# Q1 2021 BOARD MEETING



**FEBRUARY 18, 2021** 

**REMOTE MEETING VIA GOOGLE MEET** 

Streamed Live on YouTube at https://youtu.be/DTNL798yDNQ

**UTAH DIVISION OF STATE PARKS AND RECREATION** 

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, anyone needing special accommodations
(including auxiliary communicative aids and services) should contact Amber Stubbings at (801) 538-7418 or amberstubbings@utah.gov at least three business days before the meeting.
UTAH DIVISION OF STATE PARKS AND RECREATION

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#### **AGENDA**

**HOST:** Division of Parks and Recreation,

Department of Natural Resources

(Virtual Meeting)

ATTENDEES: Department of Natural Resources

Jeff Rasmussen, Dave Harris, Scott Strong,

Chris Haller, Rachel Toker, Susan Zarekarizi, Amber Stubbings,

Darin Bird, Shane Stroud

**Board Members Present:** 

Bob Murri (Chair), Claudia Jarrett, Natalie Randall, Doug Thompson, Brent Boswell, Lesha Coltharp, Kevin Christensen, Corey Cram Russ Steadman

9:30 a.m. <b>ACTION</b>	1. WELCOME	Bob Murri, Chair	
	1.1. Call to Order		
	1.2. Attendance and Introductions		
	1.3. Approval of Agenda		
	1.4. Approval of November 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes		
9:45 a.m. INFORMATION	2. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS	Bob Murri, Brent Boswell, Doug Thomson, Corey Cram, Claudia Jarrett, Kevin Christensen, Lesha Coltharp, Natalie Randall, Russ Steadman	
10:15 a.m. INFORMATION	3. DIVISION REPORT		
	3.1 Business Report	Scott Strong, Deputy Director	
	3.2. Operations Report	Dave Harris, Deputy Director	
	3.3. Director's Report	Jeff Rasmussen, Director	
11:00 a.m. INFORMATION	4. Introduction of Assistant Attorney General	Jeff Rasmussen, Shane Stroud	

11:10 a.m. <b>ACTION</b>	5. OHV FISCAL INCENTIVE GRANT (FIG) RECOMMENDATIONS	Chris Haller, OHV Program Coordinator
11:55 a.m. INFORMATION	6. OTHER BUSINESS	Bob Murri, Board Chair
12:05 p.m. <b>ACTION</b>	7. ADJOURNMENT	Bob Murri, Board Chair



# BOARD OF THE DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Minutes Of The Meeting Held on November 12, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
Remote Meeting via Google Meet
Streamed Live on YouTube

#### **ATTENDEES**

**Board Members Present:** 

Bob Murri (Chair) Corey Cram Kevin Christensen Lesha Coltharp Doug Thompson\* Natalie Randall Claudia Jarrett Brent Boswell Russ Steadman\*\* Host:

The Department of Natural Resources

**Visitors:** 

Ryan Starks Martin Bushman

**Department of Natural** 

Resources:

Jeff Rasmussen
Dave Harris
Scott Strong
Chris Haller
Rachel Toker
Amber Stubbings
Wayne Monroe
Laurie Backus
Darin Bird

Audio/video recording of this meeting is located at: https://youtu.be/r9L9gea8YUk

#### TIME AGENDA ITEM AND SUMMARY

#### 0:01 1. WELCOME

#### 1.1. Call to Order

Board Chair Bob Murri called the virtual meeting to order and presided. Amber Stubbings recorded the minutes. A quorum of Board members being present, the meeting proceeded with business.

#### 1.2. Attendance and Introductions

Chair Murri took attendance of the board members present. He acknowledged the members of the Division of Parks and Recreation present, both as participants in the meeting and as members of the audience.

#### 1.3. Approval of Agenda

Chair Murri reviewed the agenda, and asked that it be approved. The agenda stands approved as presented.

CLAUDIA JARRETT MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COREY CRAM SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

1.4. Approval of August 20, 2020 Meeting Minutes

<sup>\*</sup>Mr. Thompson was present for most of the meeting, however was unable to vote on item 7.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Mr. Steadman was present but was unable to participate with audio, his entries were noted via text comment.

Chair Murri presented the minutes of the August 20, 2020 board meeting and asked that they be approved. The minutes stand approved as amended.

CLAUDIA JARRETT MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE BOARD MEETING HELD MAY 28, 2020, WITH SOME CLERICAL REVISIONS. KEVIN CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 3:58 2. RECOGNITION OF RYAN STARKS

Chair Murri introduced Ryan Starks, former member of the Board of Utah State Parks and Recreation. Chair Murri remarked on the significant contributions of Mr. Starks to the Board. The members of the Board were invited to speak to their experiences serving with Mr. Starks. Mr. Starks provided some comments on his time serving Utahns, and working in economic development, the Division of State Parks, and now the Governor's Office of Economic Development. Division Director Jeff Rasmussen commented on the significant efforts of Mr. Starks to the Board of State Parks over his tenure as a Board member. Chair Murri presented Mr. Starks with a commemorative plaque, and a photo of Goblin Valley State Park.

#### 18:19 3. ADMINISTRATIVE PROPOSAL AND 2021 SCHEDULE ADOPTION

Amber Stubbings, Administrative Assistant to Jeff Rasmussen, and secretariat of the Board, proposed open dates for the 2021 Board of State Parks meeting schedule. The Board voted to approve a schedule, withholding a date for November until some conflicts can be negotiated.

COREY CRAM MOVED TO APPROVE THE DATES FOR THE 2021 BOARD SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS: FEBRUARY 18, 2021; MAY 20, 2021; AUGUST 19, 2021. LESHA COLTHARP SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 23:25 4. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR, BOARD OF UTAH STATE PARKS & RECREATION

Chair Murri opened the floor for nominations for the 2021 Board of Utah State Parks and Recreation Vice Chair.

CLAUDIA JARRETT NOMINATED COREY CRAM FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIR. KEVIN CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION. COREY CRAM CONSENTED TO THE NOMINATION, AND NO OTHER NOMINATIONS WERE PUT FORTH. CHAIR MURRI CALLED FOR A VOTE, AND THE NOMINATION WAS ACCEPTED AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 27:47 5. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Each member of the Board provided a brief update on their respective activities as Board Members of the Division.

Corey Cram expressed appreciation for Sand Hollow's efforts to keep appropriate activities going in the times of the pandemic. He commented that the out-of-state park fee increase at Sand Hollow has had positive results for the park. Mr. Cram wished to acknowledge Sand Hollow's park manager, Mr. Jonathan Allred, for his significant contributions to the ongoing success of the park. Mr. Cram commented that the volunteers in his state parks have become good friends.

Claudia Jarrett stated COVID-19 has eliminated the opportunity for her to visit many parks. She was able to visit Snow Canyon, and shared some photos from her visit, stating she was surprised to find out about the sand dunes in the park, and commented on her enjoyment of Jenny's Trail. Ms. Jarrett shared a Utah State Parks Field Guide, passport edition, and shared her goal of filling out each park in the passport.

Doug Thompson was excused from the meeting for personal matters.

Kevin Christensen stated Yuba and Palisade both had great summer seasons. He discussed the water levels, and visitation numbers. He stated it is good to see how many guests are visiting the parks, and how investments are being made in park improvements.

Lesha Coltharp shared that she also has not been able to get to many state parks due to the ongoing pandemic. She has been able to get to the three parks in her area, and sends thanks to the staff for continuing to operate. She spoke to the benefits of the projects at Steinaker and Red Fleet. She stated Fred Hayes State Park at Starvation has had a banner year, and again thanked staff for their significant contributions to keeping parks safe and open. Ms. Coltharp then posited that the work parks staff has done this year have put outdoor recreation on the map for many people who were not originally outdoor enthusiasts.

Brent Boswell indicated that the Utah Association of Counties fall convention is November 18-20,, and Juab County has recently worked to provide items for a fundraising basket. Mr. Boswell stated he worked hard to solicit donations from businesses in the area, but Cheston Slater from Yuba State Park not only provided great items, but also had them delivered to eliminate additional hassle.

Natalie Randall echoed Ms. Coltharp's comments regarding the work of our staff creating opportunities for Utahns to experience new outdoor recreation activities. She commented on how important State Parks' efforts to educate the public on recreational opportunities, the importance of protecting anthropological artifacts, recreational safety protocols, and leave no trace principles. Goosenecks State Parks recently applied for a designation with the International Dark-Sky Association, to become a Dark-Sky park, and is awaiting confirmation. Ms. Randall had a unique opportunity to end a backpacking trip at the Anasazi State Park and museum, and commented on how welcoming their staff and facilities were.

Chair Murri thanked the Region Managers for their significant contributions to the Division Report. He stated he was able to speak with Jeremy Shaw from Antelope Island State Park and discuss their ongoing improvements. Chair Murri wished to recognize the work they continue to put forth. Chair Murri thanked the Board members for the valuable reports they provide regarding their regions.

#### 43:15 6. DIVISION REPORT

The director and deputy directors of the Division of Parks and Recreation gave a brief report regarding the Division's recent activities.

#### 6.1. Business Report

Deputy Director Scott Strong thanked the members of the Board for their reports, and expressed appreciation for being able to learn of others' experiences in our parks.

Deputy Director Strong provided operational metrics comparing fiscal year 2019 to

fiscal year 2020, where the division's operational revenue has increased by 8.84%. Four of our parks have hit more than \$1 million or more in operational profit in the first quarter of this fiscal year. Deputy Director Strong stated these numbers contribute significantly to our ability to reinvest back into state parks.

Deputy Director Strong stated marketing for parks is shifting to telling the story of state parks, discussing the benefit of state parks to local communities and the state economy as a whole. He commented that Eugene Swalberg and Devan Chavez have been capturing footage around the state with the intent of editing it into the story of how projects benefit both the visitor experience and their local communities. The goal is to have at least one piece ready to display before the legislative session.

Deputy Director Strong stated there have been some internal audits of the parks operations. He stated there is a continuing investigation regarding the misappropriation of funds in construction. The internal auditors also reviewed internal purchasing procedures, have provided follow-up recommendations on those processes. State Parks received commendations on many of our internal processes and procedures, and we look forward to implementing more safety measures.

Deputy Director Strong stated that Mike Long from our Concession's Program is working hard to implement concession agreements.

Deputy Director Strong indicated he's had significant success with BOR in finding money for Echo and Willard Bay State Parks. The BOR was able to appropriate a matching grant for the project ongoing at Willard Bay to fund a new project at Echo. This speaks highly of the relationship between the state and federal partners.

Ms. Jarrett asked if Parks was able to secure any CARES Act funds. Edge of the Cedars was able to receive some grants for curation.

#### 6.2. Operations Report

Deputy Director Dave Harris thanked the Region Managers for compiling their region reports for the Board. This fall, Deputy Director Harris was able to visit the southwest and southeast regions, exploring Escalante Petrified Forest. He was able to visit Coral Pink Sand Dunes and Steinaker/Red Fleet.

Park staff has done an excellent job maintaining operations during the pandemic. We are constantly dealing with event management, and park managers continue to work with local communities to hold appropriate events, fitting within local health department guidelines. He recognized how important it is to continue to provide outlets for the public to be able to recreate. There have been very few instances of COVID-19 cases among park staff, and none of those instances were a result of their proximity to the parks. To our knowledge, no one has contracted COVID-19 at a state park.

Deputy Director Harris recognized the life saving efforts of Richard Droesbeck at Bear Lake. Darin Tucker rescued two duck hunters in Utah Lake State Park who had failed to return home. Jeff Arbon rescued a woman who fell on a bike path, and he was able to use his off-road bike to attend to her where no other rescuers could get to.

Deputy Director Harris provided an update on the combination of the Boating and Off-Highway Vehicle programs to standardize law-enforcement efforts. They have standardized the oath of office for officers to meet the goals of each program. Law enforcement continues to recruit.

Parks staffing for law enforcement continues to be a struggle, with a running list of twelve to fourteen ranger postings in the works.

