

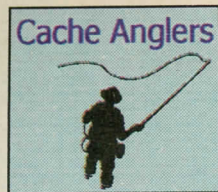
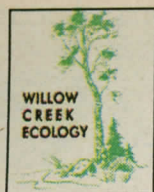
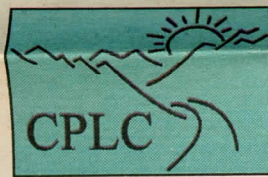
LOGAN CANYON EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

**Citizens for the Protection of Logan Canyon, Cache Anglers,
Logan Canyon Coalition, Bridgerland Audubon Society,
Willow Creek Ecology**

Land Management in Logan Canyon

We, in Cache Valley, are extremely fortunate to have Logan Canyon and surrounding public lands in our backyard. While there are some private and state lands in the Canyon, most is federal land. It is owned by you, the citizen.

As an owner, you have the responsibility to be aware of past, present and proposed activities that can affect the long-term health of this land for future generations. The purpose of this publication is to bring these issues to you and help you become involved.



Several public interest organizations are involved in protecting Logan Canyon.

For 30 years **Citizens for the Protection of Logan Canyon (CPLC)**, and later **Logan Canyon Coalition (LCC)**, have worked to protect the canyon from excessive and costly highway construction.

The mission of **Bridgerland Audubon Society**, a Cache Valley institution, is to conserve, enhance, and enjoy the natural environment with special emphasis on birds and their habitats for the benefit and educa-

