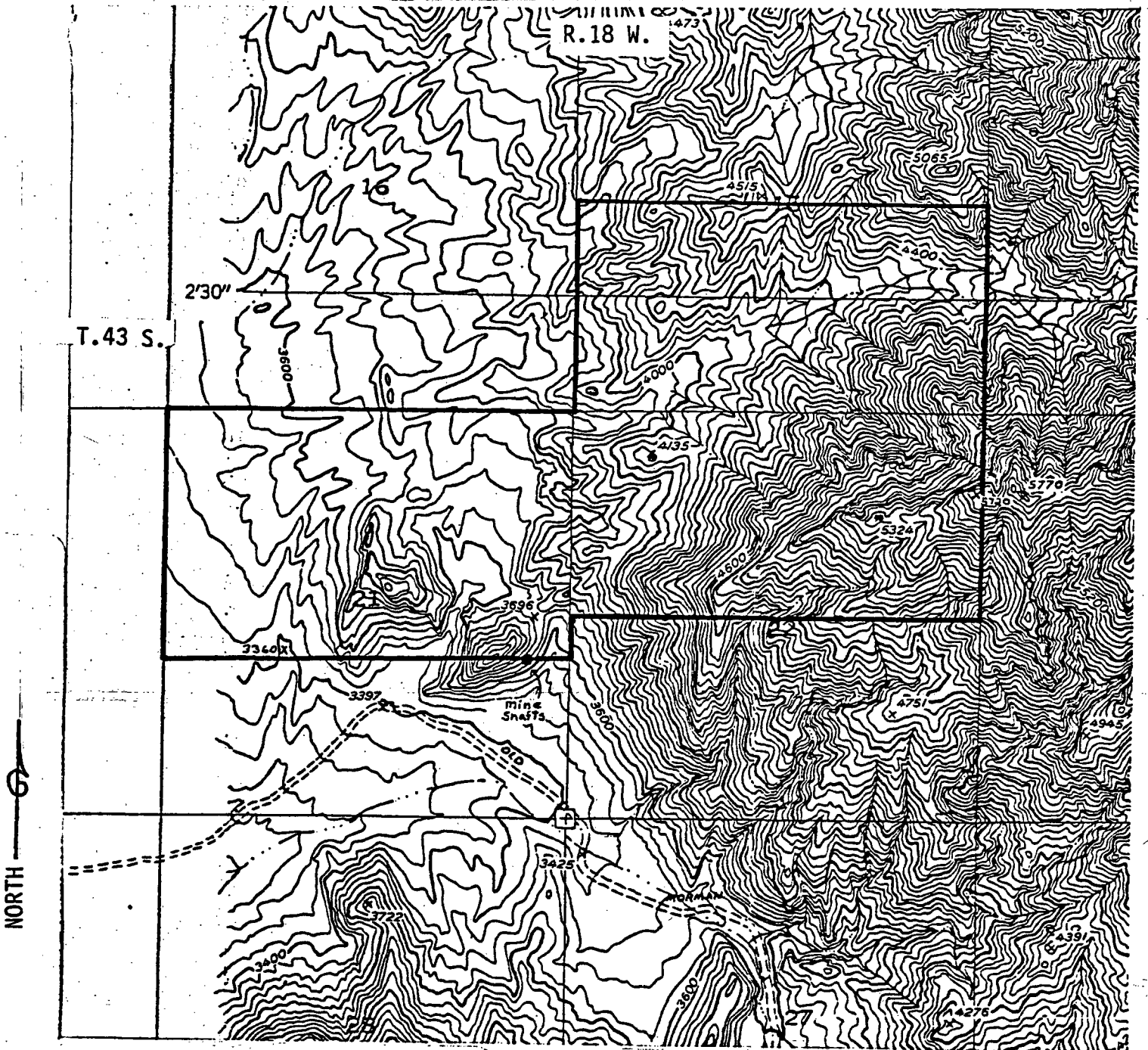
FENCE — x — x — x —

WAY - - - - -

BOUNDARY OF NATURAL AREA —————




JOSHUA TREE INSTANT STUDY AREA

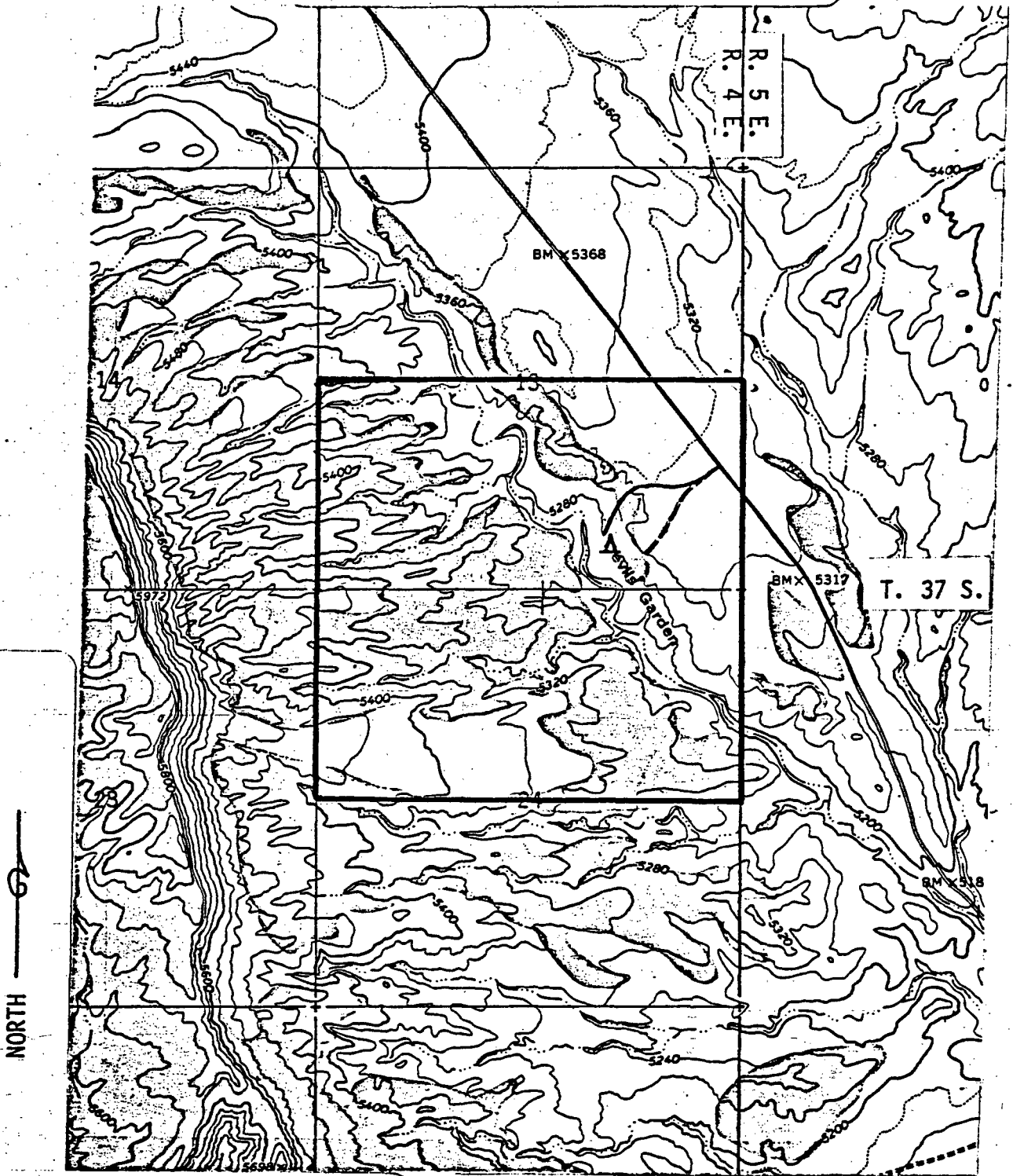


Scale: 1:24,000

LEGEND





Boundary of Natural Area 

DEVIL'S GARDEN INSTANT STUDY AREA



Scale: 1:24,000

LEGEND

- Outstanding Natural Area Boundary 
- Road 
- Way 
- Picnic Area 

8500  
(U931)

# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
 UTAH STATE OFFICE  
 136 E. SOUTH TEMPLE  
 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

Dear Public Land User:

The Bureau of Land Management's intensive wilderness inventory findings and proposal for a Wilderness Study Area of approximately 91,000 acres within the Dirty Devil inventory unit (UT-050-236) were published on April 11, 1979. This accelerated wilderness inventory was conducted on a 356,000 acre inventory unit wherein minerals activities have been proposed. Following the April publication of the proposed decision, a comment period followed in which we received comments concerning the proposal. A number of comments were received on the unit which both agreed and disagreed with the proposal. The findings indicated that a portion of the unit did not meet the criteria for a Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and other parts did. Subsequent to the comment period, court action followed which delayed any decision on this unit. That court action has now concluded and the unit has been re-evaluated in terms of the decision rendered by the court.

The attached map depicts my decision on the unit after analysis of all comments and the decision by the court. Two areas were found to contain wilderness characteristics and are, therefore, designated Wilderness Study Areas. Area "A" is approximately 61,000 acres in size. Area "B" is approximately 25,000 acres in size. The two areas together total approximately 86,000 acres. Both areas will be further reviewed for their wilderness potential during the study phase of the wilderness review program.

A description of the boundary for both areas is enclosed. More detailed information concerning the inventory of the unit UT-050-236 may be obtained from the BLM District Manager, 150 East 900 North, Richfield, Utah 84701.

Upon publication of this decision in the Federal Register (February 15, 1980), a 30-day protest period is initiated. Any person who has disagreement with this decision and has information which may influence this decision, may file a written protest with: BLM State Director, University Club Bldg., 136 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.

Protests must be filed with the State Director by 4:30 p.m., March 17, 1980. The protest must specify the unit and include a clear concise statement of reasons for the protest and must furnish supporting data as to the existence

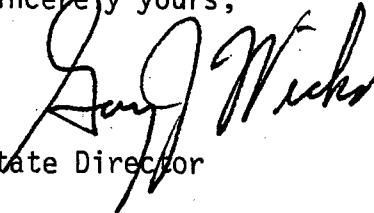


*Save Energy and You Serve America!*

or nonexistence of wilderness characteristics. Should protests be filed on this inventory unit, the State Director will consider such protests and issue a decision which will be subject to appeal to the Department of the Interior, Board of Land Appeals (IBLA). If the decision on the protest remains consistent with this decision, only the protester may appeal to the IBLA. If such decision reflects changes from this decision based upon information submitted by the protester, any adversely affected person may appeal to the IBLA.

The final decision announced herein is scheduled to become effective as of 4:30 p.m., March 17, 1980 (close of protest period), if no protest is filed. At that time, the portions of the unit not within the WSA's will no longer be subject to the management restrictions imposed by Section 603 of Public Law 94-579. For purposes of this decision, the unit is considered separable from every other unit under wilderness inventory. Should any amendment to this decision be made by the Utah State Director, as a result of new information received following this announcement, that amendment will be formally published in the Federal Register and will not become effective until 30 days following such publication. This 30-day extension will apply only to the amendment and not the original decision.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Wecker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "G".

State Director

Enclosures  
Map  
Boundary Description

UT-050-236A - DIRTY DEVIL  
BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point where the Twin Corral Flats - Sams Mesa Road crosses the west line of R. 15 E.; thence west approximately 4 miles to the west line of Sec. 16, T. 30 S., R. 14 E. Thence north 1 mile, west 1 mile, and south approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile to a road down Sams Mesa Box Canyon. Thence along the north side of this road to the Dirty Devil River. Thence southwesterly across the Dirty Devil River to the nearest rim of the canyon. Thence northerly along the upper rim of the canyon to the east line of Sec. 32, T. 29 S., R. 13 E. Thence north 1 mile, and west  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile to the canyon rim. Thence following the rim of the canyon around the head of Beaver Canyon and northerly to the west line of Sec. 36, T. 28 S., R. 12 E. Thence north  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile, and west  $\frac{3}{8}$  mile to the canyon rim south of Lower Sand Slide. Thence along the rim of the canyon, around the head of an unnamed canyon southwest of Upper Sand Slide to the SE corner of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 22, T. 28 S., R. 12 E. Thence northeasterly across the Dirty Devil River to the nearest canyon rim. Thence along the rim of the canyon, around the head of Bucks Canyon, around the head of Pasture Canyon, to the north line of Sec. 16, R. 28 S., R. 13 E. Thence west  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile, and south  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to the canyon rim. Thence along the canyon rim to the north line of Sec. 32, T. 28 S., R. 13 E.; thence west  $\frac{7}{8}$  mile, south 1 mile, east 1 mile, and north  $\frac{5}{8}$  mile to the Robbers Roost Canyon rim. Thence along the canyon rim, around the head of White Roost Canyon, the head of North Fork of Robbers Roost Canyon to the NW corner of Sec. 16, T. 28 S., R. 14 E. Thence south 1 mile to the canyon rim. Thence following the rim of the canyon, around the head of the Middle Fork and the South Fork of Robbers Roost Canyon to the east line of Sec. 32, T. 28 S., R. 14 E. Thence north  $\frac{7}{8}$  mile, west 1 mile, and south 1 mile to the canyon rim. Thence along the rim of the canyon for approximately  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles to the east line of Sec. 36, T. 28 S., R. 13 E.; thence north  $\frac{7}{8}$  mile, west 1 mile, and south  $\frac{5}{8}$  mile to the canyon rim; thence southwesterly approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to the north line of Sec. 2, T. 29 S., R. 13 E. Thence west  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, and south  $\frac{1}{8}$  mile to the canyon rim. Thence along the rim of the canyon, around Angles Point to the SW corner of Sec. 2, T. 29 S., R. 13 E. Thence east 1 mile, and north  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to the canyon rim. Thence following the rim of the canyon around the heads of an unnamed canyon, No Mans Canyon, Larry Canyon, around Bull Pasture Point, and around two tributary canyons to Twin Corral Box Canyon to the east line of Sec. 26, T. 29 S., R. 14 E. Thence south  $1\frac{1}{8}$  miles, west 1 mile, south 1 mile, and east  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to the canyon rim. Thence along the rim of the canyon, around the head of Sams Mesa Box Canyon to the Twin Corral Flats - Sams Mesa Road, thence southwesterly along this road to the west line of R. 15 E., the point of beginning.