Eugene Swalberg and Randy Thomas will be retiring at the end of the year. These positions are going to be huge shoes to fill. We are adding two new positions to the division. Steinaker/Red Fleet will be getting a new law enforcement park ranger to assist with OHV and boating issues. We are also working to create a position for Washington County parks.

Administrative staff are working on a review and update of employee guidelines, which have not been reviewed in over ten years. The goal is for employee guidelines to be accessible to all staff, and also to be updated on a regular and applicable schedule.

State Parks signage is being updated. We have funding for 15 additional signs, for which Mike Long has done an excellent job to contract for these services, and Monica Stamm continues to perform excellent design work. We are working with the HR office to classify our journey-crew maintenance.

Deputy Director Harris shared a comment he received from a guest in California. Mr. Corey Cram expressed thanks to our law enforcement for challenges they face. He thanked Deputy Director Harris for sharing information on the calls our rangers experience and the training they receive.

#### 6.3. Director's Report

Director Jeff Rasmussen reported on construction projects going on throughout the state. Several years ago, State Parks put in an ongoing appropriation request to the legislature for continued upgrade and installation of restroom facilities. That is an appropriation we receive from our restricted funds, directly funded through park fees. Palisade State Park is currently working on the installation of new restrooms. Bear Lake State Park is making significant progress with expansion of day-use areas at the northern beach area. This project has added restrooms and parking to handle additional guests. Antelope Island has added an additional entrance lane to avoid traffic backups into Syracuse city. The lane will have an automated gate with a scanner for annual passes, and a credit card reader. There is also a campground project which started this fall and should be finished by Memorial Day, 2021. Escalante State Park is building a new visitor center, which is framed, and should be completed by early next year. Gunlock State Park and Soldier Hollow are both in the design phase for various campground expansions. Goblin Valley is in design for expansion to the Emery County land bill. State Parks will be asking the legislature for \$15 million appropriation from our restricted account for exciting new plans to continue to build our business and invest in our state parks systems.

Director Rasmussen reported on employee recognition. Several years ago, the Division of State Parks rolled out an incentives program to create projects to increase agency revenue. This program focuses employees on reducing expenses, improving revenue. There is a \$750 appropriation per employee to distribute the sum total of that money throughout their unit. Since then, we've also added the Salary Improvement Plan, which has proven its value to ongoing employee morale, while the rest of the state deals with budgetary constraints. Each employee sets a goal with their supervisor to build the business, improve customer service or improve facilities, and if successful, the staff can receive a 3% increase in their salary. There are a number of guidelines within the system to qualify for this program, but last year 75% of employees qualified for this raise. This goes in conjunction with any cost-of-living adjustments approved by the legislature.

Additional programs to improve employee morale include employee incentive awards, which have a salary bonus. For 2019 we gave this award to eighteen of our employees. Director Rasmussen provided information on the 2019 awardees. Lastly, we reserve funds to reward employees who go above and beyond to recognize those employees. Director Rasmussen expressed the pride he has in employees of the Parks.

Director Rasmussen noted that Kate Croft has accepted a position with the Department of Health and Human Services, as their Public Information Officer. Her last day will be Friday, November 13. In her short time with State Parks, she definitely left her mark, making significant contributions to the work of State Parks. Planning will have to start over with getting the position filled.

Director Rasmussen reported that the upcoming 2021 Legislative Session will likely see similar proposals to last year. State monuments have been garnering some attention, and we expect to hear some proposals for new monuments. Our challenge will be to make sure that the designations are appropriate and financially self-sufficient. There will be interest in investing in outdoor recreation; the speaker of the house has an interest in supporting recreation. The legislators who sit on the Natural Resources Legislative Committee are generally pleased with the progress we are making as an agency. Please forward any comments you may receive from a lawmaker so we can try and resolve any issues.

Director Ramussen commented that a volunteer who has passed away recently made a significant contribution to Snow Canyon State Park in her will. That speaks volumes to the significance of our parks to the public. This is a testament to the good relationships we are building with our volunteers. Congratulations to Kristen Comella and her dedicated staff.

Director Rasmussen stated he anticipates the visitation numbers to soar. We've spoken about how busy our parks are, and we expect to see these numbers continue throughout the winter. We want to continue to plan and find opportunities for guests to recreate outdoors. We welcome ideas for new ways to encourage recreating.

Department Deputy Director Darin Bird expressed excitement about the election of Governor Elect Spencer Cox. The indication is that executive leadership at DNR will not experience any significant changes. Deputy Director Bird encouraged members of the Board to continue to educate their constituents on the fee investments of their continued usership. Mr. Corey Cram would like to see park managers really focus on their parks, and really make their goals come to life. Our parks are at a crossroads of expansion and this is a great time to assess the vision of our agency.

Chair Murri voiced appreciation for the strength of the focused leadership at the Department. He expressed that he has felt significant confidence in the direction of the administration.

#### 1:46:42 7. OHV FISCAL INCENTIVE GRANT (FIG) RECOMMENDATIONS

Chair Murri recognized OHV Program Manager Chris Haller and OHV Program Grant Administrator Rachel Toker, who presented nine quarterly OHV Fiscal Incentive Grant recommendations for October 2020 for approval by the Board.

Mr. Kevin Christensen recused himself from voting on the first proposal from 360 OHV Trail Mapping of the Sanpitch Mountains, due to having an interest in the proposal's success.

Ms. Claudia Jarrett asked about the Ride With Respect program in relation to the Manti-LaSal Plan Revision which is currently out for public comment. Ms. Natalie Randall stated there is still quite a bit of input that could come from various user groups on the transportation section. Mr. Haller expressed that he is a cooperating agency representative for the organization. The Ride With Respect program is an organization to rally input from off-highway vehicle clubs and users. He stated that this brings awareness to the program and gives the opportunity to the public for engagement in the decision making process. Ms. Jarrett asked about the process for OHV recommendations.

CLAUDIA JARRETT MOVED TO APPROVE THE FIRST RECOMMENDATION OF QUARTERLY FISCAL INCENTIVE GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR OCTOBER OF 2020 AS PRESENTED. COREY CRAM SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CLAUDIA JARRETT MOVED TO APPROVE THE REMAINING EIGHT RECOMMENDATIONS OF QUARTERLY FISCAL INCENTIVE GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR OCTOBER OF 2020 AS PRESENTED. KEVIN CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 44:50 8. OUT OF STATE VISITOR DAY-USE FEE INCREASE INFORMATION

Deputy Director Strong stated State Parks is going to ask the Governor's Office to support an increase in fees for out-of state visitation.

We would like to increase daily entrance fees from \$25 to \$40, and annual pass fees from \$75 to \$150 to assist in recovering costs from impacts of significant numbers of out-of-state visitors. Ms. Claudia Jarrett asked if there would be an opportunity to create a "locals only" pass. Ms. Lesha Coltharp expressed concern, stating southern parks have year-round access, whereas a fee increase might impact northern region park visitors more. Deputy Director Strong stated that the opportunity for park managers to create a locals pass, or "cluster parks" who could offer a discount. The Parks administration sees value in engaging the local communities, and it is the goal of the administration to be sensitive to our local users.

Ms. Jarrett asked if there has been discussion of creating a non-resident pass versus a resident-only pass. The goal of parks is to reduce the number of fees on our fee-schedules at the state-level. Mr. Corey Cram asked if we have a good metric on out-of-state visitors who are repeat users. Deputy Director Strong stated we do not currently capture those metrics for day-use visitation, however we do for camping: we have sold passes at \$150 for out-of-state users in the western regions of the state, with no negative impacts. Deputy Director Strong stated he is working with some of the collegiate programs in southern Utah, who are developing a program to scan visitor license plates, and will help us track more detailed metrics. Snow Canyon State Park is going to pilot this program. Mr. Cram acknowledged that our use-pattern is going to be forever changed because of the pandemic. Ms. Jarrett restated the importance of providing leeway to locals without pricing them out. Deputy Director Strong agreed with Ms. Jarrett's assessment, commenting that we do have to cover our costs of increased visitation, and many of these opportunities can be solved with the proposed price increase.

Chair Murri opened the floor for other business.

No other business was discussed.

#### 1:58:54 **10. SET NEXT MEETING**

The Board agreed that the next meeting will be held virtually on February 18, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

#### 1:59:10 11. ANNUAL BOARD TRAINING

Ms. Stubbings presented to the Board regarding the Utah Open Public Meetings Act, the Government Records Access Management Act, and Robert's Rules of Order. Mr. Martin Bushman provided some clarity on some more extensive GRAMA requirements.

#### 2:05:48 12. ADIOURNMENT

The Board having no further business, Chair Murri sought a motion to adjourn.

KEVIN CHRISTENSEN MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. COREY CRAM SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

# DIVISION REPORT Q1 2021

#### **DIVISION REPORT | STATEWIDE SERVICES**

#### COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM

Public Affairs Coordinator: Devan Chavez

#### **Public Affairs Program**

Eugene Swalberg took his well-deserved retirement after spending his entire professional career with the Division. Devan Chavez moved into his new role as the Public Affairs Program Manager at the beginning of January, 2021. We are looking to announce his old position and hire a new employee to fill it as soon as we can.

#### **Marketing**

We are looking to start promoting our parks, programs, and employees more organically; telling the Division's story through new and unique ways and using those stories as the basis for our promotion and marketing.

- Promoting parks, programs, and employee highlights (ranger rescues, dark-sky, visitation increases, OHV projects, etc.)
  - o Check out **this recent story** we pitched to KSL of a snowy rescue by our rangers.
- Preparing our distribution plan for our new park improvement project videos, PSAs, and other video assets for 2021.
  - o Check out the recent improvement project video for Bear Lake State Park <a href="here">here</a> and another about Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park <a href="here">here</a>.
- Monthly Backcountry Radio interviews with Brian Brinkerhoff.
- Working with the department on an annual communication strategy.
- Prepare for upcoming park improvement project video filming at Echo State Park.

#### **Media Relations**

We plan to continue building and maintaining our positive relationships with local media outlets. While we are looking to step-away from paid-promotions like road tours and media buys for general park awareness, we are also looking to increase our proactive pitching and check-ins.

- Look for opportunities to proactively pitch upcoming groundbreakings, ribbon cuttings, employee-involved incidents, changes that could impact the public, etc.
- Increase outreach/engagement with Telemundo/Univision and other avenues we haven't traditionally taken.
- Push safety messages cold water & ice safety, avalanche awareness, #ResponsibleRecreation.
- Work with sister agencies on messaging involving new state park proposals.
- Decrease our response time. Be available to give an answer to media promptly, even if it's not always one they want to hear.

#### **Publications**

Finalizing agreement with Geico for sponsorship of Utah State Parks Field Guide

#### **Other Projects**

- Website maintenance and 'refreshed look' by adding in and replacing rotating photos.
   Create new webpages and manage all state park golf courses on stateparks.utah.gov.
  - o Fun fact for 2019 vs 2020 website traffic
    - **2019:** We had 1,598,440 users with 7,140,695 pageviews.
    - **2020:** We had 2,430,490 users with 10,546,893 pageviews.
    - User increase of 52% and pageview increase of 47.4%.
- Increase organic written and multimedia content for state parks news/blog page as well as social media pages.
- Renew and enhance our partnership with Utah.com.
- Engage and build relationships with other PIOs, tourism officials, etc.

#### **DIVISION REPORT | STATEWIDE SERVICES**

#### HERITAGE PROGRAM

Heritage, Interpretation, & ADA Resources Manager: Justina Parsons-Bernstein

January was full of dark sky news and coverage for Utah State Parks. Topping that list
was the fact that three new parks joined our dark sky ranks. Jordanelle, Kodachrome
Basin and Rockport are now officially International Dark-Sky Parks. Below are the
official photos we sent out with the announcement for each park.



Milky Way over Rockport State Park.

Photo by Shelby Stock



Nature Area at Jordanelle State Park.

Photo by Utah State Parks



Milky Way over Kodachrome Basin State Park.