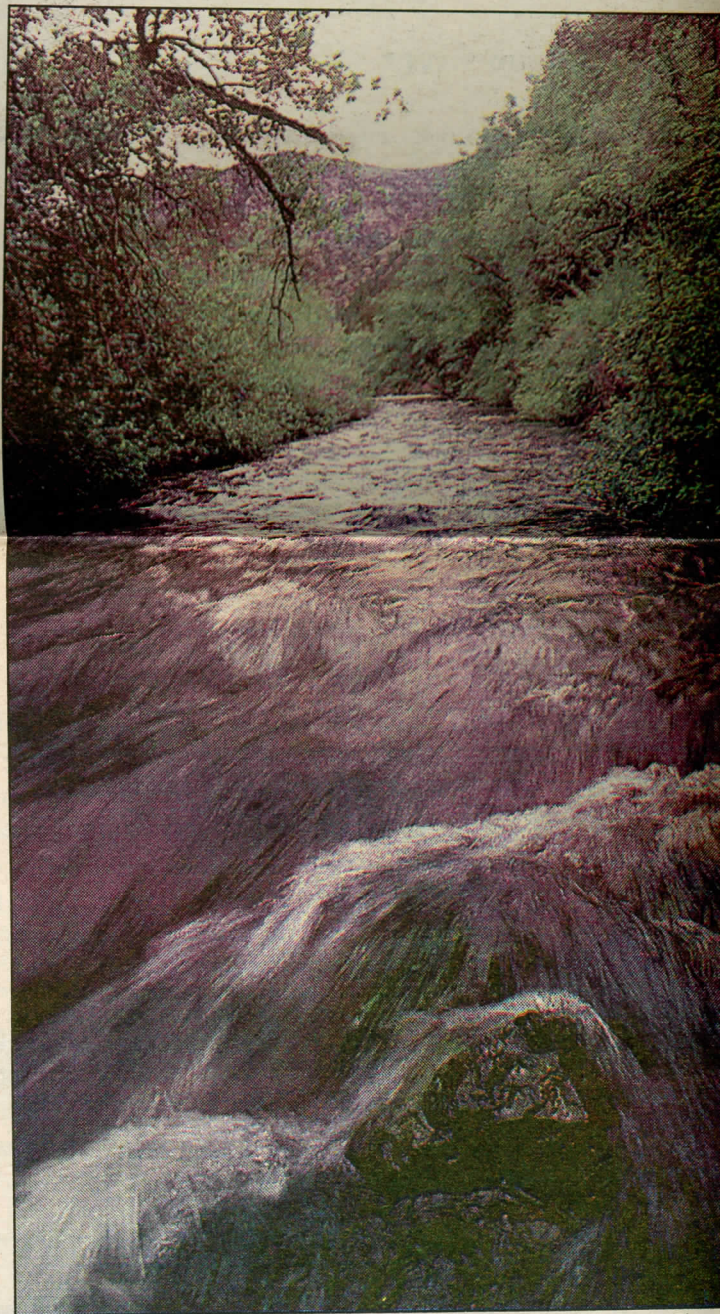
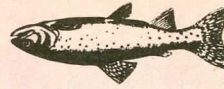
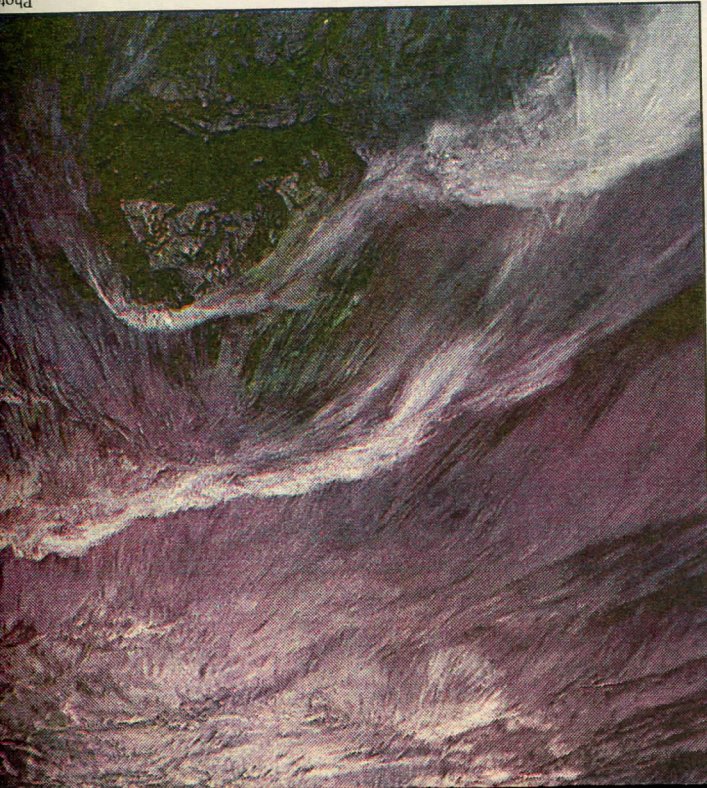


Photo
The Logan River is a quality source of life.

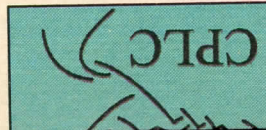


"Your present location is designed to
 you for a refuge, a place of rest; there-
 fore see to it that ye pollute not your
 inheritance, for if you do, you might
 expect that the judgement of heaven
 will be poured out upon you."

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 on birds and their habitats for the benefit and educa-
 tion of humanity and for the biological diversity of
 the earth.
Willow Creek Ecology is an organization devoted
 to better management of public lands through scien-
 tific research, education and direct action.
Cache Anglers is an organization dedicated to the
 protection and promotion of local fisheries and
 their habitats.