UT-050-236B - DIRTY DEVIL  
BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the SW corner of Sec. 32, T. 29 S., R. 16 E.; thence east along the south line of Sec. 32 to the Glen Canyon NRA boundary; thence east 1 mile, thence south 2 miles to the NE corner of Sec. 16, T. 30 S., R. 16 E.; thence west 1 mile, south 1 mile, and east 1 mile; thence south 3 miles to the SE corner of Sec. 33, T. 30 S., R. 16 E.; thence west 1 mile, north 1 mile, west 1 mile, south 1 mile to the SW corner of Sec. 32, T. 30 S., R. 16 E. Thence west  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile and south  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to the road down the South Fork of Happy Canyon. Thence northerly along the north side of this road to the SE corner of Sec. 36, T. 30 S., R. 15 E.; thence north 1 mile, and west  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to the road in the bottom of the South Fork of Happy Canyon. Thence along the north side of this road to the west line of Sec. 32, T. 30 S., R. 15 E. Thence north  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, west 1 mile, and south  $\frac{3}{8}$  mile to the road in the bottom of Happy Canyon, thence along the north side of this road to the west line of R. 15 E. Thence north 2 miles to a road leading from Twin Corral Flats to Sams Mesa. Thence easterly along this road to the west line of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 16, T. 20 S., R. 14 E.; thence south to the SW corner of Sec. 16, T. 30 S., R. 15 E. Thence east 1 mile, north 1 mile, and west approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to the Twin Corral Flats - Sams Mesa Road. Thence northerly along the east side of this road to its junction with the Hans Flats road; thence easterly along the south side of this road to the NW corner of Sec. 36, T. 29 S., R. 16 E. Thence south one mile, east 1 mile, and north  $\frac{7}{8}$  mile to the Hans Flats road. Thence easterly along this road for approximately 1- $\frac{1}{8}$  miles to the west line of Sec. 32, T. 29 S., R. 15 E. Thence south  $\frac{7}{8}$  mile to the SW corner of Sec. 32, T. 29 S., R. 15 E., the point of beginning.

# DIRTY DEVIL RIVER WILDERNESS INVENTORY

## LEGEND

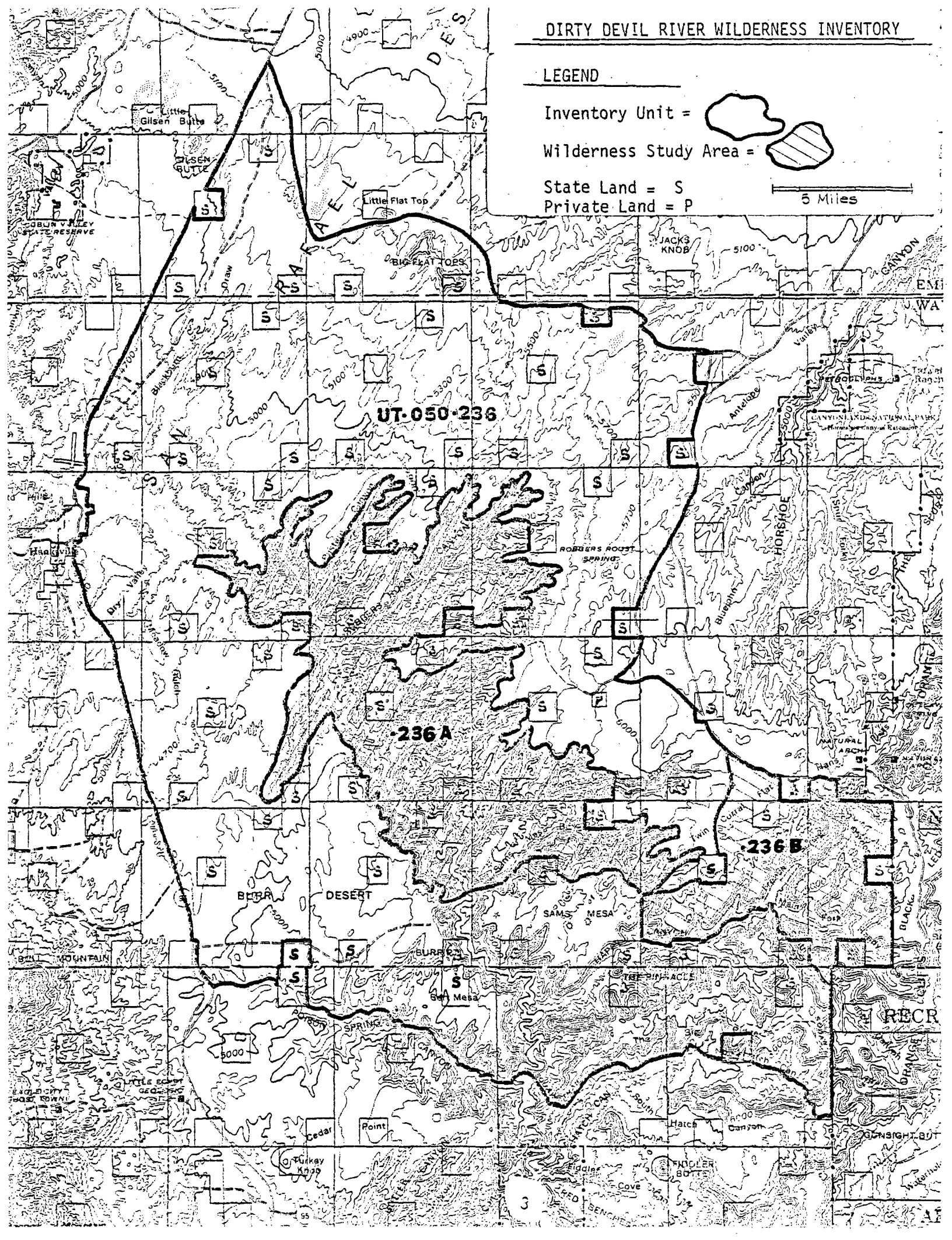
Inventory Unit = 

Wilderness Study Area = 

State Land = S

Private Land = P

 5 Miles





# United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO

8500  
(U931)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
UTAH STATE OFFICE  
136 E. SOUTH TEMPLE  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

Dear Public Land User:

This letter is to inform you of my decision to identify a 68,910-acre Wilderness Study Area in the Deep Creek Mountains and my recommendation to the Secretary of the Interior to permit a 26,927-acre emergency withdrawal in the area to expire on May 2, 1980.

The attached map depicts my decision to identify a 68,910-acre portion of the Deep Creek Mountains inventory unit UT-020-060, UT-050-020 as a Wilderness Study Area. The area indicated was found to contain wilderness characteristics as described in the Wilderness Act of 1964 and is, therefore, identified as a Wilderness Study Area.

The appropriate inventory and associated public comment period have been conducted according to provisions of Sections 201(a) and 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 and Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act. A number of comments (715) were received during the comment period that both agreed and disagreed (or suggested changes) with my proposal, which was published on November 16, 1979. No specific information which would justify a modification of the proposal was presented in the comments, therefore, my earlier proposal is unchanged. The Wilderness Study Area listed herein will be further reviewed for its wilderness potential during the study phase of the wilderness review program.

Upon publication of this decision in the Federal Register, a 30-day protest period is initiated. Any person who has disagreement with this decision on this unit and has information which may influence this decision, may file a written protest with: BLM Utah State Director, University Club Building, 136 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111. The protest must specify the unit and include a clear and concise statement of reasons for the protest and must furnish supporting information on the presence or absence of the wilderness characteristics as described in the Wilderness Act of 1964. The protest must be received by the BLM Utah State Office at the above address by 4:30 p.m., April 14, 1980.



*Save Energy and You Serve America!*



The final decision announced herein is scheduled to become effective as of 4:30 p.m., April 14, 1980 (close of protest period), if no protest is filed. At that time, the portions of the unit not within the Wilderness Study Area as identified will no longer be subject to the management restrictions imposed by Section 603 of FLPMA. Lands within the Wilderness Study Area are subject to management restrictions imposed by Section 603 in which no activity is permitted which will impair the suitability of such areas for preservation as wilderness.

Three management options were identified in connection with the emergency withdrawal. They are: 1) make application for a permanent withdrawal on the 26,927-acre emergency withdrawal before its expiration on May 2, 1980, 2) modify the emergency withdrawal and make application for a permanent withdrawal, and 3) permit the emergency withdrawal to expire on May 2, 1980.

My recommendation to the Secretary of Interior to permit the emergency withdrawal to expire on May 2, 1980 follows three years of study and inventory on the area which indicate that some of the key values do not exist at all or to the degree originally thought at the time the emergency withdrawal was initiated. However, the area does have all the wilderness criteria required by Section 603 of FLPMA, and these will be protected until Congress acts through various management authorities, including the Interim Management Policy (IMP), published by the Bureau in December 1979; the Surface Management Regulations (3802); and the history of court decisions giving the Secretary of the Interior authority to regulate mineral activities on the public lands. With these authorities, the only major difference between our ability to control activities in a WSA as opposed to a withdrawn area is that a withdrawal precludes the right to file mining claims under the 1872 mining law.

It is important that the wilderness review process, set up by Congress, be used to make decisions on whether areas should be recommended for wilderness. Using the withdrawal authority of the Secretary of the interior to protect what are essentially wilderness values prior to a decision on whether an area should be recommended for wilderness would be undermining the integrity of the wilderness program and would preclude the land use planning process BLM will use to make wilderness decisions.

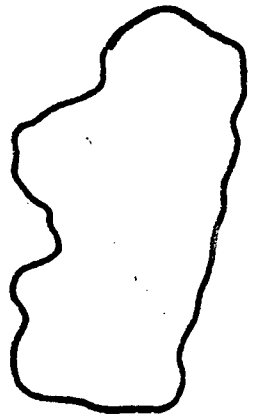
Sincerely yours,

  
Gary J. Wicks  
BLM Utah State Director

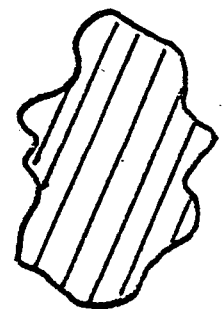
Enclosure  
Map

# DEEP CREEK MOUNTAINS

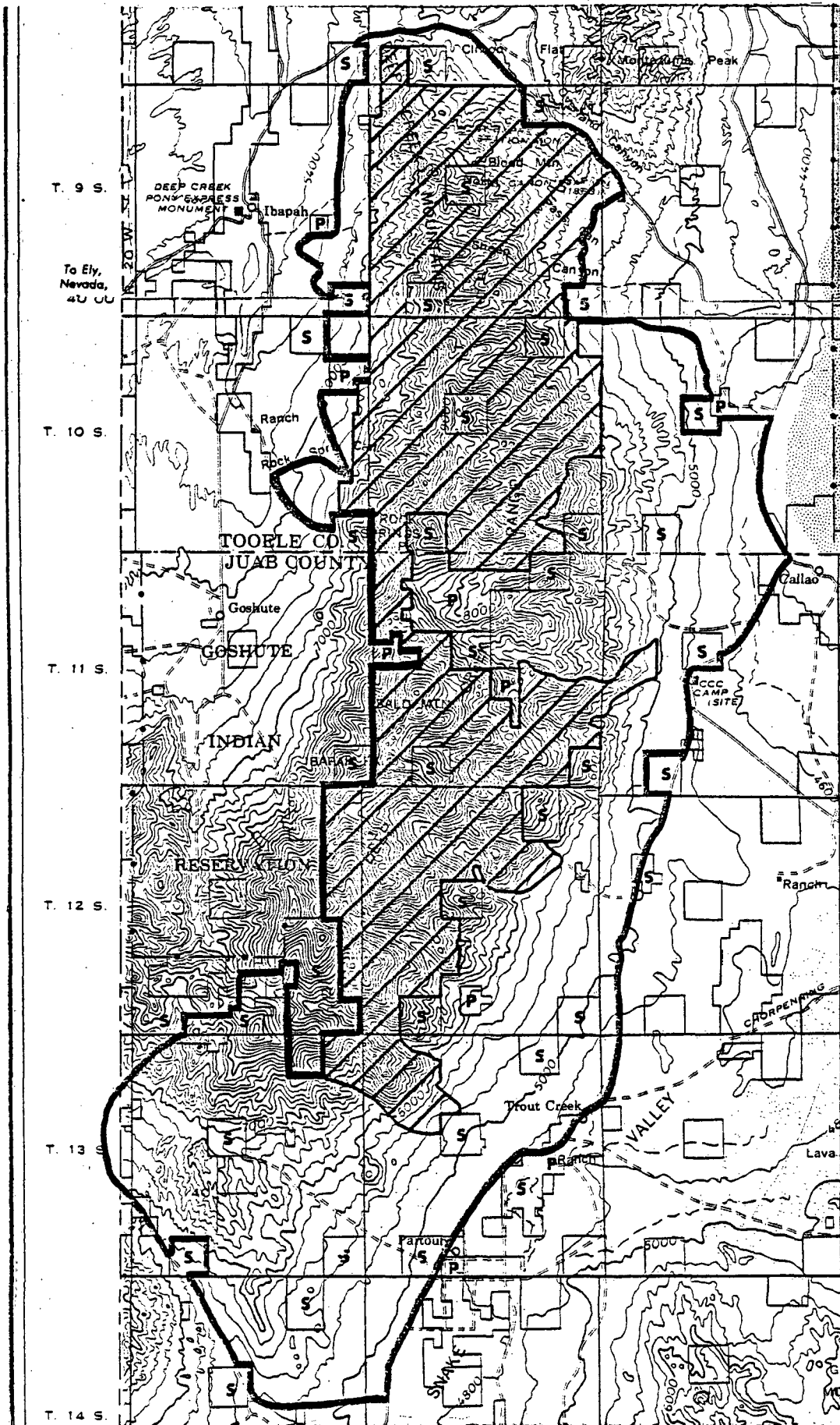
INVENTORY UNIT BOUNDARY



WILDERNESS STUDY AREA



S = STATE LANDS  
P = PRIVATE LANDS





# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
UTAH STATE OFFICE  
136 E. SOUTH TEMPLE  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

JUL 12 1979

Dear Public Land User:

A public meeting will be held in the Salt Palace, room 128, 7 p.m., July 25, 1979, to discuss the Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) proposed guidelines. Your participation is invited.

Sincerely yours,

State Director  
Associate

*Jack M. Reed*



*Save Energy and You Serve America!*



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
 UTAH STATE OFFICE  
 136 E. SOUTH TEMPLE  
 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

JAN 17 1980

Dear Public Land User:

This publication and the accompanying maps are the findings of an intensive wilderness inventory conducted by the Bureau of Land Management on four Instant Study Areas (ISA's) in Utah: (Joshua Tree, Link Flat, Bookcliff, and Devils Garden). Based upon these findings, my proposed decision is that none of these ISA's possess wilderness characteristics. Section 603 (A) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) provides "that the Secretary of the Interior shall report to the President by July 1, 1980, his recommendations (as to the suitability or non-suitability for preservation as wilderness) on those areas which the Secretary had prior to November 1, 1975, formally identified as natural or primitive areas."

In advance of the report to the President on the suitability or non-suitability of these areas for preservation as wilderness, an equivalent of an intensive wilderness inventory was conducted to determine if wilderness characteristics exist within the ISA. In this determination, responsibilities are the same as in the Wilderness Inventory Handbook.

