



# *Old Spanish National Historic Trail*

Recreation & Development Strategy

Iron County, Utah—October, 2014



NATIONAL  
CONSERVATION  
LANDS





# Old Spanish National Historic Trail

## Recreation & Development Strategy

Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Utah State Office

### Prepared For:

The Bureau of Land Management, Cedar City Field Office  
The Old Spanish Trail Association, Southern Utah Chapter

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October, 2014



Above: Old Spanish Trail Sign, Three Peaks Recreation Area.  
Cover Page: Top photo: Mouth of Little Creek Canyon. Bottom photo: Antelope Spring.

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# Note To The Reader

National Historic Trails are trails that have a historical significance to the nation, and can only be designated by an act of Congress. There are currently 19 National Historic Trails in the United States.

In 1968, the National Trails System Act, which is intended to provide for the outdoor recreation needs of the public, opened the door to federal involvement in all types of trails. Today, the Bureau of Land Management, along with the National Park Service and National Forest Service, are responsible for the administration and management of National Historic Trails.

The purpose of this document is to guide decision makers in bringing the Old Spanish National Historic trail to life, in Iron County, so that it becomes a valuable educational and recreational asset for residents and visitors alike. It is not a decisional document, but a guiding document for future efforts to mark, improve, interpret and utilize the trail.

In order to accomplish this goal, a design charrette was organized and took place June 26-27, 2014. Professionals and private parties from various backgrounds met together to discuss the trail and identify a recreational route through Iron county. An open house was also held on August 19, 2014, where feedback was given and collected.

Although the recreational route isn't the exact path traveled by traders and pioneers, it follows the route as closely as possible. Prime locations along this route were identified for the addition of trail heads, waysides, overlooks, campgrounds, and kiosks. The addition of these elements will make the trail accessible to the public and provide opportunities to interact with and learn about the National Historic Old Spanish Trail.

The Recreational Route is a route that can currently be traveled in its entirety in an Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV). Most of the route can also be followed in a regular low clearance vehicle.



Small group discussion at the charrette on June 26, 2014.



Large group discussion at the charrette on June 26, 2014.

# Recreation & Development Strategy

## Participants

Name	Organization	Title
Rob Sweeten	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	Old Spanish Trail Administrator, Utah Historic Trails Lead
Michael Knight	BLM/American Conservation Experience (ACE)	Historic Trails Intern
Ivan Contreras	BLM/ACE	Landscape Architect Intern
Jared Lundquist	BLM/ACE	Landscape Architect Intern
Dave Jacobsen	BLM	Recreation Planner
Caleb Smith	BLM	Southern Utah University Intern
Leisel Whitmore	BLM	Southern Utah University Intern
Col. Al Matheson	Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA)	Utah State Director, Southern Utah Chapter President
Leo Lyman	OSTA	Tres Trails Chapter President
Nancy Williams	OSTA	Tres Trails Chapter Member
Franklin Nichols	Private land owner	
Rob Dotson	Enoch City	City Manager
Maria Twitchell	County Tourism Bureau	Executive Director of Tourism Bureau
Kent Page	School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA)	County Planner
Nate Thomas	BLM	State Archeologist
Jaime Palmer	BLM	Cedar City Field Office Archeologist
Mike Worthen	Iron County	Natural Resource Specialist



# Explanation of Document Sections

The **Project Overview** section of this document gives background information and defines project boundaries. It also illustrates how the portion of trail running through Iron County was divided into 15 segments. Lastly, this section provides typical recreation facilities that could be implemented along the trail.

The **Trail Segment Details** section of the document studies each trail segment individually. Each trail segment is shown on a map and then described in detail. Existing and proposed trail elements, such as inscriptions, trailheads, and waysides, are shown. Connections to other recreational/cultural resources in close proximity to the trail are also identified. Trail segments that were determined to have a high-use potential are labeled, “Potential High-Use Segment”.

The ‘Segment Properties’ box, seen in the example below, is included for each trail segment. It is a quick reference for facts and other information about the segment.

## Segment Properties Box Example

### Majority Property Holders:

Private, BLM, FS, State

Lists who primarily owns the land surrounding the designated recreational route, which is important for planning purposes.

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 5



Indicates how much potential for recreation and/or interpretation exists along the recreational route for each segment individually. This was ranked on a 1-10 scale (10 being high) by participant’s in the initial planning meeting.

### Historic Integrity Score: 5



Indicates how closely the landscape setting resembles what would have been there during the trails period of significance (1829-1848). This was ranked on a 1-10 scale (10 being high) by participant’s in the initial planning meeting.

### Total Length:

approx. 10 mi.

Total length of the segment.

### Existing Trail Elements:

- 1 Example
- 2 Example
- 3 Example

Lists any existing trail element from the Old Spanish Trail such as ruts and inscriptions, remaining from the period of significance. Also lists signs or recreational facilities that are specifically tied to the National Historic Old Spanish Trail in some way.

### Proposed Trail Elements:

- 4 Example
- 5 Example
- 6 Example

Lists proposed trail elements such as interpretive structures and trailheads that were discussed as appropriate for specific locations along the trail.

### Important Connections:

- a Example
- b Example
- c Example

Lists connections to other recreational or cultural resources in the area that could be accessed by people using the recreational route.

The **Appendix** section contains a visual resource inventory for reference. It also includes a viewshed analysis that was conducted along the congressional route. A preliminary cost estimate is included for certain proposed trail elements as well as a trail sign plan.



OHV in Little Creek Canyon.



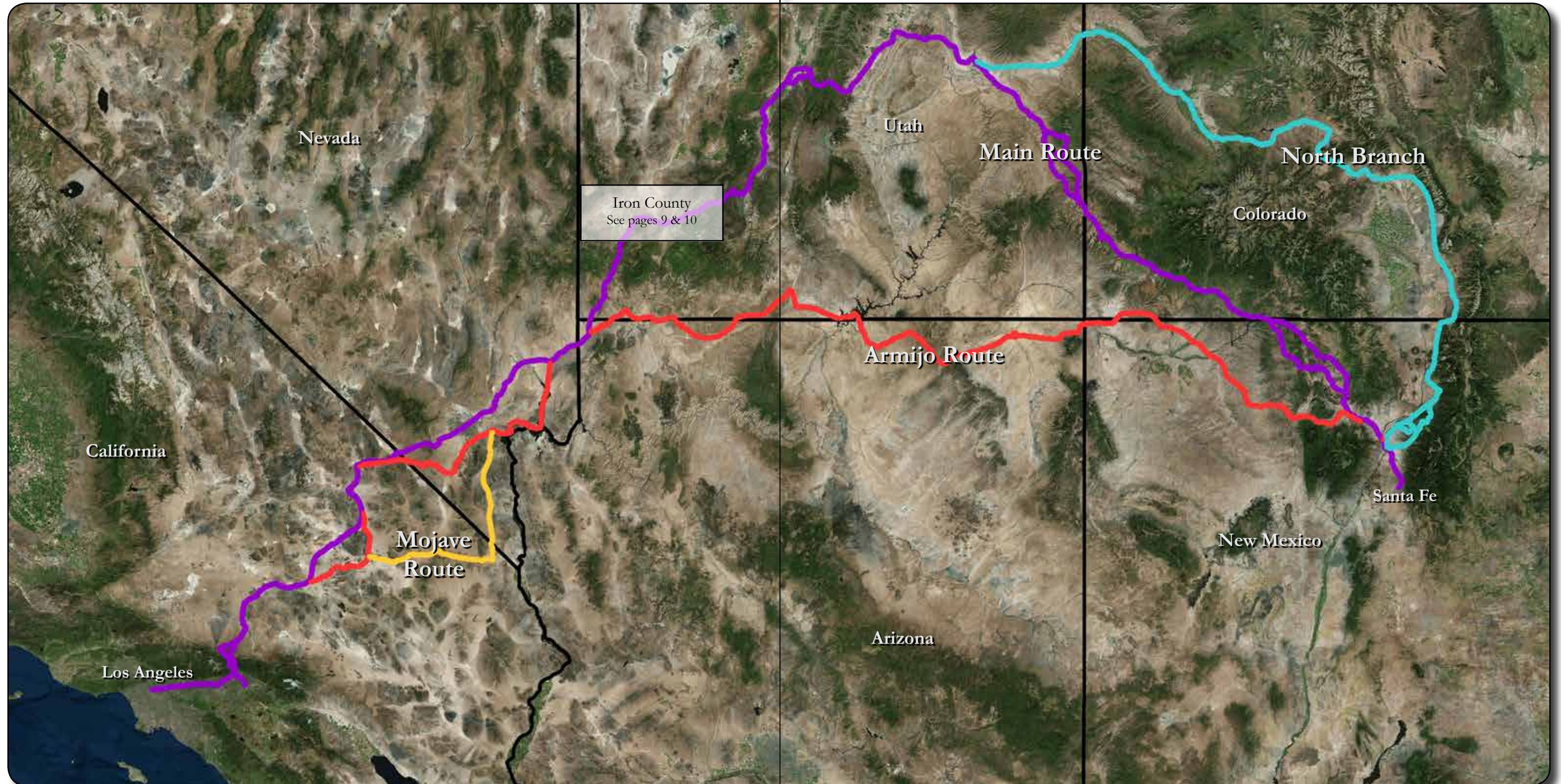


*Project Overview*

*Spring, Parowan Heritage Park.*



# Old Spanish Trail Map



This map shows the Old Spanish Trail running from Santa Fe, New Mexico, to Los Angeles, California. Iron County is shown in southwestern Utah.

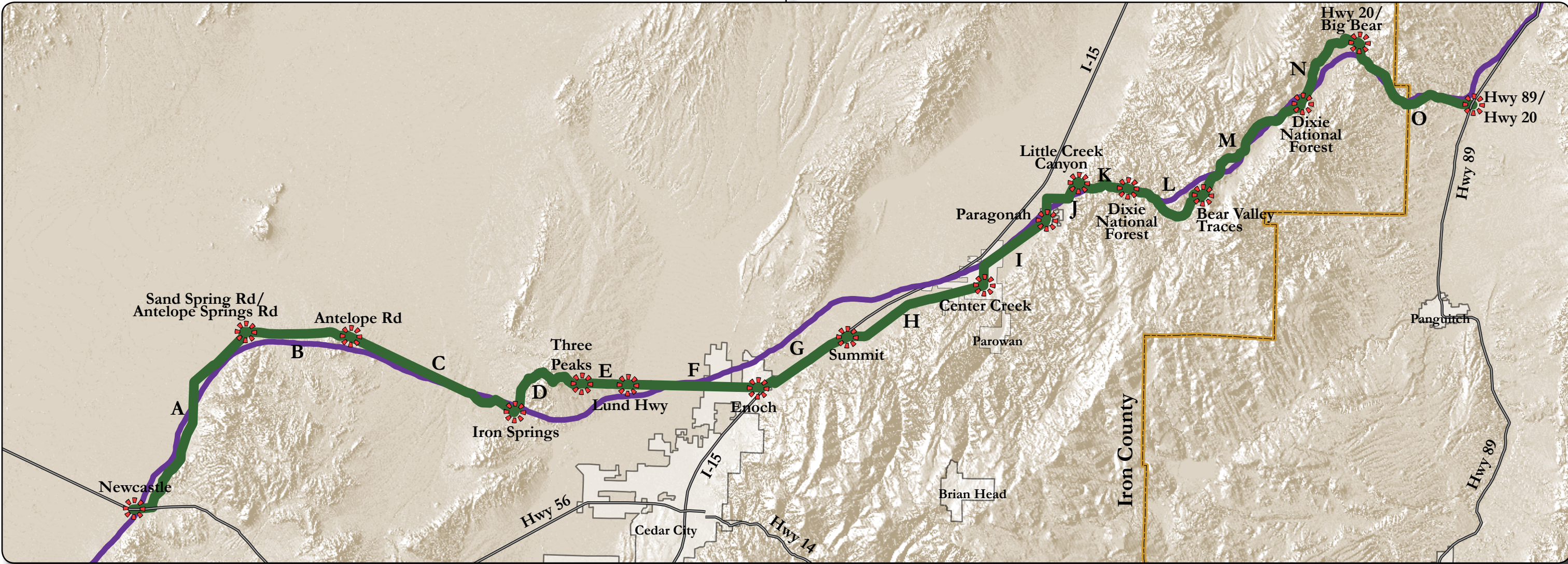
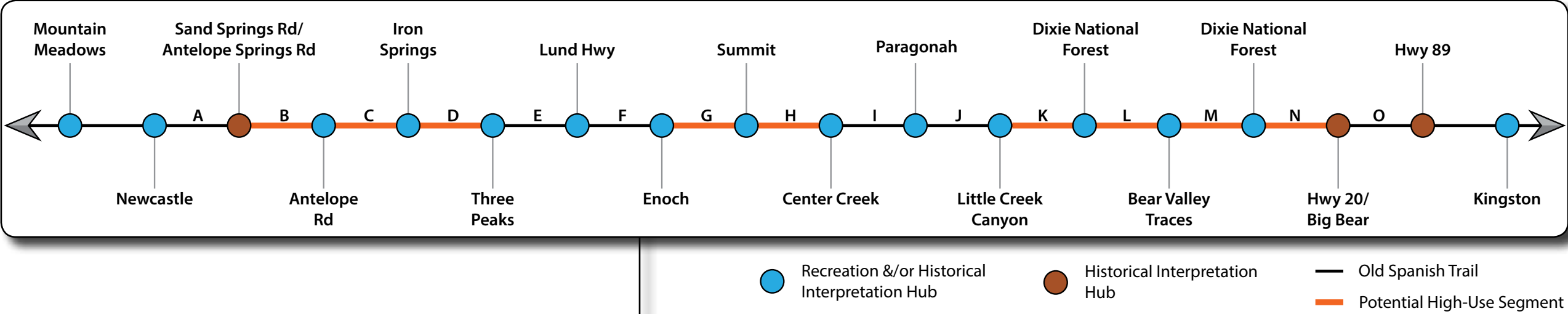
The Old Spanish National Historic Trail was designated by Congress in 2002. It is a historical trade route. Sheep, hides, and woolen products from New Mexico were traded for mules and horses from California. It was also used in the westward migration by emigrants from Missouri.



# Trail Diagram and Recreational Route Map

The diagram to the right shows how the trail was divided into segments and named during the charrette. The hubs are significant points along the trail where Old Spanish Trail interpretation can be placed and where connections can be made to other cultural, historical, or recreational sites.

The map below shows the segments and hubs along the recreation route. The Congressional Route is shown in purple.





# Typical Trail Elements

The following typical trail elements can help bring the trail to life. Trailheads, waysides, overlooks, campgrounds, kiosks, and interpretive structures all make the trail and its history accessible. The goal is to enable people to explore the Old Spanish Trail and the surrounding landscape.

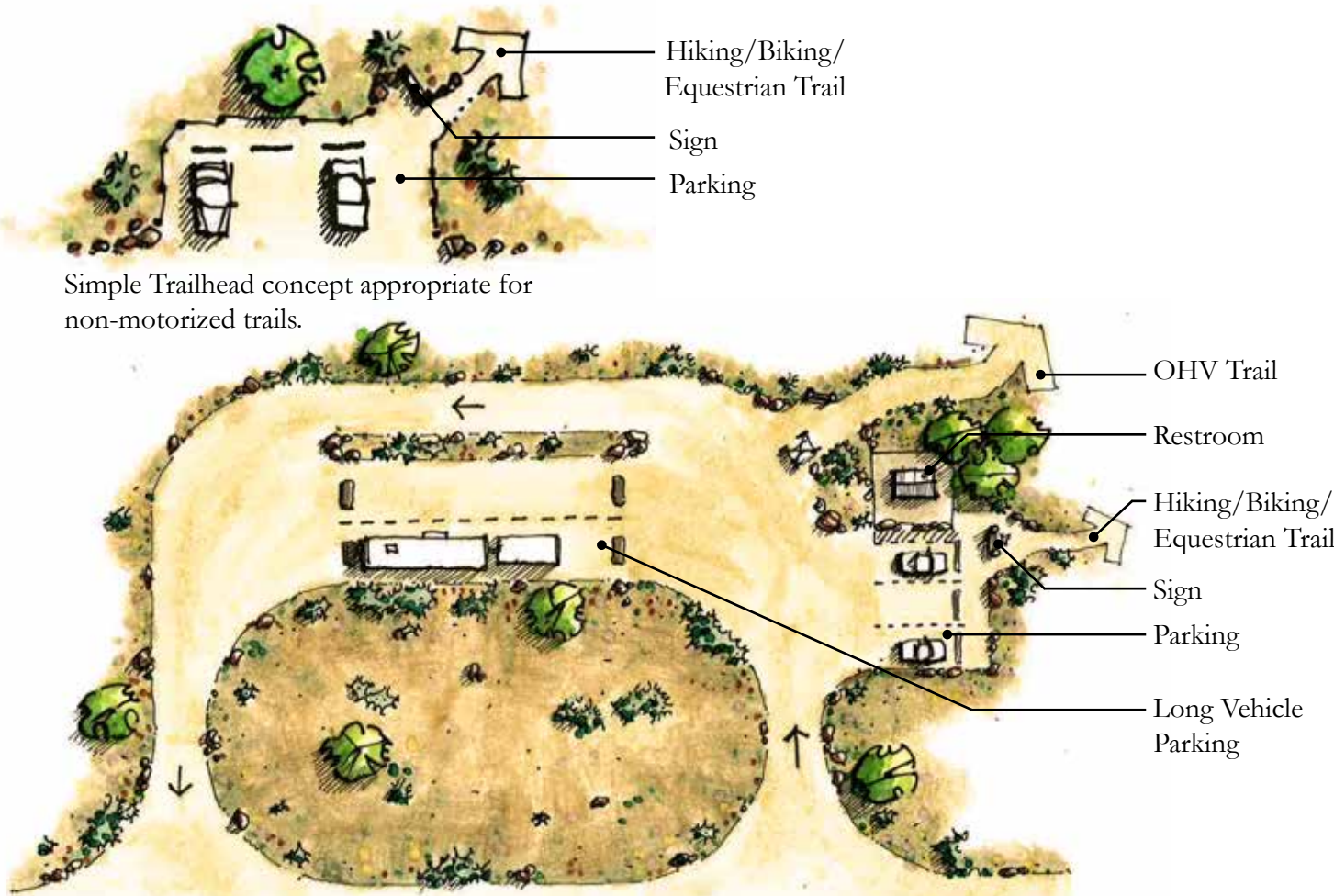
## Trailhead

Trailheads are placed at the beginning of a trail. They typically include parking, restrooms, and directional signage. They may also include staging areas, interpretive structures, shade structures, benches, picnic tables, etc. Trailheads differ depending on the type and usage frequency of the trail they are built for.

For the Old Spanish Trail in Iron County, trailheads should be placed at points along the trail where someone could park their vehicle and then experience the trail by hiking, biking, OHV riding, on horseback, etc.



Fisher Towers National Recreation Trail, Moab, Utah.



Multi-Use Trailhead concept appropriate for OHV, Hiking, Biking, Equestrian, etc., trails.