LOGAN CANYON EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

Highway Construction

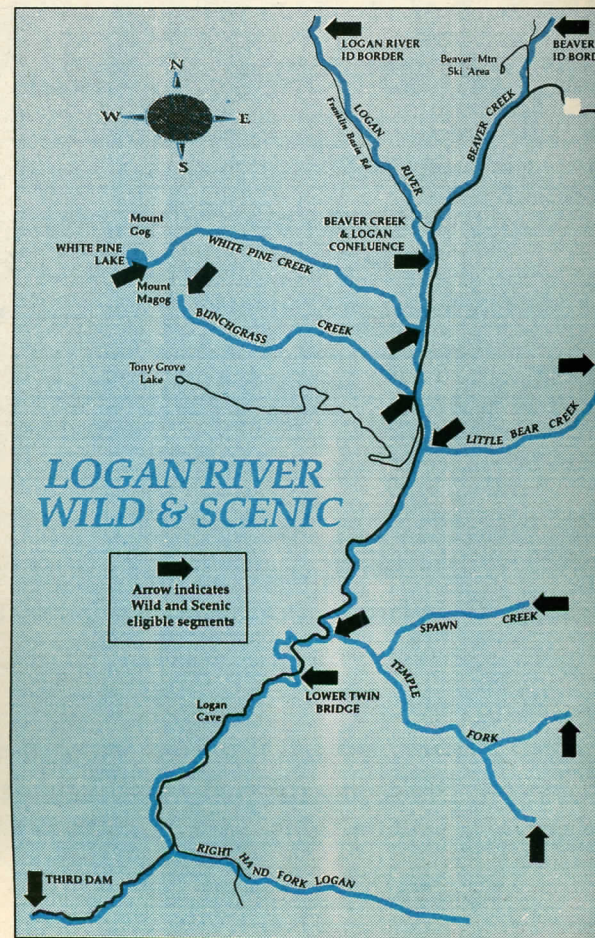
Desired improvements of Highway 89 have been the most visible issue in Logan Canyon for a long time. Although conservation groups wanted to protect the canyon from excessive highway construction, they also recognized the need for improvements, such as bridge replacements. Two bridges (Burnt and Lower Twin) have been replaced. The next construction project is the section between Franklin Basin and Grove, including the replacement of Upper Twin Bridge. This is a sensitive area where the Logan River is very close to the highway. Protection of the river will be a crucial concern. Accident statistics for the last three years in this area indicate that 70% of collisions are animal impacts and the remainder are cars off the road or cars with no fatalities, showing that speed is a major factor in canyon accidents. A wider and straighter highway will encourage drivers to increase speeds, resulting in a more dangerous highway. While highway construction remains a very important issue, it is time to broaden our concern to other issues that impact the canyon and its watershed. What are these issues impacting the natural beauty of Logan Canyon?

Wild and Scenic Logan River

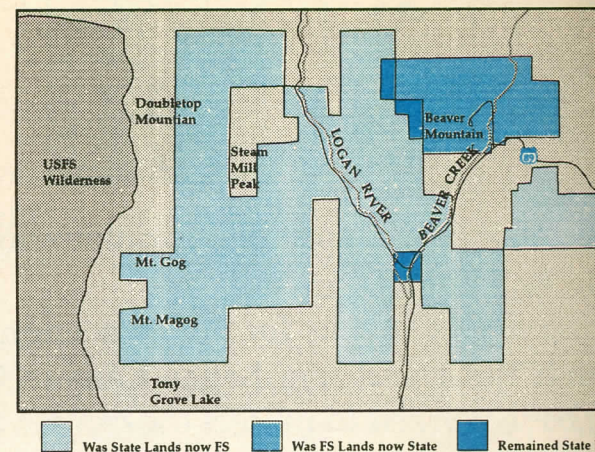
The Logan River has recently been found eligible by the Forest Service for Wild and Scenic classification. Parts that are eligible are a six mile section from the Idaho state line to the Beaver Creek confluence and a 20 mile section from the Beaver Creek confluence to Third Dam. A suitability study is next; and following that, an act of Congress to make the designation official. This process will be long and likely controversial; particularly in a state with an unsympathetic congressional delegation and many opponents who have and will make false claims and accusations. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is an excellent way to protect a river in its natural state and its current form and management. It still allows for private property rights, hunting and fishing, and other activities that will not harm its remarkable qualities. Certain restrictions do exist that must be spelled out in a negotiated management plan. Hundreds of communities across the nation have benefited from such designations. The Logan City Council has been asked to support the Wild and Scenic designation, and we hope they will recognize what an asset our river is to our community.