Comments will be accepted until February 15, 1980, on each of the ISA's listed above as to the presence or absence of the wilderness characteristics. Comments should be sent to the Bureau of Land Management, State Director, Attention: Wilderness, University Club Building, 136 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111. After analysis of the comments, a decision will be rendered on each ISA as to the presence or absence of the wilderness characteristics and a report prepared recommending each such area as suitable or non-suitable for preservation as wilderness, which will be forwarded to the President as required in Section 603 of FLPMA.

Sincerely yours,

State Director  
 ACTING



*Save Energy and You Serve America!*

## Joshua Tree Instant Study Area (Natural Area)

This ISA was designated as the Joshua Tree Natural Area by the Utah State Director by virtue of authority vested in the Secretary of Interior on June 16, 1970. The Joshua Tree ISA is 1,040 acres in size. It is located in the extreme southwestern portion of Utah and is approximately 2 miles north of the Arizona/Utah state line and 9½ miles east of the Nevada/Utah state line. St. George, Utah, is approximately 15 miles east of the ISA. Utah Highway 56 passes approximately 1½ miles to the west of the ISA and the old Mormon road is located near the southern boundary.

The western one-half of the area consists of flat or rolling terrain. Two 400-foot hills divided by a very small canyon are located in the southern portion of this area. The lowest elevation within the unit (3,360 feet) is located immediately to the west of these hills. The remainder of the inventory area consists of a valley and wash and a north slope of a ridge extension of the Beaver Dam Mountains. The vertical rise in the one-half mile from the valley floor to the ridge top is almost 1,600 feet. The highest point in the inventory area (5,720 feet) is on this limestone ridge top. The ridge continues to a 6,295 foot summit less than a mile east of the unit boundary. Although the inventory unit includes portions of both the Beaver Dam Slope and the Beaver Dam Mountains, areas immediately to the northeast and west are much more representative of these terrain types.

The general vegetation is predominantly of mojave desert affinity. The Joshua tree plant community which includes the joshua tree, Utah agave, darrell cactus, and cottontop cactus is of importance in the inventory area. However, because the Joshua tree forest integrates with pinyon/juniper forests at about 5,500 feet, more representative examples of the Joshua tree forest can be found at lower elevations to the west and south of the inventory area.

The inventory area is near the Starvation Point Wilderness Study Area. This WSA was identified by the Bureau of Land Management during the Intermountain Power Project Special Wilderness Inventory. This WSA is located in both Arizona and Utah and is 24,985 acres in size.

### Naturalness

The only evidence of man identified in the ISA is a small area of minerals exploration located on the southern boundary of the unit. This intrusion consists of two mine shafts, spoil pile, and an adit. The intrusion is apparently exactly on the boundary and it is difficult to determine if the shafts are indeed within the ISA. The appearance of this intrusion is not substantially noticeable. It does not influence the naturalness of the area. With the exception of this possible intrusion, there is no evidence of man in the ISA and the area possesses the wilderness characteristic of naturalness.

### Outstanding Opportunity for Solitude

It would be difficult to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in most of the ISA because of its small size, the openness of the desert shrub vegetative cover, and the lack of topographic relief. Visitors could screen themselves from one another in the ridge area of Section 22. However, only approximately 160 acres would afford any opportunity for solitude in the ridge area. This limited opportunity could not be considered an outstanding opportunity for solitude.

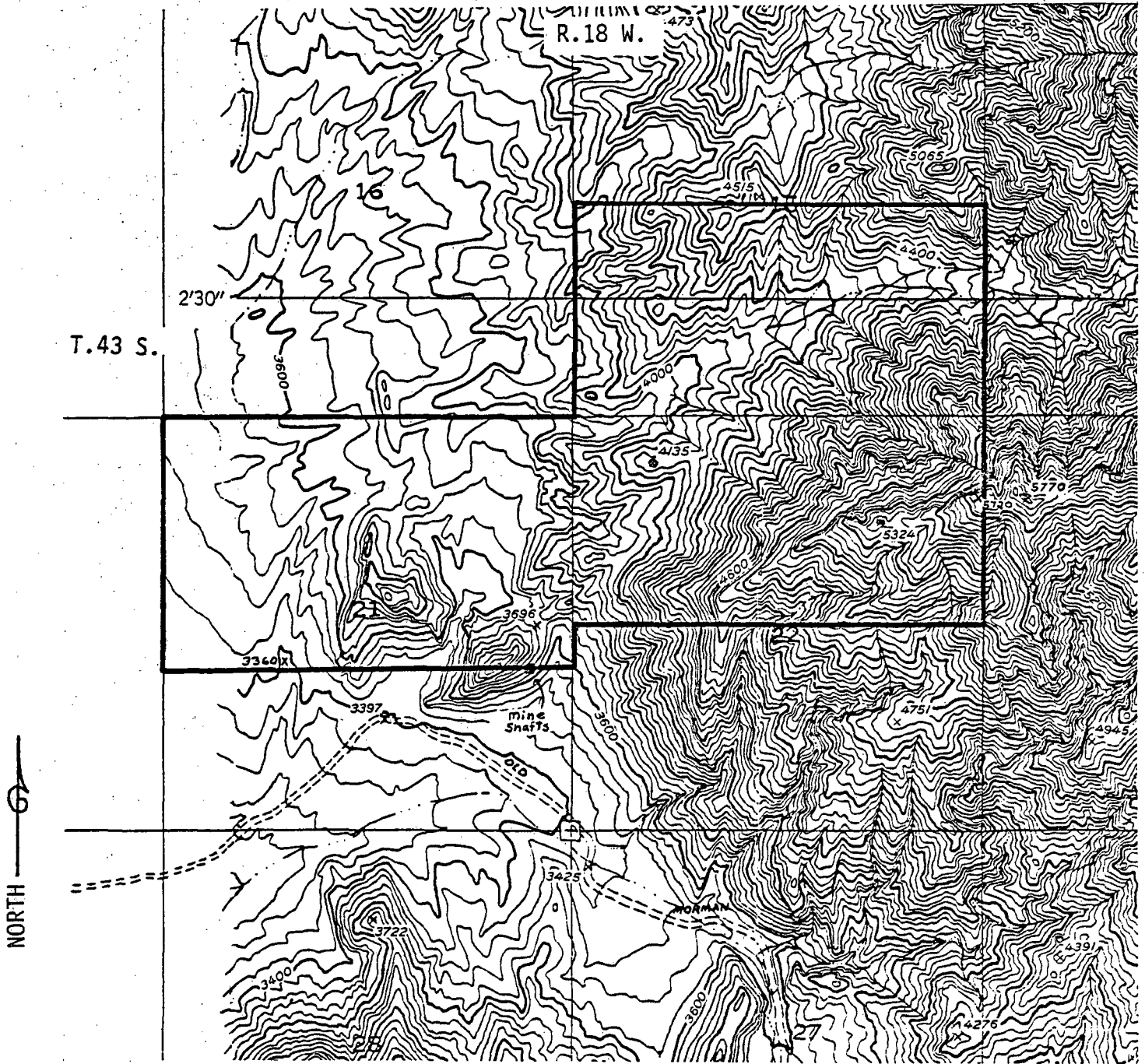
### Outstanding Opportunity for Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Because of the small size of the ISA, opportunities for those types of primitive and unconfined recreation activities dependent upon a sustained period of participatory time are not present. For example, backpacking is not possible within the unit. Opportunities for non-motorized and non-developed types of recreation activities such as hiking and horseback riding are limited because approximately one-fourth of the terrain in this small area cannot be ridden or hiked. The hiking and horseback riding opportunities are not of outstanding quality. The ISA does possess opportunities for a limited number of activities such as bird watching, rock climbing, and sightseeing for botanical features that are not dependent upon the geographical size of the area. The number of such activities is not considered sufficient to meet the diversity standard for outstanding opportunities specified in the Wilderness Inventory Handbook.

### Summary


The Joshua Tree ISA possesses the wilderness characteristic of naturalness. However, the ISA lacks the wilderness characteristics of outstanding opportunity for solitude and outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined types of recreation. The Joshua Tree ISA does not have wilderness characteristics as described in the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964.

JOSHUA TREE INSTANT STUDY AREA



Scale: 1:24,000

LEGEND

Boundary of Natural Area 

### Devil's Garden Instant Study Area (Natural Area)

This ISA was designated as the Devil's Garden Outstanding Natural Area by the Secretary of the Interior on December 23, 1970.

The Devil's Garden ISA is located in Garfield County, Utah. The total size of the ISA is 640 acres. A review of the ISA was done and it has been determined that it is neither logical or appropriate to inventory the wilderness characteristics of the roadless public land contiguous to the ISA in conjunction with this inventory. The features for which the Devil's Garden ISA was designated are wholly within the existing boundary of the ISA. The contiguous roadless areas are associated topographically with the Kaiparowits Plateau or Allen Dump areas rather than the ISA itself. The inventory of wilderness characteristics of the contiguous area will be accomplished during the regular wilderness review process.

The Devil's Garden ISA is located along the Hole-in-the-Rock road in Garfield County about 19 miles southeast of Escalante, Utah.

The western portion of the inventory area consists of rolling terrain bisected by four shallow, wide, eastward flowing washes. A major southeast flowing wash separates this rolling terrain from the generally flat, sandy bench land in the eastern part of the inventory area. Elevations vary from 5,440 feet along the western boundary to 5,200 feet along the eastern boundary.

The Devil's Garden is a major topographic feature of the ISA. Devil's Garden is a five to ten acre area of scenic erosional sculptures carved out of Entrada sandstone. Vegetation within the ISA is a snake weed grass type with scattered juniper.

### Naturalness

Evidences of man within the ISA are two roads, a way, and a developed picnic area. The county-maintained Hole-in-the-Rock road passes through the northeast corner of the ISA.

The access road to the Devil's Garden is maintained by the BLM. This road leads to a developed picnic area which contains a parking area, two toilets, and three picnic units. The old alignment of the access road has been scarified and seeded, but is still substantially noticeable.

These intrusions are highly visible from most of the ISA due to the lack of topographic and vegetative screening. The locations of the intrusions and their cumulative impact over the inventory area resulted in a determination that none of the inventory area possessed the naturalness characteristic.



### Outstanding Opportunity for Solitude

None of the ISA was identified as offering outstanding opportunities for solitude. The topography and low-growing vegetation preclude opportunities for solitude. The ISA's proximity to the Hole-in-the-Rock road and the penetrating road to the picnic area decrease the opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people. Furthermore, almost all of the visitor use occurs in the Devil's Garden, which increases the chances for visitor contacts.

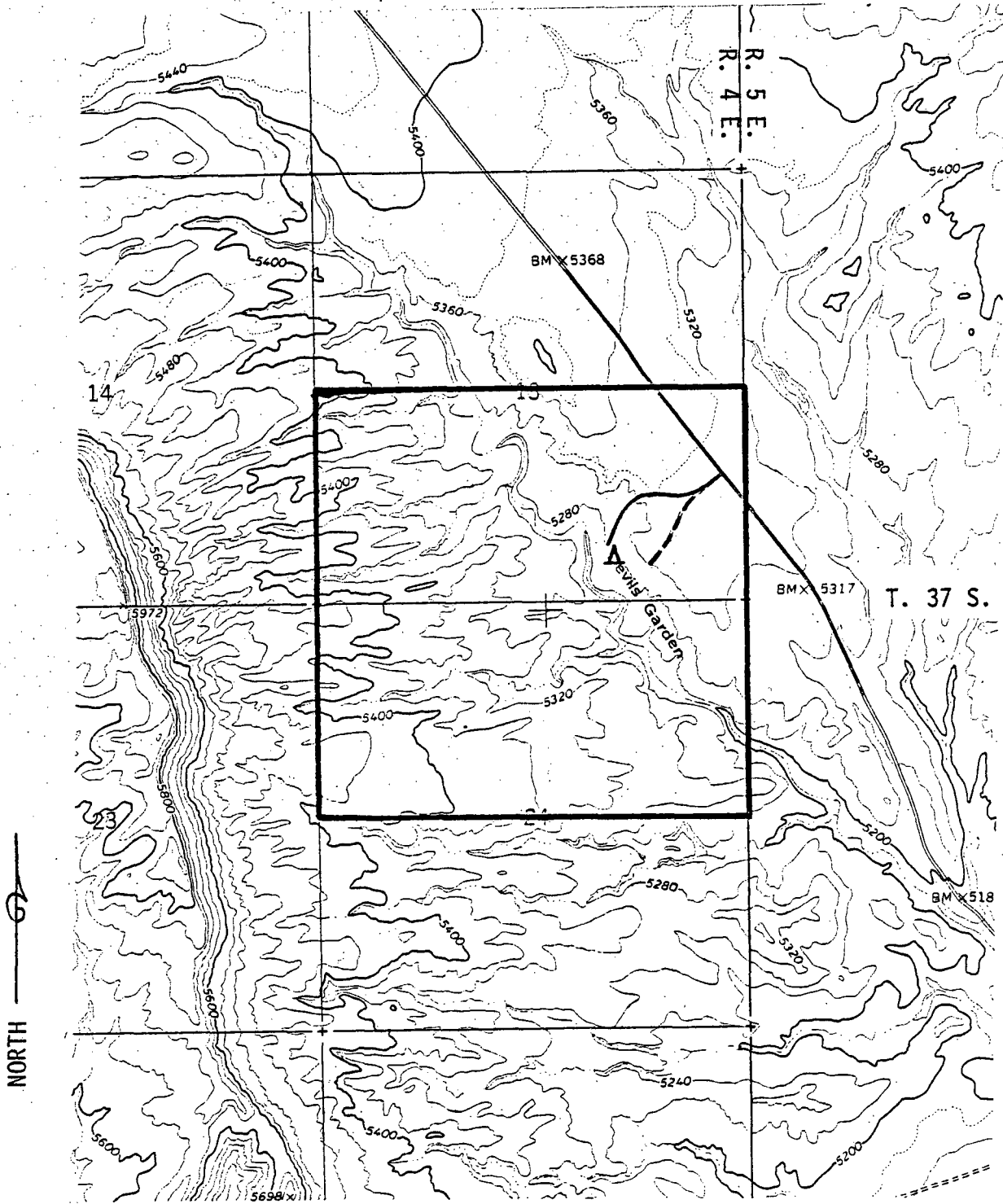
### Outstanding Opportunity for Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Devil's Garden offers outstanding opportunities for hiking, geological sightseeing, and photography. However, this opportunity is present only in a ten acre area, 1.6 percent of the ISA, which contains the unique geological features and is adjacent to the developed picnic area. The remainder of the ISA was determined not to offer outstanding primitive, unconfined recreation opportunities.

### Summary

The Devil's Garden ISA does not possess wilderness characteristics as it cannot satisfy the naturalness criteria. The area also lacks the solitude characteristic. A small portion of the area may meet the primitive recreation criterion. This opportunity is present in only 1.6 percent of the ISA.