## Wayside & Overlook

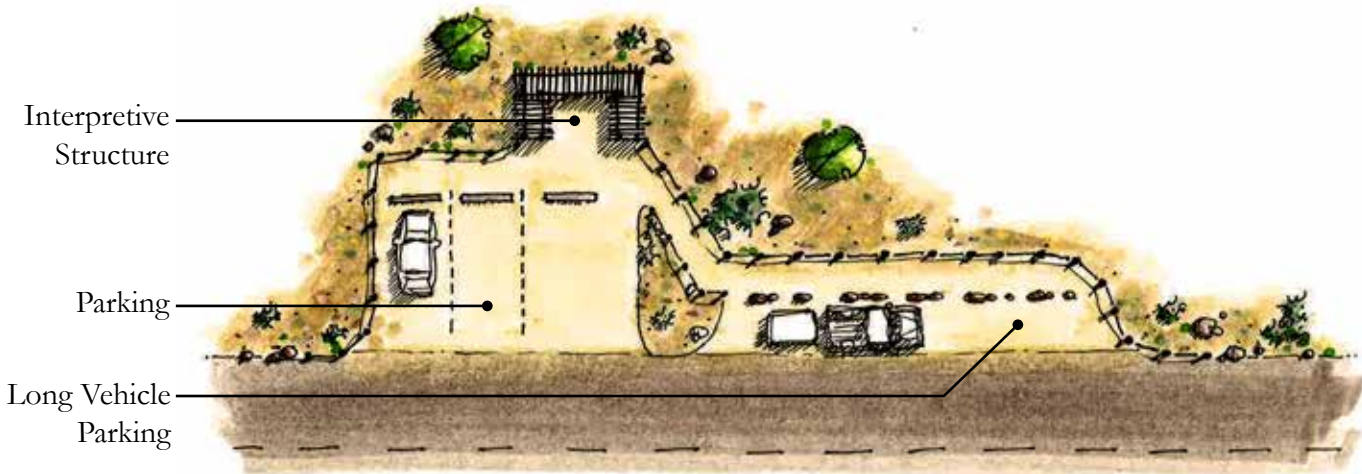
Waysides and overlooks are areas along the trail where people can stop and get out of their vehicle to learn about public lands.

The Old Spanish Trail has a unique and interesting history, so waysides and overlooks provide an opportunity to share this history with the public in the setting where the events took place.

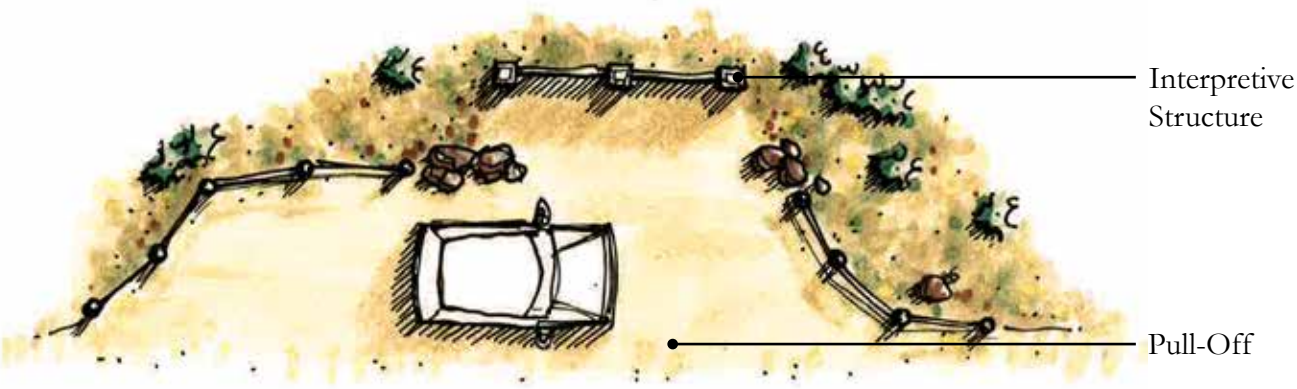
Waysides/overlooks should be placed at locations that are easy to access from the main route of travel. They can be as simple as a parking spot and a sign, or may be more of a day-use area and include other elements such as restrooms, picnic tables, shade structures, etc.



Colorado River Corridor, Moab, Utah.



Large wayside concept.



Small wayside concept.



# Typical Trail Elements continued

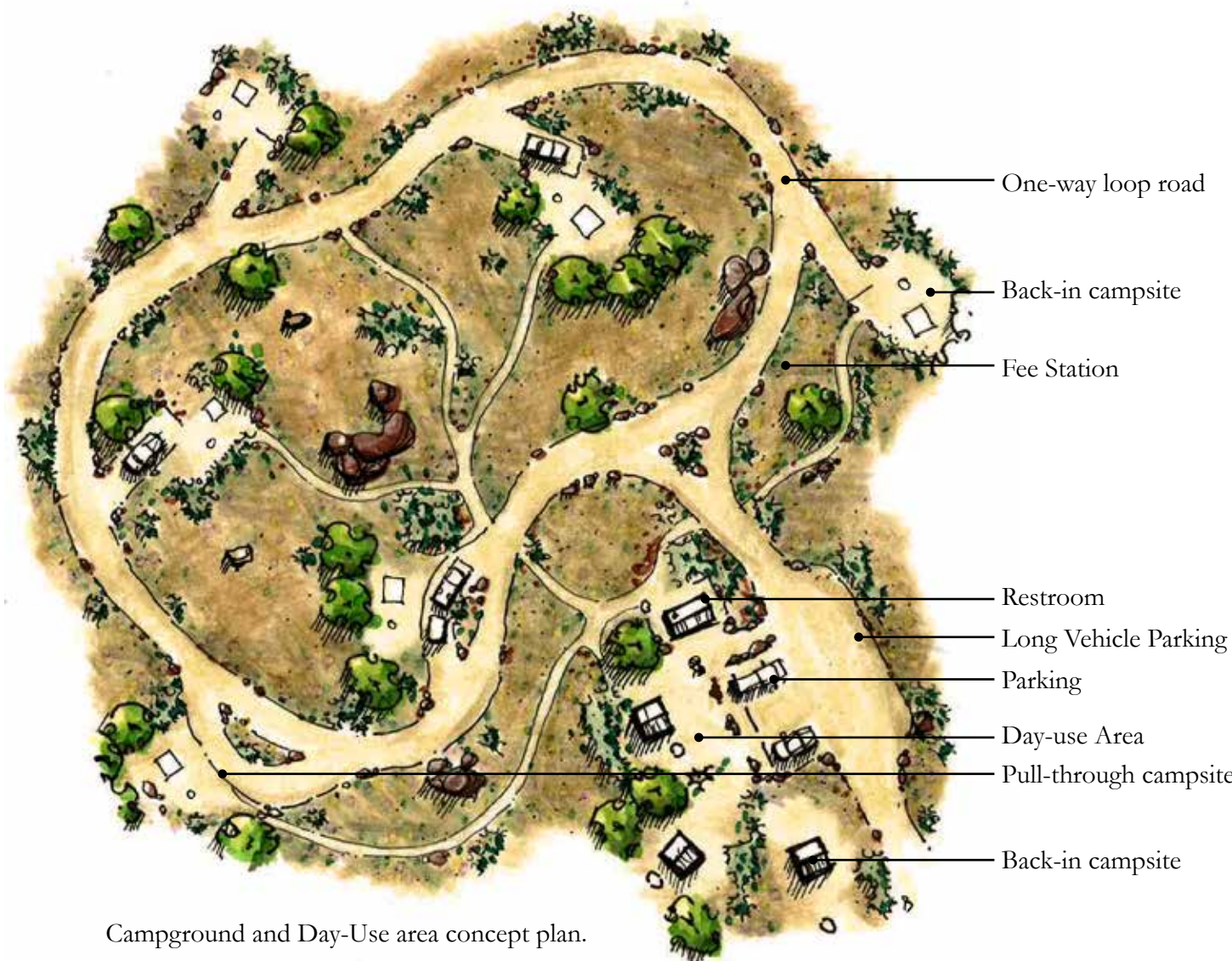
## Campgrounds/Day-Use Areas

Campgrounds provide the opportunity to stay at a location overnight. They may be very simple--a designated area without amenities, or more established--with benches, fire-pits, tent pads, water, restrooms, picnic tables, etc.

There are several locations along the Old Spanish Trail in Iron County where campgrounds could be established. These could be tied into the recreational route of the trail.



Horse Thief Campground, Moab, Utah.



Campground and Day-Use area concept plan.

## Kiosks & Interpretive Structures

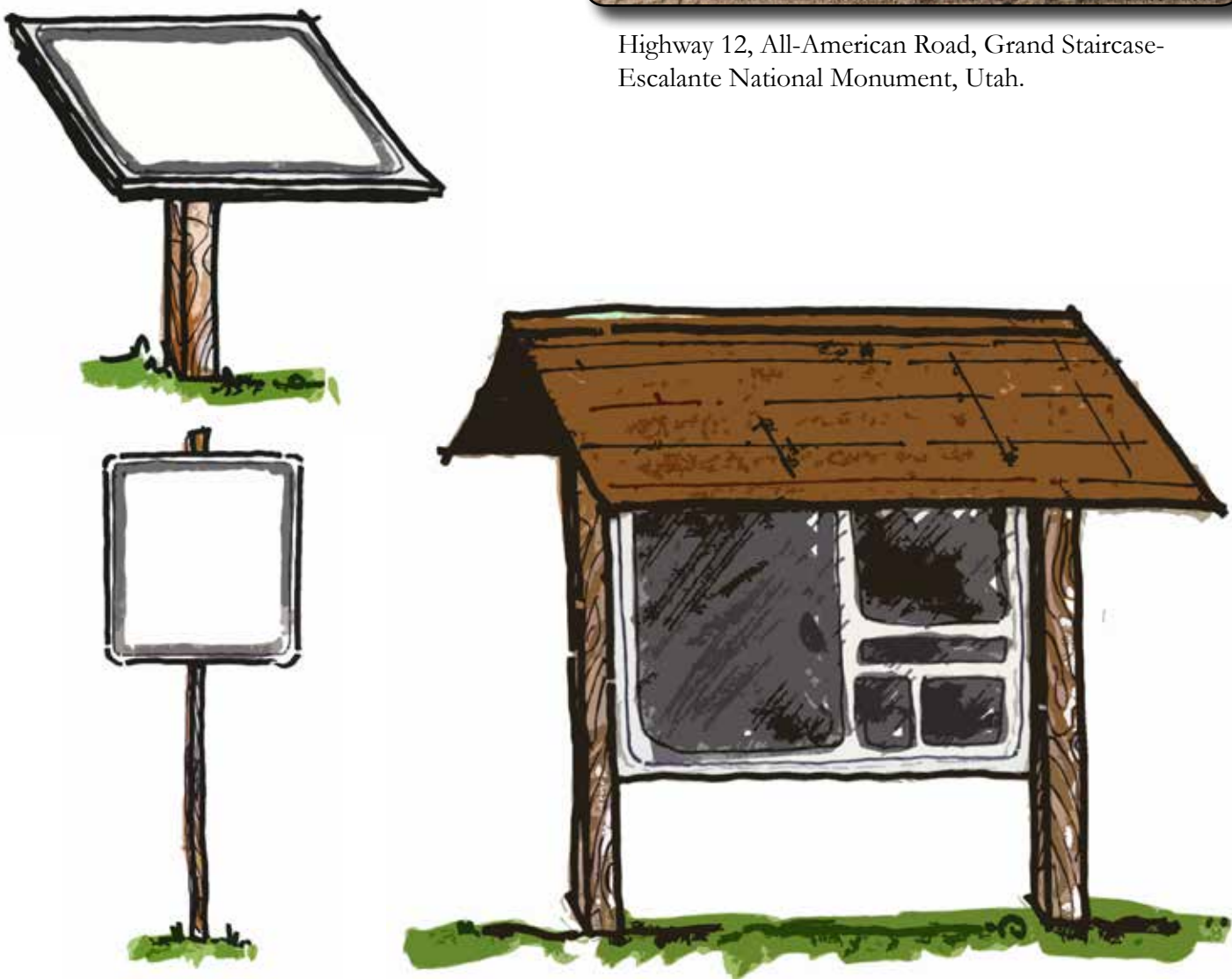
Kiosks and interpretive structures provide the opportunity to educate people about history and the landscape.

The Old Spanish Trail has a unique history which creates many opportunities to bring the trail to life through interpretation and kiosks.

These may be placed anywhere along the trail individually, or as features of trailheads, waysides, overlooks and campgrounds.



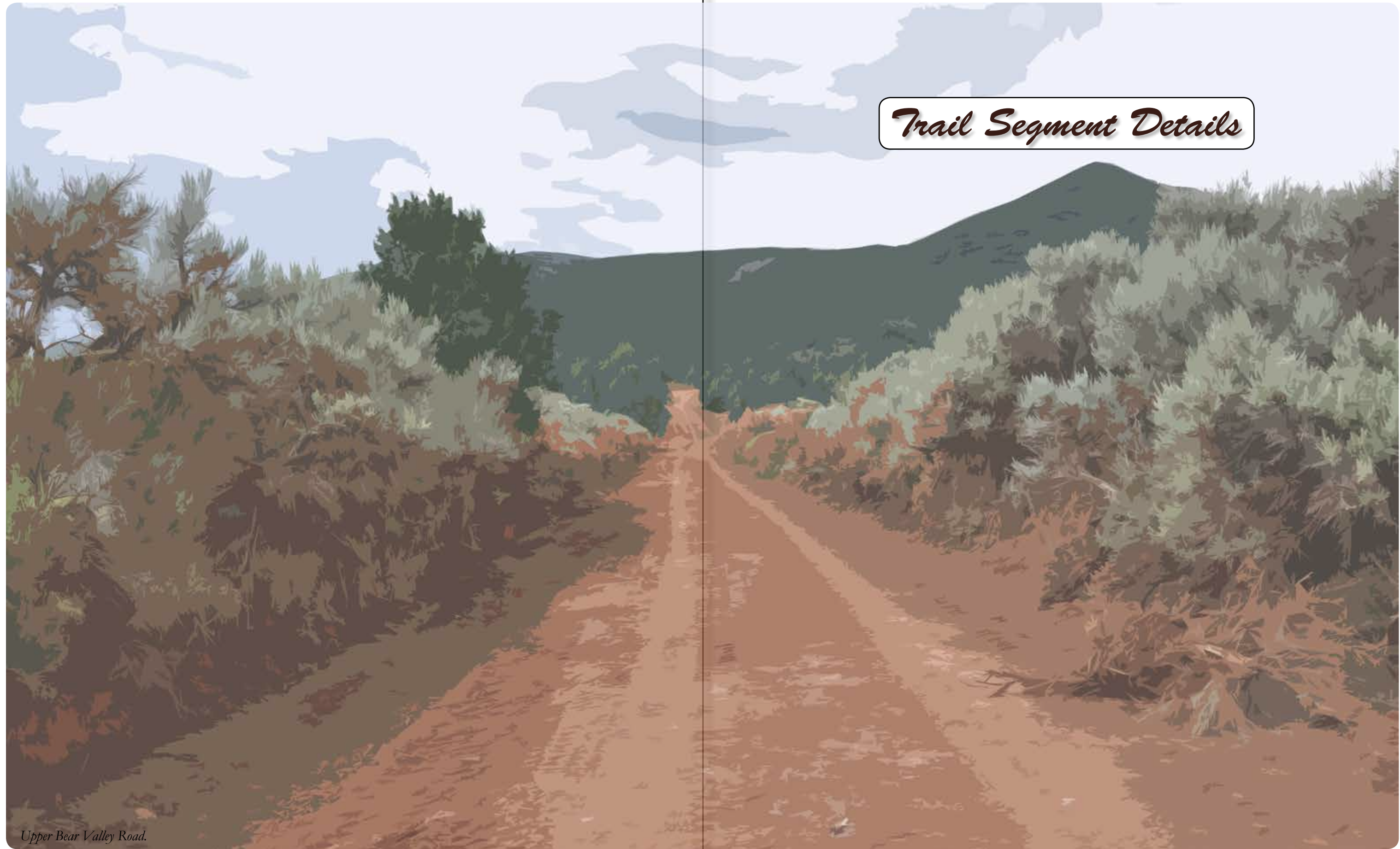
Highway 12, All-American Road, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Utah.



Interpretive structures and signage concepts.



*Trail Segment Details*

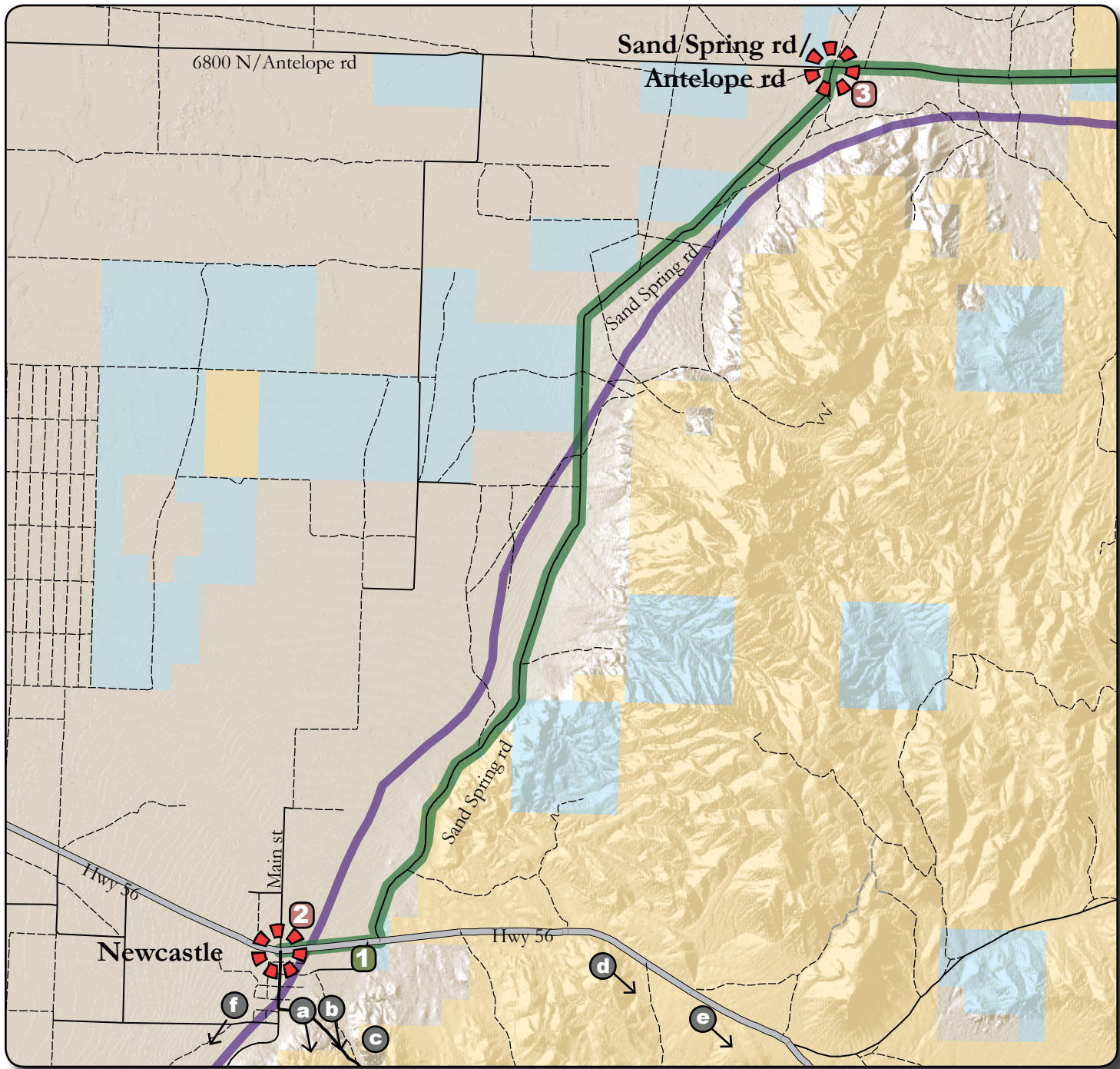


*Upper Bear Valley Road.*



# Newcastle Segment—A

## Recreation Route Map



**Description:** The Newcastle segment has several important connections to historical sites and recreation opportunities at the Newcastle hub. It is important to note that at the Sand Spring Road/Antelope Road Hub there is currently a closed gate.