Photo by Ryan Andreasen

- Coverage of the announcement included:
  - <u>'It just makes our state so proud': 3 more Utah parks land International Dark Sky status</u>
  - Rockport, Jordanelle State Parks Join Dark Sky Movement
  - <u>Utah Division of Parks and Recreation Announces Three New International Dark</u>
     <u>Sky Park Designations for Jordanelle, Kodachrome Basin, and Rockport State</u>
     <u>Parks</u>
  - Three Utah Parks get International Dark Sky designations
  - o <u>3 Utah state parks awarded International Dark Sky Park status</u>
  - o 3 more Utah state parks awarded International Dark Sky Park status
  - o Three more Utah State Parks awarded Dark Sky Park status
  - o 3 more Utah locations receive Dark Sky Park status
  - o Rockport, Jordanelle State Parks Join Dark Sky Movement
  - o Utah Leads the World in Dark Sky Spots, Here's Three New Ones
  - Jordanelle, Kodachrome Basin and Rockport State Parks International Dark Sky
     Park Designation Live IDA Facebook Event Joint Announcement and Interview
- In other Dark Sky news, Utah State Parks Dark Sky Initiative will be featured in upcoming issues in both *Utah Life* and *Denver Life* magazines and Justina was set up by the Utah of Office of Tourism for a two segment, 20 minute feature about Utah State Parks Dark Sky Initiative on the KSL Radio program, "Mighty Mainstreet."

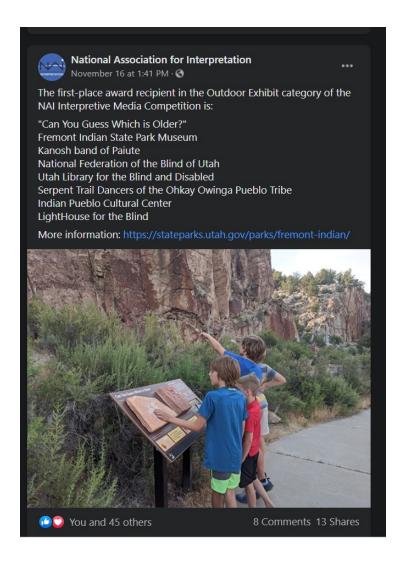
Part 1 Part 2

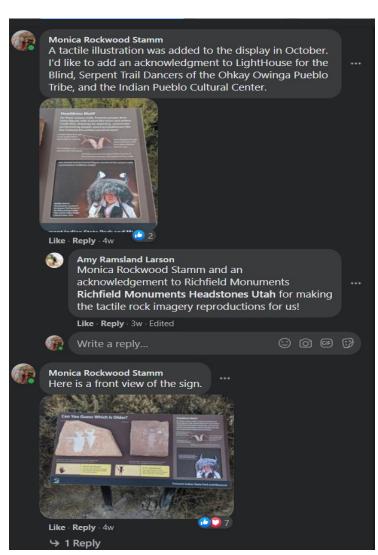
- Justina gave the inaugural presentation for the new IDA Utah Speaker Series on Utah State Parks Dark Sky Initiative. You can listen to that presentation here--<u>Utah's Parks:</u>
  <u>The Jewels in our Dark Sky Crown</u>:
- And in still more cool dark sky news, the 4-H Dark Sky Module that Justina Developed with USU Extension has been picked up nationally and thus far has had 167 downloads around Utah, the U.S. and 6 foreign countries (Bermuda, China, South Africa, Philippines, India, Mexico).
- Monica is busy working on exhibits, displays, waysides, signage, and brochures for many of our parks including Fielding Garr Ranch, Rock Cliff Nature Center, Matheson Park, Coral Pink, Huntington, Fremont, Edge of the Cedars, Escalante, and Millsite, to name a few. She also has Park Entrance Signs for a dozen parks to work on. These things will keep her busy through the end of Spring. Pictured below is the new tactile and Braille Wingspan Comparison wayside Monica just put into production that will be installed along the wheelchair accessible nature trail at Willard Bay State Park.



- Monica will be taking two very interesting and intensive trainings over the next two months. One training will be in Audio Description. Audio Description is for the benefit of people who are blind or low vision so they are able to learn everything people with vision can see in exhibits and displays and waysides including things that people wouldn't think to include in descriptions because we can see them. It is a special skill. Next Monica will attend a tactile graphics and 3D printing conference. The conference will focus on incorporating Braille and tactile graphics into interpretive materials.
- The tactile and Braille wayside sign Monica developed for the wheelchair accessible Rock Imagery Trail behind the visitor center at Fremont Indian State Park won FIRST PLACE for the Outdoor Exhibit Category from the National Association for Interpretation. It has also received some positive recognition from the public.

See next page for comments.







#### **Christine Curry**

My son has a vision impairment (is serviced by usdb) and he really appreciated this sign.



#### Dawn Lipply Kjar

As a teacher of the blind, I was thrilled to see this when I visited this summer. Thank you!

#### **DIVISION REPORT | STATEWIDE SERVICES**

#### OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PROGRAM

Off-Highway Vehicle Program Manager: Chris Haller

#### **Summer Program:**

- Recruited 3 interns for the spring semester from the University of Utah and 1 from Southern Utah University. Each of them is working on meaningful projects that will help enhance the OHV Program.
- On January 11th we launched the 50th Anniversary of the OHV Program on our social media outlets which has reached over 3,800 people during the month of January.
- Just an FYI in 1971 the Utah OHV Act was signed into by the Utah State Legislature.
- Completed trail work on the Sand Canyon One Way OHV trail at Coral Pink State Park.
- Planning has begun for the third and fourth Great Trails Workshops as we partner with the National Off-highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) and the US Forest Service.
- Held one OHV Advisory Council meeting.
- A two person seasonal trail crew has been developed with applications being accepted until February 26, 2021. The purpose of this two person trail crew is to assist our OHV friendly parks, federal partners and non-profit organizations/clubs on motorized trail projects anywhere in the state of Utah!
- Attended several two separate Forest Plan Revision meetings with the Ashley National Forest and the Manti La Sal National Forest.
- Attended a Utah Office of Tourism meeting to discuss motorized recreation joint promotion.
- Attended two different OHV Club meetings.
- Started an initial discussion about a partnership opportunity between the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) and the OHV Program regrading cultural site awareness.

#### **Winter Program:**

 Completed snowmobile trail maintenance work on three different snowmobile grooming complexes. Work included removing fallen trees on trails with use of chainsaws and axes, falling hazardous trees which died due to forest fires, widening trails for safe and effective grooming operation as well as marking trails for the visibility of the groomer and rider.

- Conducted a statewide grooming managers meeting for information and snowmobile trail grooming consistency.
- The Utah Snowmobile Association assisted with two different snowmobile training courses for our Rangers, in which 12 Rangers were taught safe riding skills, along with avalanche equipment use.
- Attended two annual partnership snowmobile grooming meetings which included the Cedar Mt. and the Uintah Basin grooming complexes.
- Purchased a new snowcat for the Wasatch Mt. grooming complex.

#### **Education:**

- Conducted two UTV trainings with the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands.
- Partnered with the Governor's Office of Outdoor Recreation, USFS Avalanche Center and the Friends of Utah Avalanche Center for the second annual Utah Avalanche Awareness week. Fox 13 and Channel 2 conducted TV interviews.
- Attended two outreach activities in partnership with the Utah Snowmobile Association (USA).
- Participated in two radio interviews focused on snowmobile and backcountry safety.
- Participated in a University of Utah Health Podcast focused on snowmobile and backcountry safety.

#### <u>Fiscal Incentive Grant (FIG) - State OHV Program:</u>

- Successfully uploaded and received 47 FIG applications. The number of applications has increased 235% from the previous quarters in Fiscal Year 21.
- Conducted 4 presentations focused on the FIG.
- Created and uploaded a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page onto the Division's grant website.
- Created an entire closeout packet for FIG and a section on the website.

#### **Recreational Trails Program (RTP):**

- Presented to seven different organizations regarding the 2021 RTP grant applications and process.
- The 2021 RTP grant cycle will open on February 16 and closes on May1, 2021.
- Signed off the environmental clearance for 14 RTP projects.
- Closed out the RTP FY 17 projects.
- Conducted our annual US Forest Service and Division Contract Manager's meeting to ensure changes regarding both agencies when it comes to contracts.

#### **DIVISION REPORT | REGION REPORT**

#### NORTH REGION

Region Manager: Laurie Backus

The North has slowed some with the winter season, but many parks are seeing record winter visitation. From Christmas lights to ice fishing tournaments, the public are out enjoying outdoor recreation events and opportunities. Park staff have continued to work on projects and have started to make preparations for the summer season.

#### North Region Law Enforcement Report:

The Utah citizens are so lucky to have such highly trained rangers. Our rangers have responded to 21 critical incidents these past few months. These incidents included people stuck on floating ice sheets, lost snowmobilers in white out conditions, OHV fatalities and many snowmobile accidents. Our rangers have also enforced laws at two checkpoints in Weber and Summit County that netted over 45 violations, many which were alcohol and drug related. Our rangers have honed their skills in CPR, alcohol detection, Mental Health Intervention and other various training courses over the past few months.



Ice sheet rescue at Strawberry

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#### **ANTELOPE ISLAND STATE PARK - Jeremy Shaw**



Our visitation has been through the roof in November, December, and January. Our usual first of the year festivities were all done either self-guided or virtually. With good weather, we have filled every parking lot on most weekends. We are looking at bringing on more seasonal staff to help with the large numbers of visitors. The campground project continues to move along at a good pace and we are excited to see the new

amphitheater and sites for the restrooms getting graded. We are looking forward to a great spring and summer season.

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#### **BEAR LAKE STATE PARK - Richard Droesbeke**

- We have completed phase 1A of the North Eden beach/day use improvement project. Cleaned and restored the beach (cleared all vegetation out) into the water. Built a 740' concrete retaining wall and sidewalk. Going out to bid for:
  - o Fencing: South boundary first then the north boundary.
  - o Restrooms facilities: Move the two existing "Gunnison" CXTs as described and add two "Tioga" CXTs (double vault/stall with chase).
  - o Removing 2 existing wood shade shelters
  - o Construct access points: To the 3 ADA beach pavilions, extra access point, and vehicle access point. This includes the 3 ADA pavilions/shade shelters, concrete pads, and tables. This should also include the placement of large rocks or bollards on the north and south ends of the retaining wall to restrict vehicle access.
  - o Grade and lay road base gravel: All roads, day use parking areas, and campsite parking areas.
  - o Asphalt: Day use parking areas
  - o and if funds are available:
    - Construct 8 pavilions/shade shelters on the beach as shown, but possibly a bit further east of the high water mark.
    - A fire ring, picnic table, and marker for each campsite, including the camp host site.
- Hosted and assisted with organizing the 12 Annual Bear Lake Monster Winterfest:
  - Over 400 people attended the Winter Sports and Trails Day at the Sinks Winter trailhead on January 22nd.
  - o Only @ 200 people attended the "Cisco Disco" at Cisco Beach. Not really any Cisco in the shallow waters and no ice on the lake.
  - o 76 runners in the 5K run.
  - o 16 boats in the cardboard boat regatta, including 6 in a youth/child division.
  - o 272 jumpers in the Monster Plunge. That is nearly 100 more than last year.
  - o Spectating crowd was probably 1/3 less than last year.



- o 1 complaint from anglers not having access to the launch ramp and limited parking during the Saturday event.
- Started grooming snowmobile trails on a limited basis due to poor snow levels.
  - Snowcat/groomer has experienced three breakdowns - two due the low snow conditions.
  - Receiving several complaints because of the lack of grooming the snowmobile trails.
- UDOT to start construction of the new access road into the Marina on February 15.



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# **CAMP FLOYD STATE PARK MUSEUM - Clay** Shelley

On December 5, 2020 Fairfield Town and Camp Floyd State Park hosted the town's annual Christmas Fireworks Show. On December 12, 2020 Camp Floyd hosted Author Michael Anderson and the release of his new book Fooled Everybody, the untold story of the Utah War. Camp Floyd had a display of Christmas lights in the park through the month of December.



