

# DRAFT EVALUATION REPORT Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Kanab Resource Management Plan



*Paria River*

# Kanab Field Office Bureau of Land Management December 2005

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## EVALUATION REPORT— WILD AND SCENIC RIVER ELIGIBILITY—KANAB RMP

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This report documents the process used to evaluate the rivers, streams, and creeks of the Kanab Field Office to determine their eligibility for congressional designation into the National Wild and Scenic River System (NWSRS). This review is in conjunction with developing the Kanab Resource Management Plan (RMP). This report also documents preliminary findings of eligibility. These preliminary findings will be made available for public review and comment before final findings of eligibility are made.

The BLM determined that 14 river segments (40.7 river miles) crossing public lands managed by the Kanab Field Office are free-flowing and possess one or more outstandingly remarkable values, making them eligible for further consideration in the Kanab Resource Management Plan (RMP) as to their suitability for congressional designation into the NWSRS. The preliminarily eligible river segments, along with their outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) and tentative classifications (wild, scenic, or recreational), are displayed in Attachment 2.

### BACKGROUND

The NWSRS was created by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (the Act), which states:

*It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States that certain selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate*

*environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreation, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.*

Section 5(d)(1) of the Act directs the BLM and other federal agencies to consider the potential for national wild, scenic, and recreational river areas during planning.

## Process overview

Only Congress or the Secretary of Interior upon request of a state can add rivers to the NWSRS. The role of Federal land management agencies is to review rivers<sup>1</sup> under their jurisdictions to determine their eligibility, tentative classification, and suitability for congressional designation. BLM is addressing this task as part of its resource management planning. The Kanab Field Office RMP interdisciplinary team reviewed and evaluated potential wild and scenic rivers as described below.

- Reviewed drainages and identified those with potential outstanding remarkable values (ORV's).
- Evaluated the ORVs and determined a preliminary list of eligible rivers.
- Tentatively classified the eligible rivers as wild, scenic or recreational.

### Tasks remaining include:

- Determining final eligibility. The BLM interdisciplinary team will review public comments received on the preliminary findings of eligibility and make a final determination of eligible river segments.
- Determining suitability. All eligible rivers will be carried into the Draft Kanab RMP for further consideration as to their suitability. A decision as to the suitability of each eligible river segment will be made in the RMP Record of Decision (ROD).
- Making recommendations of suitable wild and scenic rivers to Congress.

The evaluation process that was used to determine eligibility is explained in more detail below.

## Identification of Potentially Eligible Rivers

The evaluation process began with the solicitation of public nominations for eligible rivers. During that process, no nominations from the public were received. The interdisciplinary team then considered all drainages crossing public lands within the Kanab Field Office as depicted on the BLM 1:100,000 scale topographic maps. These were reviewed to determine if they were (1)

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<sup>1</sup> "River" means a flowing body of water or estuary or a section, portion, or tributary thereof, including rivers, streams, creeks, runs, kills, rills, and small lakes.

free-flowing<sup>2</sup> and (2) contained any potential outstandingly remarkable values as defined in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. In addition, the BLM utilized information from the Utah Rivers Council and the National Rivers Inventory. 50 drainages were reviewed. Of these, 14 river segments were identified as both free-flowing and possessing one or more ORVs, making them eligible for congressional designation.

## Evaluating outstandingly remarkable values

While the spectrum of resources that may be considered is broad, all values should be directly river-related. That is, they should:

- Be located in the river or on its immediate shore lands, generally within 1/4 mile on either side of the river,
- Contribute substantially to the functioning of the river ecosystem and/or owe their location or existence to the presence of the river,
- Be at least regionally significant, and
- Be examples of regionally exemplary rare and unique features.

Additional guidance for determining the outstandingly remarkable values was drawn from the *Wild and Scenic River Review in the State of Utah, Process and Criteria for Interagency Use*, July 1996, also known as the Utah Wild and Scenic River “Blue Book”. The ORV standards taken from the Blue Book are shown in Appendix A of this document.

Team members relied on professional expertise, personal knowledge of the river segments and field visits to determine if values were outstandingly remarkable. The region of comparison was generally defined as the Colorado Plateau. The interdisciplinary team included an archeologist, hydrologist, geologist, rangeland specialists, wildlife biologist, recreation planner, realty specialist, landscape architect, land use planner and geographic information systems. If a segment was free flowing and had at least one ORV, it was considered eligible. A summary of the eligibility determinations is shown in Attachment 2. The team determined that 14 river segments were preliminarily eligible for congressional designation as wild and scenic rivers.