DEVIL'S GARDEN INSTANT STUDY AREA



Scale: 1:24,000

LEGEND

- Outstanding Natural Area Boundary
- Road
- Way
- Picnic Area

## Bookcliffs Instant Study Area (Mountain Browse Natural Area)

This ISA is located approximately 75 air miles south of Vernal, Utah and 50 air miles northwest of Grand Junction, Colorado. It contains 400 acres of public land. General vegetation includes primarily sagebrush and squaw-apple with small thickets of Gamble Oak, Serviceberry, and Mountain Mahogany. The topography is a gently rolling ridge top which gradually slopes downhill to the north and east. Private land borders a portion of the eastern boundary. The rest of the ISA is surrounded by BLM administered lands. Lands contiguous to the ISA were reviewed for wilderness characteristics during the initial inventory and it was determined that none of the surrounding land contained wilderness characteristics and was dropped from the wilderness review process in September 1979.

### Naturalness

Naturalness is not outstanding because of a fence, way and spraying. The cumulative affect is that the visitor senses the presence of man.

The bladed fence line and barbed wire fence divides the ISA; the blading and lineal imprint makes the fence visually noticeable.

A way runs through the western half of the ISA and ends at the fence. The way is used for access by hunters in the fall. Though not maintained, it is an imprint that shows the evidence of man.

The aerial spraying along the western edge of the ISA is visually evident. In the sprayed area, remains of woody shrubs still exist and ground cover changes from predominately shrubs to grass.

### Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude

The 400-acre ISA is not of sufficient size to gain a sense of isolation or freedom of movement with minimal contact with others. There is a lack of areas where an individual can find seclusion. Minimal topographic relief and smallness of size make it easy to spot others in the ISA although vegetation provides some natural screening.

### Outstanding Opportunity for Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The ISA offers very little primitive or unconfined recreational opportunity due to its small size. No outstanding vistas or sense of vastness exist. No running water exists on the ISA. Because the ISA is gently rolling, the topography presents no special challenge or interest.

The vegetation is not unique to this ISA only, as the mountain browse type grows along most of the Bookcliff Divide. For those interested in the scientific aspects, the ISA has botanical sightseeing features.

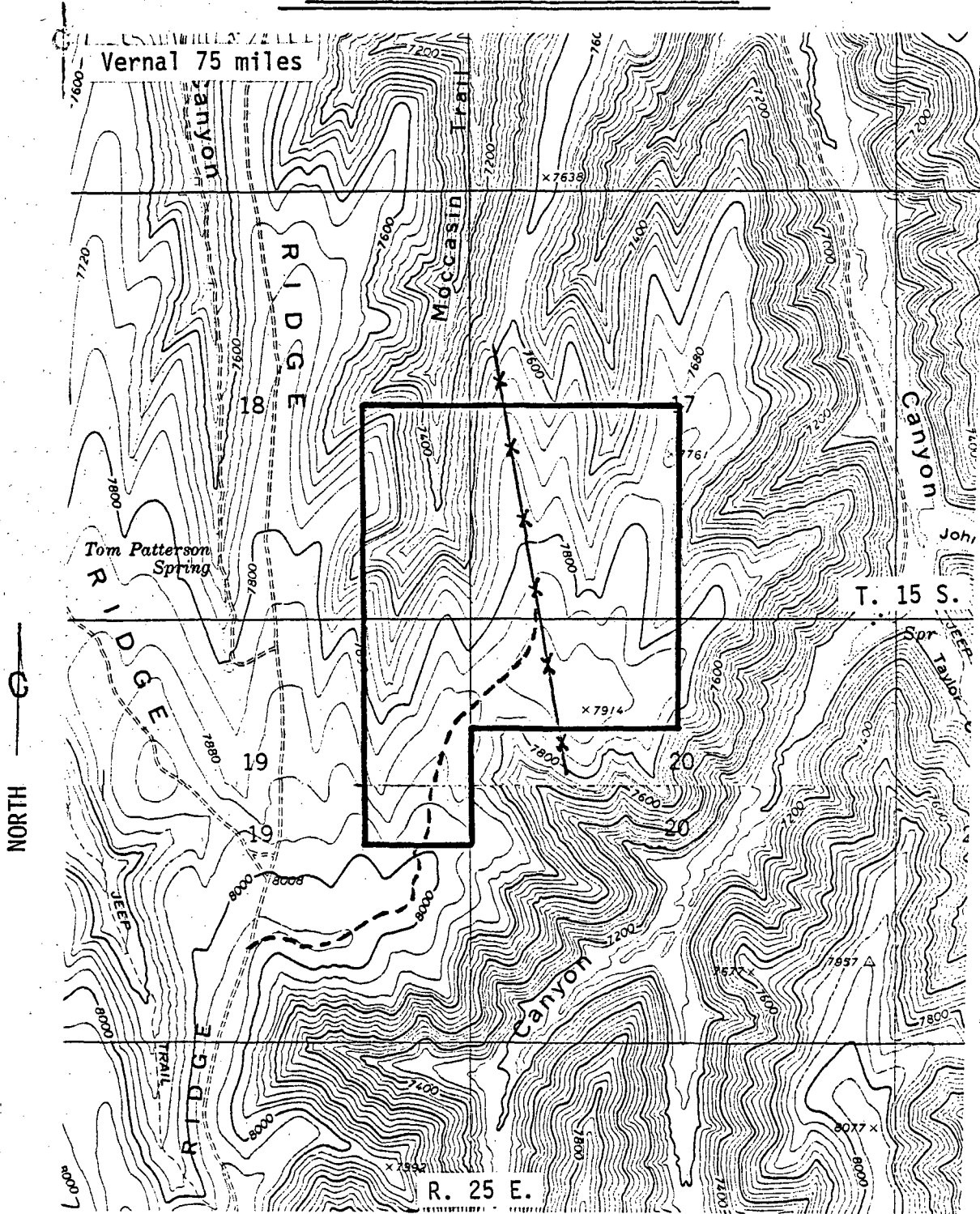
No archaeological or paleontological sites were recorded during the survey of the ISA.

Summary

The Bookcliffs ISA does not contain wilderness characteristics as it does not meet the naturalness nor does it provide outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation.

Vegetation provides a representative sample of the Bookcliff Mountain Browse Association which is unique to the Bookcliff Mountains. This makes the unit of botanical or scientific interest. It was for this reason that the area was set apart as a Natural Area.

BOOKCLIFF INSTANT STUDY AREA



Scale: 1:24,000

LEGEND

FENCE — x — x — x

WAY - - - - -

BOUNDARY OF NATURAL AREA —————

### Link Flats Instant Study Area (Natural Area)

This ISA contains three small parcels of public land totaling 912 acres. It is located approximately 75 miles west of Moab, Utah in Emery County. The three sections of the ISA are separated from each other. The topography is generally rolling with the vegetation consisting of grasses, low shrubs, and small pinyon and juniper trees which rarely exceed 20 feet in height and occur in clumps of loosely spaced trees. The vegetation is characterized as low and generally sparse.

It was determined in an earlier wilderness inventory under the Intermountain Power Project that the adjacent portions of the two contiguous roadless areas do not possess wilderness characteristics.

### Naturalness

The Link Flats ISA does not appear natural because of the substantial noticeable human caused imprints that are present in it. Although it is a very small area, it contains an estimated 3 and 3/4 miles of road and about a mile of way. One of the roads is a BLM maintained access road. It also contains a small stock reservoir, a number of mining claim location markers, and evidence of mining claim assessment work. Some of the assessment work is becoming partially obscured by vegetative growth, but the rest is still substantially noticeable.

### Outstanding Opportunity for Solitude

The ISA is small, it is fragmented, and the three individual parcels do not have configurations, or screening potential (either topographic or vegetative), that would provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The three parcels comprising the ISA are small. They are further fragmented by roads and ways. The BLM maintained road actually severs the two parcels located in Sections 29 and 30 into four smaller parcels. The parcels are narrow to the extent that an observer can clearly see across any one of them. These roads and ways are periodically used for access purposes by motor vehicles and one's solitude would be interrupted by this conflicting use. The topography of most of the ISA is level to rolling. The remaining parts of the ISA, comprising about one quarter, have steep to moderately steep terrain. This latter is divided between steep rock slopes and cliffs that face into the ISA, and a combination of sandstone knobs and low ridges. The vegetation can be characterized as low, and generally sparse. Neither the topography nor the vegetation provide enough screening to conceal human activities or groups of people from one another within the ISA proper.

Because of these characteristics, the ISA does not have outstanding opportunities for solitude.

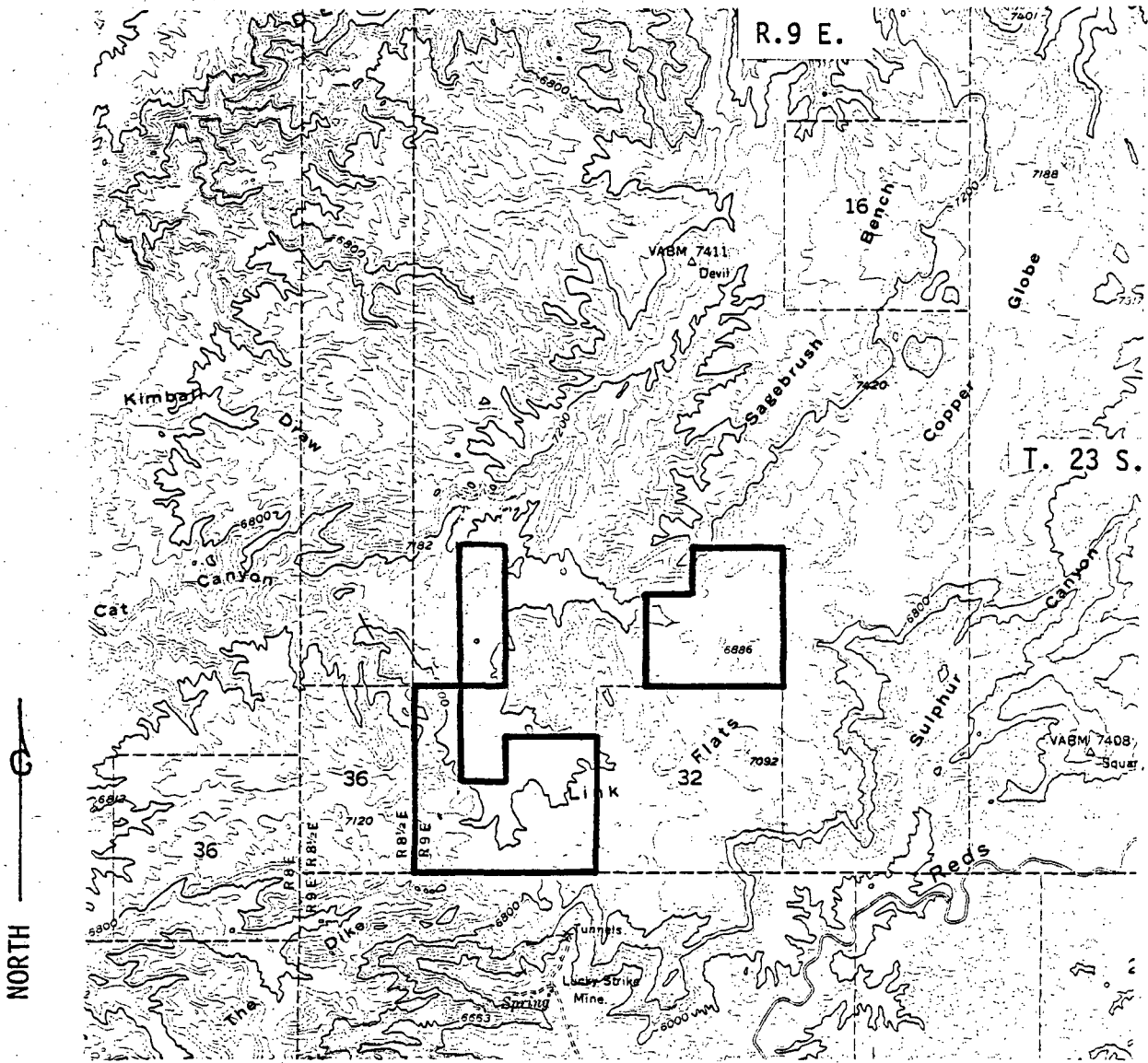
### Outstanding Opportunity for Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Many of the same deficiencies that reduce the potential for solitude would also mar the quality of non-motorized outdoor recreation experience. The ISA has no areas where a primitive and unconfined recreation experience can be had. It is too small, too fragmented, and lacking in features that would enhance a non-motorized recreation pursuit. Also, the periodic use of the roads and ways by motor vehicles would not be compatible with primitive and unconfined recreation pursuits. For these reasons, the ISA does not have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

### Summary

The Link Flats ISA does not possess wilderness characteristics of naturalness or outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation.

LINK FLAT INSTANT STUDY AREA



LEGEND

———— Boundary of Natural Area

Scale: 1:62,500





# United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
UTAH STATE OFFICE  
136 E. SOUTH TEMPLE  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

1120  
(U-912)

OCT 3 1979

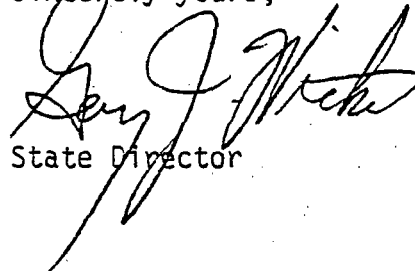
Dear Citizen:

The enclosed summaries and maps are the findings of a special accelerated intensive wilderness inventory conducted by the Bureau of Land Management on lands in southwestern Utah known as the "Overthrust Belt".

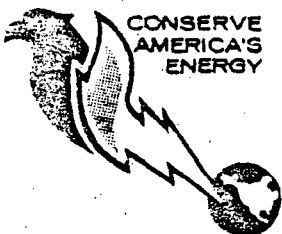
The purpose of this accelerated inventory was to identify units that have wilderness characteristics. None of the units inventoried were found to possess the wilderness characteristics needed for Wilderness Study Area (WSA) status; therefore, none are being proposed as WSAs. The enclosed summaries explain the rationale used to make this proposed decision.

During the 45-day public comment period (October 5, 1979 through November 18, 1979) you are invited to review and provide written comments on this proposed decision. Comments should be addressed to: District Manager, Cedar City BLM District, P.O. Box 724, Cedar City, Utah 84720.

Sincerely yours,



State Director



*Save Energy and You Serve America!*

Unit No.: UT-040-123, NV-050-0166, Overthrust

Unit Name: Cougar Canyon - Tunnel Springs

1. Area Description: This is an interstate unit in the Cedar City (Utah) and Las Vegas (Nevada) Districts. The unit is situated between the upper reaches of Beaver Dam Wash and the Pine Park area of the Dixie National Forest. The Dixie National Forest, private land, and Beaver Dam State Park are boundaries to the central portion of the unit. Roads form the remaining boundaries.