- Hubs
- Recreation Route
- Alternate Route
- Congressional Route
- Interstate / Federal Roads
- State Roads
- County Roads
- Dirt Roads
- 4WD Roads
- Municipal Boundaries
- BLM
- USFS
- Private
- State Trust Lands
- State Wildlife Reserve

## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

Private

### Recreation/Interpretive

**Potential Score:** 5



**Historic Integrity Score:** 3



**Total Length:**

approx. 10.8 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

**1** Monument & Interpretation

### Proposed Trail Elements:

**2** Interpretation

**3** Directional Signage

### Important Connections:

- a** Pine Valley Recreation
- b** Pinto (Historic Town)
- c** New Castle Reservoir
- d** Lion's Mouth Cave
- e** Old Iron Town
- f** Jefferson-Hunt



Typical trail condition and setting along the New Castle segment.



Typical scenic quality along the New Castle segment.



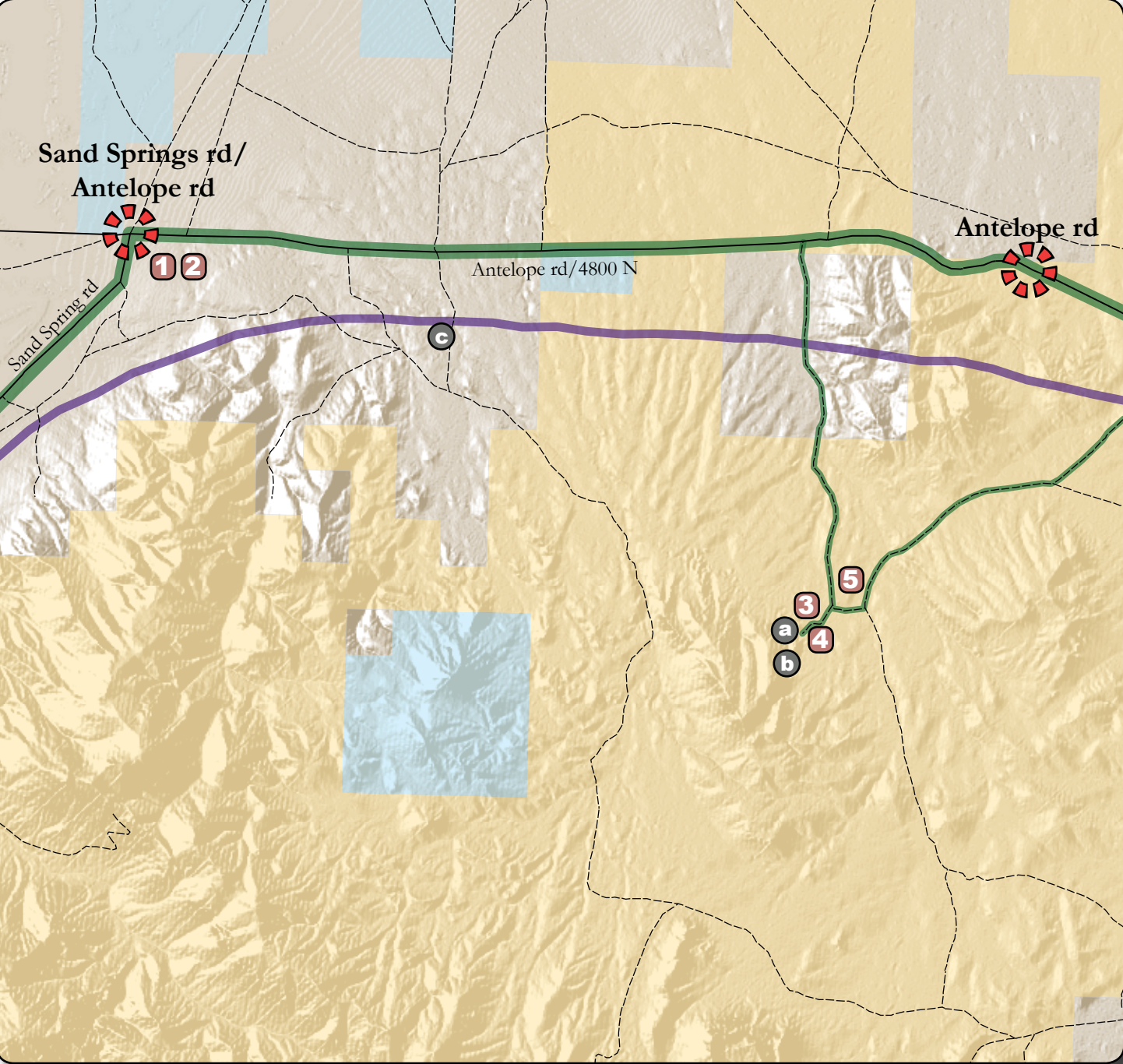
**Proposed Trail Element 2.** This gas station in Newcastle is the Southwest end of the recreational route and is a great spot for interpretation. There is an existing mural depicting a traveler along the Old Spanish Trail.



# Antelope Spring Segment—B

## Recreation Route Map

\*Potential High-Use Segment



**Description:** The Antelope Spring segment has an excellent opportunity for a developed campground with hiking and equestrian trails in Antelope Basin. There are also cultural sites near the proposed campground including a cave used by Native Americans. With these developments, there is a potential for large numbers of users.



## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

Private, BLM

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 6



Historic Integrity Score: 5



### Total Length:

approx. 1.7 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

None

### Proposed Trail Elements:

- 1 Directional Signage
- 2 Interpretation
- 3 Campground
- 4 Trailhead & Hiking Trail
- 5 Equestrian Trails

### Important Connections:

- a Council Cove
- b Petroglyphs
- c Antelope Spring



Typical trail condition and setting along the Antelope segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Antelope segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Antelope segment.



# Antelope Segment—B



**Proposed Trail Element 2.** Water trough fed by Antelope Spring. This is a proposed location for interpretation.

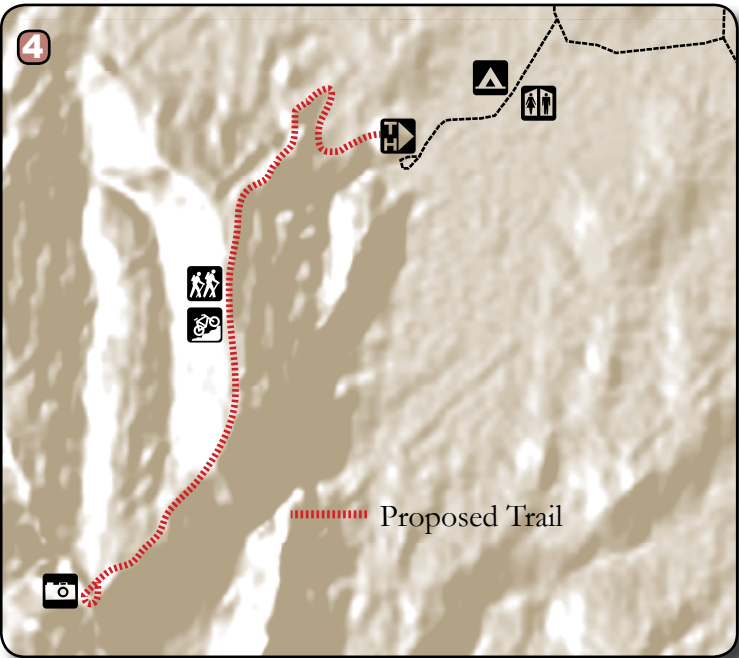
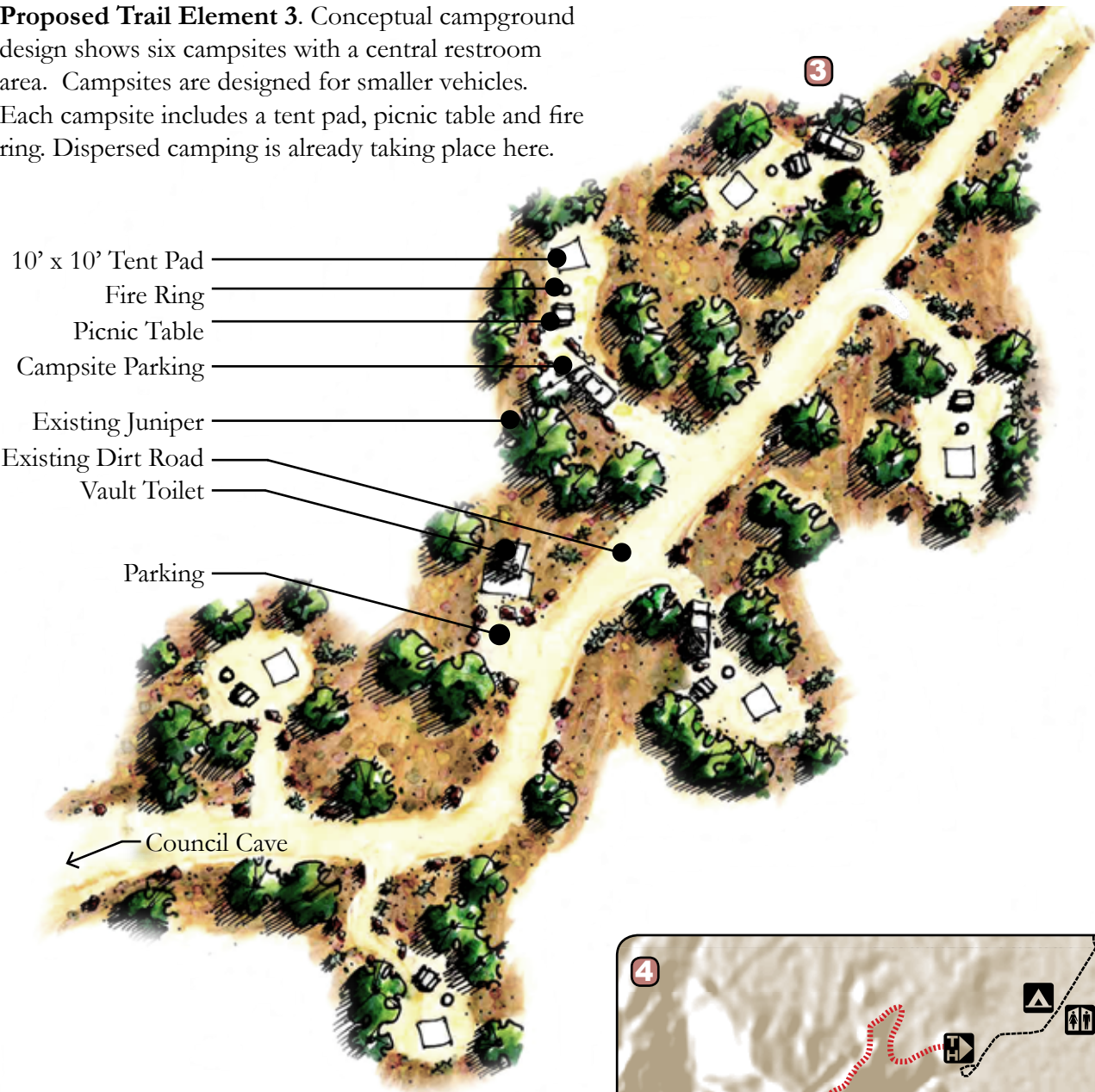


**Important Connection a.** Council Cove is a significant cultural landmark.



**Important Connection a.** This undeveloped campground has potential for development. Old Spanish Trail interpretive panels could be incorporated.

**Proposed Trail Element 3.** Conceptual campground design shows six campsites with a central restroom area. Campsites are designed for smaller vehicles. Each campsite includes a tent pad, picnic table and fire ring. Dispersed camping is already taking place here.



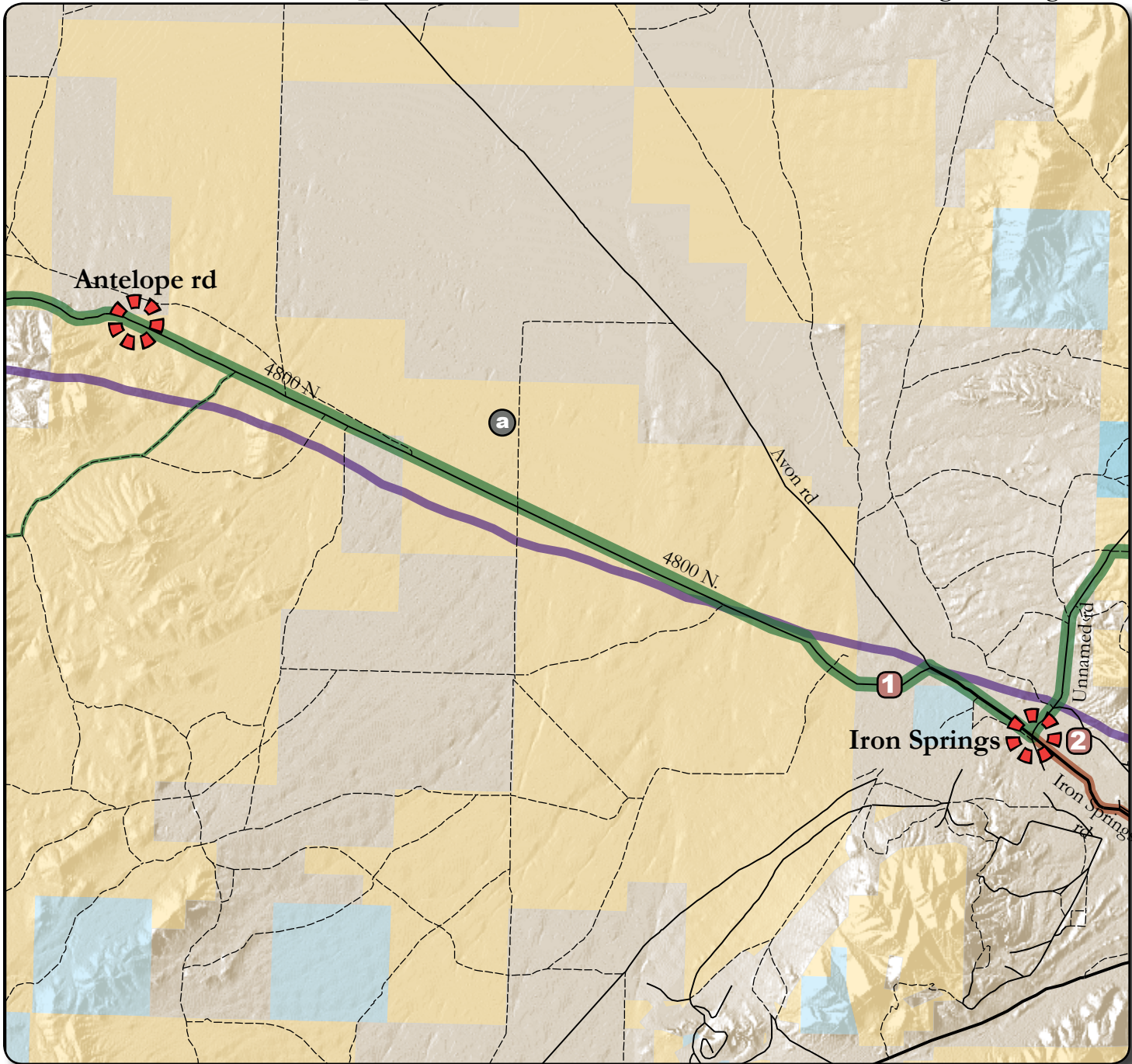
**Proposed Trail Element 4.** A short hike to the top of a peak near Council Cove would offer views of the surrounding landscape where the Old Spanish Trail cuts through.



# Iron Springs Segment—C

## Recreation Route Map

\*Potential High-Use Segment



**Description:** The Iron Springs segment has an excellent view of what the valley would have looked like during the period of significance. This segment could potentially have a lot of users because it connects Three Peaks Recreation area and Antelope Basin.

- |                            |                      |                        |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Hubs                       | State Roads          | BLM                    |
| Recreation Route           | County Roads         | USFS                   |
| Alternate Route            | Dirt Roads           | Private                |
| Congressional Route        | 4WD Roads            | State Trust Lands      |
| Interstate / Federal Roads | Municipal Boundaries | State Wildlife Reserve |

## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

BLM

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 7.5



### Historic Integrity Score: 9



### Total Length:

approx. 11.8 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

None

### Proposed Trail Elements:

- 1 Multi-Use Trail
- 2 Wayside

### Important Connections:

- a View-100 miles



Typical trail condition and setting along the Iron Springs segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Iron Springs segment.



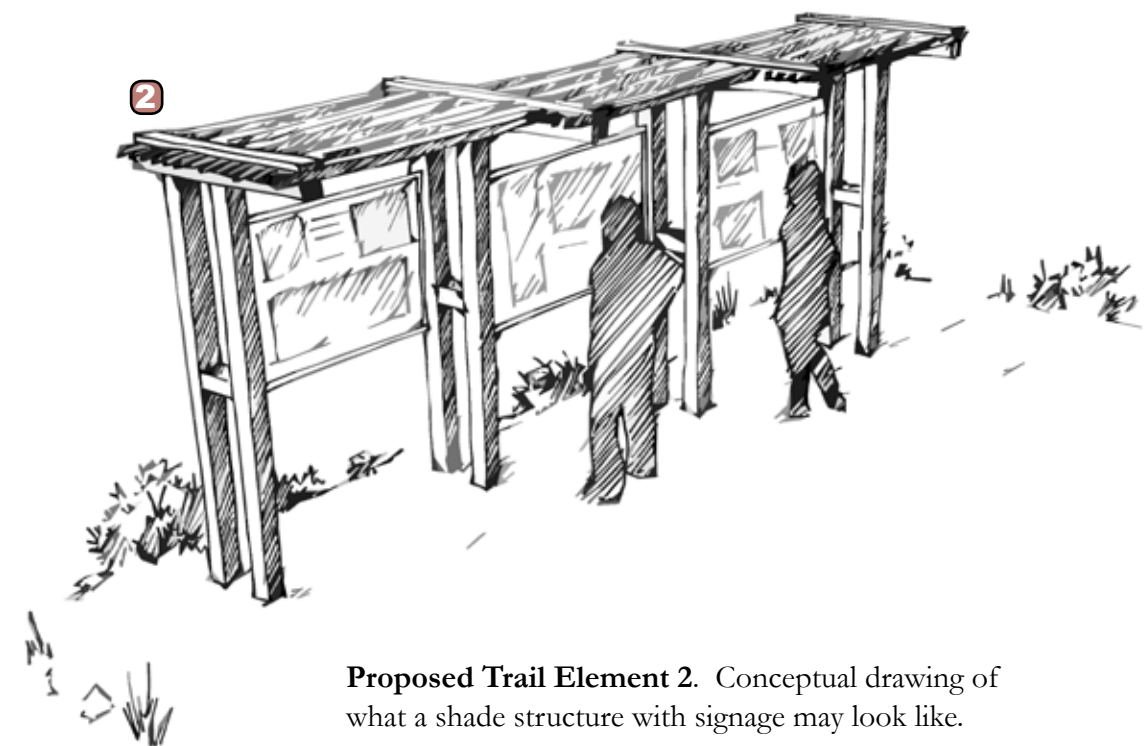
Typical scenic quality along the Iron Springs segment.