## Tentative classification

The Wild and Scenic River Act identifies three classes of rivers:

*Wild Rivers* - Wild river areas are those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America. Wild means undeveloped; roads, dams, or diversion works are generally absent from a quarter mile corridor on both sides of the river.

*Scenic Rivers* - Scenic river areas are those rivers or sections of rivers that are generally free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely

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<sup>2</sup> "Free-flowing" ...means existing or flowing in a natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modifications of the waterway. The existence, however, of low dams, diversion works, or other minor structures at the time any river is proposed for inclusion in the national wild and scenic river system shall not bar its consideration for such inclusion.

undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads. Scenic does not necessarily mean the river corridor has to have scenery as an outstandingly remarkable value, however it means the river segment may contain more development (except for major dams or diversion works) than a wild segment and less development than a recreational segment. For example, roads may cross the river in places but generally do not run parallel to it. In certain cases, however, if a parallel road is unpaved and well screened from the river by vegetation, it could qualify for scenic river area classification.

*Recreational Rivers* - Recreational river areas are those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past. Parallel roads or railroads, existence of small dams or diversions can be allowed in this classification. A recreational river area classification does not imply that the river will be managed or prioritized for recreational use or development.

Each of the 14 eligible river segments was assigned a tentative classification based on the amount of development in the river corridor and its accessibility. The classifications can be changed in the RMP alternatives and by Congress if and when it adds these river segments to the NWSRS.

## Managing Eligible Rivers

This report will be available for a 30-day public and cooperating agency comment period. Following a review of public comments and discussions with cooperators, the Kanab Field Office Manager will determine the final wild and scenic river eligibility for river corridors crossing public lands within the Kanab Field Office. Those river corridors will be managed to protect their outstandingly remarkable values and tentative classification until a suitability determination is made in the resource management plan. The management protection will recognize decisions in the existing land use plans and valid existing rights (including water rights), but will evaluate new proposals in light of the outstandingly remarkable values and tentative classification.

## Reaching a decision on Suitability

Each identified river segment must be evaluated to determine whether or not it is *eligible* for inclusion as a component of the NWSRS. To be eligible, a river segment must be "free-flowing" and must possess at least one river-related value considered to be "outstandingly remarkable." No other factors are considered in determining the eligibility of a river segment. All other relevant factors are considered in determining suitability. *Suitability* is the process of determining if eligible river segments should be recommended to Congress as additions to the NWSRS. Suitability will be addressed in the RMP alternatives and in the Suitability Appendix. Each eligible river segment must be addressed as suitable with protective management in at least one alternative. Likewise, in at least one alternative each eligible river segment must be address as not suitable and without protective management. Thus, the effects of managing or not managing the river segments in a protective manner and recommending or not recommending

river segments to Congress for designation into the NWSRS will be disclosed in the environmental impact statement.

The decision on suitability will be a part of the ROD for the RMP. Following the signing of the ROD, river segments determined suitable will be managed to protect their outstandingly remarkable values and tentative classification until acted upon by Congress or reconsidered in a future RMP. Eligible river segment not found suitable will be managed according to the RMP.

## Rivers Studied – Not Considered Further

The following rivers were considered as potentially eligible in the initial review of the decision area. However, they were found to not be free flowing and/or not possess any ORV's.

- Johnson Wash – ephemeral, not free flowing.
- Fisher Canyon – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Robinson Creek – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Sink Valley Wash – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Trail Canyon – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Pugh Canyon – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Toms Canyon - not free flowing due to diversions.
- Maranger Canyon – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Willis Canyon (Complex) - ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Oak Canyon – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Dairy Canyon – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Steep Trail Spring Canyon – no ORV's.
- Red Hollow – not free flowing, no ORV's.
- Dry Wash – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Lydia's Canyon - not free flowing, no ORV's.
- Smith Creek – not free flowing, no ORV's.
- Limekiln Creek – no ORV's.
- Peterson Wash – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Sanford Creek – no ORV's.
- Butler Wash – ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Bunting Canyon - ephemeral, no ORV's.
- Panguitch Creek - Mostly private, only 660 feet on BLM lands.
- Escalante Creek - Only 2,300 feet on land outside GSENM, character not the same as what was found suitable in GSENM plan. Was found not eligible in GSENM planning process.
- Varney Griffin - no ORV's.