#### **DEER CREEK STATE PARK - Bruce Strom**

Deer Creek is just now beginning to finally freeze over. Visitors are ice fishing at the north end by The Island but we still have open water at the main boat launch area. Our Rangers have been patrolling the Strawberry area and responding to accidents and incidents. Ranger Schaefer responded to an incident at Strawberry Reservoir in December; a few ice fishermen became stranded when the section of ice they were on drifted away from the main area. See attached photo.



#### **EAST CANYON STATE PARK - Chris Haramoto**

Winter is a wonderful time to visit the park. The clear skies allowed for a beautiful night sky

viewing. We had several families visit the park to view the "Great Conjunction" where Saturn and Jupiter appeared to be one.

We hosted two ice fishing events. Both were successful. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our beloved Winterfest event. Due to the very poor snow conditions we did not have enough snow for the activities. We hope we will get a heavy snow month in February.

A few projects we will be working on this quarter.

- Adding new camping options to our park inventory.
- Renovating the Yurts.
- How the Division can be more inclusive to our customer base and workforce.

Plenty of spring events planned, check us out. https://www.facebook.com/eastcanyonstatepark/

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#### **ECHO STATE PARK - Eric Bradshaw**



Ice fishing season came to Echo early and fast. The lake froze over just before Christmas and just as it froze there were thousands of people out on the ice every weekend and hundreds out on weekdays. Being one of the first northern lakes in Utah to freeze allows us to be the first to host ice fishermen with cabin fever, lots of fishermen out after Christmas too testing out the gifts they received.

The plans for Phase II, which is the day use area, boat ramp, boat parking and a

campground/ park model RV sites, is almost complete. We hope to start construction in the

spring and with the lack of snow this may be a great year to be able extend the boat ramp. Our new campground is still getting visitors in the winter.

Echo State Park hosted a Tight Lines event called Ice Addiction. The event brings about 600 ice anglers out to the ice to try and catch the heaviest fish for some prizes. Tight Lines usually holds these events in Colorado and Eastern Utah and this is the furthest west they have ever gone testing the Wasatch Front market.

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#### FLIGHT PARK STATE RECREATION AREA

Two weeks in December were spent at the Flight Park moving dirt and clearing up large drainage problems. The north side of the park along the berm was cleaned up and leveled to allow for better camping opportunities. A number of different roads in the park were closed off, fixing a number of trespassing and erosion issues. In the spring, the plan is to place markers for designated campsites.



Camp fees have really helped to solve problems in the park. Since Oct 2nd when the camp fee took

effect, the park has made \$8500. Summer time should prove to be even better, since this is all winter time activity, which is pretty slow.

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### GREAT SALT LAKE STATE PARK AND MARINA - Dave Shearer

The Mirabilites have formed on the beach again and have brought in many visitors as well as some press attention. We have been conducting tours of these very interesting and unique structures while practicing save COVID guidelines and limiting the tours to small groups. (Picture attached) We have also been staffing the visitor center and entry station each day this year to see if revenue increases. Unfortunately gift store sales are down, but entry station revenue is up substantially. We will be



working this spring to maximize revenue and visitation to the park.

We continue with repairs to the road due to damage from the earthquake. Three large sections have been removed and repaired with road base with the intention of paving this spring when the weather warms up. Other sections of the road have begun to fail and will have to be addressed. We are working with FEMA on potential money to help with repairs.

Another challenge facing us is the horribly low snowpack for the Great Salt Lake drainage area. This has affected levels in the Great Salt Lake and may cause us to pull most of the sailboats from the marina this spring while the water is high enough to do so.

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#### HISTORIC UNION PACIFIC RAIL TRAIL

The Rail Trail continues to see a lot of use during the winter. With the lack of snow, it is seeing the usual use: hikers, bikers, and joggers. At the end of January the snow finally decided to hang around and after a decent storm we were able to groom for the first time on January 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. We were able to groom from Park City to Wanship. Following the grooming, lots of cross country skiers, snow bikers, and joggers were out enjoying the freshly groomed trail. We are hoping to get more snow to continue grooming operations and maybe extend it all the way to Echo if we get enough snow.



We are now starting to plan the spring and summer projects we would like to accomplish. There are a few grants we plan on applying for in order to make the wanted improvements.

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#### **HYRUM STATE PARK - Chris Bradshaw**



Hyrum State Park has had a busy winter season. The reservoir froze over on 12/26/2020 and has provided good ice fishing opportunities through the winter. Parking lots are full or nearly so for several days as anglers head out onto the ice.

Low snow levels have resulted in less than normal snowmobile use this winter. Grooming operations have yet to start at the Hardware Ranch grooming complex

due to very little to no snow. Staff have been working on projects at the park, including

removing and renovating the porch deck on the Jedediah Smith Cabin. Work will resume and include the Jim Bridger Cabin once the weather warms up.

#### **JORDANELLE STATE PARK - Jason Whittaker**

Winter at Jordanelle has been slower than usual due to the non-typical weather we have experienced. Grooming operations at the Strawberry Complex started 2 weeks ago and we are finally able to groom the entire complex. The reservoir has experienced ice in some

areas and open water in others. The south end of the reservoir was open water with boaters coming and going until it froze just this week. The main marina and Rock Cliff have had ice, however the ice fishermen have not been out in their regular numbers. The main marina had enough ice for Rangers to hold their yearly Ice Rescue Training last week (see pic of Rangers Schaefer, Thompson, and Martin taking a swim).



We hired a new Journey Maintenance employee in November named Troy

Jolley. Troy has over 40 years' experience as an electrician and in other maintenance capacities. Allison graduated from POST and has been out on the road since mid-December. She will be moving into the west ranger house within the month. We are very happy to have both of them added to the team and are excited to be at full staff again.

Jason continues to work with the Wasatch Mountain Institute on the repairs at Rock Cliff. A large portion of the boardwalk has been repaired, some flooding mitigation earthwork completed and we are hopeful the Nature Center and 6 campsites will be open in the spring. Risk Management has agreed to pay for some of the repairs based on the damage occurring the last few years due to flooding and windstorms. We are currently working with Risk to replace 2 pumps in the sewer system that have been burned out due to the flooding/infiltration. We estimate the cost will be over \$115,000 to replace the pumps and repair the vaults that hold them. Jason has also been working with MIDA and SkyRidge on finishing the last section of the perimeter trail from Crandall Point to Hailstone. They will be applying for grant money as well as money from the Legislature to install a new trailhead, finish the trail and possibly install an additional day-use area at Ross Creek with an entrance booth and cabanas for picnicking.

#### **ROCKPORT STATE PARK - Eric Bradshaw**

Angela passed Peace Officers Standards and Training and is now a certified peace officer. It's great to have her at the park now and learning from her Field Training Officers. Rockport received a tiny home which is being used by Angela as a park residence. This is a very welcome addition to the park as the cost of rent in our area is very high and decent rental properties are hard to find.



Ice fishing season started just before New Years. Since New Years, it has been very busy, busier than a normal year. On January 23 we held an ice fishing contest. Aaron Hone did a great job on planning the event which yielded 747 participants; it felt like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in January with all of the parking lots and campgrounds full. Prizes were conducted remotely and fish check stations were designed to maintain safe social distancing. It was a very successful event.

The lack of snow this winter has been dispiriting. The Soapstone snow cat just made its first grooming run on January 30, the latest we have ever started. We are also worried about the lake level for this coming summer. Low lake levels lead to lower visitation and water issues with our well. We are all hoping for a very wet spring.

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#### **UTAH LAKE STATE PARK - Joshua Holt**



Since the last Board report, there have been quite a few good things that have happened. We have had a lot of visitation the last little while. We brought on some seasonal gate workers on the weekends, and they are collecting quite a bit of revenue. I guess the hot fishing has helped.

With the Crew's help we were able to replace rotting and breaking pipes in our sewer lift station, and do it for a fraction of the cost that we were quoted by outside companies.

One of the main draws for visitation this time of year are the ice sheets. There were a lot of featured

pictures on the news of scenes from the Park.

#### **WASATCH MOUNTAIN STATE PARK - Tracy See**

It was a long, busy summer with so many folks wanting to be outdoors due to COVID. Staff were hoping for some relief in between the seasons, however it kept going strong. Cascade Springs road opened in October bringing crowds to the mountain. Beautiful November and December days brought trail users out in force and camping stayed strong into the first of November. Our wanted and needed snow loads did not arrive until January. Snow lovers are out biking, tubing, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling. Thanks to the Wasatch Golf Staff, families are enjoying



sledding down the hills on the Mountain Course, an added and favored winter activity. We completed and closed out the archery range grant, dock grant, and Dark Sky application. New tile was installed in both Mahogany restrooms and we anticipate having the Little Deer Creek flush restroom renovation complete prior to opening in May. We lost Mike to the accounting program. We have received 48 new (badly needed) tables for the campground, yippy! The Nordic Center at Soldier Hollow has hosted three cross country events and the tubing hill has been booked solid! We had our first meeting on the NEW SOLDIER HOLLOW CAMPGROUND. Looking forward to another busy, fun, and rewarding year in 2021!

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#### **WILLARD BAY STATE PARK - James Morgan**

We held our Fantasy at the Bay Christmas lights event. We made some adjustments to make it more COVID friendly and people really seemed to like it. We ended up with over 60,000 people coming and over \$245,000 in revenue, making it the most successful year in the event's history. We now own and operate the lights completely ourselves which provides unique challenges and opportunities for us. The pond project continues to move forward in phase one and we are on track to have it open for Memorial weekend. We are also seeking funding to do



phase two which will hopefully finish the project and include a new entrance to the park and office building. The lack of snow has visitation at Monte Cristo down but we will hopefully see it turn around some.

#### **DIVISION REPORT | REGION REPORT**

#### SOUTHEAST REGION

Region Manager: Megan Blackwelder

#### **ANASAZI MUSEUM - Jamie Skidmore**

Visitation at the museum remained steady until the beginning of January and now is slow. Seasonal staff has been cut back to minimal hours only filling in when needed. Jamie and Brenda are the only two at the park for the winter.

After a full year of trying (and failing) to put together a tree trimming contract, the region crew was able to free up some time at the beginning of December to come and trim some



trees. They were able to cut down the two that were the biggest headache and trim some of the others to mitigate possible hazards in the future. We didn't get them all but hopefully the crew will be back and we can take care of them later. They did a great job and we are very thankful for their help and hard work.

In early January Jamie began prepping the auditorium for a new paint job. She got it done just in time to welcome the next artist in residence. Jamie will be prepping and repainting other areas of the museum not included in the spring remodel this winter.





In October Anasazi picked up a new UTV to aid in park operations. One of it's new chores is to plow the parking lot. We have had a couple of opportunities to get it out and it works great. Sure beats the heck out of plowing with a 4 wheeler.

#### **DEAD HORSE POINT - Dillon Hoyt**

To say that we have been busy at Dead Horse Point State Park would be a complete understatement. In November, park revenue went from \$123,465 in FY20 to \$222,878 this year and in December we went from \$55,301 to \$112,543. January visitation has slowed

down as anticipated, but it will still be a record-setting month. Looking forward, we anticipate that our busy season will hit earlier than normal and that park will experience record-breaking visitation in the first half of 2021.

We hired Jonah Womack to replace Phenix Johnson as our Park Ranger who manages gift shop operations. Phenix did a



phenomenal job and unfortunately took a higher paying position with a private resort in the Moab area. Jonah worked at Goblin Valley for several years and will bring great ideas to our gift shop operation and management team. Through the end of December, we have earned \$387,963 in our gift shop compared to the \$436,312 that we collected during the entire FY20 time frame. We anticipate collecting \$650,000, or more, in our gift shop in FY21. The park is on track to collect approximately \$3,200,000 (including gift shop revenue).