# Iron Springs Segment—C



**Proposed Trail Element 2.** Location for the hub between the Iron Springs and Three Peaks segments. A kiosk or interpretive signage could be placed here as part of a wayside exhibit.



**Proposed Trail Element 2.** Conceptual drawing of what a shade structure with signage may look like.

## Old Spanish Trail Wayside Concept



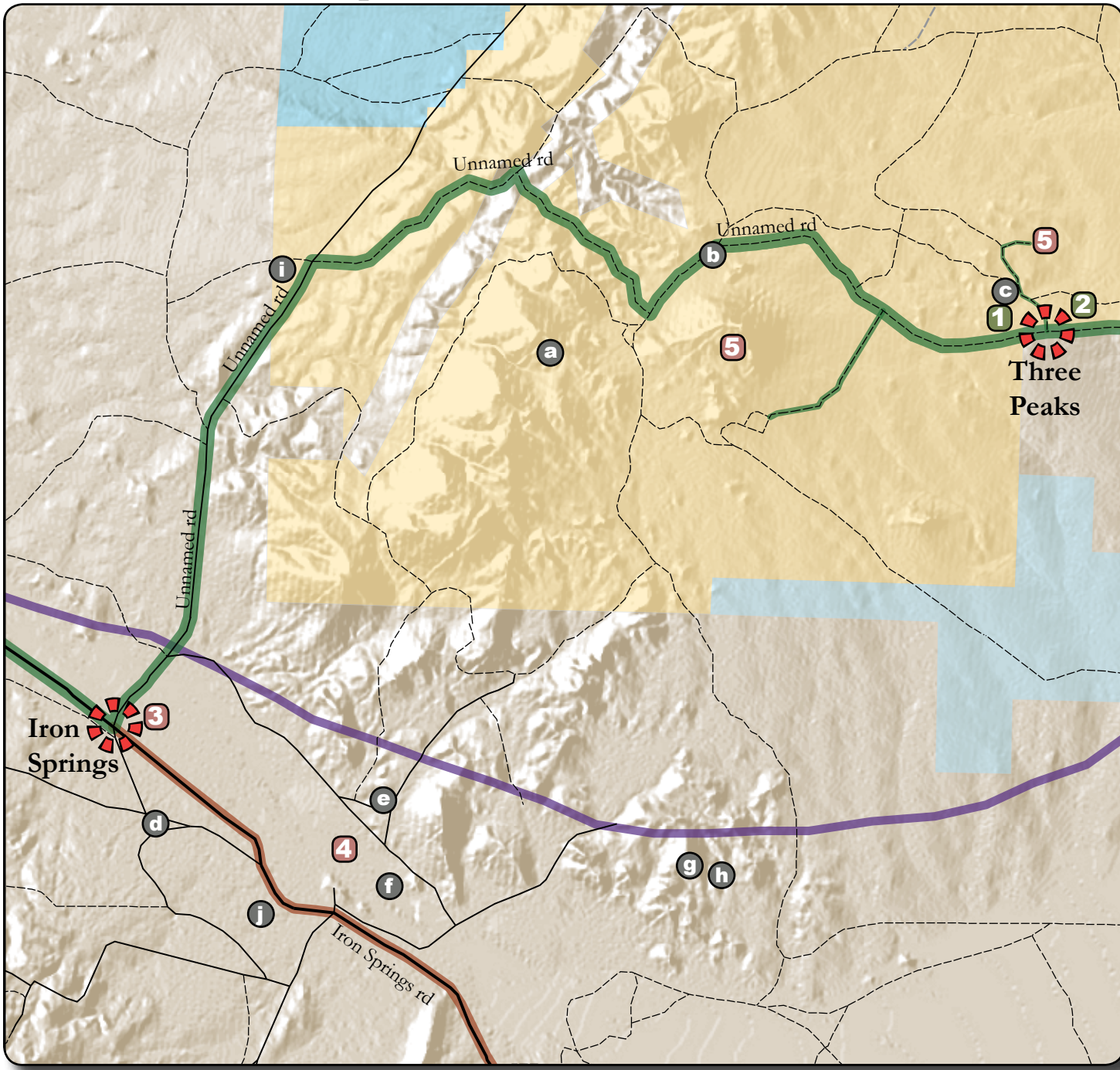
**Proposed Trail Element 2.** Concept plan for a wayside exhibit. It includes parking, interpretive signage incorporated into a shade structure, a bench, and a trash receptacle.



# Three Peaks Segment—D

## Recreation Route Map

\*Potential High-Use Segment



**Description:** The Three Peaks segment is an opportunity to connect a major recreation area with the trail. Directing the recreation route through Three Peaks would add historical significance to the already used OHV trail. This segment of trail requires a high-clearance vehicle.

- |                            |                      |                        |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Hubs                       | State Roads          | BLM                    |
| Recreation Route           | County Roads         | USFS                   |
| Alternate Route            | Dirt Roads           | Private                |
| Congressional Route        | 4WD Roads            | State Trust Lands      |
| Interstate / Federal Roads | Municipal Boundaries | State Wildlife Reserve |

## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

BLM, Private

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 9



Historic Integrity Score: 6



Total Length:

approx. 4.5 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

- Old Spanish Trail Sign
- Parking & Day Use

### Proposed Trail Elements:

- Wayside
- Private Interpretation ventures
- Overlook

### Important Connections:

- Three Peaks Recreation Area
- OHV High Desert Trail
- OHV Staging Area
- Iron Town & Leach Road
- Iron Mines
- Iron Spring
- Pinnacle
- Inscriptions
- Regional Sports Shooting Range
- Parley P. Pratt



Typical trail condition and setting along the Three Peaks segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Three Peaks segment.



**Existing Trail Element 1.** BLM Old Spanish Trail Sign located next to the road in the Three Peaks Recreational area.



# Three Peaks Segment—D



Existing Trail Element 2. Trailhead and parking area with signage, picnic area and restrooms.

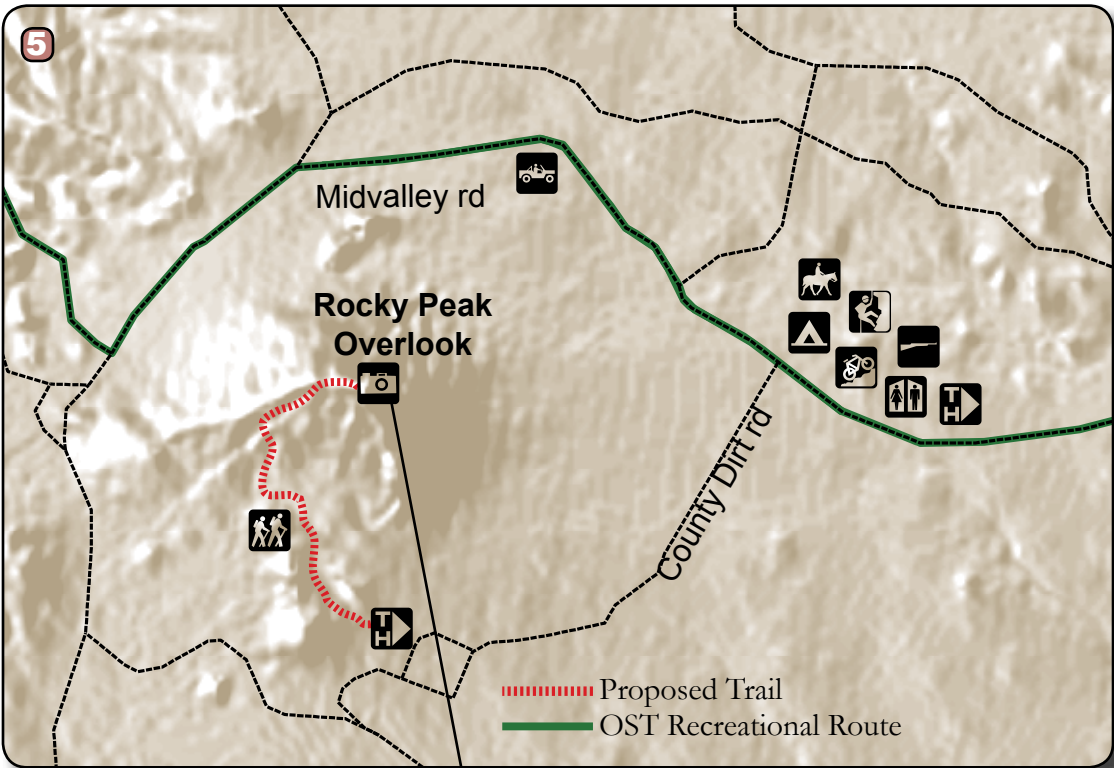


Proposed Trail Element 4. Private land owners near this trail segment are interested in re-creating trail experiences for people traveling the trail.



Proposed Trail Element 5. Panorama of the Three Peaks Recreation Area near the Iron County R&PP large pavilion. This vantage point provides a great view of the valley where the Old Spanish Trail cuts through. An overlook would work great here with some interpretive panels.

## Rocky Peak Overlook and Hiking Trails Concept



Proposed Trail Element 5. Proposed hiking trail leading to the proposed Old Spanish Trail Overlook.

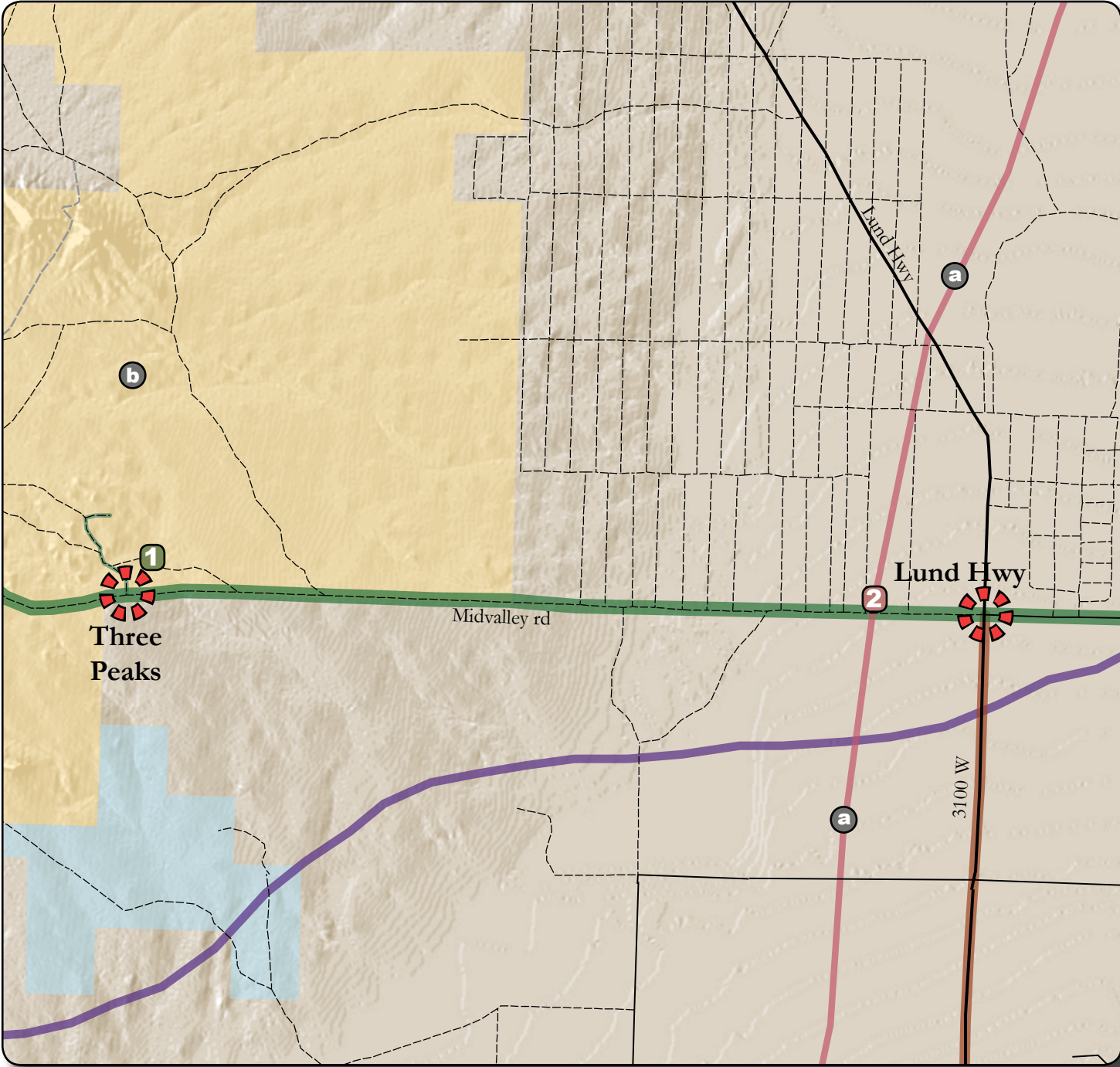


Proposed Trail Element 5. Rendering of what the overlook may look like.



# Midvalley Segment—E

## Recreation Route Map



**Description:** The Midvalley segment has an important connection to the Dominguez/Escalante Historic Trail. An alternate route for this segment bypasses Three Peaks enabling low-clearance vehicles to continue following the trail.

## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

BLM, Private

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 5



### Historic Integrity Score: 6



### Total Length:

approx. 3.6 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

1 Parking & Day Use

### Proposed Trail Elements:

2 Interpretation at Dominguez/  
Escalante Trail Intersection

### Important Connections:

- a Dominguez-Escalante Historic Trail
- b Three Peaks Recreation



Typical trail condition and setting along the Midvalley segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Midvalley segment.

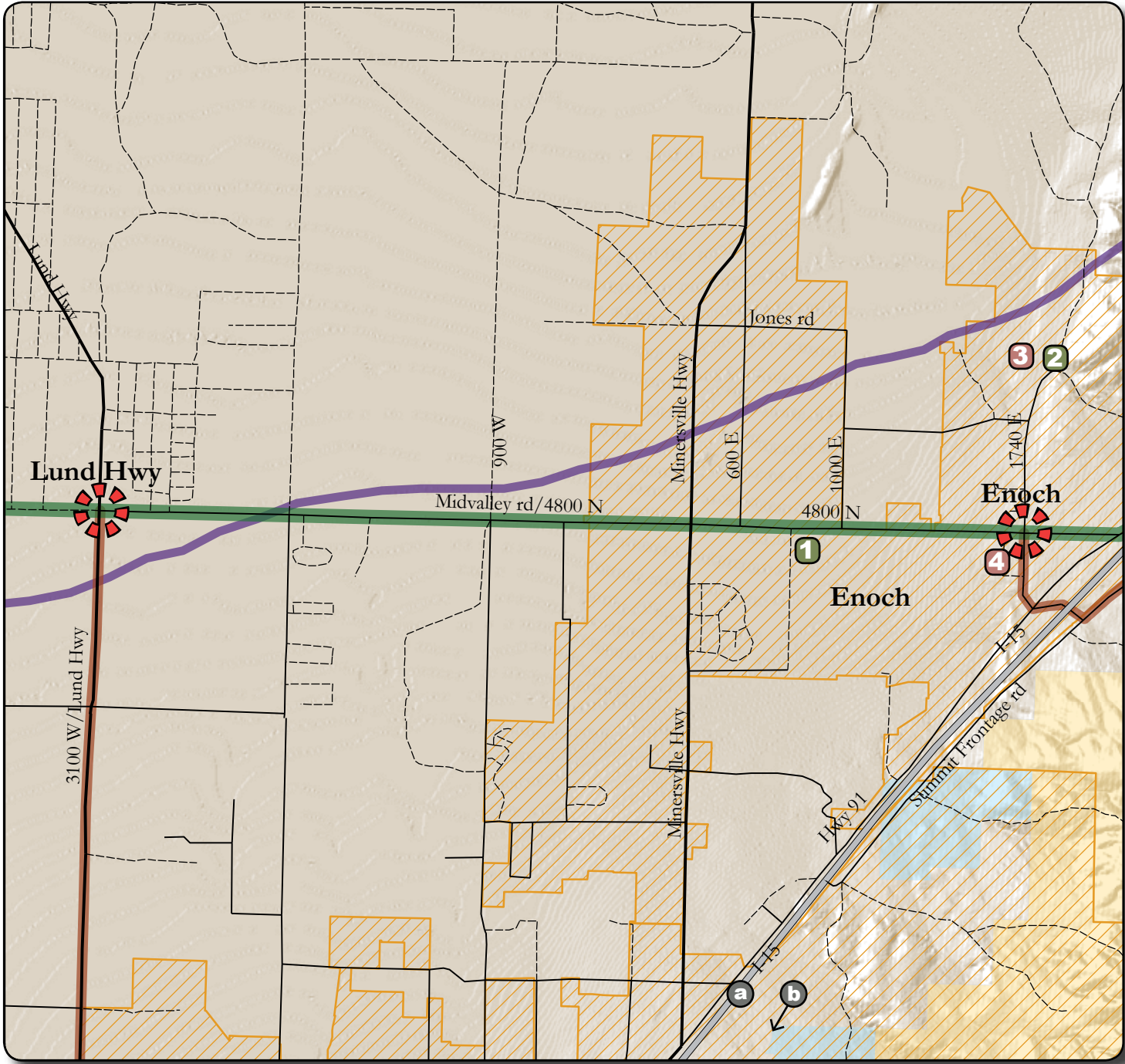


**Important Connection b.** Directional sign showing some of the recreational opportunities in this area.



# Enoch Segment—F

## Recreation Route Map



**Description:** The Enoch segment has important connections to Cedar City, Utah and the Frontier Heritage Museum. This segment is the primary location for education and advertisement of the trail. Enoch has proposed an Old Spanish Trail Museum several years into the future, that if built, will be a major part of the Enoch hub.

- Hubs
- Recreation Route
- Alternate Route
- Congressional Route
- Interstate / Federal Roads
- State Roads
- County Roads
- Dirt Roads
- 4WD Roads
- Municipal Boundaries
- BLM
- USFS
- Private
- State Trust Lands
- State Wildlife Reserve

## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

Private

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 6



### Historic Integrity Score: 2



### Total Length:

approx. 8.3 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

- Swale and Interpretive Panel
- Interpretive Panel/Enoch Spring

### Proposed Trail Elements:

- Old Spanish Trail Museum(Enoch)
- Interpretation at Jones Memorial Park

### Important Connections:

- Cedar City
- Frontier Heritage Museum



Typical trail condition and setting along the Enoch segment.



**Existing Trail Element 1.** This Interpretive panel is at the Enoch City Hall and adjacent to an existing trail trace.



**Proposed Trail Element 4.** Jones Memorial Park in Enoch is the hub between trail segments F & G. Small interpretive or directional signage could be placed here.