## ATTACHMENT 1: SUMMARY OF ALL POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE RIVER SEGMENTS CONSIDERED AND IDENTIFICATION OF OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE VALUES

Segment Description	County	Drainage Type <sup>i</sup>	Free-Flowing <sup>ii</sup>	Potential Outstandingly Remarkable Value(s)
<u>North Fork Virgin River</u> - Segment 48-49 Section 31 - 33 (northeast of Zion NP)	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Geologic Wildlife Recreation
<u>North Fork Virgin River</u> - Segment 46-47 Section 34 – up to private land boundary in northwest quarter of Section 24	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Wildlife Recreation
<u>East Fork Virgin River</u> - Segment 36-41 private property to Zion NP Boundary.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Geologic Wildlife Fish Historic Ecologic Recreation Cultural
<u>Orderville Gulch (Esplin Gulch)</u> – Segment 44-45 Zion NP Boundary to the Falls. Esplin Gulch Segment 45 to 45A.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Recreation Geologic Wildlife Ecological
<u>Bob Creek (tributary of Orderville Gulch)</u> - Segment 42-43 from diversion to Bob Creek in Section 6.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic
<u>Meadow Creek</u> – Segment 33-35 South of Highway 9 to the confluence of Mineral Gulch.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Recreation Geologic
<u>Mineral Gulch</u> – Segment 35-38 from private property line in Section 21 to confluence with East Fork Virgin River.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Recreation Geologic
<u>Deep Creek</u> – Segment 50-51 from the Washington County line to the BLM boundary in Section 30.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic
<u>Kanab Creek</u> – Segment 7-8 south of Alton at the Alton Sink Valley Road	Kane	Perennial	No	None

Segment Description	County	Drainage Type <sup>i</sup>	Free-Flowing <sup>ii</sup>	Potential Outstandingly Remarkable Value(s)
to the falls.				
<u>Kanab Creek</u> - Segment 8-9 from the falls to the BLM boundary in northeast corner in Section 32.	Kane	Intermittent	Yes	Scenic Recreational Wildlife
<u>Kanab Creek</u> - Segment 9-10 from point 9 to the dam north of Kanab.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Wildlife
<u>Cottonwood Creek</u> -Segment 28-29 beginning in Section 10 at the BLM boundary ending at confluence with Indian Canyon.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Recreation Wildlife Cultural
<u>Cottonwood Creek</u> -Segment 31-32 beginning at confluence with Indian Canyon to BLM boundary in Section 3.	Kane	Perennial	No	None
<u>Indian Canyon</u> - Segment 26-27 from the head of the canyon to confluence with Cottonwood Creek	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Recreational Geologic Ecologic
<u>South Fork Indian Canyon</u> - Segment 22-23 from the head of South Fork Indian Canyon to BLM boundary in northeast corner of Section 20.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Recreational Wildlife Cultural Ecologic
<u>North Branch of South Fork Indian Canyon</u> - Segment 23-24 from the point where the canyon deepens to BLM boundary in southeast corner of Section 17.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Recreational Geologic Cultural Ecologic
<u>Water Canyon</u> – Segment 20-21 beginning at the head of the canyon to the BLM boundary in Section 21.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Recreational Geologic Ecologic
<u>Hell Dive Canyon</u> - Segment 30-31 from the point where the canyon deepens to the confluence with Cottonwood Creek	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Recreational Geologic Cultural Ecologic
<u>Thompson Creek</u> – Segment 5-6 beginning at BLM boundary just south of confluence with Birch Creek to BLM boundary at the south end of Section 19.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	None
<u>Mill Creek (tributaries)</u> – Segment 2-4 beginning at BLM boundary in southeast corner of Section 34 to BLM boundary in eastern part of Section 20.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	None