We have awarded a concession for mountain bike rentals at the new mountain bike trailhead parking area near our Moenkopi Yurts. This concession will be in place by April 1st. We are also working on a grant with the Grand County School District to add an outdoor classroom to that same area of the park. Hopefully, we can get back to doing star parties once the temperatures increase.

#### **EDGE OF THE CEDARS / GOOSENECKS - Chris Hanson**

While COVID-19 continues to impact our operation, we are slowly returning to "normal". Our visitation saw a "holiday bump" and has now returned to the traditional "slow season". We expect to see an increase with upcoming warming temperatures.

We completed our National Endowment of the Humanities CARE grant on December 31. The grant totaled \$19,400 and allowed us to purchase some curatorial materials and hire a contract



curator to work on our huge backlog of archeological collections and records we hold.

A new exhibit was recently installed in our temporary exhibit gallery. "Written in Stone 2021" is a photographic exhibit by the regional photographer Dave Manley. The exhibit features images of ruins, rock art, and landscapes of the Four Corners Region. The show will run through the month of December.

Goosenecks has seen a significant impact from the pandemic but still remains a "must see" site for visitors of the region.

We continue to make progress on our cooperative project with the BLM. We are nearing completion of the National Environmental Policy Act required environmental/cultural impact study.

We submitted our International Dark Sky Association application. We expect to hear of their decision soon. This has been a 5 year process and we look forward to receiving our dark sky designation.

We replaced our old restroom building with a new "less odiferous" modern CXT. We now have two modern restroom facilities. This is a major upgrade and visitor experience enhancement.

We will soon have an environmental science major from Colby Sawyer College in New London, NH begin an internship. The student will be working on creating some interpretive text focusing on environmental aspects of the park. The text will be used for future interpretive panels and educational materials.

#### **ESCALANTE PETRIFIED FOREST - Bevan Monroe**

Escalante has had two major storms that have slowed things down at the park since November. The visitor center is still under construction and is slated to be finished mid to late February. We have continued to clean up and burn the vegetation on the beach area.





#### FRED HAYES STATE PARK AT STARVATION - Dillon Gill

This winter season we continue to get a good quantity of ice fisherman. The ice thickness is currently 18+ inches at Knight Hollow. We plan on holding our tournament "The Starvation Ice Bowl" on Feb. 6th, which will follow all health and social distancing guidelines and protocols.

We received some new equipment. That equipment being a new pressure washer that will assist us in vessel decontamination and park equipment upkeep, and a new kubota tractor.



Park Manager Alan Spencer retired late December after a 23 year career with State Parks. Alan worked as a seasonal at Willard Bay and then worked his entire "full-time" career at Starvation/FHSP.

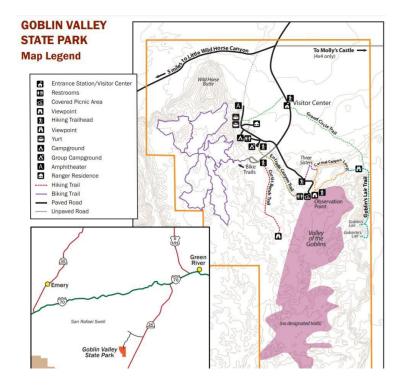
Dillon Gill was promoted from Assistant Manager to Park Manager. He will have big shoes to fill figuratively & literally.

### **GOBLIN VALLEY - Jim Wells**

We were told to expect record breaking visitation this winter, and that advice was not wrong! Thanksgiving week saw a 75% increase over the same time last year, followed by the Christmas, New Year's, and President's Day weekends each with a 300% increase! This has increased revenue by over \$30,000 in entrance fees alone.

Brooke Wetherell has returned from POST as our full time ranger. She hit the ground running, dealing with an unpermitted fireworks display on one of her first days back and taking advantage of frequent training with not only State Parks but also county and federal agencies. She is also a significant help with staffing during these surprisingly busy times.

Our big challenge of the season is our solar grid that continues to deteriorate. Nightly power outages mean that the campground boiler and heating system no longer function and cannot keep the pipes from freezing. While the campground remains open, we have winterized and



shut the restrooms and showers down until March 1 to prevent damage. With a solar power upgrade in the works, we hope this is the only year that we have to do this.

In lieu of a photo, we thought we would include our new trail map for 2021. We've mentioned trail improvements in previous board reports, but this new map shows them all in one place: The Grand Circle Trail connecting the visitor center to key places around the park, the Goblette's Lair spur to a previously little-known cavernous formation, and the new extensions and reroutes to the Three Sisters and Carmel Canyon trails.

### **GREEN RIVER STATE PARK AND GOLF COURSE - Aaron Farmer**

Green River had a relatively busy fall with campers all the way through the end of November. It was probably the busiest Thanksgiving holiday that we have ever had, with the campground being about half full. Staff took advantage of the unseasonably mild



weather, at least until mid-December, to complete maintenance projects and winterize facilities. The golf course also stayed extremely busy through mid-December. The complex (state park and golf course) finished the fiscal year over \$50,000.00 ahead of last year in revenue collections.

Everything came to a screeching halt on December 18, 2020 when Green River received about 6 inches of snow. To add injury to insult, our

temperatures struggled each day to reach the upper 20's and nighttime lows bottomed out near 0. This prevented the snow from melting and resulted in the closure of the golf course from December 18 through most of January. At this writing (1/27/2021) we are hoping to open back up within the next few days.

Our permanent staff were able to take some much deserved leave time over the holidays. Since the first of the year, we have been completing annual required training and the Park Manager completed the NREMR testing.

### **HUNTINGTON / MILLSITE / SCOFIELD - Brian Kurta**

At Huntington, the land transfer from BOR to Emery County Water district moved forward and we are currently working on a new contract with Emery County. This is something new for both agencies and we are looking forward to this new opportunity. As the contract continues to be negotiated and details laid out, we will continue to adapt and serve the public.



At Millsite, the park finished up another busy season and is winterized for the season. The public can still enter the park for ice fishing, but the water is turned off for the season. We continue to work with the BLM on the details and paperwork for the new campground project, which we hope to be able to construct soon.

The construction on the dam continues throughout the winter. Currently the workers are finishing up the spillway. Millsite also hosted an ice fishing tournament at the beginning of January, with 250 participants.



We hired Chris Nelson as the new Assistant Park Manager for Millsite. He has worked for State Parks as a seasonal at Goblin Valley and Steinaker/Red Fleet. He is originally from Pennsylvania where he worked as an athletic director for the county school

district. We are happy to have him join our team. He is currently in POST and will graduate at the end of April. He is working with us to be up to speed with park functions and duties.

At Scofield, the park finished up the busy season and is winterized for the season. The public can still enter the park for ice fishing, but all services are turned off. We are working on remodeling the entrance gate at Madsen Bay. Many projects are in the works for the spring time to help bring park facilities up to code. These maintenance projects will help to keep the park accessible and safe for the public.

### STEINAKER / RED FLEET - Amanda White

Amanda White started January 4th as the new Park Manager for Red Fleet/ Steinaker State Parks. She joins the Utah State Park team from Alabama State Parks where she has seven and a half years experience ranging from Volunteer to Park Manager.

Jamie Jubeck joined the team as a full time ranger which will be a big help. He came from Willard Bay State Park.





The winter months have been surprisingly busy. From revenue reports ending in December: Red Fleet was up 5% while Steinaker was up 133%!! from 2019 numbers.

Ice Addiction hosted an ice fishing tournament at Steinaker on January 23rd. It was a huge success bringing in over 400 people and over 300 fish caught! I believe this speaks highly of the wildlife and parks

partnerships to increase and maintain recreational fisheries. We look forward to more winter events.

We have been working with vendors to bring in some retail souvenirs for both parks.

Magnets, stickers, and postcards will offer our guests a little reminder of their time spent with us.

The restroom at Steinaker is almost complete. Once we have water back on in April we can get it operating. It will be a nice amenity to offer our guests.

We are having several meetings in February with BOR about the Red Fleet campground remodel. We hope to get this project moving sooner rather than later. This project will enhance the camping experience for guests as well as improve some facilities and increase day use parking. A much needed increase.



### **UTAH FIELD HOUSE STATE PARK AND MUSEUM - Steve Sroka**

### **General Museum**

Visitation from Oct-Dec was lower in 2020 (4695 people) than in 2019 (5990); obviously due to Covid-19 and the lack of events. The 2020 yearly total (33455) reflects that drop, compared to 2019 (48143).

The boiler has been fixed for the most part, and we are ahead of the situation to replace HVAC units, by already having a pre bid meeting. Installation for HVAC units is to be completed before June.

Gift shop sales have remained good despite Covid-19.

### **Exhibits**

Mary Beth and museum volunteers worked on three new temporary displays

- 1. Sauropods: When genetic potential met environmental opportunity This exhibit focuses on one of the most diverse and successful groups of dinosaurs, the sauropods. Specimens from the museum collections' are on exhibit to highlight sauropod diversity, evolution, and pathology, with a special focus on the cast of *Diplodocus carnegii* located in the lobby. In addition to the written display, an eight minute long video discussing various aspects of sauropods and the lobby cast was created.
- 2. The Art of Knapping The Art of Knapping exhibit focuses on the process of creating precise tools such as spear points, knives, scrapers and arrow heads from raw rock. The exhibits discuss all aspects regarding the creation of these items, from what type of rock to use, through a step by step process showing the tools and steps necessary for their creation
- **3. Ammonoids** To create this exhibit, various Ammonoids were pulled from collections to facilitate a discussion on the evolution, diversity and characteristics of these extinct cephalopods. Ammonoid fun facts were included in the exhibit as well as a discussion on the difference between the modern nautilus and extinct Ammonoids.



### **Educational Programs**

Mary Beth was approached by staff of the Uintah County School district to present two programs to the students participating in the Gifted and Talented Program. She designed and created these programs based on the curriculum they wanted me to cover. One titled **Fossils: Evidence of Past Life**, was a basic introduction covering what fossils are, how they are formed and what they can teach modern science. The second was titled **Dinosaurs: Terribly Fearful Reptiles** and was designed to educate students on dinosaur evolution, orders, and the extinction theories surrounding non-avian dinosaur demise.

### **Collections**

John Foster with museum volunteers continues to work with various projects.

- Cataloged 775 backlogged and new archaeological and paleontological specimens.
- Awarded private foundation grant to the Friends of the Utah Field House for \$96,773 to enhance curation and programming with equipment, supplies, and personnel.
- Continued year-long monitoring of radon in lab and collections
- Found only the second-ever body fossil of a crayfish from the Jurassic Morrison Formation. Lots of press coverage on it.
- Facebook
  - o Total page reach (Oct 1–Dec 31): 31,043
  - o Total engagements in period: 1806
  - o Page likes growth of 5.4% (867 to 914)

### **SOUTHEAST Region**

The SE Region Crew has been busy this winter, coordinating with DFCM for a boiler replacement at the Utah Field House and a new restroom facility at Steinaker. They have been catching up on deferred maintenance and planning projects for the upcoming season.

Our region law enforcement officers helped with security at the Utah Capitol on January 17th, and have been working on FTO training with the new ranger at Goblin Valley. They attended the CRLEA (Colorado River Law Enforcement Association) conference online.

The region office helped with the construction estimates for the proposed Utahraptor State Park, and continues to help with the Goblin Valley expansion project as well as training two new park managers, Amanda White and Dillon Gill.

### **DIVISION REPORT | REGION REPORT**

### **SOUTHWEST REGION**

Region Manager: Wayne Monroe

### **CORAL PINK SAND DUNES - Josh Hansen**

Visitation continues to stay consistent even during periods of inclement weather. Our sand sport rentals are gaining popularity on social media. Visitors are making specific trips to the park to take photos and experience sledding/boarding down the dunes. With this added interest visitors are staying longer and parking is becoming an issue. We are in the process of expanding the current gravel parking area. With this increased parking area we will move the sand sport rentals from our entrance booth into a dedicated rental building. This should help with congestion at the entrance booth. The Coral Pink ATV Tour concession will also move to this new location to centralize where visitors can park and start their adventure.