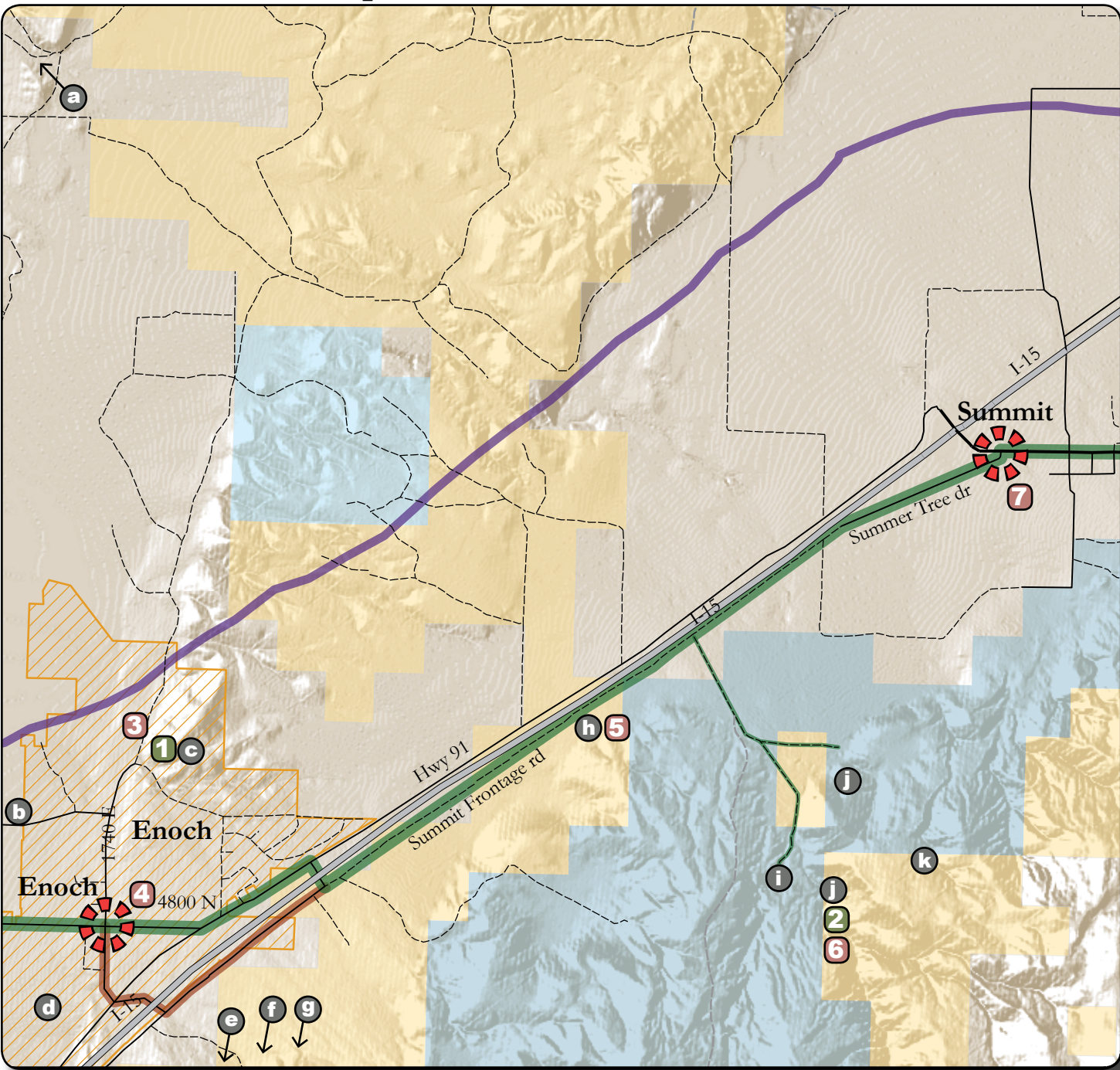
**Proposed Trail Element 3.** Rendering of the proposed Old Spanish Trail Museum in Enoch.



# Braffit's Segment—G

## Recreation Route Map

\*Potential High-Use Segment



**Description:** The Braffit's segment has a major connection to a significant cultural site with an inscription from the period of significance. There are opportunities for hiking trails and campsites in Braffit's Canyon. Even though there is a low historic integrity score along the trail, Braffit's Canyon is still intact and relatively undisturbed.

- |                            |                      |                        |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Hubs                       | State Roads          | BLM                    |
| Recreation Route           | County Roads         | USFS                   |
| Alternate Route            | Dirt Roads           | Private                |
| Congressional Route        | 4WD Roads            | State Trust Lands      |
| Interstate / Federal Roads | Municipal Boundaries | State Wildlife Reserve |

## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

Private, BLM

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 9



### Historic Integrity Score: 1



### Total Length:

approx. 5.4 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

- 1 Interpretive Panels/Enoch Spring
- 2 Inscription

### Proposed Trail Elements:

- 3 Old Spanish Trail Museum(Enoch)
- 4 Interpretation at Jones Memorial Park
- 5 Interpretation at Wildlife Viewing Area
- 6 Campground and Hiking Trails
- 7 Directional Signage

### Important Connections:

- a Movie Ranch
- b Fort Johnson
- c Enoch Spring monument
- d Cedar City
- e Frontier Heritage Museum
- f Black Ridge Petroglyphs
- g Rush Lake
- h Wildlife Viewing Area
- i Braffit's Canyon
- j Petroglyphs
- k Wynn Canyon



Typical trail condition and setting along the Braffit's segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Braffit's segment.



This tunnel is where the recreational route crosses under I-15.



# Braffit's Segment—G



**Existing Trail Element 3.** Historical marker at Enoch Spring adjacent to Old Spanish Trail Interpretive sign.



**Important Connection j.** Petroglyph's in Braffit's Canyon.



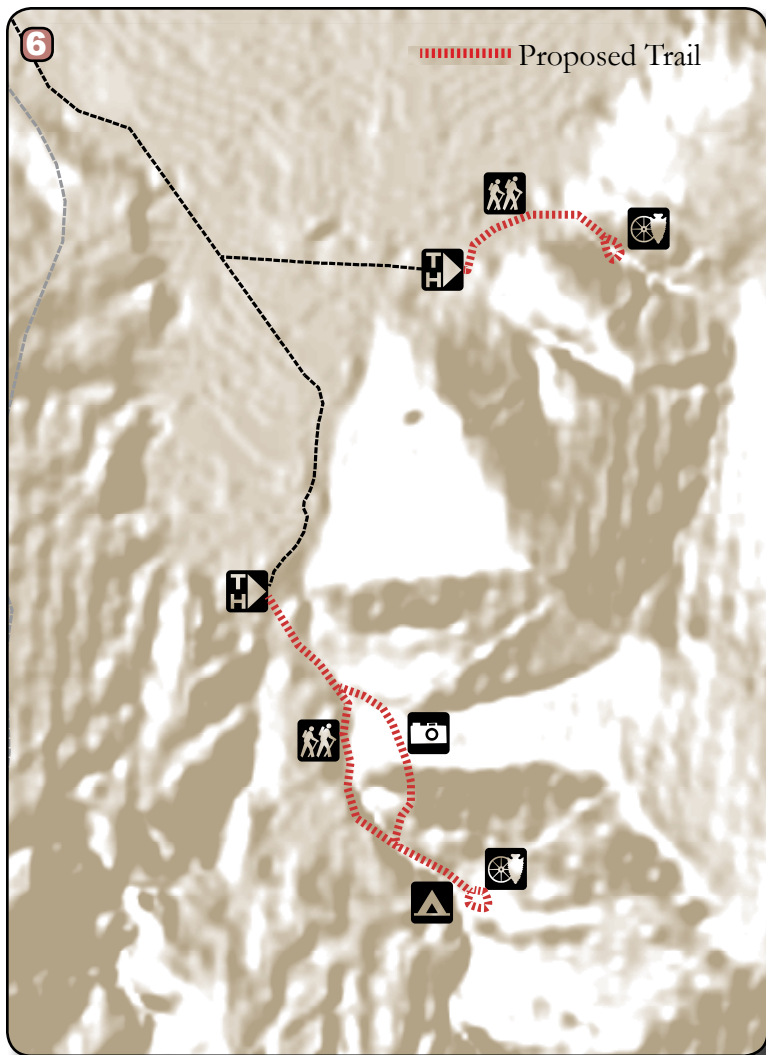
**Existing Trail Element 2.** This inscription in Braffit's canyon is one of the few remaining evidences of the trail during the period of significance.



**Important Connection k.** Wildlife viewing area. This is a proposed location for some interpretive signage about the Old Spanish Trail. This is also close to where the proposed silhouettes would be installed.



**Proposed Trail Element 5.** This is what the proposed silhouettes may look like.



**Proposed Trail Element 6.** Proposed hiking trails in the Braffit's Canyon area.



**Proposed Trail Element 6.** Dispersed camping is proposed at this historically significant area in Braffit's Canyon.



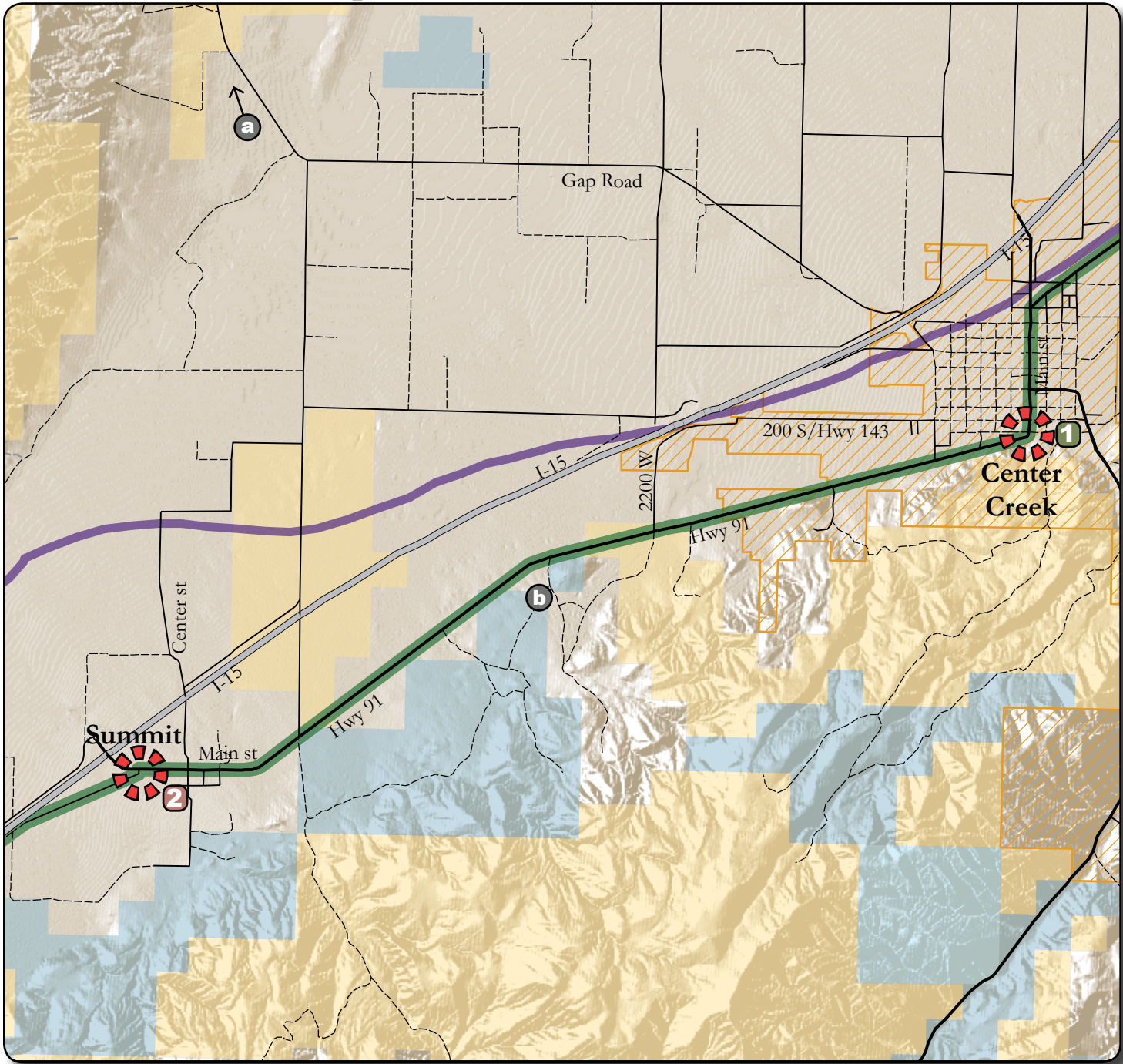
**Important Connection j.** Petroglyphs in Braffit's Canyon.



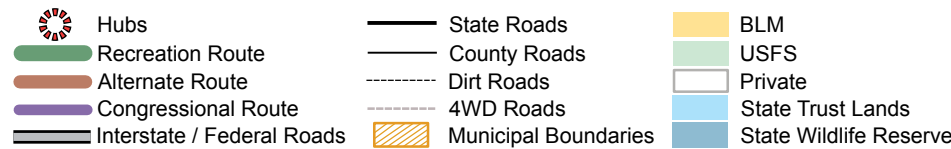
# Summit Segment—H

## Recreation Route Map

\*Potential High-Use Segment



**Description:** The Summit segment has a connection to Parowan Gap which is a major cultural site. There is also an opportunity to capture the I-15 crowd and educate them about the opportunities that the recreational route offers.



## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

Private, BLM

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 5



### Historic Integrity Score: 2



### Total Length:

approx. 6.8 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

1 Parowan Park Interpretation

### Proposed Trail Elements:

2 Directional Signage

### Important Connections:

a Parowan Gap

b Red Canyon



Typical trail condition and setting along the Summit segment.



**Proposed Trail Element 2.** Location where the recreational route turns off of Main Street in Summit and is the location of the Summit Hub. Directional signage could be placed here.

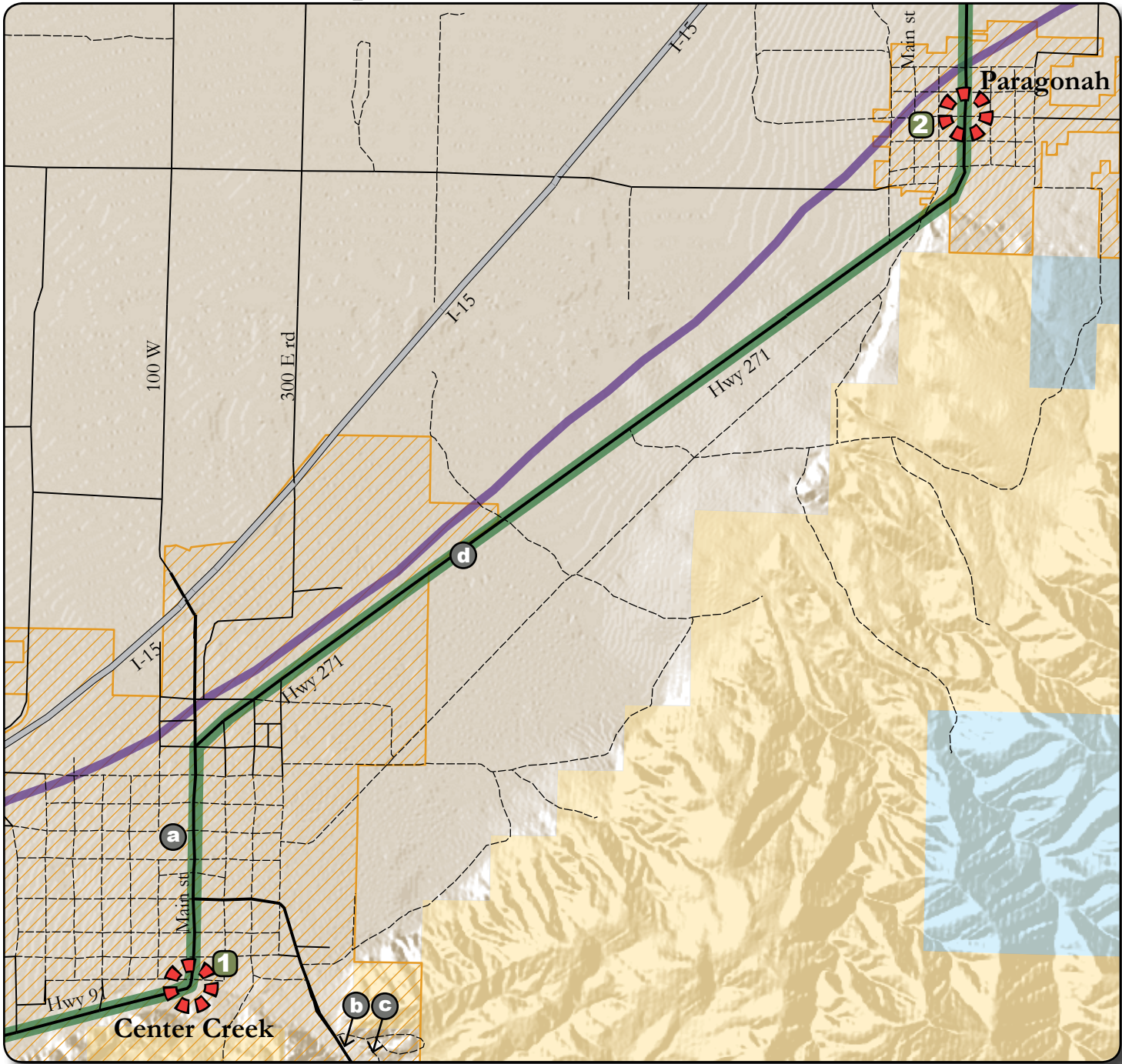


Typical scenic quality along the Summit segment.

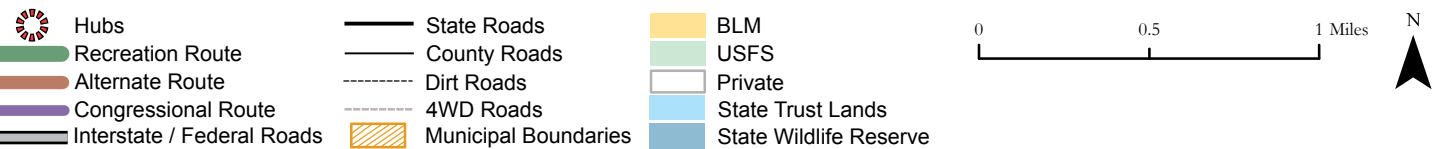


# Parowan Segment—I

## Recreation Route Map



**Description:** The Center Creek Hub has existing interpretation at Parowan Heritage Park. There are connections to the Parowan Museum, Parowan Gap, and Brian Head Resort.



## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

Private

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 3



Historic Integrity Score: 2.5



### Total Length:

approx. 4.9 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

- 1 Parowan Park Interpretation
- 2 Paragonah Interpretive Panel

### Proposed Trail Elements:

None

### Important Connections:

- a Parowan Museum
- b Brian Head Resort
- c Yankee Meadow Lake
- d Multi-Use Trails



Typical trail condition and setting along the Parowan segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Parowan segment.