Segment Description	County	Drainage Type <sup>i</sup>	Free-Flowing <sup>ii</sup>	Potential Outstandingly Remarkable Value(s)
<u>Mill Creek (tributaries)</u> – Segment 1-3 Mineral Creek from BLM property line in Section 4 to confluence with Mill Creek.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	None
<u>Hog Canyon (tributaries)</u> – Segment 16-19 beginning at headwaters to TV hill road in Section 10.	Kane	Intermittent	Yes	None
<u>Hog Canyon (tributaries)</u> – Segment 17-18 South Fork Hog Canyon, beginning at headwaters in Section 12 to confluence with main stem Hog Canyon in Section 11.	Kane	Intermittent	Yes	None
<u>Hog Canyon (tributaries)</u> – Segment 14-15 North Fork Hog Canyon beginning at Crocodile Road in Section 34 to confluence with Main Stem.	Kane	Intermittent	Yes	None
<u>Tiny Canyon</u> – Section 10-11 beginning at the BLM boundary in Section 6 to confluence with Kanab Creek.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Wildlife
<u>Paria River</u> – Segment 68-69 beginning at Wilderness/GSENM boundary to Arizona border. Entire segment is within Paria Canyon Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness.	Kane	Perennial	Yes	Scenic Recreational Geologic Wildlife
<u>Sevier River</u> – Segment 53-55 beginning at BLM boundary in Section 6 north to BLM boundary in Section 8.	Garfield	Perennial	No	None
<u>Sevier River</u> – Segment 52-53 from BLM boundary in Section 8 to BLM boundary in northeast part of Section 15 north of Hatch.	Garfield	Perennial	No	None
<u>Three Mile Creek</u> – Segment 56-57 Beginning at Forest boundary in Section 11 to BLM boundary in Section 7.	Garfield	Perennial	Yes	Fish
<u>Sandy Creek</u> – Segment 58-59 beginning at BLM boundary in Section 35 to State boundary in Section 35.	Garfield	Perennial	Yes	None
<u>Bear Creek</u> – Segment 60-61 BLM boundary in Section 6 to BLM boundary in Section 9.	Garfield	Perennial	No	None
<u>Choke Cherry Creek</u> – Segment 54-55 BLM boundary in Section 11 to	Garfield	Perennial	Yes	None

Segment Description	County	Drainage Type <sup>i</sup>	Free-Flowing <sup>ii</sup>	Potential Outstandingly Remarkable Value(s)
confluence with Sevier River.				
<u>Birch Creek</u> – Segment 64-65 from BLM boundary in Section 11 to BLM boundary in Section 17.	Garfield	Perennial	Yes	None
<u>North Creek (tributaries)</u> – Segment 66-67 from BLM boundary to BLM boundary in Sections 9-16.	Garfield	Perennial	Yes	None
<u>Upper Valley Creek</u> – Segment 58-59 from BLM boundary in Section 4 to BLM Boundary in Section 17 just upstream of confluence with Birch Creek.	Garfield	Perennial	No	None

*i Drainages were identified as one of three types:*

- *Perennial— A stream that flows continuously. Perennial streams are generally associated with a water table in the localities through which they flow.*
- *Intermittent— a stream that flows only at certain times of the year when it receives water from springs or from some surface source such as melting snow in mountainous areas.*
- *Ephemeral— a stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation, and whose channel is above the water table at all times.*

*ii "Free-flowing"...means existing or flowing in a natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modifications of the waterway. The existence, however, of low dams, diversion works, or other minor structures at the time any river is proposed for inclusion in the national wild and scenic river system shall not bar its consideration for such inclusion.*

## ATTACHMENT 2—EVALUATION OF OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE VALUES

<p><b>North Fork Virgin River</b> Segment 48-49 Section 31 - 33 (northeast of Zion NP)</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – Entire segment is rated as Class A scenery.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> - used for hiking (which requires a permit to enter Zion NP, the Narrows). Segment is highly valued for hiking, backpacking, nature study and photography in an exceptionally scenic, wilderness-quality setting.</li> <li>• <b>Geologic</b> - outstanding cliffs of the Navajo Sandstone, very similar to what is found in Zion NP.</li> <li>• <b>Wildlife</b> – possible neotropical migratory bird habitat (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Executive Order 13186). Spotted Owl (threatened species) designated critical habitat cooperatively managed with Zion National Park.</li> </ul>
<p><b>North Fork Virgin River</b> Segment 46-47 Section 34 – up to private land boundary in northwest quarter of Section 24</p> <p><b>Not Eligible</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated - none determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – entire segment is rated as Class A scenery, but the scenery is not notable, scarce, or exemplary when compared with other scenery in the region</li> <li>• <b>Wildlife</b> – Spotted Owl designated critical habitat is present; however, checkerboard ownership makes management difficult.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> - Not much recreational use due to large amounts of private property.</li> </ul>