Federal-State Land Swap

In January, 1999 the long-debated land swap between the State of Utah and the federal government became official. The State of Utah became the owner of approximately 3000 acres near Beaver Mountain and became the landlord for the Deer Mountain Ski Resort. Since the mission for the School and Institutional Trust Administration (SITLA) is to provide income to the public school system, they will sell the land to the highest bidder. Their mandate is to manage lands for their best and best use." This swap has raised concerns among a number of groups. The Utah Audubon, Logan Canyon Coalition (LCC) and Citizens for the Protection of Logan Canyon (CPLC), the Great Western Trail Association, Backcountry Riders, Cache Valley High Markers and the owners of Beaver Creek Lodge cooperated to form the Beaver Creek Land Alliance. Their primary interest is preserving scenic vistas and maintaining public access. Although there are county zoning regulations for private lands, SITLA can override local zoning regulations and develop according to its agenda.

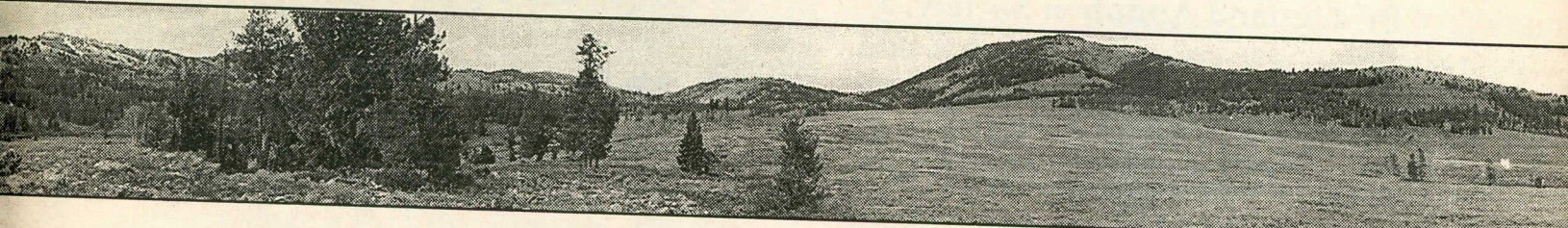
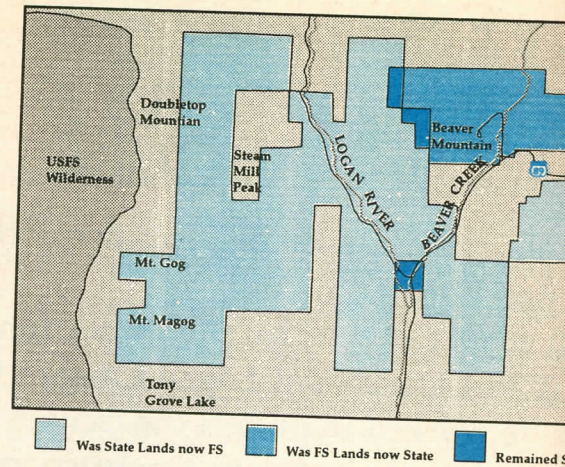


Map Courtesy of Logan Canyon



The Federal-State Land Swap

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Could the land around Beaver Mountain be developed with condominiums and multi-million dollar homes? YES!

Photo courtesy of Logan Canyon

Motorized Recreation

In recent years the dramatic rise and indiscriminate use of motorized recreation, including ATV's and snowmobiles, has resulted in significant impacts. Wildlife and Forest Service enforcement personnel are overwhelmed with countless incidents of new "ghost" roads, vandalized gates, hillsides being denuded, stream banks destroyed, and illegal travel in wilderness areas. Often it is a small number of users who are the violators. But as the total number of off-road vehicles increases, more impacts are guaranteed and the threat to the land increases. While such vehicles are valid and legal forms of recreation, there will come a time when the Forest Service will restrict their access.