The unit is a complex unit in terms of topography, vegetation, and shape. The upper two-thirds of the unit is broken by entrenched canyon systems including Headwaters Canyon, Barn Pole Hollow, Split Pine Hollow, Pine Park Canyon, Sheep Canyon, and Sheep Corral Canyon. The southern portion is characterized by the mountainous area west of Big Mountain. This area is drained by Cougar Canyon and other washes tributary to Beaver Dam Wash. The unit is in a transitional zone between the Mohave Desert, Great Basin cold desert, and Great Basin ranges. Although the unit lacks joshua trees, much of the lower elevation vegetation resembles that of the vegetation immediately south of the unit. This higher elevation and some of the canyon bottoms possess ponderosa pine. Almost all of the canyons possess springs or perennial streams with associated riparian vegetation. Because of the relationship of the Dixie National Forest to the Utah - Nevada state line and the location of a portion of Beaver Dam State Park in Pine Park Canyon in Nevada, the unit is of irregular shape.

In 1976, planning for the Beaver Dam - Hurricane Planning Unit indicated that the "Cougar Canyon area lacks features which make it distinctive enough for designation as primitive." The planning decision was to "manage the Cougar Canyon area under multiple use principles."

2. Wilderness Characteristics

- A. Size

The unit contains 17,399 acres of public lands. The Las Vegas District portion of the unit possesses 6,831 acres of public lands. Public land acreage in the Cedar City District is 10,568 acres.

- B. Naturalness

The majority of this unit (15,773 acres) appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature. The only intrusions identified in the natural portion of the unit are two fence lines which aggregate two and one-half miles in length. These fence lines are substantially unnoticeable.

C. Outstanding Opportunities

1. Solitude

An opportunity for solitude is inherently available in the entrenched meandering canyons of the unit and in the Big Mountain area. Because Big Mountain is not a conspicuous or prominent mountain in the area, the opportunity for solitude in the Big Mountain area is not considered to be outstanding. The opportunities for solitude in Headwaters Wash Canyon, Pine Park Canyon, Sheep Corral Canyon, and in five unnamed canyons are not outstanding because of the relatively short lengths of these canyons in the unit. Sheep Corral Canyon is four miles long. All of the other canyons are limited to two miles or less in length. An outstanding opportunity to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in any of these short canyons is not available.

2. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

This unit offers opportunities for dispersed, undeveloped recreation activities which do not require motorized equipment. Primitive and unconfined types of these dispersed recreation activities are essentially limited to backpacking and day hiking. Backpacking opportunities are restricted and limited to canyons with perennial streams such as Headwaters Wash (1½ miles), Pine Park Canyon (1½ miles), and Sheep Corral Canyon (4½ miles). Day hiking opportunities are more numerous but they would be inferior to the day hiking opportunities in the adjacent Pine Park area of the Dixie National Forest.

D. Supplemental Values

This unit is located between Beaver Dam State Park and the Pine Park recreational area on the Dixie National Forest. It contains many of the same ecological and geological features of scientific, educational, and scenic value for which these two areas were established.

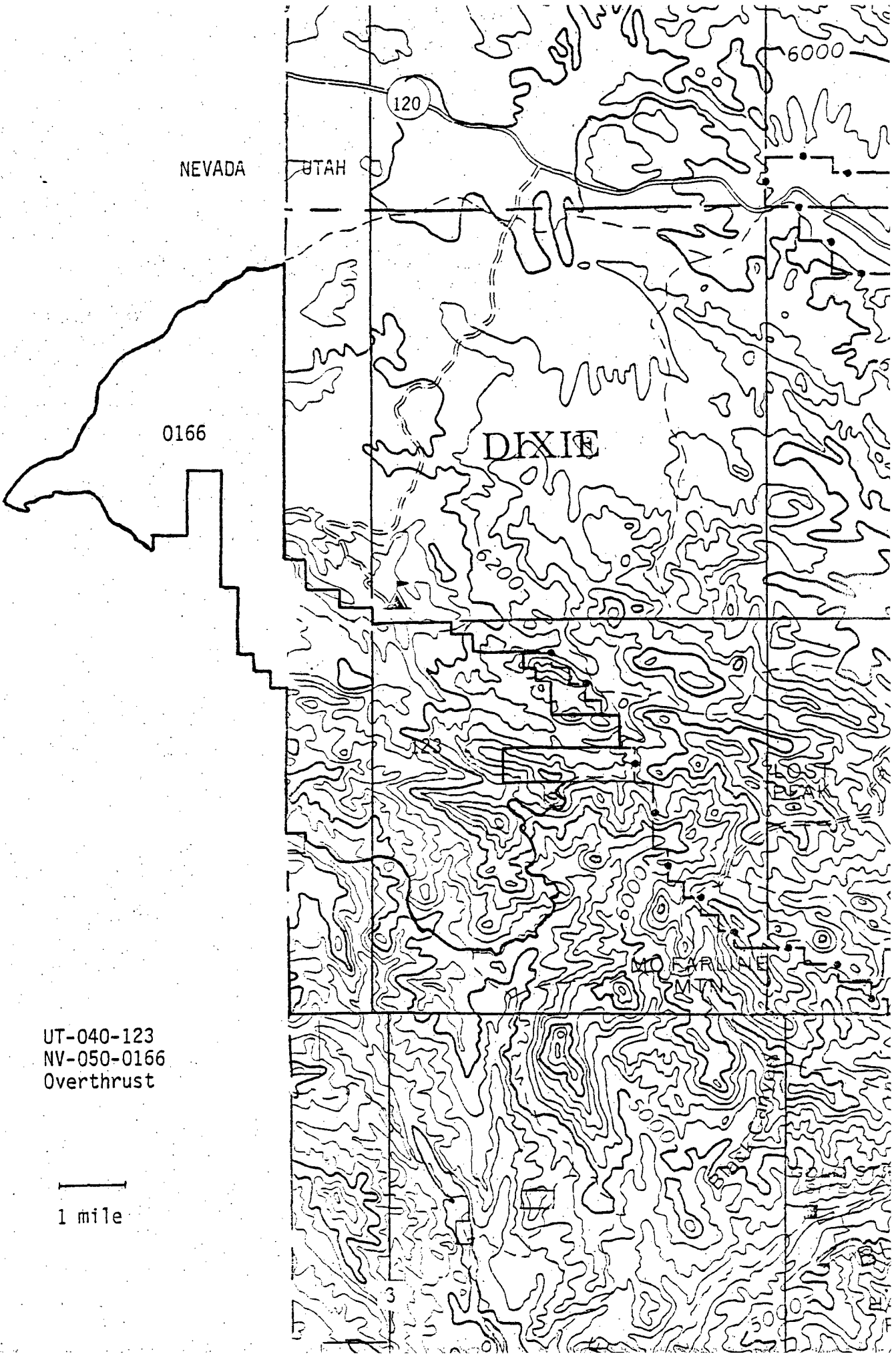
3. Recommendation:

Area does not qualify for wilderness study.

4. Rationale for Recommendation

A portion of the unit (15,773 acres) possesses the naturalness characteristic but lacks outstanding opportunities for solitude and for primitive and unconfined recreation.





NEVADA

UTAH

120

0166

DIXIE

UT-040-123  
NV-050-0166  
Overthrust

1 mile

Unit No: UT-040-124, NV-050-0143, Overthrust

Unit Name: Doc's Pass

1. Area Description

This is an interstate unit in the Cedar City (Utah) and Las Vegas (Nevada) Districts. The unit is located southeast of Caliente, Nevada and immediately northwest of Motoqua, Utah. The western boundary is defined by a series of ranching roads serving various spring developments. The southern boundary is the Bunker Pass Road. The eastern boundary is also a road. Beaver Dam State Park forms most of the northern boundary of this unit.

The unit embraces the northeast extension of the Clover Mountains (Pine Mountain, 6758; Black Mountain, 6815; Bunker Peak, 6421) and Beaver Dam Wash. Streams and canyons which drain the Clover Mountains and enter Beaver Dam Wash include Doc's Pass Canyon, Deep Canyon, Dobin Creek, Horse Canyon, and East Bunker Peak. The Narrows, a three mile canyon in Beaver Dam Wash, is a prominent feature of the unit. The Mohave Desert vegetation type, including joshua trees, is found in the lower elevations of the unit. An open desert shrub or pinyon-juniper forest is found at the middle elevations. At the highest elevations, pinyon-juniper, other conifers, and occasional stands of aspen are found.

2. Wilderness Characteristics

A. Size

The unit contains 45,911 acres of public lands. The Las Vegas District portion of the unit possesses 24,908 acres of public lands. Public lands acreage in the Cedar City District is 21,083 acres.

B. Naturalness

There are major intrusions in this unit. In the western portion, range developments of various types are very evident. In the eastern portion of the unit, prospects and associated ways and a way in Beaver Dam Wash are the major intrusions. Approximately 21,048 acres in the east-central portion of the unit are not influenced by these intrusions and thus possess the naturalness wilderness characteristic.

C. Outstanding Opportunities

1. Solitude

Opportunities for solitude are available within the area that is natural. In particular, these opportunities

exist in the Slaughter Creek drainage; in The Narrows of Beaver Dam Wash; in the Doc's Pass Canyon-Deep Canyon complex; and in the Bull Mountain-Horse Canyon area. The opportunities for solitude in this unit are thus dependent upon topographic relief rather than the screening provided by vegetative cover. These opportunities are not superior to other opportunities in the Beaver Dam Wash drainage or in the Clover Mountains. The opportunity for solitude is not outstanding.

2. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Only limited primitive recreational opportunities are present in the unit. There is a hiking opportunity in The Narrows and Deep Canyon. Birdwatching opportunities exist in the lower Beaver Dam Wash portion of the unit. However, most of the unusual species have been observed in Beaver Dam Wash below Motoqua. A diversity of recreational opportunities do not exist nor are the hiking and birdwatching opportunities of outstanding quality.

D. Supplemental Values

This unit possesses supplemental values represented by the scenic values of the Beaver Dam Wash canyon and the scientific value of elements of the Mohave Desert species composition at their northern limits.

3. Recommendation: Area does not qualify for wilderness study.

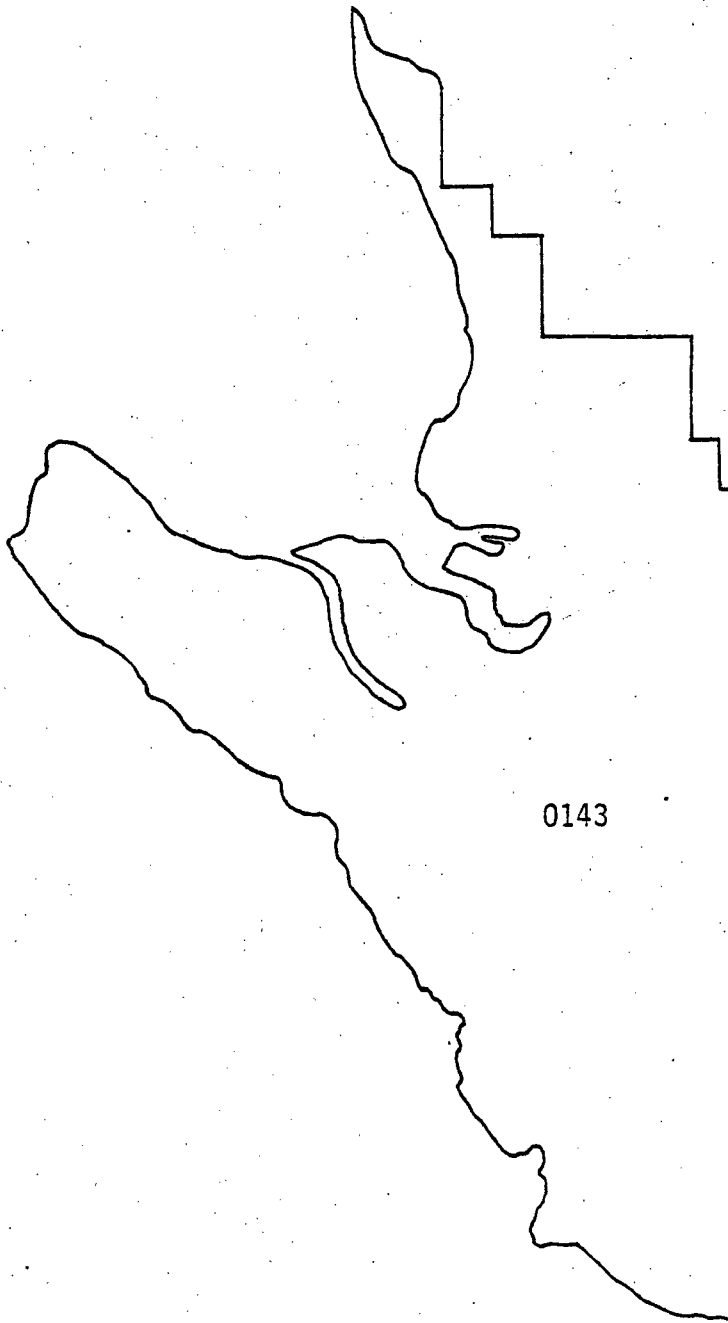
4. Rationale for Recommendation

A portion of the unit (21,048 acres) possesses the naturalness characteristic but lacks outstanding opportunities for solitude and for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Nevada

Utah

DIXIE

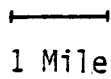


0143

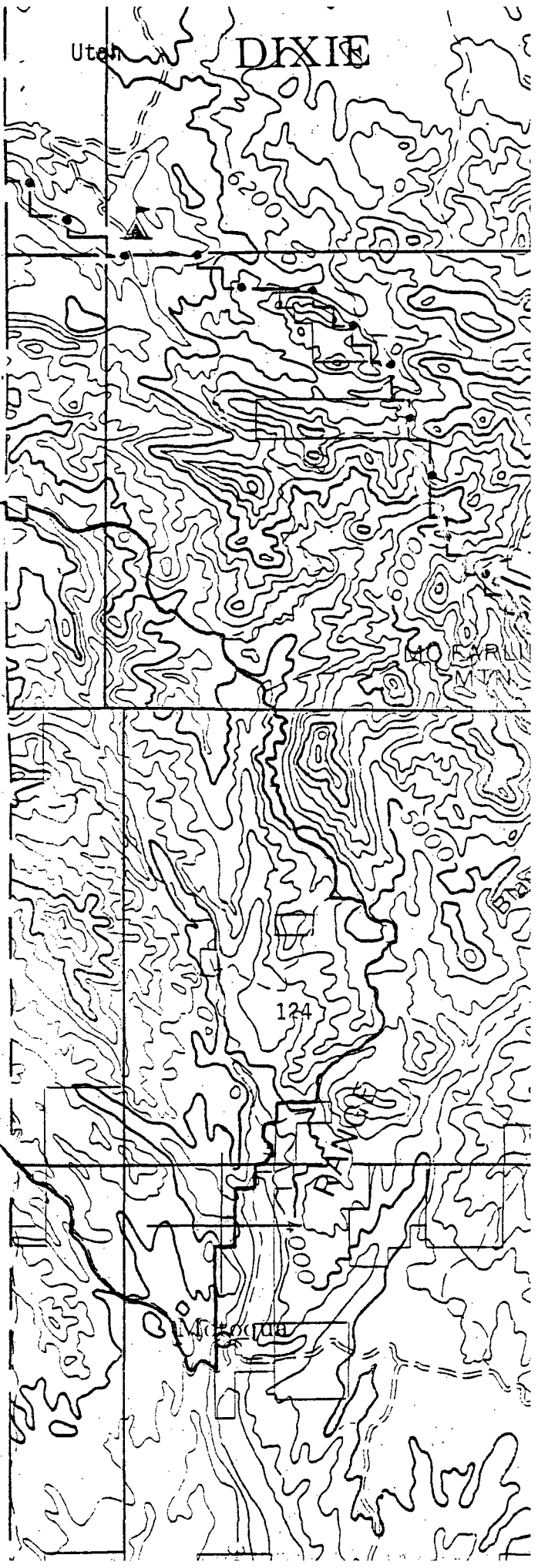
UT-040-124

NV-050-0143

Overthrust



6





Unit No: UT-040-136, Overthrust

Unit Name: Vermillion Castle

1. Area Description: The inventory unit is located on the west side of the Markagunt Plateau in the area commonly known as the Parowan Front. On the south, the unit abuts the Dixie National Forest and the Forest Service's Vermillion Castle recreational development. Private land in the Coop Valley area forms the eastern boundary of the unit. The west boundary is the private land extending between the communities of Parowan and Paragonah.