Park Staff are constantly being asked by visitors, "What else is there to do at the park". A company from Kanab will be trying out a special-use permit to gauge interest in rappelling and rock climbing within the park boundary. The park will also try renting 1/10 scale, four-wheel drive RC trucks, complete with sand paddles.

The new campground has proven to be very popular and is completely booked for the upcoming President's Day Holiday weekend. In the last six months of fiscal year 2021 the park has surpassed its total generated revenue compared to the entire 2020 fiscal year. The new park manager is working on plans to expand camping/lodging opportunities at Coral Pink Sand Dunes in anticipation of increased visitation and the future East Zion Visitor Center.

### FRONTIER HOMESTEAD - Giani Julander

We've had a quiet winter at Frontier Homestead State Park. Instead of the huge holiday event we normally host, we had a self-guided holiday light exhibit. We had good numbers of visitors most evenings for the exhibit and those who came were really impressed with the displays. We plan to add this to our holiday offerings in upcoming years. We just barely got all of the holiday kits put away but we're already making notes for next year.

We've also begun planning events and activities for the rest of 2021. We hope to offer our sheep to shawl event March 13. At our annual sheep to shawl event, we provide demonstrations and hands-on activities to teach participants about wool processing; from shearing the sheep all the way to weaving the wool into textiles. This is always a very popular event for our local community and brings in quite large groups. We're working out a plan to still offer the quality demonstrations our visitors have come to expect while also maintaining health and safety standards. This event relies heavily on two local volunteer groups who have been reluctant to participate in demonstrations since our sheep to shawl event last year. Of course, the safety of our volunteers and guests is our first priority so we're planning accordingly.

Through the winter the majority of our visitors so far have been from neighboring states. We've seen a lot of people who are vacationing in our area or people from Las Vegas visiting Cedar City on day trips. This is common in the summer as the weather here is so much cooler than our southern neighbors. We've been delightfully surprised to see the trend continue into the winter months.

### FREMONT INDIAN STATE PARK - Kevin Taylor

Over the past few months we have seen a decrease in Day use and Camping at our facilities. That is normal for this time of year. The Cabins have been popular this winter with the book most weekends. Looking at the reservations starting in April the new pit is booked almost every night as the spring starts off along with all the sites.

We have been planning for the upcoming summer. We have some staff changes coming Amy Larson the curator is moving and we will be filling her position soon.

Jim has been working on some improvements projects this winter including the new coin operated laundry room, new interpretive trail signage for along the trail, some changes with the gift shop items, and doing some organization for our storage rooms. We also are

part of the UDOT fiber project that will bring a hot spot for visitors to use to stay connected. It will also bring faster internet to the building for park operations.

### **OTTER CREEK - Lance Eliason**

The reservoir has now been iced-over for an extended period of time. Some years we only get a few weeks' worth of ice but we have had ice since the early part of December. This has provided for a long ice fishing season. It was bringing quite a few people into the park early on but as is the case whenever the ice holds up for a long period of time, the longer it is there, the slower the fishing gets. Now we aren't seeing nearly the amount of people coming in. One bright spot is that our two cabins were utilized some during the winter. That brought in some revenue that we would normally not see.

After meetings with the folks from the Tentrr Company, we now have four additional tent camping sites completed around the park. These tents are fully furnished and provide another recreation experience for users who want to go camping but do not want to bring everything. Tentrr has hired a host to maintain the sites and assist their guests coming in. We don't have to do a thing and we get to collect a percentage of their sales. Hopefully, the sites do well.

The park is doing really well this year. Revenue continues to climb as people are already flocking online to make their reservations for our upcoming season. Our beach sites are already almost booked solid for the month of May. It is shaping up to be another busy season here.

### **PIUTE STATE PARK - Lance Eliason**

It has been fairly quiet at Piute for the last few months. The reservoir here has also been ice capped for quite some time but we never really saw many people trying it out. A well-known fact about Piute is that as the fishing goes, so goes the visitation. Fishing conditions have been on a down for the last few years due to drought conditions. Piute Reservoir is one of the first places on the Sevier River system every year to get drawn down for irrigation purposes. Usually, by mid-summer, it is already too low to support the trout that are stocked every year. People have gotten used to this fact and have stopped trying to fish here altogether.

We usually do see an uptick in use from May to August as people come to enjoy water skiing and wakeboarding. But, once the water gets low and muddy, that activity ceases. We will continue to look for other ways to drive business here.

Like at Otter Creek, we worked with the folks at the Tentrr Company and were able to come up with locations in the park to build tent sites. Those sites are now completed and ready for customer use. We ended up with a total of five tent sites within the park boundaries. We are really hoping these do well and bring in some new clientele to the park. If there is one advantage of the more-primitive conditions at Piute, it is that we were able to find more remote and scenic locations for these tent sites than we could find at Otter Creek. Many of the people that use these types of sites prefer these kinds of conditions rather than busy campgrounds.

### **KODACHROME - Nathan Martinez**

We are now an International Dark-Sky Park! We received our certification on January 14, along with Jordanelle and Rockport State Parks- bringing the Utah State Parks total up to eight designated dark sky parks.

We've started work on expanding the arch campground. We are adding 7 new partial hook-up sites to the campground. Our hook-up sites have the highest occupancy rates in the park and we expect these new sites to be very popular. We've also started working on expanding our disc golf course to a full 18 holes. We are currently planning on putting the back 9 east of the visitor center which means both the front 9 and back 9 will start and end at the visitor center. We are also building a bouldering wall at the laundromat- it won't be so high that ropes are needed, but will lay back enough to create an overhang challenge. There will also be a kids section on it. We are also extending the panorama trail. We are adding a couple more miles to the trail and going out to the very west end of the park. There are some beautiful viewpoints looking back towards the Grand Parade from that side of the park. We are also planning to add a few backcountry campsites in that area. Eventually this trail will extend to the top end of Cool Cave with an option for the more adventurous to rappel about 80' into the cave and hike back out on the Panorama trail.

We've had a busier winter than normal- we haven't had a lot of snow this year, which made it easy to keep the Arch and Bryce View campgrounds open. We were pretty much full in those two campgrounds through the holiday season and we generally have someone camping every night. If we end up getting more snow before the spring then our camping and day use visitation may end up dropping off a bit, but it has definitely been worth it to keep those campgrounds open through this winter.

### PALISADE STATE PARK AND GOLF COURSE - Shon Tripp

We're in the process of making a new contract for a 20 acre parcel of land owned by sanpete county. This property is an essential part of the golf operation. We are working on an agreement for 99 years which should secure this land for the golf course. The county commissioners were all for it.

The other big item for the golf course is the new retail check-in program that we are doing with GolfNow. This new program will make a big difference for Golf Professionals. Palisade campground is struggling again this year with water leaks, many of the freezerless hydrants will need to be replaced. Between leaks and a tap being left on it drained nearly 60,000 gallons of water. We recently filled our vacant position with a new ranger. He is currently in POST but will be at the park for our summer season.

### **SNOW CANYON - Kristen Comella**

Recreation in the time of COVID continues: Park visitation and revenue are up a whopping 41% over the same period last year (July through December). This is yet another illustration of how important outdoor spaces are to the public and how much people crave being outside. There has been very little down-time this winter; staff are gearing up for an exceptionally busy spring.

Planning for our newest trail (the Tortoise Trail) is ongoing. One of the focal points of the trail will be a large tortoise sculpture. We received Statements of Qualifications from three interested sculptors; the process is now moving through Mike Long and State Purchasing. We received an unexpected windfall to our park donation account which will go towards this project. One of our volunteers passed away unexpectedly. She left part of her estate to the park; to date the park has received \$140,000. The Friends of Snow Canyon are also actively fundraising for this project.

Our parking expansion plans are moving forward. The contract with the engineering company has been signed and survey work has started. We anticipate construction beginning sometime in late April or early May. We will be adding at least 50 additional parking spaces in the main canyon.

We have hired an illustrator for a "Common Wildlife of Snow Canyon" publication. We hope to have this project completed by July. The final product will go on sale in our bookstore. The Friends of Snow Canyon are also contributing to this project.

We were visited by our new Governor who came to buy the first online pass. We are working with the school on a program to better track visitation and collect fees.

### **SAND HOLLOW - Jonathan Hunt**

The winter months are a nice change of pace after our incredibly busy summer. December and January are still experiencing visitation nearly double that of previous years. Overall our fiscal year revenue is up 87%

Several of our highlighted projects include:

- Working with UDOT on an upgraded OHV tunnel that goes under the Southern Parkway.
- Hosting the Winter 4x4 Jamboree. This large event benefitted from perfect weather. It brings phenomenal economic value to Hurricane CIty as it fills hotels and restaurants.
- Widening our beachside day-use parking to allow vehicles to park perpendicular to the road.
- Upgrading our south beach roadway utilities to allow for rental "cabins" on the beach and add more restroom facilities, etc.
- Our Assistant Park Manager Chad Jones graduated from the police academy in December. He is incredibly talented and looks forward to the new law enforcement responsibilities.
- Hosting numerous filming events for business and product advertising. Our
  partnership with the local BLM field office allows companies to get approval to film
  in less than 14 days. We have recently hosted Jeep, Maverik, Can-Am, and Kawasaki.

### **GUNLOCK - Jonathan Allred**

Gunlock continues to move forward on the new campground and is finishing up the plans for this exciting new piece to the park. The campground will have 30 power and water sites and two restrooms with flush toilets and showers. This is a long awaited improvement and will be a huge benefit for several different recreation groups, boaters OHV and hikers etc.. We have thought of each group in the design.

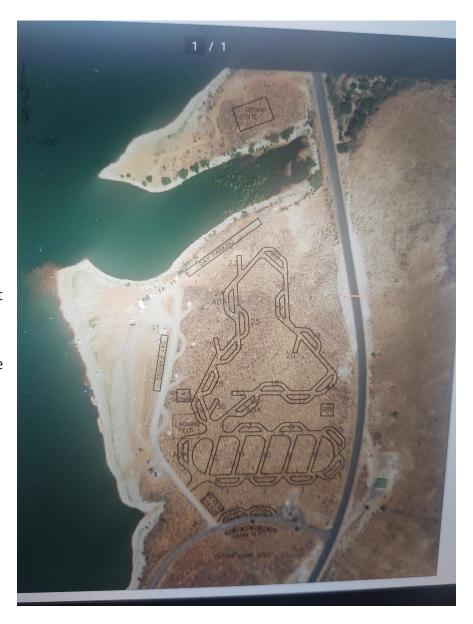
We completed a draft hydrant that will clear us with fire prevention wise and allow us to have increased fire protection in the park.

Water levels are slowly beginning to climb and we have finally received some storms that have helped our snowpack. However the likelihood that we recover from low water levels and poor snow pack to reach the overflow stage is unlikely. But we feel that people have

discovered all of the things the park can offer beyond the falls and visitation is still going to be high.

Despite it being the slow season we have still had over 100% increase in revenue every month over the past year. We are hoping to continue this trend and continue to provide visitors with a great visit to Gunlock State Park.

We are currently trying to create an MOU with St George city to manage some land directly North of the park property. We hope for this acquisition, and the agreement that is in place with the BLM below the falls has increased the park's footprint significantly. With Covid still very active and restrictions still in place in surrounding states we are planning on seeing a



continued increase in visitation. We are working with Scott, Jason and the team of students from SUU and Dixie State and are very excited to roll out the new pre pay or mobile pay app at the park. This will be a huge benefit to the park and give visitors an easy pay option as well as provide park employees an accurate, and up to date way of confirming payment. We also discussed a way to help communicate to the public through the app the current visitation levels and notifications when capacities are reached. These changes will be accessible at the park level and will be a great tool for both employee and visitor.

We at Gunlock State Park are excited for all of the changes at Gunlock and look forward to a great season and a very bright future.