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Erosion due to lack of vegetative cover from grazing in the North Rich Cattle Allotment.

Impacts include ground cover reduced to 23%, loss of soil nutrients vital to plant viability, and the trampling of springs and small stream channels to the point where they no longer exist.

These problems are seriously compounded by the irresponsible use of ORV's over these lands.



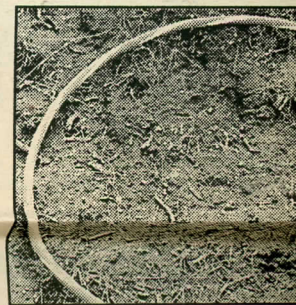
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Livestock Grazing

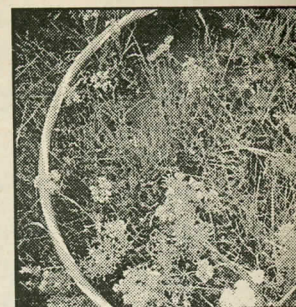
Seventy-two thousand acres of Logan Canyon are divided into 25 allotments for grazing sheep and cattle. Some areas are being overgrazed and stream banks in riparian areas are being trampled, resulting in increased sediment, loss of aquatic life, and the loss of stream side tree/shrub canopies. This results in warmer water temperatures and loss of fish habitat. Watershed degradation by livestock has been documented on forest lands in Spawn Creek in the Temple Fork drainage. During the summer of 1997, Spawn Creek had four times the allowable count of fecal coliform, at precisely the same time as cattle presence. These bacteria are indicators of disease-causing organisms for such diseases as dysentery, typhoid, brucellosis and leptospirosis. Another example is the Little Bear Sheep and North Rich Cattle Allotments near the summit. Impacts include ground cover reduced to 23%, loss of soil nutrients vital to plant viability, and the trampling of springs and small stream channels to the point where they no longer exist.

A loss of diverse ground covers results in the decline of wildlife such as snowshoe hare and grouse. This further results in a decline of animals that prey on small mammals, such as the goshawk. In fact, goshawk numbers have decreased so significantly that it has been listed as a sensitive species, with several attempts since the early 90's to list it as endangered. The Forest Service has recently undertaken a project to provide a management direction that maintains or restores functioning forested habitats for this bird.

National Forests are our watersheds, the source of three-fourths of our drinking water in the West. A growing sector of the public is demanding a return to pristine mountain streams rather than streams and meadows trampled into mud and littered with cow manure. Improved care and proper management are imperative for the long-term health of our forests. Not only is grazing degrading our public lands when improperly managed, but it also heavily subsidized by the you, the taxpayer. For every \$3 in profit made by the permittee, taxpayers contribute \$4 in subsidies; hence, another reason for needed reforms.