The landscape is characterized by the Wasatch Formation similar to the formations in Cedar Breaks National Monument and Bryce Canyon National Park. The northern portion of the unit lacks these colorful outcroppings. The highest point in the unit is below the Hoosier triangulation point at 9,010 feet. Valentine Peak (8,050') the north wall of Vermillion Castle (7,798'), and the north face of Grand Castle (8,572') are prominent landmarks. Five named canyons are located in the unit - Dry, Order, Water, and Water System Canyons. Water Canyon possesses a perennial stream fed by a tunnel from the Coop Valley Sinks. Pinyon-juniper forests are found in the lower elevations. Aspen and bristlecone pine are present in the higher areas of the unit.

2. Wilderness Characteristics:

- A. Size The unit contains 9,900 acres of public lands.
- B. Naturalness - Several sections of the unit possess noticeable intrusions or the cumulatively noticeable impact of intrusions. These areas include the flat between Parowan and Paragonah, Water System Canyon, and the Dry Canyon way. The remaining 7,681 acres of the unit possess the naturalness wilderness characteristic. However, because of the bisecting nature of the Dry Canyon way intrusion, the unit is divided into three areas possessing the naturalness characteristic. Two of these three areas contain less than 5,000 acres of public lands. The north wall of Vermillion Castle area contains 701 acres. The highly scenic upper drainage of Dry Canyon contains 1,372 acres. Thus the Valentine Peak-Water Canyon area of 5,608 acres is the only area of over 5,000 acres within the unit which retains the naturalness characteristic.

C. Outstanding Opportunities

1. Solitude

The opportunity for solitude exists within the entire Valentine Peak - Water Canyon portion of the unit. Because of the dissected topography, it is easily possible to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people within the unit. This opportunity is not outstanding. It is not distinguishable from the other opportunities for solitude found throughout the rugged Parowan Front.

2. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

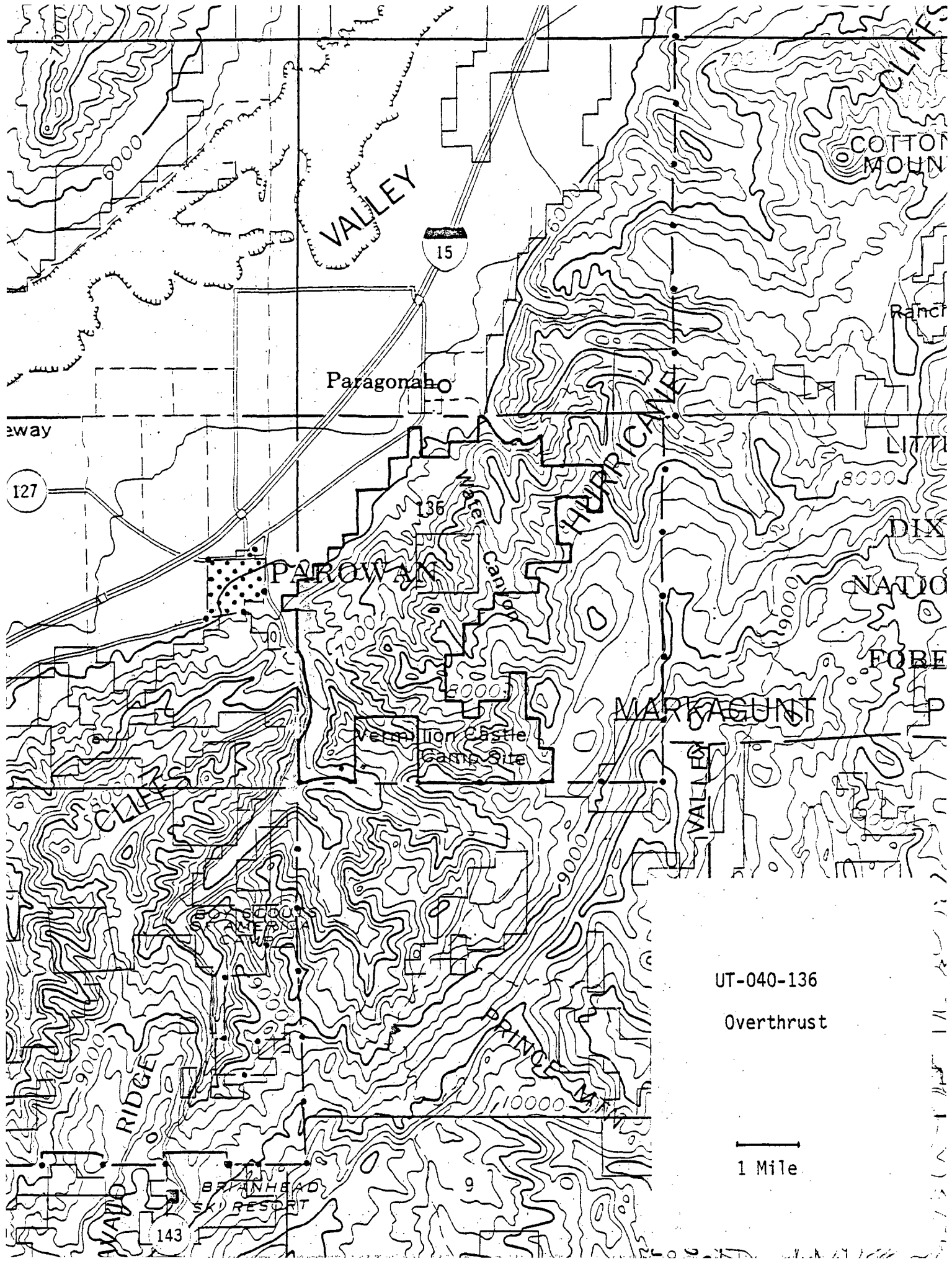
The opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation does exist in the Valentine Peak - Water Canyon area. Dayhiking is possible in Water Canyon, in the unnamed canyon north of Valentine Peak, and in the Valentine Peak area. The west and south faces of Valentine Peak and its east ridge and canyon are highly scenic and offer excellent photographic opportunities for the hiker. These opportunities for primitive recreation are not superior to other opportunities of their kind in the Dixie National Forest portion of the Vermillion Castle region. They are not outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

D. Supplemental Values

The Dry Canyon drainage is an exceptionally scenic area. Valentine Peak and its east ridge and canyon also possess outstanding scenic values associated with the Wasatch Formation. The west face of Valentine Peak also exhibits an area of white rock formations. Although Water Canyon is not located in the Wasatch Formation, its stream makes the canyon an unusual feature within the unit. However, the streamflow is artificial and is dependent upon the successful functioning of the man-made tunnel draining the Coop Valley Sinks.

3. Recommendation: Area does not qualify for wilderness study.

4. Rationale for Recommendation: A portion of the unit (5608 acres) is larger than 5000 acres and possesses the naturalness characteristic. This area does not possess outstanding opportunity for solitude or for primitive and unconfined recreation.



VALLEY

15

Paragonah

127

PAROWAN

Parowan Canyon

Parowan Plateau  
Camp Site

MARKAGUNT

VALLEY

UT-040-136

Overthrust

1 Mile

143

BRADSHAW  
SKY RESORT

Unit No: UT-040-269, Overthrust

Unit Name: Red Canyon Group (I)

1. Area Description: The unit is contiguous to the Dixie National Forest and southeast of the city of Panguitch. It contains 916 acres of public land. It is contiguous along its eastern boundary with the Forest Service's Red Canyon North RARE II unit(04254) which was recommended for wilderness status.
2. Wilderness Characteristics:
  - A. Size - The unit contains 916 acres of public land. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service lands formally determined to have wilderness values.
  - B. Naturalness - The unit is essentially in a natural condition. Signs of human activity are limited to a single way approximately one-quarter of a mile in length.
  - C. Outstanding Opportunities
    1. Solitude: The bulk of the unit is a gently sloping sagebrush plain of low vegetation. Solitude would be available on a low hill in the northern part of the unit. The hill is not contiguous with the WSA. The solitude would not be outstanding.
    2. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation: The only types of primitive recreation possible would be hiking, horseback riding and camping. The unit does not form a logical extension of the RARE II unit. The recreation opportunities are not outstanding in this unit.
  - D. Supplemental Values: None known.
3. Recommendation: Area does not qualify for wilderness study.
4. Rationale for Recommendation: The unit does not provide an outstanding opportunity for either solitude or for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Unit No: UT-040-270, Overthrust

Unit Name: Red Canyon Group (II)

1. Area Description: The unit is contiguous to the Dixie National Forest, southeast of the city of Panguitch, and north of Highway 12. It contains 523 acres of public land. It is contiguous along its eastern boundary with the Forest Service's Red Canyon North RARE II unit (04254) which was recommended for wilderness status. The northern portion of the unit is the mouth of Casto Canyon and includes a mile of the red cliff line. The southern portion is a part of the Black Mountain volcanic intrusion in the Red Canyon North RARE II unit. The unit ranges in elevation from 7,000 to 7,500 feet.
2. Wilderness Characteristics:
  - A. Size The unit contains 523 acres of public land. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service lands formally determined to have wilderness values.
  - B. Naturalness The unit is free from human intrusion with the exception of two small areas. There is a riprap pit and a way in the unit. Within the unit, 490 acres possess the naturalness characteristic.
  - C. Outstanding Opportunities
    1. Solitude. The unit furnishes opportunity for solitude in the forested lava area in the south. This opportunity could not be considered an outstanding opportunity of its kind in this region.
    2. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. This unit furnishes opportunities for primitive recreation. Hiking, non-technical rock-climbing, camping, geological study and birding are among the possible activities. They are not superior to similar activity opportunities in the immediate area.
  - D. Supplemental Values. This is an interesting area geologically and scenically with its black lava flows over the face of the Pink Cliffs.
3. Recommendation: Area does not qualify for wilderness study.
4. Rationale for Recommendation: The unit possesses the naturalness characteristic but it lacks outstanding opportunities for solitude and for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Unit No: UT 040-271, Overthrust

Unit Name: Red Canyon Group (III)

1. Area Description: The unit is contiguous to the Dixie National Forest, southeast of the city of Panguitch, and south of Highway 12. It contains 147 acres of public land. It is contiguous along its eastern boundary with the Forest Service Red Canyon South RARE II unit (04260) which was recommended for wilderness status.
2. Wilderness Characteristics:
  - A. Size The unit contains 147 acres of public land. This unit is contiguous to Forest Service lands formally determined to have wilderness values.
  - B. Naturalness Human intrusions are limited to a single two-phase 12.5 - 14KV powerline running generally east-west. The line continues on into the Dixie National Forest and crosses the entire Red Canyon South RARE II unit. In this small BLM unit, however, the powerline constitutes a major intrusion upon the naturalness and the unit lacks this characteristic.
  - C. Outstanding Opportunities
    1. Solitude. The unit furnishes some opportunity for solitude. The unit ranges in elevation from less than 7,000 feet to over 7,500 feet. All but the lowest reaches are covered with a thick pine-juniper forest. Several coves and hollows are located in the unit. This opportunity is not considered to be outstanding.
    2. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation. The unit furnishes opportunities for primitive recreation. However, the hiking, non-technical rock climbing, camping and birding activities are not superior to other opportunities in the immediate area.
  - D. Supplemental Values: None known.
3. Recommendation: Area does not qualify for wilderness study.
4. Rationale for Recommendation: The unit possesses none of the wilderness characteristics as described in the Wilderness Act.

Unit No: UT-040-272, Overthrust

Unit Name: Red Canyon Group (IV)

1. Area Description: The unit is contiguous to the Dixie National Forest, southeast of the city of Panguitch, and south of Highway 12. It contains 598 acres of public land. It is contiguous along its eastern boundary to the Forest Service's Red Canyon South RARE II unit (04260) which was recommended for wilderness status.
2. Wilderness Characteristics:
  - A. Size - The unit contains 598 acres of public land. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service lands formally determined to have wilderness values.
  - B. Naturalness - The area is essentially in a natural condition. Signs of human intrusion are limited to several seismic lines running roughly north-south in the southwestern part of the unit.
  - C. Outstanding Opportunities
    1. Solitude: Almost the entire unit is a gently sloping sagebrush plain with vegetative height of considerably less than one foot. Solitude would be possible in a fringe area along the southeastern boundary. Here the sage gives way to a pine-juniper forest. However, the experience would not be outstanding anywhere in the unit.
    2. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation: The only types of primitive recreation available would be hiking and camping. The unit does not form a logical extension of the Red Canyon South RARE II unit. The recreation opportunities are not outstanding anywhere in this unit.
  - D. Supplemental Values: None known
3. Recommendation: Area does not qualify for wilderness study.
4. Rationale for Recommendation: The unit does not provide an outstanding opportunity for either solitude or for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Unit No: UT-040-273

Unit Name: Red Canyon Group (V)

1. Area Description: The unit is contiguous to the Dixie National Forest, southeast of the city of Panguitch, and south of Highway 12. It contains 1,354 acres of public land. It is contiguous along its eastern boundary with the U.S. Forest Service Red Canyon South RARE II Unit (04260). However, Forest Service boundary revisions to the Red Canyon South unit may have rendered the BLM unit non-contiguous with the RARE II unit.
2. Wilderness Characteristics:
  - A. Size - The unit contains 1,354 acres of public land. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service lands formally determined to have wilderness values.
  - B. Naturalness - The area is essentially in a natural condition. Signs of human intrusion are limited to approximately 1/2 mile of dirt track along the southern periphery and to several seismic lines running roughly north-south in the northern half.
  - C. Outstanding Opportunities
    1. Solitude: The bulk of the unit is a gently sloping sagebrush plain with vegetative height of considerably less than one foot. Solitude would be possible in the easternmost quarter of the unit. Here the sage gives way to a pine-juniper forest. However, the experience would not be outstanding anywhere in the unit.
    2. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation: The only types of primitive recreation available would be hiking and camping. The unit does not form a logical extension of the Red Canyon South RARE II unit. In light of boundary revisions by the Forest Service, the unit is apparently not even contiguous with the RARE II unit. The recreation opportunities are not outstanding anywhere in this unit.
  - D. Supplemental Values: None known.
3. Recommendation: Area does not qualify for wilderness study.
4. Rationale for Recommendation: The unit does not provide an outstanding opportunity for either solitude or for primitive and unconfined recreation.