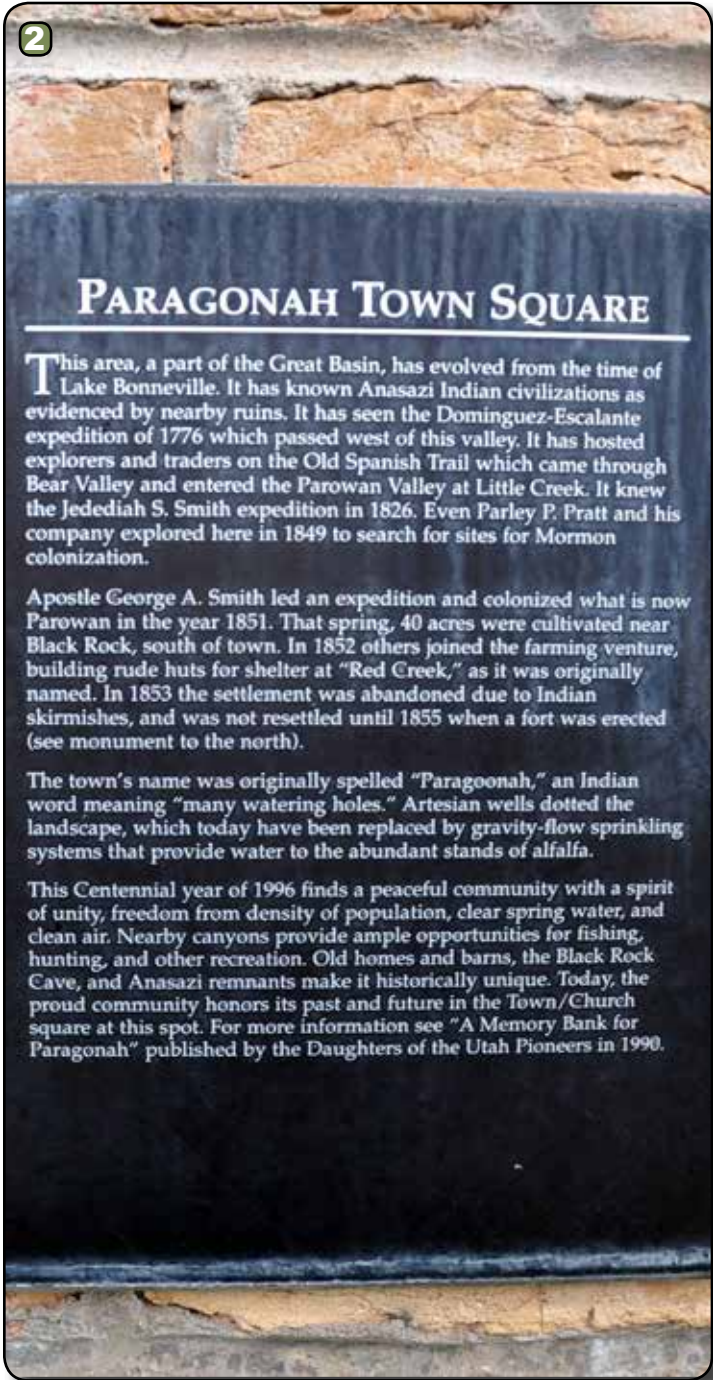
# Parowan Segment—I



Existing Trail Element 1. Parowan Heritage Park..



Existing Trail Element 1. Interpretation located in the Parowan Heritage Park.



Existing Trail Element 2. Historical monument located in the Paragonah Town Square that mentions the Old Spanish Trail.

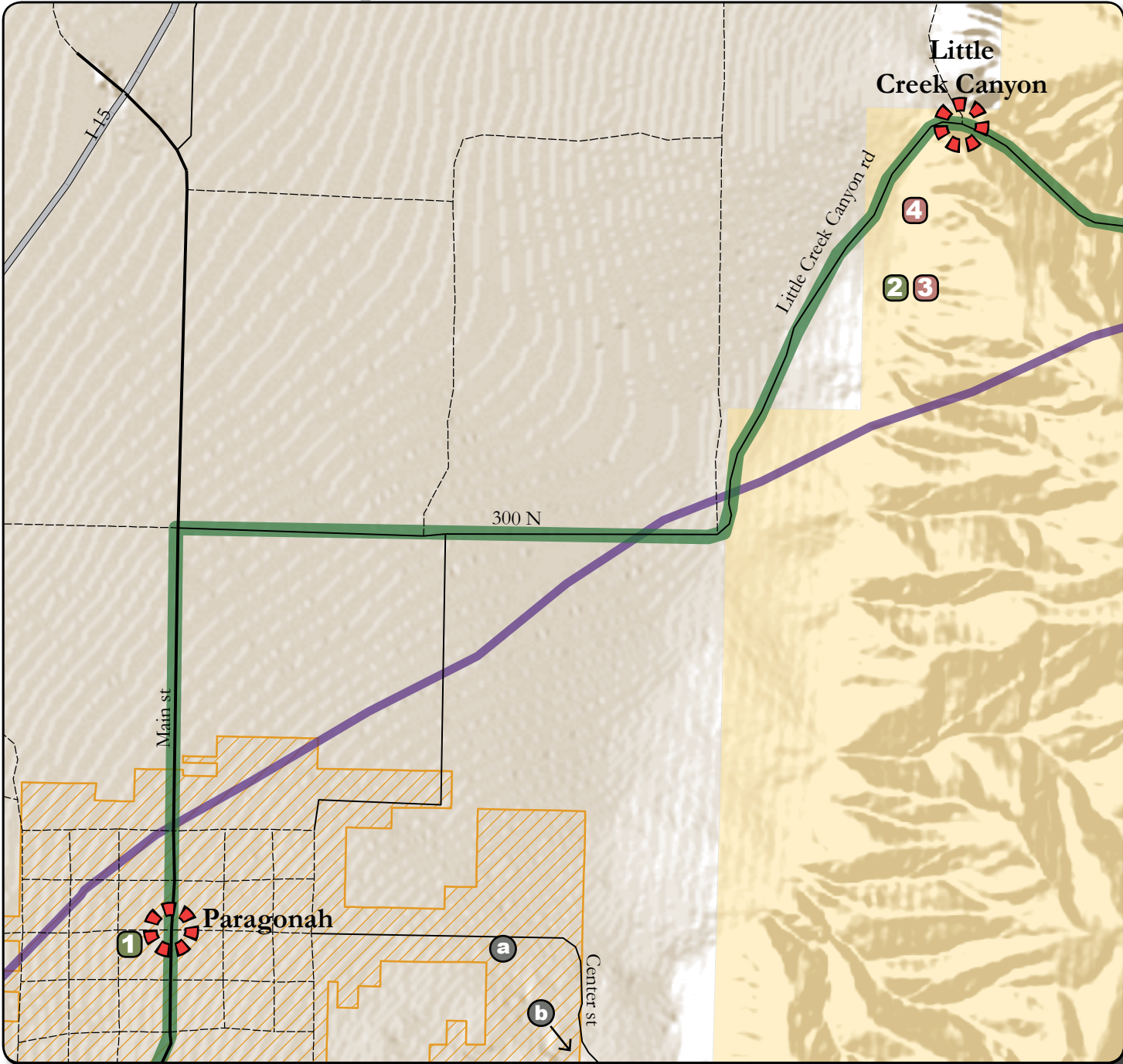


Important Connection b. Old Rock Church Museum in Parowan. Possible interpretation site.



# Paragonah Segment—J

## Recreation Route Map



**Description:** The Paragonah segment passes through the quaint town of Paragonah. There is existing trail trace to the north of the town near the mouth of Little Creek Canyon. This segment serves as a connection to the Little Creek Canyon segment.

- |                            |                      |                        |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Hubs                       | State Roads          | BLM                    |
| Recreation Route           | County Roads         | USFS                   |
| Alternate Route            | Dirt Roads           | Private                |
| Congressional Route        | 4WD Roads            | State Trust Lands      |
| Interstate / Federal Roads | Municipal Boundaries | State Wildlife Reserve |

## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

Private, BLM

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 2



### Historic Integrity Score: 1



### Total Length:

approx. 2.7 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

- 1 Paragonah Interpretive Panel
- 2 Trail Trace

### Proposed Trail Elements:

- 3 Swale Trail & Interpretation
- 4 Hiking/OHV Trailhead

### Important Connections:

- a Red Creek Drive
- b Red Creek Reservoir



Typical trail condition and setting along the Paragonah segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Paragonah segment.



# Paragonah Segment—J

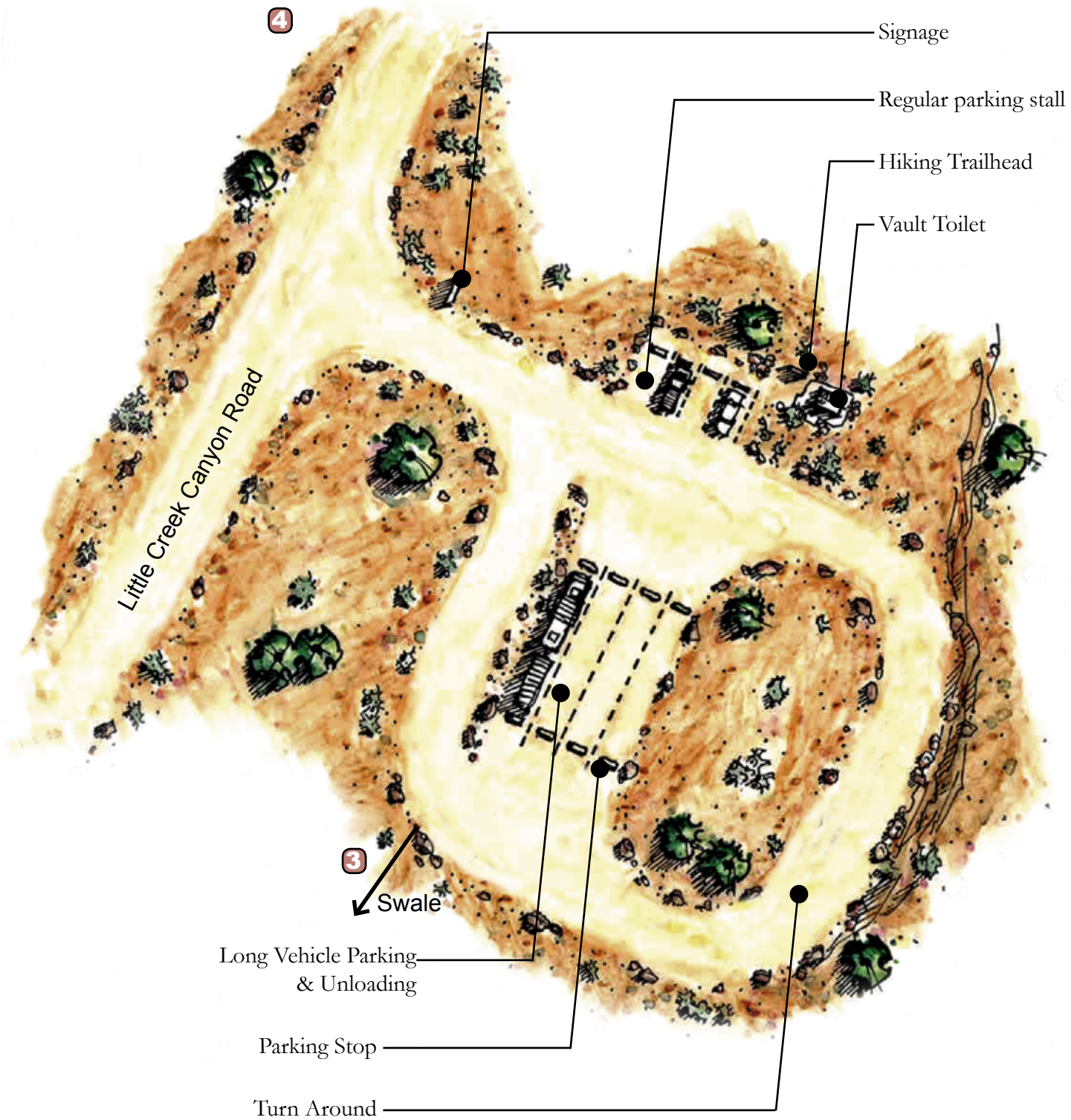


Existing Trail Element 1. Existing Old Spanish Trail swale.



Proposed Trail Element 3. Site for the proposed trailhead.

## Little Creek Trailhead Concept



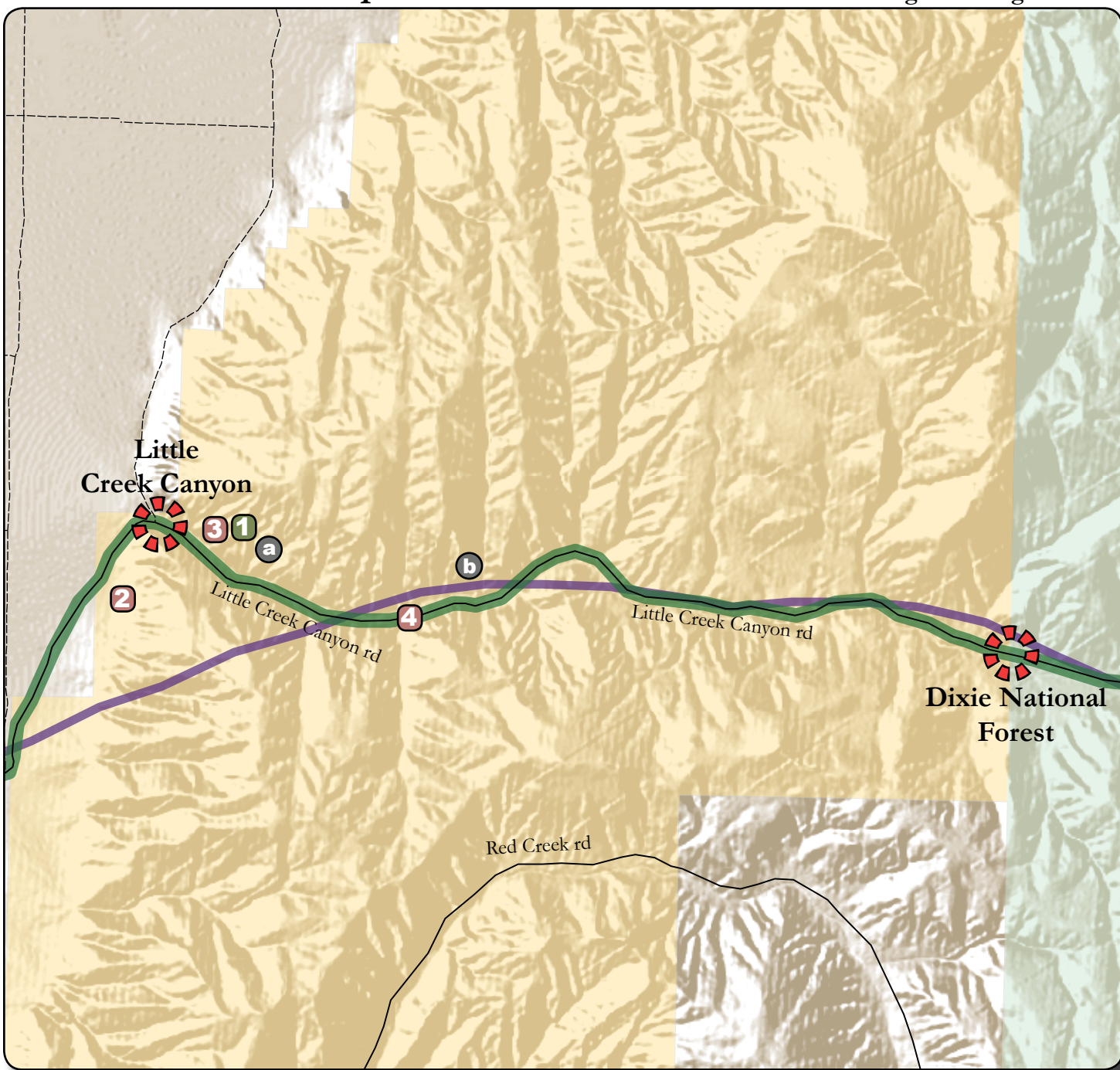
Proposed Trail Element 4. Conceptual plan of the proposed trailhead located at the mouth of Little Creek Canyon. This would serve as an OHV staging area. It would also be the trailhead for people using the proposed hiking trail.



# Little Creek Canyon Segment—K

## Recreation Route Map

\*Potential High-Use Segment



**Description:** The Little Creek Canyon segment offers a unique opportunity to travel exactly where the traders and pioneers walked. A trailhead is proposed at the mouth of the canyon, with a hiking trail that leads to the petroglyphs and period of significance inscription.



## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

BLM

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 10



Historic Integrity Score: 10



### Total Length:

approx. 2.9 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

1 Inscription

### Proposed Trail Elements:

2 Multi Use Trail Head

3 Hiking Trail

4 Reenactment

### Important Connections:

a Petroglyphs

b Pictographs



Typical trail condition and setting along the Little Creek Canyon segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Little Creek Canyon segment.



Panorama of the view from the mouth of Little Creek Canyon looking toward Paragonah. This is a significant portion of trail because it is certain that Old Spanish Trail users exited from the canyon here.

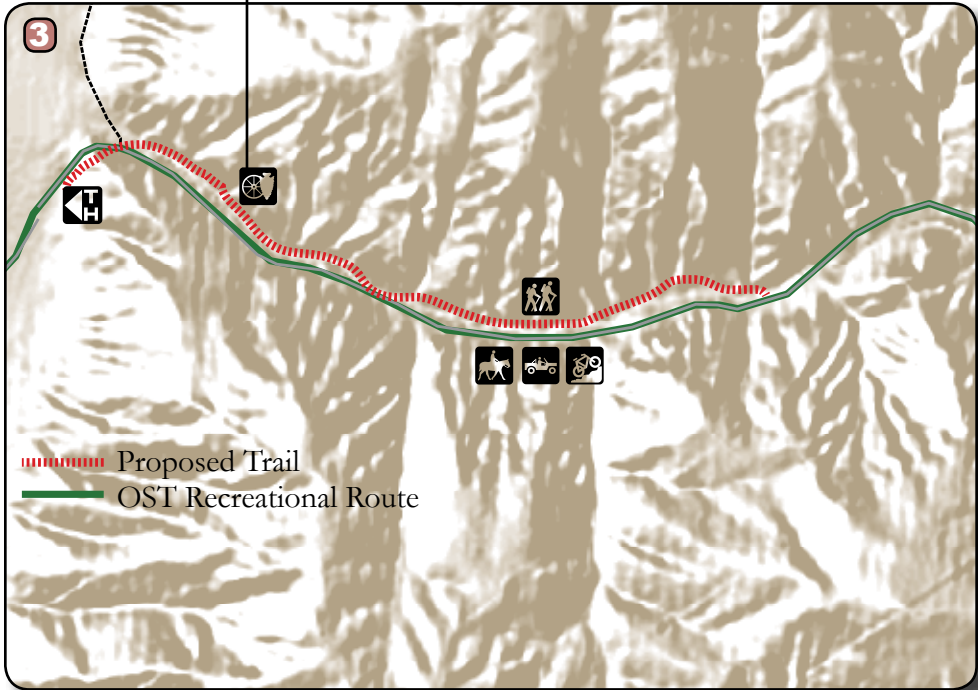


# Little Creek Canyon Segment—K



**Existing Trail Element 1.** Period of significance inscription that says, “1842 W. Knight”. The proposed hiking trail could have interpretation near this rock face.