<p><b>East Fork Virgin River</b> Segment 36-41 Private land to Zion NP Boundary</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild from Zion NP boundary to road crossing in Section 9 (Segment 37-41), Segment 36-37, Scenic.</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – Entire segment is rated as Class A scenery.</li> <li>• <b>Cultural</b> - Numerous cultural resource sites considered eligible to the National Register within the river canyon, plus dense concentrations of Virgin Anasazi sites situated on the benches above the canyon.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> – segment is highly valued for hiking, backpacking, nature study and photography in an exceptionally scenic, wilderness-quality setting.</li> <li>• <b>Geologic</b> – outstanding cliffs of the Navajo Sandstone, very similar to what is found in Zion NP.</li> <li>• <b>Fish</b> - habitat and populations of sensitive fish.</li> <li>• <b>Wildlife</b> – possible neotropical migratory bird habitat (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Executive Order 13186), sensitive amphibian habitat. Spotted Owl designated critical habitat.</li> <li>• <b>Historic</b>– John Wesley Powell exploration in the river canyon in 1872.</li> <li>• <b>Ecologic</b> - unique plant community (hanging gardens).</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Orderville Gulch (Esplin Gulch)</b>                  Segment 44-45 Zion NP                  Boundary to the Falls. Esplin Gulch Segment 45 to 45A.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> - Entire segment is rated as Class A scenery.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> - segment is heavily used and highly valued for hiking, photography and canyoneering. Opportunities in a canyon setting very similar to the adjacent Zion National Park.</li> <li>• <b>Geologic</b> - outstanding cliffs of the Navajo Sandstone, very similar to what is found in Zion NP.</li> <li>• <b>Wildlife</b> - possible neotropical migratory bird habitat (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Executive Order 13186), Spotted Owl nesting habitat.</li> <li>• <b>Ecologic</b> - unique plant community (hanging gardens).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Bob Creek (tributary of Orderville Gulch)</b>                  Segment 42-43 from diversion to Bob Creek in Section 6.</p> <p><b>Not Eligible</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated – none determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – entire segment is rated as Class A scenery, but the scenery is not notable, scarce, or exemplary when compared with other scenery in the region.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Meadow Creek</b> Segment 33-35 South of Highway 9 to the confluence of Mineral Gulch.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – majority of segment is Class A scenery, scenic values of sculptured slickrock and ledges untouched by human influence.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> - segment is popular with visitors seeking exceptionally scenic hiking, backpacking, photography and nature study opportunities in a dramatic, deep canyon setting where solitude abounds.</li> </ul> <p><b>Value evaluated determined not outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Geologic</b> – all of the exposed formations can be seen in several other canyons in the area, and are not rare, unique, or a textbook example.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mineral Gulch</b> Segment 35-38 from confluence with Meadow Creek to confluence with East Fork Virgin River.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b>- Entire segment is rated as Class A scenery.</li> <li>• <b>Recreation</b> – popular with visitors seeking exceptionally scenic hiking, backpacking, photography and nature study opportunities in a dramatic, deep canyon setting where solitude abounds.</li> <li>• <b>Geologic</b> - outstanding cliffs of the Navajo Sandstone, very similar to what is found in Zion NP. Records largest dune fields in the world.