Unit No: UT-040-273

Unit Name: Red Canyon Group (V)

1. Area Description: The unit is contiguous to the Dixie National Forest, southeast of the city of Panguitch, and south of Highway 12. It contains 1,354 acres of public land. It is contiguous along its eastern boundary with the U.S. Forest Service Red Canyon South RARE II Unit (04260). However, Forest Service boundary revisions to the Red Canyon South unit may have rendered the BLM unit non-contiguous with the RARE II unit.

2. Wilderness Characteristics:

A. Size - The unit contains 1,354 acres of public land. The unit is contiguous to Forest Service lands formally determined to have wilderness values.

B. Naturalness - The area is essentially in a natural condition. Signs of human intrusion are limited to approximately 1/2 mile of dirt track along the southern periphery and to several seismic lines running roughly north-south in the northern half.

C. Outstanding Opportunities

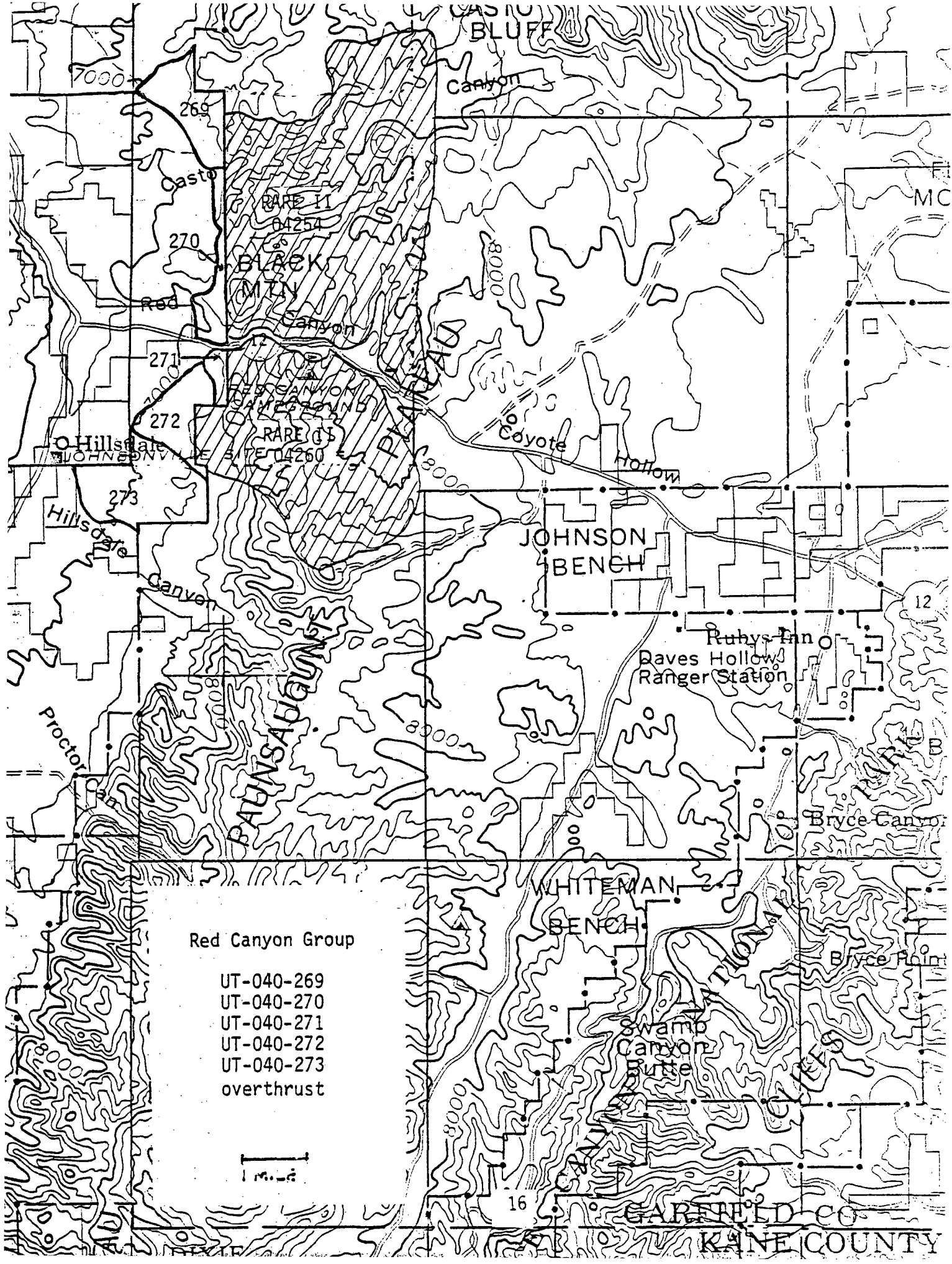
1. Solitude: The bulk of the unit is a gently sloping sagebrush plain with vegetative height of considerably less than one foot. Solitude would be possible in easternmost quarter of the unit. Here the sage gives way to a pine-juniper forest. However, the experience would not be outstanding anywhere in the unit.

2. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation: The only types of primitive recreation available would be hiking and camping. The unit does not form a logical extension of the Red Canyon South RARE II unit. In light of boundary revisions by the Forest Service, the unit is apparently not even contiguous with the RARE II unit. The recreation opportunities are not outstanding anywhere in this unit.

D. Supplemental Values: None known

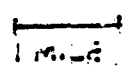
3. Recommendation: Area does not qualify for wilderness study.

4. Rationale for Recommendation: The unit does not provide an outstanding opportunity for either solitude or for primitive and unconfined recreation.



Red Canyon Group

- UT-040-269
- UT-040-270
- UT-040-271
- UT-040-272
- UT-040-273
- overthrust



BLUFF

Canyon

Casto

270

BLACK MT.

RARE 11  
04254

RARE 13  
04260

Hillsdale  
JOHNSDALE

272

Hillsdale

273

Canver

Proctor

BAUNSAIBUNTS

PIEDMONT

JOHNSON BENCH

Coyote  
Canyon

Rubys Inn  
Daves Hollows  
Ranger Station

Bryce Canyon

WHITEMAN BENCH

Bryce Point

Swamp  
Canyon  
Butte

GARFIELD CO.  
KANE COUNTY

16



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
UTAH STATE OFFICE  
136 E. SOUTH TEMPLE  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

IN REPLY REFER TO

1120  
(U-912)

Dear Citizen:

I am announcing my final wilderness decisions concerning eight inventory units within the "Overthrust Belt" in southwestern Utah. Two of these units are interstate units with Nevada.

An accelerated intensive inventory was conducted on these units in advance of the scheduled statewide inventory because of the potential demand for oil and gas exploration and development in the Overthrust Belt. On October 5, 1979, my proposed decision to drop all these units from further wilderness study was announced and a 45-day public comment period initiated.

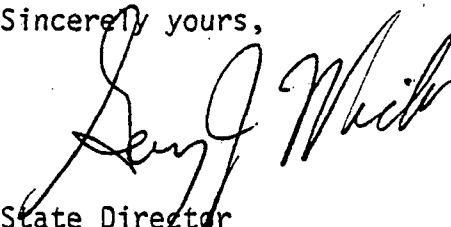
Due to public comments and information received, interstate unit UT-040-123 is identified as a Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and will be further evaluated for wilderness in the study phase.

The following units do not meet wilderness criteria and are dropped from further wilderness consideration: UT-040-124 (interstate), UT-040-136, UT-040-269, UT-040-270, UT-040-271, UT-040-272 and UT-040-273.

These decisions will become effective March 7, 1980, or 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.

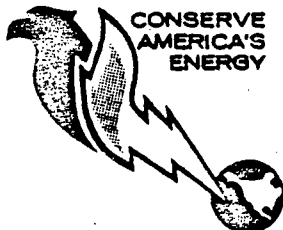
Attached are unit maps and summaries. Analysis of the comments are incorporated in the summaries.

Sincerely yours,



State Director

Enclosures  
Maps & Summaries



*Save Energy and You Serve America!*

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND DECISIONS ON OVERTHRUST BELT UNITS

UNIT NO.: UT-040-123 (NV-050-0166)      TOTAL ACREAGE: 17,399  
Utah: 10,568  
Nevada: 6,831

UNIT NAME: Cougar Canyon - Tunnel Springs

ACTION TAKEN: A 10,568 acre (Utah portion) of this unit is identified as a Wilderness Study Area and will be further evaluated for wilderness in the study phase. Nevada will announce a decision on their portion of the unit.

RATIONALE: Approximately 15,968 acres of this interstate unit (10,568 acres in Utah and 5,400 acres in Nevada) possess the naturalness characteristics. Several comments stated that the opportunity for solitude is outstanding because of the more complex topography pattern of the unit. Other comments stated that a diversity of primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities were present and that these opportunities are outstanding in character. Comments included sufficient information and rationale to indicate that "Outstanding Opportunities" may reasonably exist in the natural portion of the unit, therefore, after thorough evaluation of all comments and other materials submitted, the decision is to identify a 10,568 acre (Utah portion) of this unit as a Wilderness Study Area.

UNIT NO.: UT-040-124 (NV-050-0143)      TOTAL ACREAGE: 45,991  
Utah: 21,083  
Nevada: 24,908

UNIT NAME: Doc's Pass

ACTION TAKEN: The Utah portion of this unit does not possess the qualities to become a Wilderness Study Area and is therefore dropped from further wilderness consideration. Nevada will announce a decision of their portion of the unit.

RATIONALE: Approximately 21,000 acres of this interstate unit possess the naturalness characteristics. The unit does not qualify for wilderness study because opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation are not outstanding. No comments were received which disagreed with the proposed decision, therefore the unit is dropped from further wilderness consideration.

UNIT NO.: UT-040-136

ACREAGE: 9,900

UNIT NAME: Vermillion Castle

ACTION TAKEN: This unit does not possess the qualities to become a Wilderness Study Area and is therefore dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE: A portion of the inventory unit which possesses the characteristic of naturalness is over 5,000 acres. Several comments stated that the Dry Canyon portion (which is less than 5,000 acres) should have been considered because the way that separates it from other areas was constructed after the passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). There is no documentation supporting post FLPMA construction on this way and since the area does not meet one of the size requirements, it has not been evaluated further. Within the area which meets the size requirements for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation, is not found to be outstanding. Therefore, this unit is dropped from further wilderness consideration.

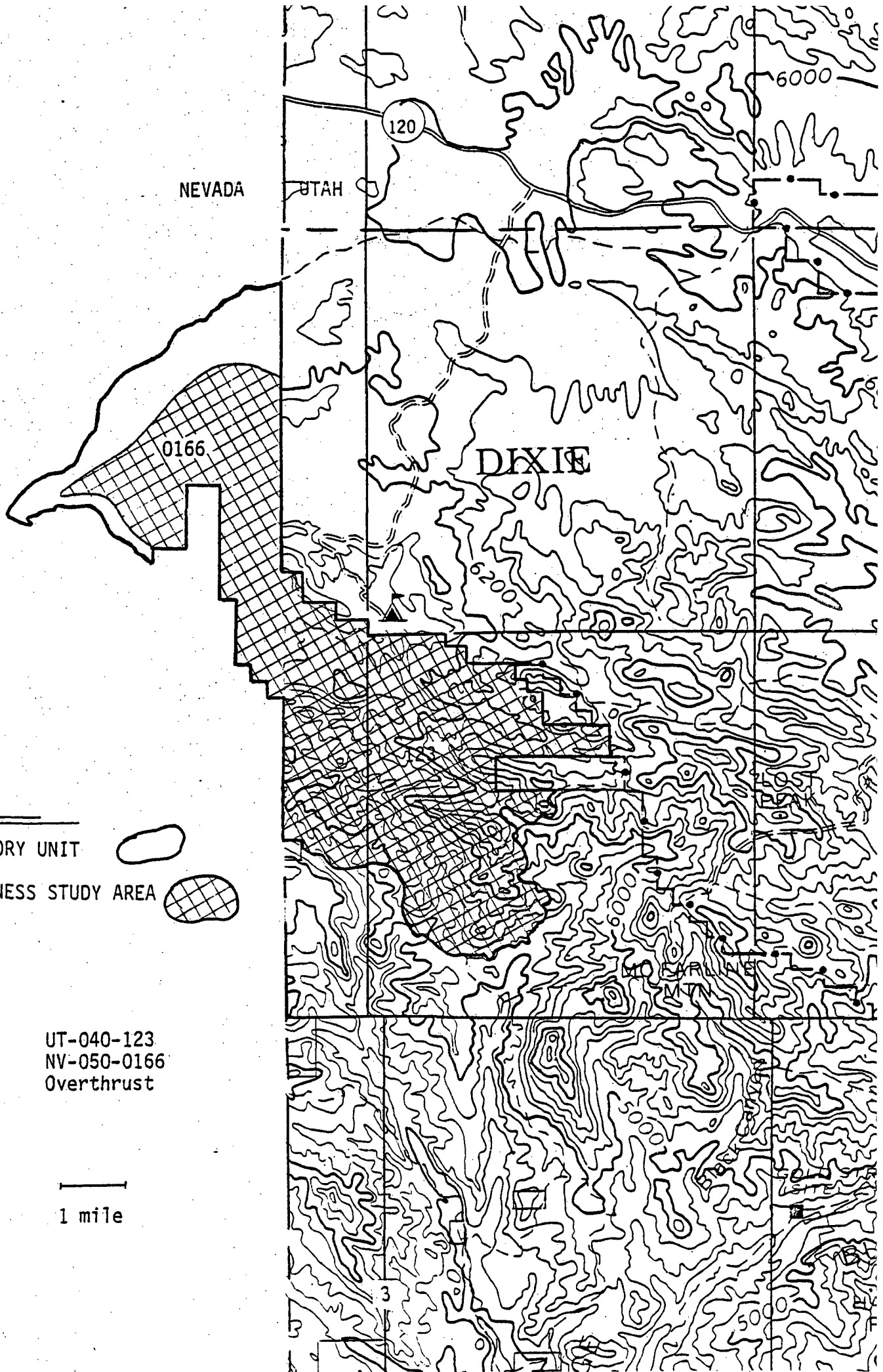
UNIT NO.: UT-040-269  
UT-040-270  
UT-040-271  
UT-040-272  
UT-040-273

ACREAGE: 916  
523  
147  
598  
1,354

UNIT NAME: Red Canyon Group

ACTION TAKEN: These units do not possess the qualities to become Wilderness Study Areas and are, therefore, dropped from further wilderness consideration.