## W. Knight Hiking Trail Concept



**Proposed Trail Element 3.** Concept for the proposed hiking trail to the inscription pictured above.



**Proposed Trail Element 5.** Recreational Route seen on the right in the photo.



**Important Connection a.** Petroglyphs located near the mouth of little creek canyon.



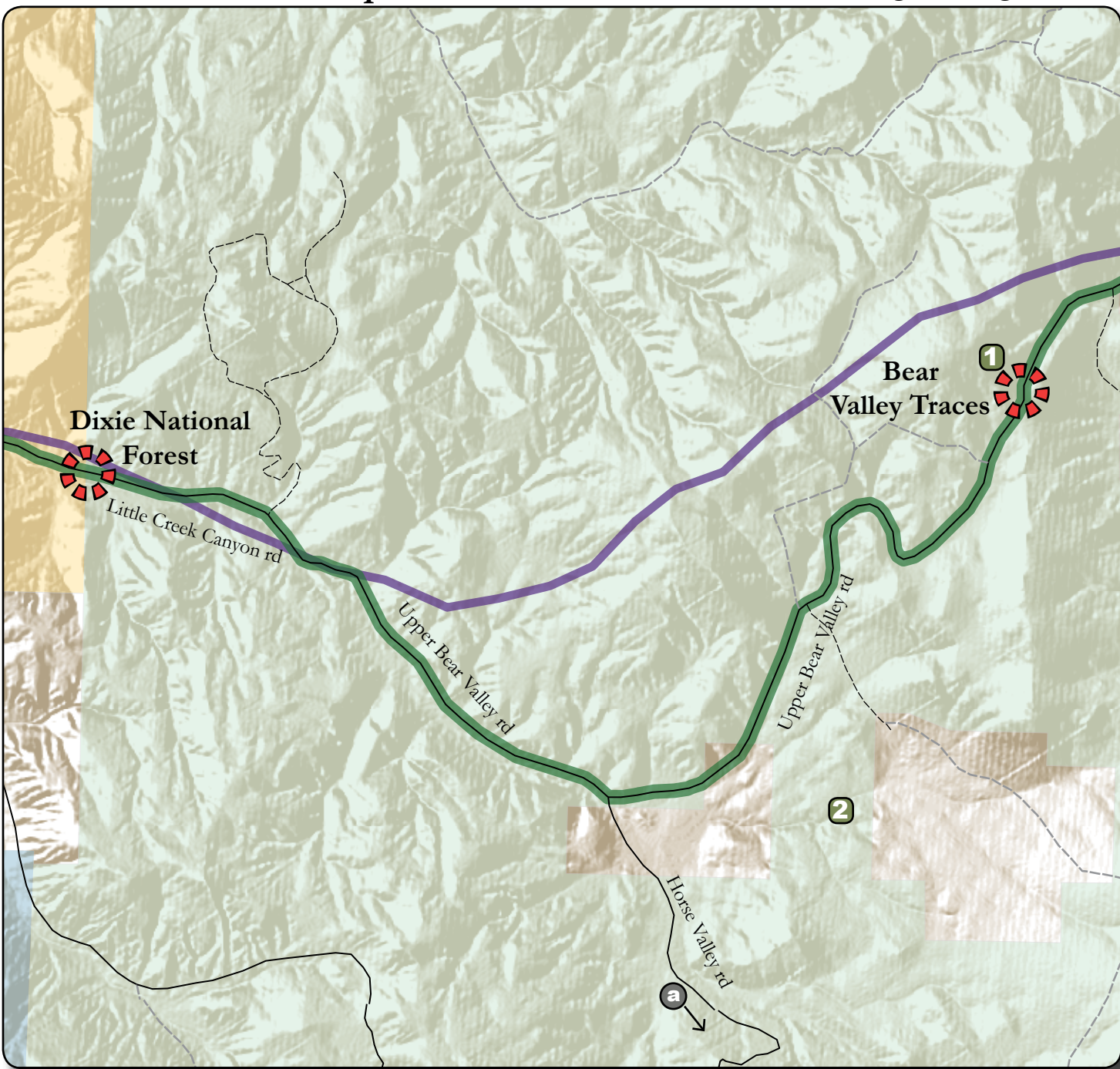
**Important Connection a.** Petroglyphs in Little Creek Canyon.



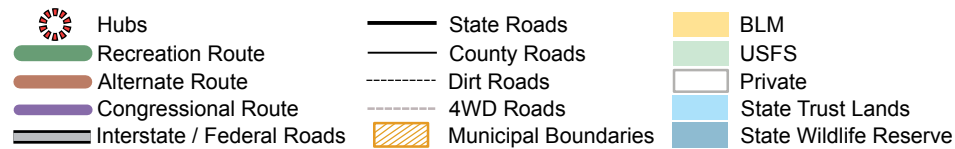
# Bear Valley Segment—L

## Recreation Route Map

\*Potential High-Use Segment



**Description:** The Bear Valley segment is a beautiful drive through the Dixie National Forest with a connection to an existing trail swale. A campground and day use area has been proposed along the road.



## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

Forest Service

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 9



Historic Integrity Score: 10



### Total Length:

Approx. 5.3 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

- 1 Interpretation
- 2 Bear Valley Traces

### Proposed Trail Elements:

None

### Important Connections:

- a Red Creek Reservoir



Typical trail condition and setting along the Bear Valley segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Bear Valley segment.



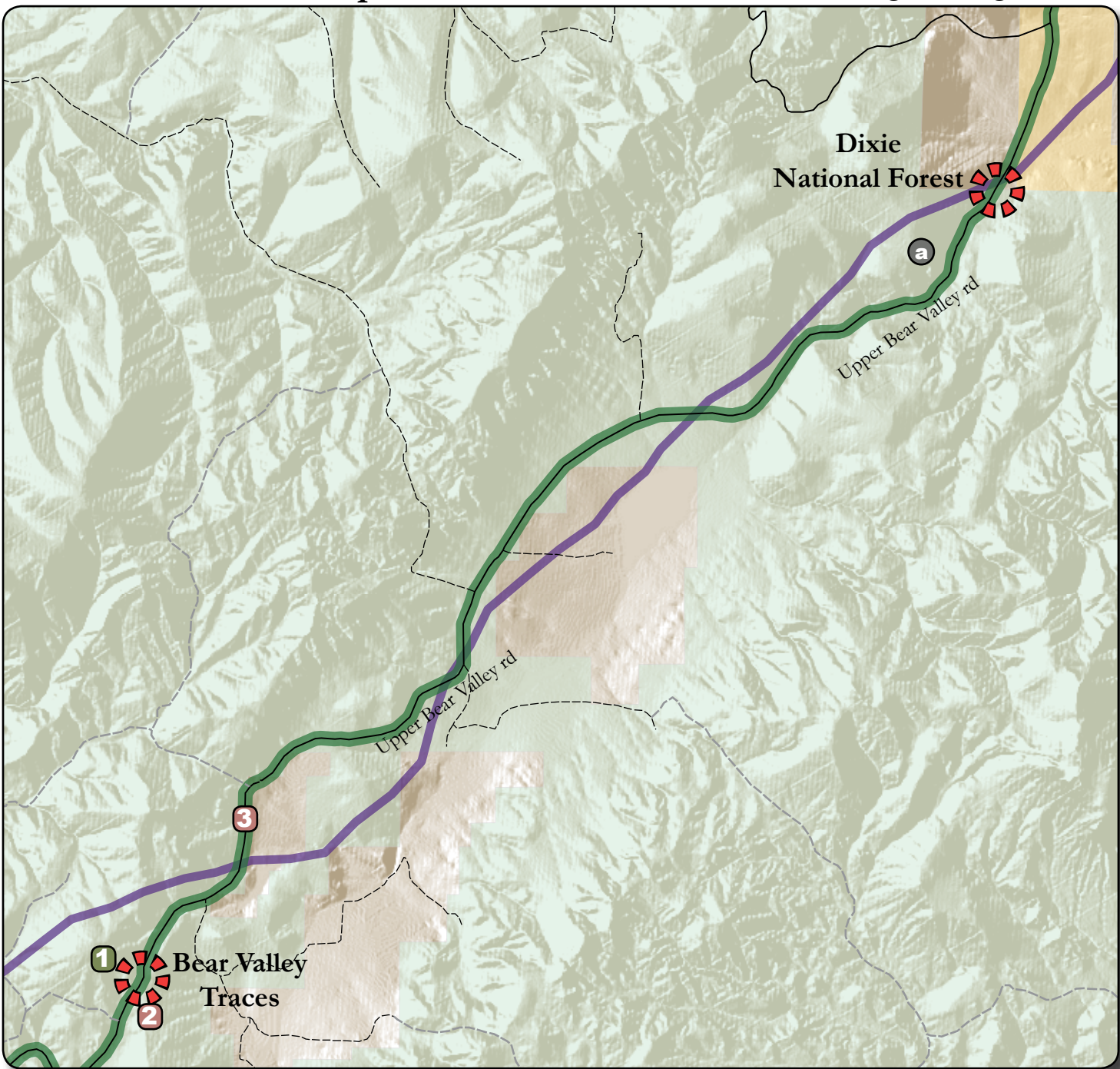
Existing Trail Element 1. Old Spanish Trail Interpretive panel.



# Warm Spring Segment—M

## Recreation Route Map

\*Potential High-Use Segment



**Description:** The Warm Spring segment is a beautiful drive through the Dixie National Forest with a proposed campground and day use area at the Bear Valley Traces hub.

## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

Forest Service

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 9



Historic Integrity Score: 10



### Total Length:

Approx. 7 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

1 Interpretation

### Proposed Trail Elements:

2 Campground & Day Use

3 Reenactment

### Important Connections:

a Warm Spring



Typical trail condition and setting along the Warm Spring segment.



Typical scenic quality along the Warm Spring segment.



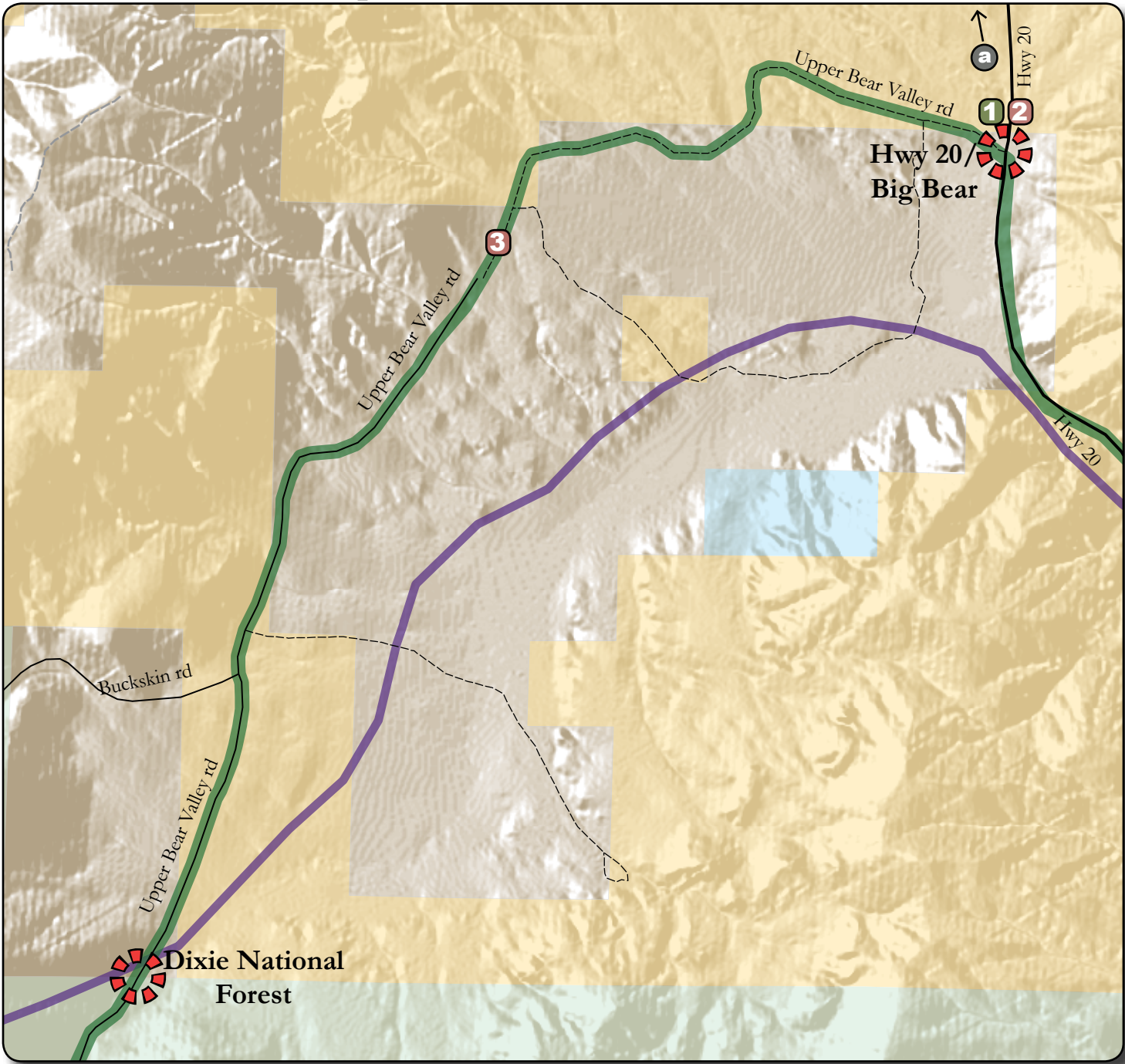
Important Connection a. Signed turn-off to Warm Spring.



# Buckskin Segment—N

## Recreation Route Map

\*Potential High-Use Segment



**Description:** The Buckskin segment connects the Forest Service to Hwy 20. There is a proposed OHV trailhead in this segment. Many users may start the Old Spanish Trail from this location.

- |                            |                      |                        |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Hubs                       | State Roads          | BLM                    |
| Recreation Route           | County Roads         | USFS                   |
| Alternate Route            | Dirt Roads           | Private                |
| Congressional Route        | 4WD Roads            | State Trust Lands      |
| Interstate / Federal Roads | Municipal Boundaries | State Wildlife Reserve |

## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

Private, BLM

### Recreation/Interpretive Potential Score: 3



### Historic Integrity Score: 5



### Total Length:

Approx. 4.5 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

- Historical Marker

### Proposed Trail Elements:

- OHV Trailhead
- Reenactment

### Important Connections:

- Parley P. Pratt Inscription



Typical trail condition and setting along the Buckskin segment.



Typical trail setting along the Buckskin segment.



# Buckskin Segment—N

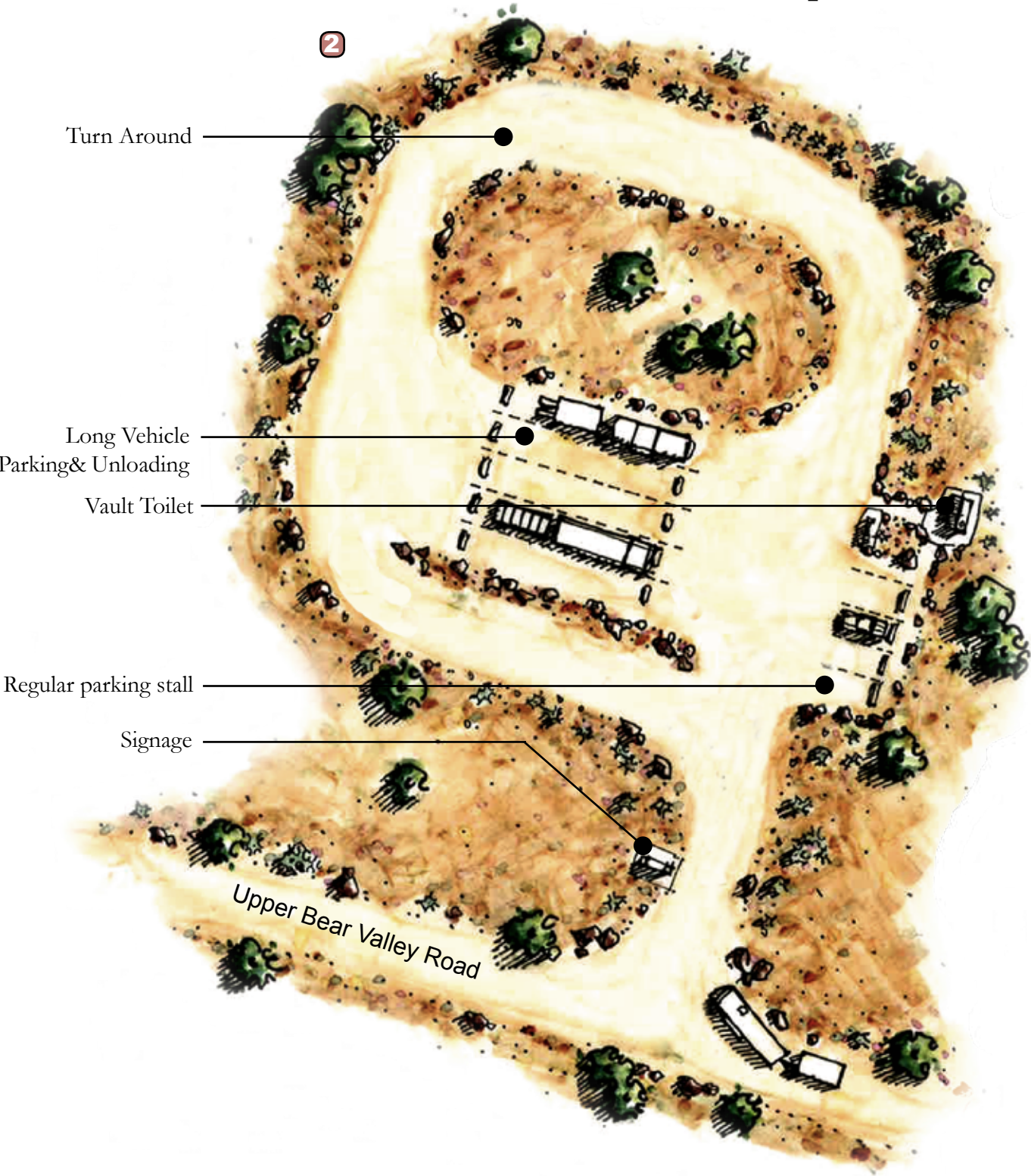


Typical scenic quality along the Buckskin segment.



Existing Trail Element 1 & Proposed Trail Element 2. Historical marker for the Old Spanish Trail. This is the location of the Hwy 20/Big Bear Hub and is where the proposed trailhead could be located.