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Deep Creek</b> Segment 50-51 from the Washington County line to the BLM boundary in Section 30.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Value evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> - entire segment is rated as Class A scenery, access is limited due to surrounding private property.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Kanab Creek</b> Segment 8-9 from the falls to the BLM boundary in northeast corner in Section 32.</p> <p><b>Not Eligible</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated – none determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – deep gorge carved in Navajo Sandstone with mature ponderosa pine, approximately 50% of the segment is in Class A scenery, but the scenery is not especially outstanding when compared with other scenery in the region.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> – Most recreation use is from local residents and is similar in nature to that occurring in several other similar settings near Kanab.</li> <li>• <b>Wildlife</b> - little riparian vegetation, no South Western Willow Flycatcher habitat. Within Paunsaguant deer herd management area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Kanab Creek</b> Segment 8-9 from point 9 to the Highway 89 crossing.</p> <p><b>Not Eligible</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated – none determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – scenery is not notable, scarce, or exemplary when compared with other scenery in the region.</li> <li>• <b>Wildlife</b> – neotropical migratory bird habitat, however it is not exemplary when compared with other habitat in the region.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> – most recreation use is from local residents.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Cottonwood Creek</b>                  Segment 28-29 beginning in Section 10 at the BLM boundary ending at confluence with Indian Canyon.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recreation</b> – canyon offers exceptional non-motorized/non-mechanized recreation opportunities in an enticing canyon setting.</li> <li>• <b>Cultural</b> – Two eligible sites within segment, but National Register listed site 42Ka1581 Cottonwood Canyon Cliff Dwellings and four nearby rock art sites are found in a tributary canyon to the east.</li> <li>• <b>Wildlife</b> - neotropical migratory bird habitat (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Executive Order 13186).</li> </ul> <p><b>Value evaluated and determined not outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – Class A scenery, scenery is not especially notable, scarce, or exemplary when compared with other scenery in the near vicinity of Kanab.</li> </ul>
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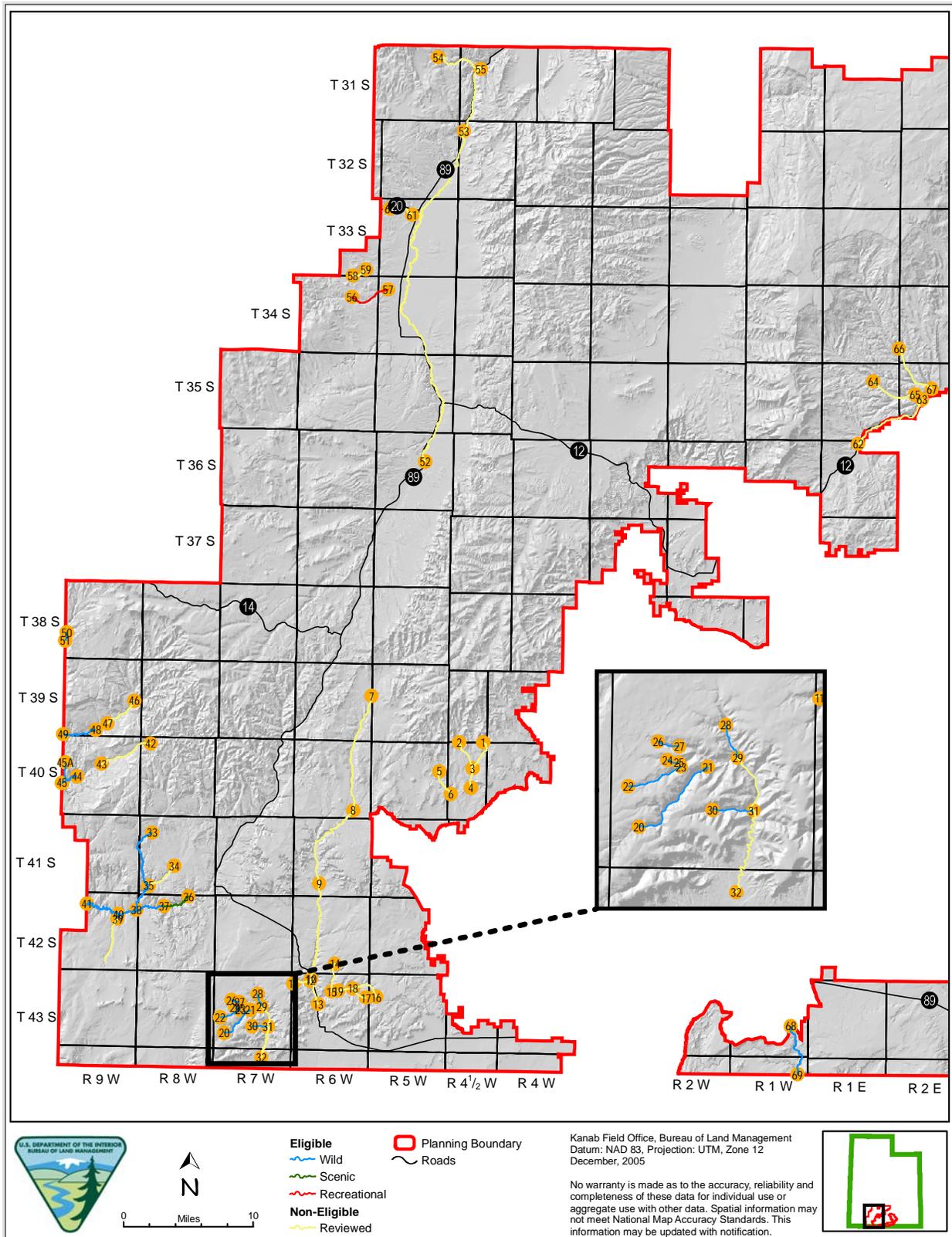
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<p><b>Indian Canyon</b> Segment 26-27 from the head of the canyon to confluence with Cottonwood Creek</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – deep, narrow canyon, Class A scenery.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> – canyon offers non-motorized/non-mechanized recreation opportunities (hiking, canyoneering, photography, nature study, etc.) in a highly scenic and diverse canyon setting.</li> <li>• <b>Ecologic</b> - unique plant community (hanging gardens).</li> <li>• <b>Geologic</b> - outstanding canyon formed in Navajo Sandstone.</li> </ul>
<p><b>South Fork Indian Canyon</b> Segment 22-23 from the head of South Fork Indian Canyon to BLM boundary in northeast corner of Section 20.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – deep, narrow canyon, Class A scenery.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> – canyon offers exceptional non-motorized/non-mechanized recreation opportunities (hiking, canyoneering, photography, nature study, etc.) in a highly scenic and diverse canyon setting.</li> <li>• <b>Ecologic</b> - unique plant community (hanging gardens).</li> <li>• <b>Geologic</b> - outstanding canyon formed in Navajo Sandstone</li> </ul>

