

Approved: December 29, 1998.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

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UTAH RECLAMATION MITIGATION AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Notice of Availability of the Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Construction of the Diamond Fork Campground; Utah County, Utah

AGENCY: The Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission (Mitigation Commission) and the Spanish Fork Ranger District of the Uinta National Forest, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the decision notice and finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) issued a Final Environmental Impact Statement in 1984 and a Final Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement in 1990 for the Diamond Fork System recommending, among other things, construction of recreation facilities in Diamond Fork Canyon to mitigate for

camping facilities impacted by the construction of the Central Utah Project and to provide recreational opportunities for growing populations along the Wasatch Front. The Spanish Fork Ranger District of the Uinta National Forest and the Mitigation Commission released an Environmental Assessment dated February 23, 1997. It describes environmental effects of a proposal to redesign and upgrade the existing Diamond and Palmyra campgrounds in an effort to complete these recommendations. Based on public and agency input, the Spanish Fork Ranger District and the Mitigation Commission released a revised EA dated September 28, 1998, to incorporate a new alternative that responded to concerns raised. The new proposal rehabilitates the existing Diamond and Palmyra campgrounds, yet reduces the capacity by approximately 33 percent. Individual campsites and loops within the 100-year flood plain will be moved to a higher terrace to protect riparian vegetation and facilitate future stream restoration efforts. Group-site facilities will be closed and reconstructed in a more suitable location that will be analyzed under a separate action. Sections of the campground impacting wild turkey roosting habitat will be closed and reclaimed.

These changes represent a significant change from the previous proposal where the campground capacity would have been increased by approximately 46 percent. This change reduces impacts on riparian vegetation and minimizes potential impacts on future stream restoration efforts, which were the two primary concerns raised by agencies and the public during initial release of the EA.

Six alternatives were considered and analyzed in the September 28, 1998 EA. The Spanish Fork Ranger District and the Mitigation Commission selected Alternative G, the Proposed Action, for implementation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Copies of the Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact can be obtained at the address and telephone number below: Richard Mingo, Natural Resource Specialist, Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, 102 West 500 South, Suite 315, Salt Lake City, UT 84101, Telephone: (801) 524-3146.

Dated: December 21, 1998.

Michael C. Weland,

Acting Executive Director, Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission.

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