### **QUAIL CREEK - Candace Smith**

From November 2020 to January 2021, Quail Creek State Park staff have been working on a variety of projects throughout the park. One of the biggest projects and most time

consuming projects was adding designated gravel tent areas to each campsite in the existing campground. This has been a great addition to the already newly renovated campsites that received new shade pavilions, picnic tables, and power & water hook-ups in the past couple of years. Painting projects have been ongoing all winter long from restriping the south boat parking lot to updating the color of the Day Use Pavilion, the Camping Pavilion, and the Fish Cleaning Pavilion. Along with the annual trash clean up on the beach, we have finished removing dead and overgrown trees on the beach which has created new space for summer beach users.

A new shade structure is just about to be completed next to the current maintenance shop. Sand Hollow State Park's maintenance crew has generously come over to Quail Creek State Park to make this project happen. The shade structure will provide shade for park equipment and protection from weather all year round. Quail Creek's newest concessionaire, Mad





Moose Rentals, has added a floating dock just between the South Dock and Fishing Pier.

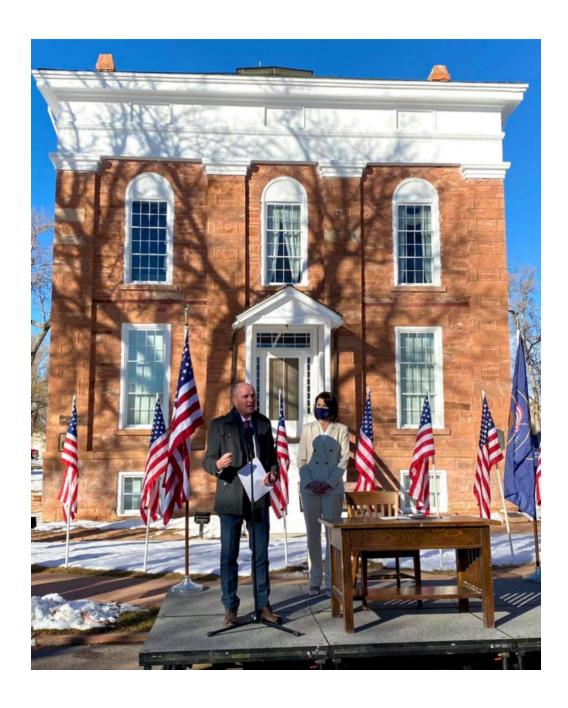
The new dock will house PWC's in the summer and allow for faster and more convenient service to PWC renters.

During this past winter season, there have been a lot less park visitors compared to the 2020 summer season but an enormous amount of tasks have been accomplished. Some of the tasks include; retiling a day use bathroom that had major water damage, installing tile and epoxy painting the park's vault bathroom, and adding electricity at the entrance of the park to create up-lighting to the main "Quail Creek State Park" sign. The park sign can now be seen from over a mile away, informing park visitors where to enter into the park. With just a few more months left of the off season, we still have a few more projects in the works and hope to have them completed before we hit our peak season

### **TERRITORIAL STATEHOUSE - Carl Camp**

We have received an additional \$5,000.00 in COVID funding and used it for our Statehood Day Celebrations including a visit from the Governor where we gave him the opportunity to start our celebration by firing off a cannon. The county fireworks for Statehood day were shot off over the Statehouse and the entire road in front of the Statehouse was full of cars and several more people were on the sidewalks watching. We continue to post videos from the virtual arts festival and from our storytelling event on our facebook page.





### **YUBA STATE PARK** - Cheston Slater

Yuba State Park has hired a new park ranger and is in the process of hiring an assistant manager. With Covid -19 counts down we are excited about what the spring and summer months will bring. We have begun planning events and have construction projects underway to host the public as they return. We have added 10 new CXT restrooms with the assistance of the BLM on the North and West beaches shores for camping and day use.



# FISCAL INCENTIVE GRANT

QUARTERLY

# What is a Fiscal Incentive Grant?

COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS FIG

### **QUARTERLY GRANT**

The funding for this grant was allowed through House Bill 143 in the 2018 General Session from Representative Michael Noel

### **FOR**

- Federal Agencies
- State Agencies
- Political Subdivisions of the State
- Off-highway vehicle (OHV) organizations incorporated as a nonprofit corporation 501(c)(3) in the state



# Where does the funding come from?

### FUNDING COMES FROM THE UTAH OHV COMMUNITY!

HB143 in the 2018 General Session, takes OHV registration fees (does not affect snowmobile registration fees). These fees cannot exceed \$35.00 for an OHV and no more than \$72.00 for Street-Legal ATVs. This went into effect on January 1, 2019.

With this influx of additional money to the Program's restricted fund, the State Parks Board approved a new grant program, FIG! Submitted applications are reviewed and evaluated by Utah's Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Council (OHVAC), which consists of a committee of appointed volunteers across the state of Utah.

Recommendations are vetted through the Board of Utah State Parks and Recreation for final review before awarding applicants.

# Who decides which grant applications to fund?

## What is the review process like?

### APPLICANTS ARE RATED ON A SCALE

The Council scores each application individually before the Advisory Council meeting, then we review them together and the Council scores 1-5.

To date, applications that score an average of 3.5 or higher are recommended to be funded; this may change depending on the number of applications and funding available.



# Funding Cap

THERE IS NO FUNDING CAP

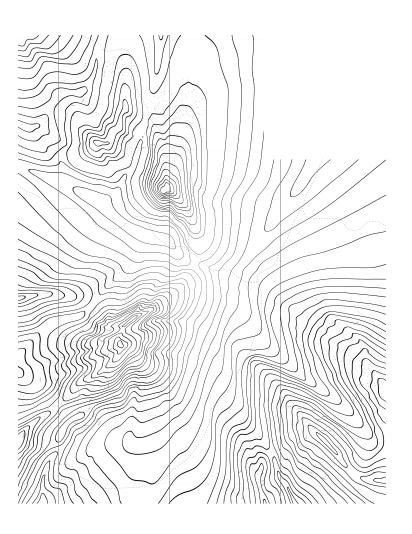
### % Match

50% MATCH IS NOT REQUIRED

# What qualifies?

STATE OHV GRANTS CAN FUND A WIDE RANGE OF PROJECTS AS THEY BENEFIT OHV RECREATION.

- TRAIL WORK
- ACCESS PROTECTION
- SEARCH & RESCUE
- TOURISM
- **EDUCATION**
- OTHER USES



### 41-22-1. Policy Declaration.

It is the policy of this state to promote safety and protection for persons, property, and the environment connected with the use, operation, and equipment of off-highway vehicles, to promote uniformity of laws, adopt and pursue a safety education program, and to develop trails and other facilities for the use of these vehicles.

### TRAIL WORK



All state OHV funds may be spent on the construction, improvement, operation, acquisition, or maintenance of publicly owned or administered OHV facilities (including infrastructure).

This trail work may include the development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities, the purchase and lease of trail construction and maintenance equipment, the acquisition of property for trails/trailheads, and the assessment of trail conditions for accessibility and maintenance.



# ACCESS PROTECTION

Up to 20% of funds may be spent on access protection such as the participation in federal travel planning processes by OHV organizations, the State of Utah, and its subsidiaries. Please understand that this is not access AND protection.

Access Protection can relate to some of the examples listed may include, but not limited to:

- USFS Forest Plan Revisions
- USFS Travel Management Planning
- County Trail Master Planning
- BLM Travel Management Planning
- Country Road Inventory (OHV Designated Routes/Systems)
- WMA Access



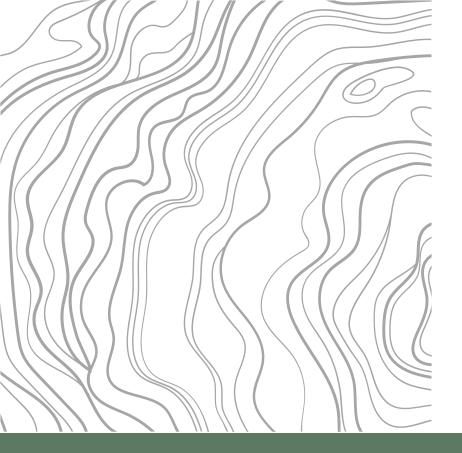
## SEARCH & RESCUE

Up to 5% of funds may be spent on search and rescue (SAR), such as the goods and services that SAR teams need for an effective response to OHV-related incidents.

SAR can relate to some of the examples listed may include, but not limited to:

- Backboard (relative to specific OHV # of uses)
- UTV
- Radios
- Reimbursements





### TOURISM

Up to 5% of funds may be spent on tourism, such as the promotion and administration of OHV related events and/or facilities.

Tourism can relate to some of the examples listed may include, but not limited to:

- Jamborees/Promotional Items
- Billboard Advertisement
- Radio TV Shows
- Internet Mapping
- Kiosk Structures



### EDUCATION



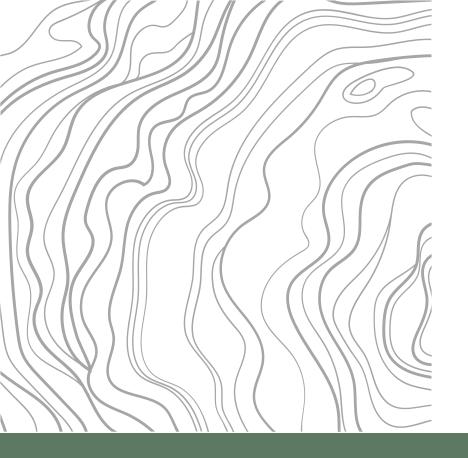
Up to 5% of funds may be spent on education, such as the development and dissemination of publications as well as the operation of educational programs that promote safety, courtesy, and resource conservation related to OHV trails (including non-law enforcement trail safety and trail-use monitoring patrol programs).

- Avalanche Awareness Training
- Hands-on OHV Edu Courses
- Photo Shoot
- PPE

- Radio/Internet Advertisement
- Adult Specific Courses
- Brochures

- Trail Etiquette Course
- Video Shoot
- Banner Ads





### OTHER USES

Up to 5% of funds may be spent on other uses that further OHV policy directly related under Title 41, Chapter 22, Section 1:

"It is the policy of this state to promote safety and protection for persons, property, and the environment connected with the use, operation, and equipment of off-highway vehicles, to promote uniformity of laws, to adopt and pursue a safety education program, and to develop trails and other facilities for the use of these vehicles."



## APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN FOR A DURATION OF 45 DAYS AND CLOSE PROMPTLY AT 5:00 P.M.

### LATE APPLICATIONS <u>ARE NOT</u> ACCEPTED

These are based on the states fiscal year

- Q1: Opens June 1st and closes July 15th
- Q2: Opens September 1st and closes October 15th
- Q3: Opens December 1st and closes January 15th
- Q4: Opens March 1st and closes April 15th

# OPEN & CLOSING DATES

ATV

UTV

# WHAT TYPE OF OHV CAN FIG BE USED TOWARDS?

**OHM** 

HB143 does not pertain to snowmobile registration fees, therefore this grant is not valid for snowmobile-related projects.

4WD



# WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION & APPLY

VISIT OUR FAQ PAGE!
UPDATED WEEKLY

### **APPLY HERE**

stateparks.utah.gov/resources/grants/quarterly-fig/

### OHV PROGRAM JANUARY 2021 FISCAL INCENTIVE GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

- **47** Quarterly Fiscal Incentive Grants recommended for January 2021 by the OHV Advisory Council.
- Out of 47 applications received, **38** were recommended by the Council.