<p><b>North Branch of South Fork Indian Canyon</b>                  Segment 24-25 from the point where the canyon deepens to BLM boundary in southeast corner of Section 17.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> - deep, narrow canyon, Class A scenery.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> – canyon offers exceptional non-motorized/non-mechanized recreation opportunities (hiking, canyoneering, photography, nature study, etc.) in a highly scenic and diverse canyon setting.</li> <li>• <b>Geologic</b> – outstanding canyon formed in Navajo Sandstone.</li> <li>• <b>Cultural</b> – One recorded site, 42Ka1576 South Fork Indian Canyon Pictographs, eligible to the National Register.</li> <li>• <b>Ecological</b> - unique plant community (hanging gardens); Zion jamesia (sensitive plant) is present.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Water Canyon</b>                  Segment 20-21 from the point where the canyon deepens to the BLM boundary in Section 21.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – deep, narrow canyon, Class A scenery.</li> <li>• <b>Recreation</b> – canyon offers non-motorized/mechanized recreation opportunities (hiking, canyoneering, photography, nature study, etc.) in a highly scenic and diverse canyon setting.</li> <li>• <b>Geologic</b> – outstanding canyon formed in Navajo Sandstone.</li> <li>• <b>Ecologic</b> - unique plant community (hanging gardens); Zion jamesia (sensitive plant) is present.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Hell Dive Canyon</b> Segment 30-31 from the point where the canyon deepens to the confluence with Cottonwood Creek.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Values evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – deep, narrow canyon, Class A scenery.</li> <li>• <b>Geologic</b> - outstanding canyon formed in Navajo Sandstone.</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> – canyon offers exceptional non-motorized/non-mechanized recreation opportunities (hiking, canyoneering, photography, nature study, etc.) in a highly scenic and diverse canyon setting.</li> <li>• <b>Cultural</b> - One recorded rockshelter/rock art/structural site, eligible to the National Register.</li> <li>• <b>Ecology</b> - unique plant community (hanging gardens); Zion jamesia (sensitive plant) is present.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paria River</b> Segment 68-69 beginning at Wilderness/GSENM boundary to Arizona border. Entire segment is within Paria Canyon Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Wild</b></p>	<p><b>Value determined outstanding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scenic</b> – Class A scenery.</li> <li>• <b>Wildlife</b> - neotropical migratory bird habitat (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Executive Order 13186).</li> <li>• <b>Recreational</b> – wilderness hiking and backpacking. Opportunities for primitive experience and solitude in a dramatic, narrow desert canyon setting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Three Mile Creek</b> Segment 56-57 Beginning at Forest boundary in Section 11 to BLM boundary in Section 7.</p> <p><b>Eligible</b></p> <p><b>Tentative Classification: Recreation</b></p>	<p><b>Value evaluated and determined outstanding:</b></p> <p><b>Fish-</b> Bonneville Cutthroat Trout (sensitive species) present.</p>