Ground cover after g



Ground cover without

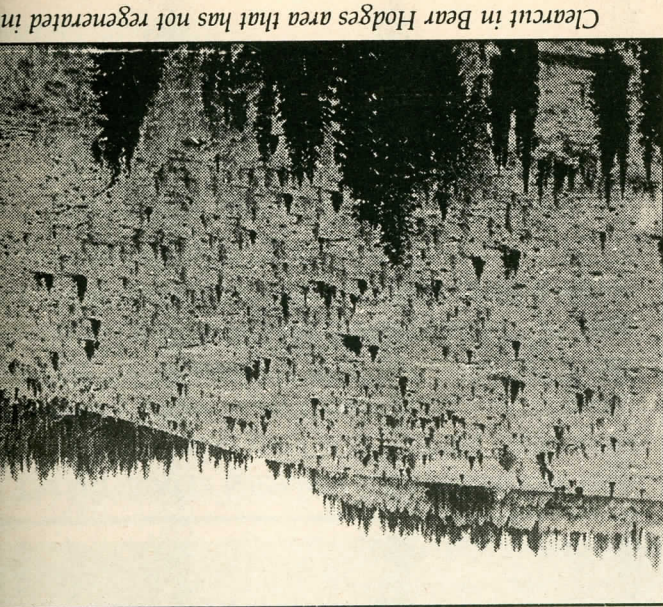
Logging

The Bear Hodges Analysis project includes plans by the Forest Service to log nearly 3.5 million board feet of timber near the summit of Logan



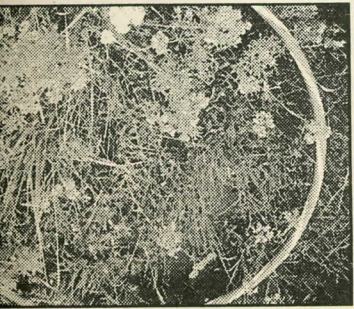
Logging

The Bear Hodges Analysis project includes plans by the Forest Service to log nearly 3.5 million board feet of timber near the summit of Logan Canyon. This tree harvesting project in both the T. W. Daniels Forest (USU) and Wasatch-Cache National Forest, is an attempt to "restore" the spruce-fir forest to an ill-defined "historic" condition through silviculture techniques. Silviculture is the practice of growing and cutting timber. Managing pine bark beetle infestation by logging this stand of old trees is also a component of this project. It is a doubtful practice, one that has failed to control beetle infestations on most other forests; and it is often used as a rationalization for timber harvests. It also ignores the larger historic role that pine bark beetles play in the ecosystem. Dead and decaying trees provide necessary wildlife habitat and nutrients for new forest growth. There is a larger concern that trees in the Bear Hodges area are a remnant old growth forest, one that should be preserved for the sake of biological diversity.



Clearcut in Bear Hodges area that has not regenerated in

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Ground cover without grazing

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Ground cover after grazing

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Photo courtesy of Scott Smith Photography

"Destroying the last wild places...is like tearing the last pages from the Bible."

— Robert F. Kennedy

Updating the Forest Management Plan

Forest Service is currently in the process of revising its forest management plan. This will provide direct forest management for the next 10-20 years. The plan will focus on ecosystem management, a form of management that considers all the impacts on the long-term sustainability of the forest, and one that could potentially conflict with the current "multiple-use" concept of logging, grazing, mining, and all types of recreational activities. Resolving these issues in a way that respects more than special interests will require public participation throughout the development of a new forest management plan. Citizens must be part of this process if they want to ensure forest lands for future generations.

Input from grassroots organizations must move forward. If you care and want to know more about these issues, send us your name and address on the form below.

We will inform you when there are crucial issues where citizen input is essential. Your name will remain confidential. **If the Forest Service knows there is broad support in the community, they will be more likely to act in the broad public interests, rather than special interests. Only through citizen action, with the help of experts in our community, can we lobby for meaningful change in forest management.**

**YES! I'd like to help support the
Logan Canyon Education Campaign**

"The last word in ignorance is the person who says..."

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"The last word in ignorance is the person who says of an animal 'what good is it?' If the land mechanism as a whole is good, then every part is good, whether we understand it or not...who but a fool would discard seemingly useless parts? To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of intelligent tinkering."

— Aldo Leopold

YES! I'd like to help support the Logan Canyon Education Campaign
Your contributions go directly to continuing education projects for saving Logan Canyon.

☐ Here's a tax deductible contribution

☐ Send _____ copies of the newsletter to redistribute

☐ Put me on your e-mail list

☐ Put me on the mailing list

☐ Bridgerland Audubon

☐ Cache Anglers

☐ Citizens for the Protection of Logan Canyon

☐ Logan Canyon Coalition

☐ All the above

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Logan Canyon Education Campaign
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