RATIONALE: This is a group of five units of less than 5,000 acres adjacent to the Dixie National Forest RARE II Units (Red Canyon North and Red Canyon South). These units were proposed to lack wilderness character because outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation were absent. Several comments referred to these units as logical extensions of the RARE II units and stated that as logical extensions, they should be Wilderness Study Areas. Other comments agreed with the proposal and indicated the units lacked wilderness characteristics. Except for size, the units were evaluated on their individual merits, and found to lack wilderness characteristics. They do not appear to be logical extensions of the RARE II units, due to the difference in character between the units. Therefore, after thorough evaluation of all comments and data submitted, the decision is to drop these units from further wilderness consideration.



NEVADA

UTAH

120

0166

DIXIE

LEGEND

INVENTORY UNIT

WILDERNESS STUDY AREA

UT-040-123  
NV-050-0166  
Overthrust

1 mile

3

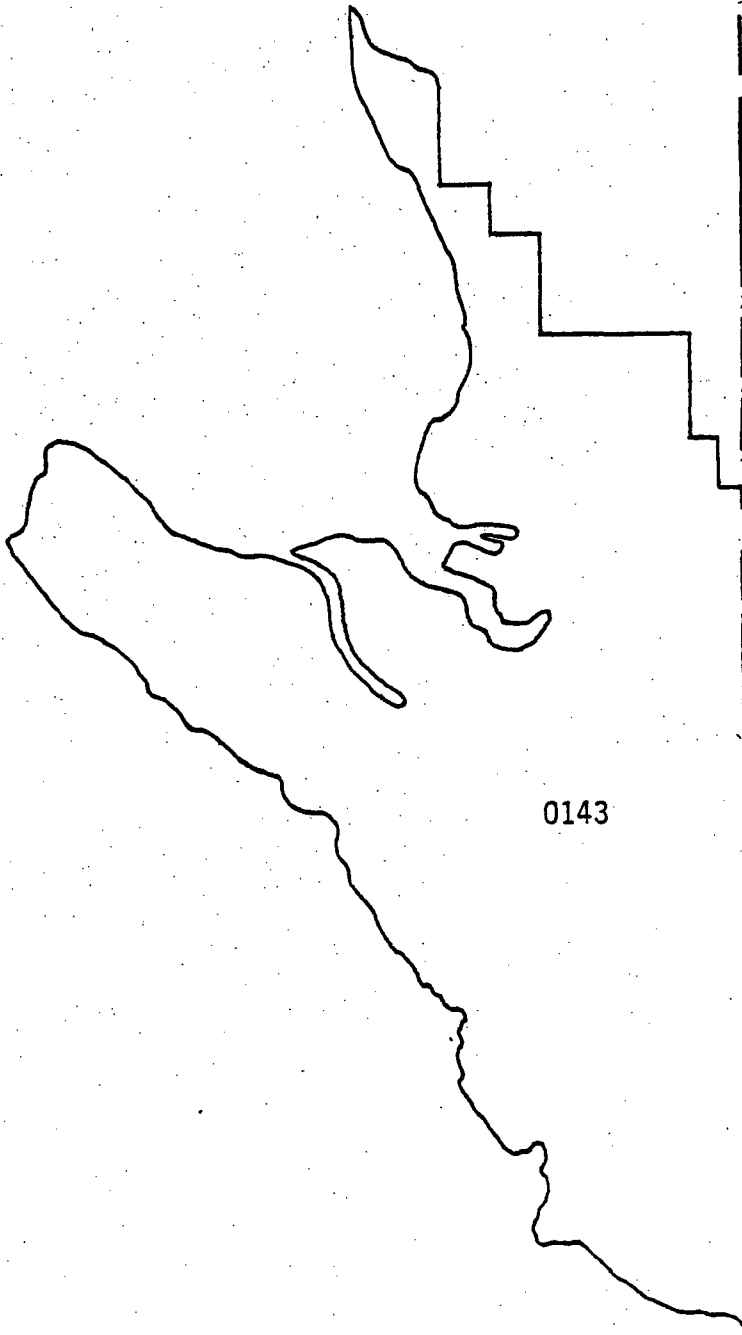
6000

50

Nevada

Utah

DIXIE



0143

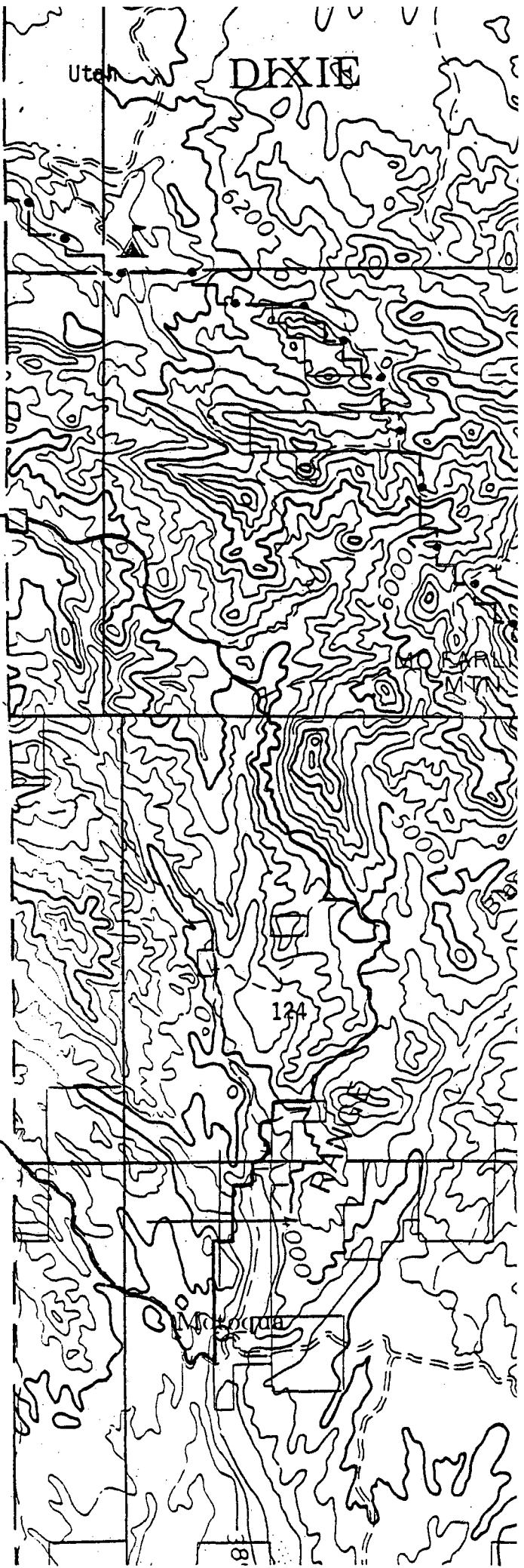
UT-040-124

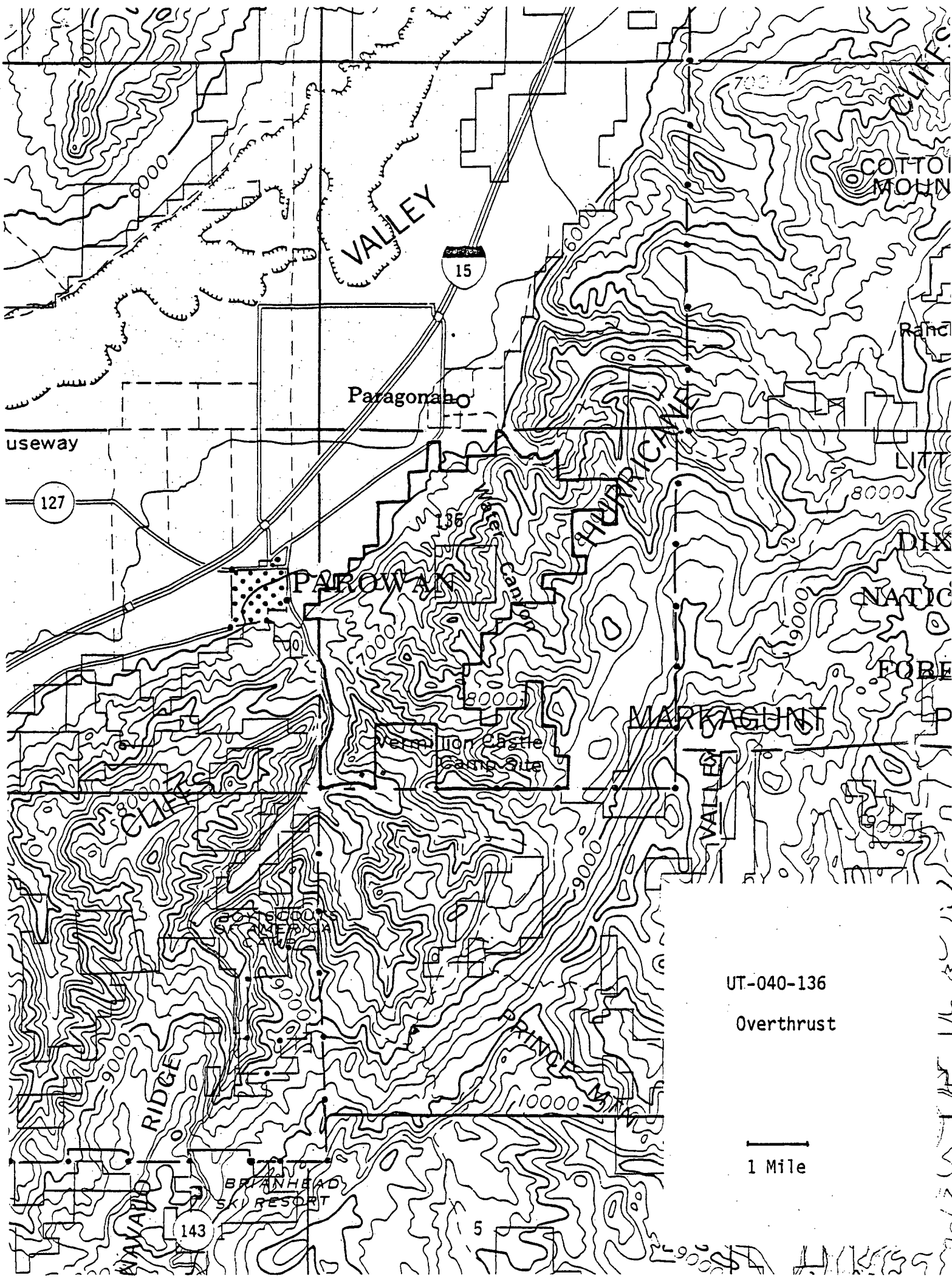
NV-050-0143

Overthrust

1 Mile

4





VALLEY

15

Paragonah

useway

127

PAROWAN

MARKAGUNT

UT-040-136

Overthrust

1 Mile

143

BRAUNHEADS  
SKI RESORT

5

WAVADO RIDGE

COTTON MOUNTAIN

Ranch

LITTLE

8000

DIX

NATIONAL

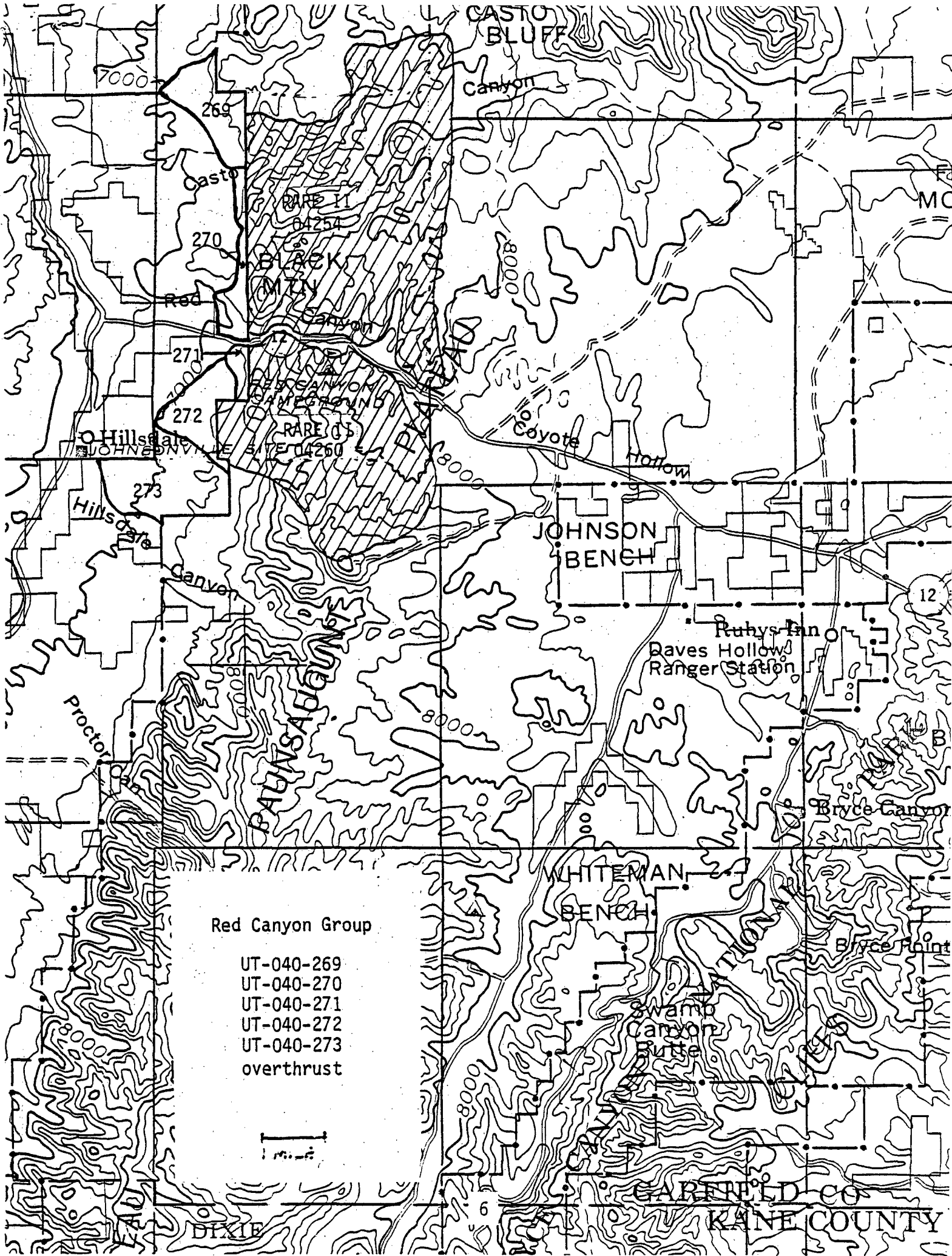
FOREST

VALLEY

10000

9000





Red Canyon Group

- UT-040-269
- UT-040-270
- UT-040-271
- UT-040-272
- UT-040-273
- overthrust