#	FY21 Q3 - January	Sponsor	Total Project Value	Requested OHV Program Funding
1	<b>GREAT WESTERN &amp; GOOSEBERRY TRAIL SIGNING 2021:</b> Installation of 87 signs, along with two single-panel kiosks and four double-panel kiosks across two trail systems.	Paiute Trail Committee	\$26,236.00	\$12,500.00
2	<b>WEST PAIUTE TRAIL SIGNING 2021:</b> Installation of 11 new kiosks, one map board, and 18 new trail signs to complete the signing for the West Paiute trail system.	Paiute Trail Committee	\$24,974.00	\$12,500.00
3	PAIUTE HELMET PROGRAM: Provide helmets to youth in need through a joint partnership with the Forest Service, BLM, and six rural Utah County Sheriffs and local police departments. In addition, funding will be utilized to distribute helmets at the four Jamboree events in the County.	Paiute Trail Committee	\$18,745.00	\$12,500.00
4	<b>9 MILE TRAIL COUNTER PROJECT:</b> Installation of four TRAFx counters. Two will be placed along 9 Mile Canyon Road, one in Cottonwood Canyon, and one in Dry Canyon.	Carbon County Office of Tourism	\$3,221.00	\$2,221.00
5	PAIUTE & GREAT WESTERN TRAIL MAP BOOK: Reprinting and updating this map book to incorporate a total of six individual map series and several USGS quad maps. In total, this map book will cover 4,900 square miles of South Central Utah. The project sponsor intends to print 2,000-4,000 copies with a retail cost of \$20.00.	Paiute Trail Committee	\$30,000.00	\$12,500.00
6	50TH ANNIVERSARY OHV PROGRAM PROMOTION & MARKETING: Promotion, marketing, and education on the accomplishments of the OHV Program over the last 50 years. Funding will be utilized to have four in-person events, approximately 20 TV segments, increased social media presence, and a photo scavenger hunt.	Utah Division of Parks & Recreation OHV Program	\$90,000.00	\$12,500.00

7	AT YOUR LEISURE TRAIL PROMOTIONAL EPISODE: At Your Leisure (AYL) will record a TV episode on the location of one of the 360 Trails that have been recorded in Ticaboo, UT. The episode will air on KUTV4 and after it airs, eight 30-second advertisements will be shown once a week.	Ticaboo Town	\$13,500.00	\$12,500.00
8	<b>ENCLOSED TRAILER PURCHASE:</b> Purchase of a 24' enclosed trailer to replace their existing trailer that has been deemed unsafe for hauling OHV machines. In addition to hauling, the trailer will be used to protect and carry equipment, gear, trail material, and tools associated with the general daily operations of the OHV Program.	Utah Division of Parks & Recreation OHV Program	\$16,000.00	\$12,500.00
9	<b>TRAIL CREW UTV PURCHASE:</b> Purchase a Honda Pioneer UTV to assist the OHV Program's trail crew as they perform trail maintenance, trail construction, and other tasks related to infrastructure development for motorized recreation.	Utah Division of Parks & Recreation OHV Program	\$21,500.00	\$12,500.00
10	<b>ESCALANTE OHV TRAIL ADVERTISING &amp; PROMOTION:</b> Production and broadcast of a 3 to 5-minute feature story that will be aired on a nationally distributed OHV program. Funding will also assist in social media advertisement to promote trails in Escalante.	Escalante City	\$13,675.00	\$12,500.00
11	GOOGLE STREET VIEW MAPPING, ESCALANTE AREA: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of three trails in Escalante, UT. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.  3 Trails: - PineCreek/Posey Lake Road/Griffin Top/Main Canyon - Pine Creek/McGaff Lake/Jacobs Res/Roundy Res - Cedar Wash/Hole in the Rock/Collet Top	Escalante City	\$11,325.00	\$10,500.00
12	360 TRAILS PROJECT VIDEO FOR 3 TRAILS: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of three trails in Green River, UT. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.  3 Trails: - Lower San Rafael Loop	Green River City	\$11,100.00	\$10,500.00

	- Dry Lakes - Devils Race Track			
13	360 TRAILS PROJECT VIDEO FOR 3 TRAILS: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of three trails in Ticaboo, UT. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.  3 Trails: - Indian Springs - Wolverine/Lampshade - Big Ridge	Ticaboo Town	\$11,100.00	\$10,500.00
14	AT YOUR LEISURE TRAIL PROMOTIONAL EPISODE: At Your Leisure (AYL) will record a TV episode on the location of one of the 360 Trails that have been recorded in Ephraim, UT. The episode will air on KUTV4 and after it airs, eight 30-second advertisements will be shown once a week.	Ephraim City	\$13,100.00	\$12,100.00
15	360 TRAILS PROJECT VIDEO: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of approximately 90 miles of OHV and access routes to the Arapeen OHV Trail system East of the towns of Ephraim, Manti, and Spring City Utah. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.  3 Trails:  - Pigeon Creek - Maple Creek - Spring City Burnout Fork	Ephraim City	\$6,000.00	\$5,700.00
16	AT YOUR LEISURE TRAIL PROMOTIONAL EPISODE: At Your Leisure (AYL) will record a TV episode on the location of one of the 360 Trails that have been recorded in Piute County. The episode will air on KUTV4 and after it airs, eight 30-second advertisements will be shown once a week.	Piute County	\$13,500.00	\$12,500.00
17	360 TRAILS PROJECT VIDEO FOR 3 TRAILS: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of three trails in the area of Piute County. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.	Piute County	\$11,100.00	\$10,500.00

	3 Trails: - Circleville to Panguitch - Marysvale to Fremont Indian State Park - The Maze Mining District			
18	<b>TROPIC, UT TRAIL RIDING OPPORTUNITY ADVERTISING:</b> The city of Tropic will produce and broadcast a feature story over a network of TV stations across the state and around the nation to highlight the opportunities that Tropic has to offer to OHV enthusiasts.	City of Tropic	\$13,675.00	\$12,500.00
19	TROPIC, UT DIGITAL TRAIL MAPPING: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of three trails in the area of Tropic, UT. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.  3 Trails: - Cottonwood - Skutumpah - Widtsoe Junction	City of Tropic	\$11,100.00	\$10,500.00
20	360 TRAILS PROJECT VIDEO FOR 3 TRAILS: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of three trails in the area of Marysvale, UT. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.  3 Trails: - Marysvale to Otter Creek - Marysvale to Richfield	Marysvale Town	\$11,100.00	\$10,500.00
21	OHV EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRAINING PROGRAM: Develop and deliver an OHV Medical Training program to treat the specific types of injuries unique to OHV accidents and events in remote areas. Participants will be recruited directly from organized OHV clubs. Attendance will be restricted to people that can be verified as part of the OHV community. The OHV Medical training course would be free of charge to individuals verifiable as part of the OHV community.	Utah Off-Road	\$15,000.00	\$12,500.00
22	<b>SAFETY &amp; ETHIC PROMOTION TO AIR ON AYL</b> (50TH ANNIVERSARY): Collaboration with AYL to produce 3 short training clips that will air on KTVX4. After the episode is run on TV, a series of twenty-six 30-second public service	Utah ATV Association	\$24,300.00	\$12,500.00

	announcements will air twice a week.			
23	360 TRAILS PROJECT VIDEO FOR 3 TRAILS: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of three trails in the area of Joseph, UT. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.  3 Trails: - Joseph to Fremont Indian State Park - Joseph to Richfield	Joseph Town	\$11,100.00	\$10,500.00
24	AT YOUR LEISURE TRAIL PROMOTIONAL EPISODE: At Your Leisure (AYL) will record a TV episode on the location of one of the 360 Trails that have been recorded in Joseph, UT. The episode will air on KUTV4 and after it airs, eight 30-second advertisements will be shown once a week.	Joseph Town	\$13,500.00	\$12,500.00
25	AT YOUR LEISURE TRAIL PROMOTIONAL EPISODE: At Your Leisure (AYL) will record a TV episode on the location of one of the 360 Trails that have been recorded in Marysvale, UT. The episode will air on KUTV4 and after it airs, eight 30-second advertisements will be shown once a week.	Marysvale Town	\$13,500.00	\$12,500.00
26	AT YOUR LEISURE TRAIL PROMOTIONAL EPISODE: At Your Leisure (AYL) will record a TV episode on the location of one of the 360 Trails that have been recorded in Salina, UT. The episode will air on KUTV4 and after it airs, eight 30-second advertisements will be shown once a week.	North Sevier Recreation, Salina City	\$13,500.00	\$12,500.00
27	360 TRAILS PROJECT VIDEO FOR 3 TRAILS: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of three trails in the area of Salina, UT. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.  3 Trails: - Salina to Gooseberry - Salina to Scipio/Yuba - Salina Over Pahvant to Richfield/Fillmore	North Sevier Recreation, Salina City	\$11,100.00	\$10,500.00
30	<b>DELINEATING HURRAH PASS 4WD TRAIL:</b> Creation of more substantial fences to allow for delineation along 3.5 miles of trail on a Class D	Utah School and Institutional Trust	\$25,000.00	\$12,500.00

	road.	Lands Administration		
31	TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLANNING ENGAGEMENT: The applicant intends to spend three days documenting routes in the San Rafael Desert to establish the most threatened routes and access areas. With this information, they will hold a total of five meetings to present their findings to the local officials, stakeholders, and the OHV community in the area.	Sage Riders Motorcycle Club of Utah	\$25,000.00	\$12,500.00
33	WESTERN WASHINGTON COUNTY 360 TRAIL MAPPING: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of three trails in the Western area of Washington County. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.  3 Trails: - The Pinnacles - Stud Horse Draw - Mineral Mountain	Tri-State ATV Club	\$11,325.00	\$10,500.00
34	WESTERN WASHINGTON COUNTY OHV TRAIL ADVERTISING & PROMOTION: At Your Leisure (AYL) will record a TV episode on the location of one of the 360 Trails that have been recorded in the Western area of Washington County. The episode will air on KUTV4 and after it airs, eight 30-second advertisements will be shown twice a week.	Tri-State ATV Club	\$13,675.00	\$12,500.00
37	kane county 360 trail mapping: Funding will be utilized to create 360 video trail mapping of three trails in Eastern and Central Kane County. The applicant intends to follow the existing structure that Utah State Parks & Recreation OHV Program has already established.  3 Trails: - Great Western Trail - Eagle Sink - Crocodile-Johnson - Clay Flat/Harris Mountain/Red Knoll	UT/AZ ATV Club	\$11,325.00	\$10,500.00
38	AREA TRAIL RIDING PROMOTION NEAR CENTRAL & EASTERN KANE COUNTY: At Your Leisure (AYL) will record a TV episode on the location of one of the 360 Trails that have been recorded near Central or Eastern Kane County. The	UT/AZ ATV Club	\$13,675.00	\$12,500.00

	episode will air on KUTV4 and after it airs, eight 30-second advertisements will be shown twice a week.			
39	BUTCH CASSIDY OHV TRAIL CONNECTOR FEASIBILITY STUDY: Funding to conduct a study on the feasibility of connecting the Piute OHV trail extension and the Butch Cassidy Boyhood Home. The proposed feasibility study would include route alternative analysis and recommend the best route alternative based on property ownership, NEPA, public safety, and cost.	Piute County	\$13,700.00	\$12,500.00
40	<b>TRAILS EQUIPMENT - SIDE BY SIDE:</b> Purchase an SxS to carry equipment and make it easier for volunteers to access harder to reach areas.	Emery County Travel Bureau	\$28,500.00	\$12,500.00
41	<b>TRAILS EQUIPMENT - TRAILERS, SIGNS &amp; TABLETS:</b> Purchase of a trailer to pull behind their SxS in order to carry equipment. In addition, funding would be used to purchase tablets and signage.	Emery County Travel Bureau	\$8,100.00	\$4,850.00
46	<b>COLOR COUNTY OHV TRAIL MAINTENANCE SHOP:</b> Purchase of a prefabricated shop that will be located on county property. The shop will allow county employees a place to work on OHV trail supplies and equipment used to maintain their trail systems.	Iron County	\$14,730.00	\$12,230.00
47	GARFIELD COUNTY TRAILS SYSTEM MAINTENANCE: Funding will assist in hiring a full-time, seasonal equipment operator to focus solely on OHV trail maintenance within the county.	Garfield County	\$25,000.00	\$12,500.00
			Project Value	Requested Funding
	Total of	f all 38 applications:	\$ 662,981.00	\$429,601.00

Promotional Episode & Advertisement *	Total: 10	
360 Trails Project for 3 Trails *	Total: 11	
Other	Total:17	

<sup>\*</sup>Scored as a group.