# MAP OF ELIGIBLE AND STUDIED SEGMENTS



# APPENDIX A: OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE VALUE STANDARDS<sup>3</sup>

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The BLM and Forest Service manuals include verbal descriptions of the nature of outstandingly remarkable values. These descriptions are meant to indicate minimum thresholds for Outstandingly Remarkable Values and are meant to be illustrative, not definitive or all-inclusive. In some cases, a resource value may meet some or all of the criteria yet may not, for a well-documented reason, be determined to be outstandingly remarkable. In other situations, a value may be determined to be outstandingly remarkable for a reason not listed. The important step is to document the rationale for the determination.

These standards are not meant to replace or shortcut the process of comparative regional analysis. They should be used as a starting point in understanding the general level of significance required for a river resource to be outstandingly remarkable. As the resource assessment progresses and criteria are defined, more precise standards for outstandingly remarkable values will be developed.

**Scenic:** The landscape elements of landform, vegetation, water, color and related factors result in notable or exemplary visual features and/or attractions within the region. When analyzing scenic values, additional factors such as seasonal variations in vegetation, scale of cultural modifications, and the length of time negative intrusions are viewed may be considered. Scenery or visual attractions may be highly diverse over the majority of the river or river segment. Existing agency procedures for evaluating scenery may be used to identify rivers with outstandingly remarkable values.

**Recreational:** Recreational opportunities are, or have the potential to be, unique enough to attract visitors from outside of the geographic region. Visitors would be willing to travel long distances to use the river resources for recreational purposes. River-related opportunities could include, but are not limited to, sightseeing, wildlife observation, photography, hiking, fishing, hunting and boating. Interpretive opportunities may be exceptional and attract, or have the potential to attract, visitors from outside the geographic region. The river may provide or have the potential to provide settings for national or regional usage or competitive events. Consider evaluating specific, high-use recreation activities (e.g., whitewater boating) separately.

**Geologic:** The river corridor contains an example of a geologic feature, process, or phenomenon that is rare or unique to the geographic region, or an outstanding example of a commonly occurring feature. The feature may be in

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<sup>3</sup> from the Wild and Scenic River Review in the State of Utah, Process and Criteria for Interagency Use, July 1996, frequently referred to as the Wild and Scenic Rivers "Blue Book"

an unusually active stage of development, represent a "textbook" example and/or represent a rare or unique combination of geologic features (erosionally, volcanic, glacial, etc.).

**Fish:** Fish values may be judged on the relative merits of fish populations, habitat, Native American cultural use, or a combination of these factors. Consideration shall be given to potential as well as existing values.

- **Populations:** The river is internationally, nationally or regionally an important producer of resident and/or anadromous fish species. Of particular significance is the presence of wild stocks or rare species (Federally-listed, state-listed or candidate threatened or endangered species). Diversity of species is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of outstandingly remarkable.
- **Habitat:** The river produces exceptionally high quality habitat for fish species indigenous to the region. Of particular significance is habitat for wild stocks or rare species (Federally-listed, state-listed or candidate threatened or endangered species). Diversity of habitats is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of outstandingly remarkable.

**Wildlife:** Wildlife values shall be judged on the relative merits of populations, habitat, Native American cultural use, or a combination of these factors.

- **Populations:** The river corridor contains nationally or regionally important populations of indigenous wildlife species. Of particular significance are species considered to be unique or rare species (Federally-listed, state-listed or candidate threatened or endangered species). Diversity of species is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of outstandingly remarkable.
- **Habitat:** The river corridor provides exceptionally high quality habitat for wildlife of national or regional significance, or may provide unique habitat or a critical link in habitat conditions for rare species (Federally-listed, state-listed or candidate threatened or endangered species). Diversity of habitats is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of outstandingly remarkable.

**Historic:** The river corridor contains a site or feature associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare, unusual or unique in the region. An historic site and/or feature in most cases is 50 years or older. Of particular significance are National Historic Landmarks, or sites or features listed in, or eligible for inclusion on, the National Register of Historic Places.

**Cultural:** The river corridor contains a site where there is evidence of occupation or use by Native American or some other prehistoric culture. Sites must have unusual characteristics or exceptional human interest values. Sites may have national or regional importance for interpreting prehistory; may be rare or represent an area where a culture or cultural period was first identified and

described; may have been used concurrently by two or more cultural groups; or may have been used by cultural groups for rare or sacred purposes. Of particular significance are sites or features listed in, or eligible for inclusion on, the National Register of Historic Places.

**Ecologic:** The river corridor constitutes an important element of a regional plan to conserve biological diversity or other specific ecologic resources. Examples of important elements include rare communities or ecosystems, watersheds with special values or that are the focus of special management, essential corridors for species migration and genetic interactions, and other values of importance.

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