## Buckskin OHV Trailhead Concept

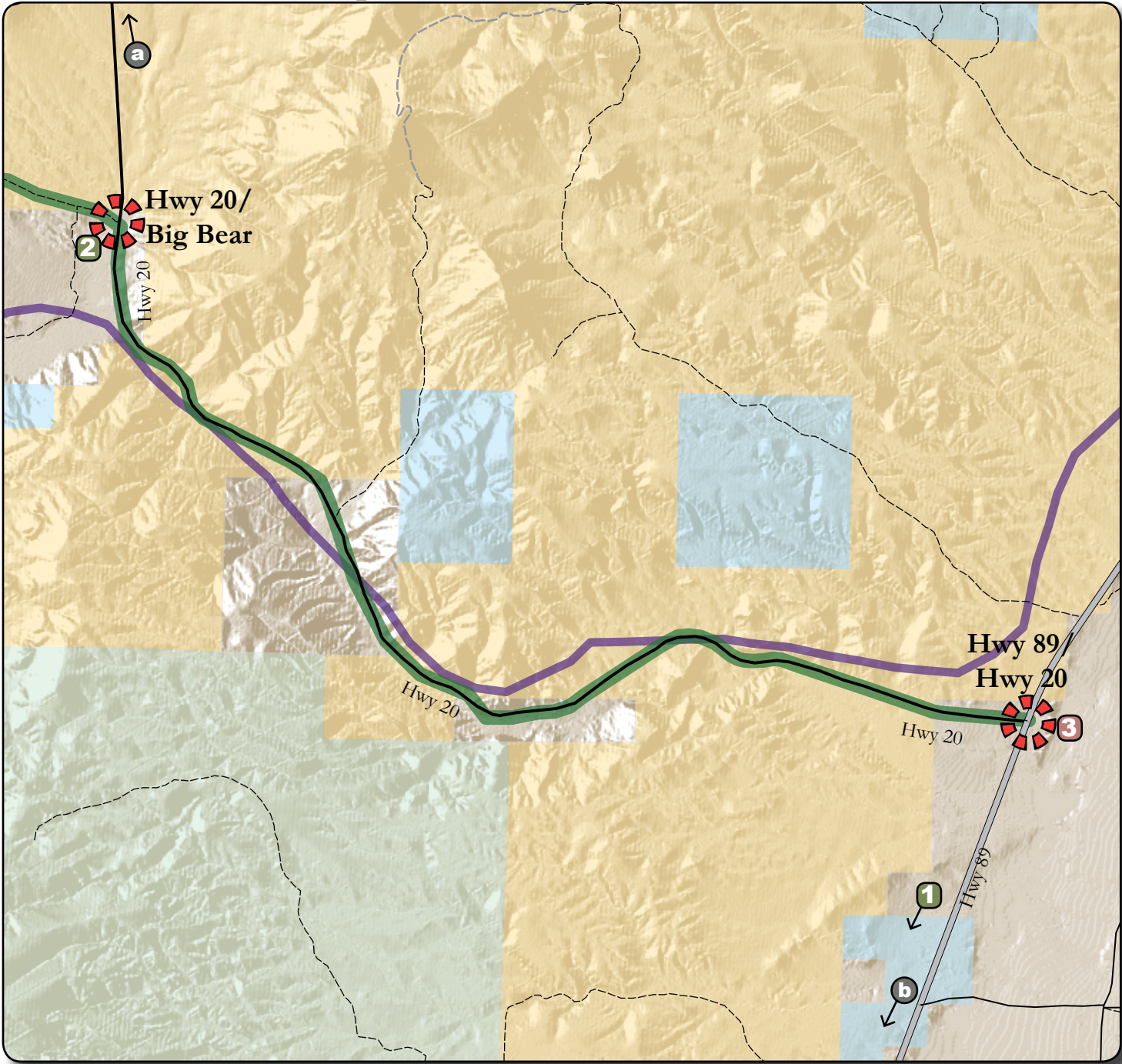


Proposed Trail Element 2. Conceptual plan of the proposed trailhead located at the Hwy 20/Big Bear Hub. It is mainly geared toward OHV users.



# Big Bear Segment—O

## Recreation Route Map



**Description:** The Big Bear Segment connects the turn off to the Dixie National Forest to Highway 89. This segment is important because it will attract drivers on Highway 89. This segment is not currently drivable in an OHV.

- Hubs
- Recreation Route
- Alternate Route
- Congressional Route
- Interstate / Federal Roads
- State Roads
- County Roads
- Dirt Roads
- 4WD Roads
- Municipal Boundaries
- BLM
- USFS
- Private
- State Trust Lands
- State Wildlife Reserve

## Segment Properties

### Majority Property Holders:

BLM, Private

### Recreation/Interpretive

Potential Score: 4



### Historic Integrity Score: 7



### Total Length:

Approx. 7.1 mi.

### Existing Trail Elements:

- Wolfskill-Yount
- Historical Marker

### Proposed Trail Elements:

- Directional Sign

### Important Connections:

- Parley P. Pratt Inscription
- Panguitch Fort



Typical trail condition and setting along the Big Bear segment.



**Proposed Trail Element 3.** This is the East/North end of the recreational route. It is at the Hwy 20 and Hwy 89 intersection.



Typical scenic quality along the Big Bear segment.



# Summary

The purpose of this document is to bring the Old Spanish National Historic Trail to life, in Iron County, so that it becomes a valuable educational and recreational asset for residents and visitors alike. It is not a decisional document, but a guiding document for future efforts to mark, improve, interpret, and utilize the trail.

One of the major products of this effort is the identification of a proposed recreational route. Opportunities along this route throughout the county, regardless of land status, were included in this strategy. The route runs through various land manager's properties. This provides the opportunity for county-wide collaboration and positive partnerships between the various land managers in Iron County including federal, state, and private parties.







*Appendix*

*Three Peaks Recreation Area.*



# Visual Resource Inventory

## Introduction

The Cedar City Field Office (CCFO) lies in southwestern Utah's Great Basin area, which includes Beaver and Iron Counties. A part of the western-most edge of the Field Office lies in Lincoln County, Nevada. The planning area encompasses approximately 3.75 million acres of federal, state, and private lands. The CCFO is responsible for managing approximately 2.2 million acres of public lands within the planning area.

Notable areas within the Field Office boundary include:

- Parowan Gap, a narrow passage through the Red Hills west of Parowan, Utah that contains Fremont-era petroglyphs etched onto the canyon walls;
- Cedar Breaks National Monument, a visually spectacular, amphitheater-like canyon located within the Dixie National Forest;
- a small portion of the Kolob Canyon area of Zion National Park;
- the Old Spanish National Historic Trail; and
- the ruins of the mining-era towns of Frisco and Old Iron Town, which are located in the north and south portions of the Field Office, respectively.

The Dixie National Forest borders the Field Office on the southeast and south and occupies portions of the planning area. The Fishlake National Forest borders the Field Office and occupies the northeastern portion of the planning area.

Major cities situated within the Field Office boundary include Cedar City, Beaver, Minersville, and Milford. Interstate Highway 15 runs north-south through the eastern portion of the Field Office, connecting Cedar City to Salt Lake City and St. George and serving as a major tourist route. State Highway 56 runs west through the study area and continues into Nevada. State Highway 21 runs west from Beaver, through Minersville and Milford and continues into Nevada.

Numerous Scenic Byways and Backways cross the eastern portion of the Field Office, including: Beaver Canyon, Cedar Breaks, Dry Lakes Summit Canyon, Kolob Reservoir, and the Markagunt Scenic Byway.

The Field Office falls into two physiographic provinces: the Colorado plateau, and Basin and Range. The former is characterized by the western edge of the Colorado Plateau and lies east of Cedar City and Interstate 15 in the eastern portion of the Field Office. The latter describes the character for most of the Field Office: a series of wide basins separated by a mountain range.

The topography within the CCFO is varied and ranges from valley floor elevations of approximately 5,000 feet above sea level to mountain elevations of over 9,000 feet in the western portion and 10,000 feet in the eastern portion.

The principal mountain ranges in the Field Office are the Mineral, Wah Wah, and Indian Peak Ranges. These mountains are for the most part uplifted fault blocks with steep fronts and gentle backslopes. In many cases erosion has exposed the colored banding of different geologic layers, to great visual effect.



Mineral Mountains

The broad valleys of the basin and range landscape trend generally north-south and can extend for more than 50 miles along this axis. With a typical width of 10 miles, these valleys afford panoramic vistas of the adjacent mountain ranges. Prominent visible geologic features include Frisco Peak, Granite Peak, Steamboat Mountain, Indian Peak, Haystack Mountain, Table Butte, and the Mineral Mountains.

Vegetation types range from the sagebrush/grassland community of the valley floors, to transition zones of sagebrush, juniper and pinyon pine situated in alluvial fans at the base of mountain ranges, to areas of aspen, fir and pine on higher elevation mountain slopes.

The BLM has basic stewardship responsibilities to identify and protect visual values on all public lands. In order to accomplish this, the BLM is directed to prepare and maintain an inventory of visual values on a continuing basis. This document provides complete visual resource inventory information.

## Visual Resource Inventory Overview

The Visual Resource Inventory is a process to determine visual (scenic) values within the Field Office at a specific point in time. Visual Resource Inventories are conducted according to the guidelines in BLM Manual Handbook H-8410-1 – Visual Resource Inventory.

There are three primary components to a visual resource inventory.

- Scenic Quality Evaluation
- Sensitivity Level Analysis
- Delineation of Distance Zones

Based on these three components, BLM-administered lands are placed into one of four Visual Resource Inventory Classes which represent the relative value of the visual resources. Classes I and II are the most valued, Class III represents a moderate value, and Class IV represents the least value.



Near the Hurricane Cliffs

Class I is assigned to areas where a management decision has been made to maintain a natural landscape and is generally assigned to special areas such as national wilderness and other congressionally and administratively designated areas where decisions have been made to preserve a natural landscape. Without the special area designation, it is not possible for lands to rate as Class I through the inventory process.

## Visual Resource Inventory Classes

Visual resource *inventory* classes are assigned through the inventory process. They are informational in nature and provide the basis for considering visual values in the Resource Management Plan (RMP) process. They do not establish management direction and should not be used as a basis for constraining or encouraging surface-disturbing activities. They are considered the baseline data for existing conditions.

## Visual Resource Management Classes and Objectives

Visual resource *management* classes are assigned for all BLM-administered lands through the RMP process. The assignment of visual management classes is ultimately based on the management decisions made in RMPs, which must take into consideration the value of visual resources. During the RMP process, inventory class boundaries can be adjusted as



necessary to reflect resource allocation decisions made in RMPs.

For example, a landscape may be rated as Class III during the inventory process, but may be designated as Class IV through the RMP process to provide for development activities which require major modification of the existing character of the landscape.

The following Visual Resource Management Objectives have been established for each class in the BLM Manual Handbook H-8410-1 – Visual Resource Inventory:

- **Class I**—The objective of this class is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention.
- **Class II**—The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape

should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

- **Class III**—The objective of this class is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.
- **Class IV**—The objective of this class is to provide for management activities which require major modification of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance, and repeating the basic elements.



Mountain Home

## Inventory Lands

BLM-administered public lands often occur in areas with mixed land-ownership patterns. The CCFO administers areas with mixed ownership that may include BLM, state, private, Forest Service, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service (NPS), and Tribal lands among others. Split-estate lands that have private surface ownership and federal subsurface minerals management are included in the inventory because the BLM may administer the mineral rights.

Designated Wilderness Areas are automatically assigned to Class I and were not included in the inventory process. However, Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) are under consideration for suitability for designation as wilderness areas and are rated because WSA status is temporary and may be changed with Congressional action.

Some areas in the CCFO were not included in this inventory and are labeled as NR or “Not Rated” on the inventory maps. These include the Fishlake National Forest, Dixie National Forest, Cedar Breaks National Monument, Zion National Park, and the Piute Indian Reservation.

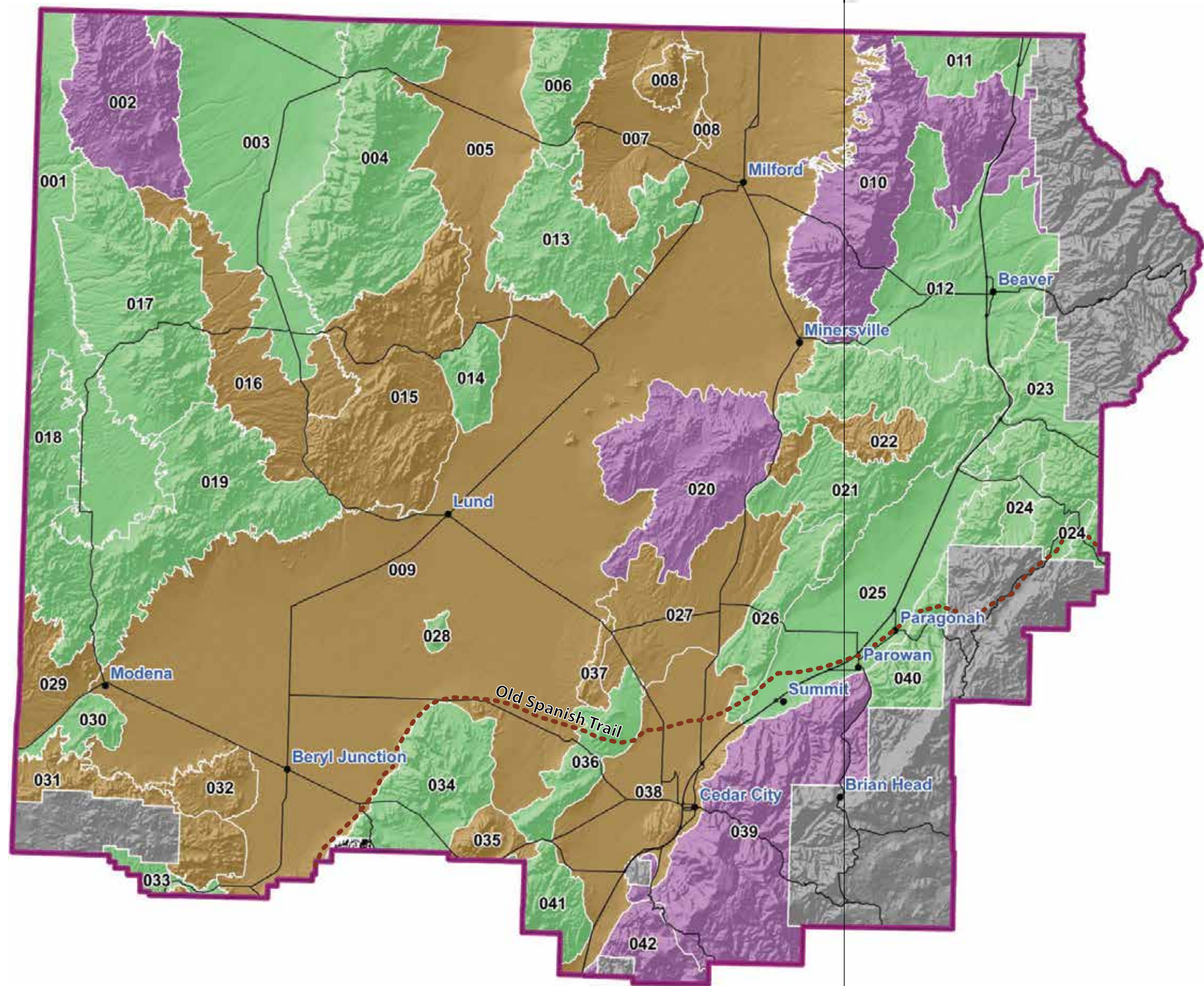
In addition, large areas of private surface and private minerals are not inventoried because the BLM does not have jurisdiction over these lands.

While the inventory is done on a landscape basis, the inventory results and the subsequent Visual Resource Management Objectives established in the RMP apply only to BLM-administered lands.



Unusual rock formations near Steamboat Mountain





- Field Office Boundary
- A - 19 or More  
Total Score for Scenic Quality
- B - 12 to 18  
Total Score for Scenic Quality
- C - 11 or Less  
Total Score for Scenic Quality
- NR Not Rated

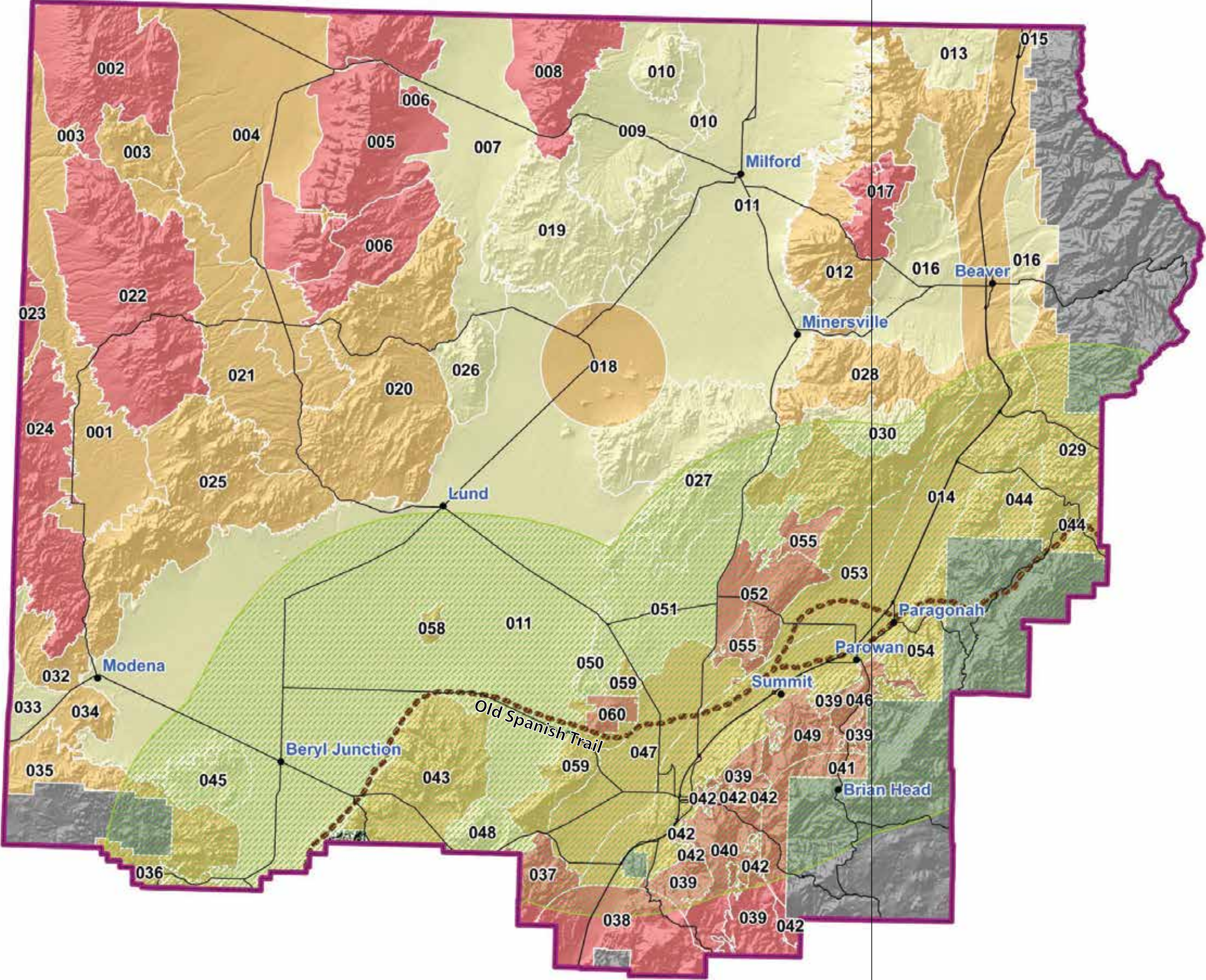
Note: Acreage includes all BLM and non-BLM administered lands

001 Hamlin Valley	022 Jack Henry Knoll
002 Mountain Home	023 Coyote Bench
003 Pine Valley	024 Buckskin Valley
004 Wah Wah Mountains	025 Parowan Valley
005 Wah Wah Valley	026 Red Hills
006 Frisco Mountains	027 Long Hollow
007 Big Wash	028 Table Butte
008 Beaver Lake	029 Government Well
009 Escalante Desert	030 Haystack Mountain
010 Mineral Mountains	031 Bull Valley South
011 Horse Flats	032 Bull Valley North
012 Wildcat	033 Shoal Creek
013 Shauntie Hills	034 Antelope Mountain
014 Blue Mountain	035 Desert Mound
015 Mountain Spring	036 Three Peaks
016 Rustlers Draw	037 Little Bald Hills
017 Indian Peak	038 Cedar Valley
018 Paradise Mountains	039 Hurricane Cliffs
019 Steamboat Mountain	040 Red Cliffs
020 Black Mountains	041 Bumble Bee
021 Bald Hills North	042 Spring Creek



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Field Office Boundary

Maintenance of Visual Quality has High Value

Maintenance of Visual Quality has Moderate Value

Maintenance of Visual Quality has Low Value

NR Not Rated

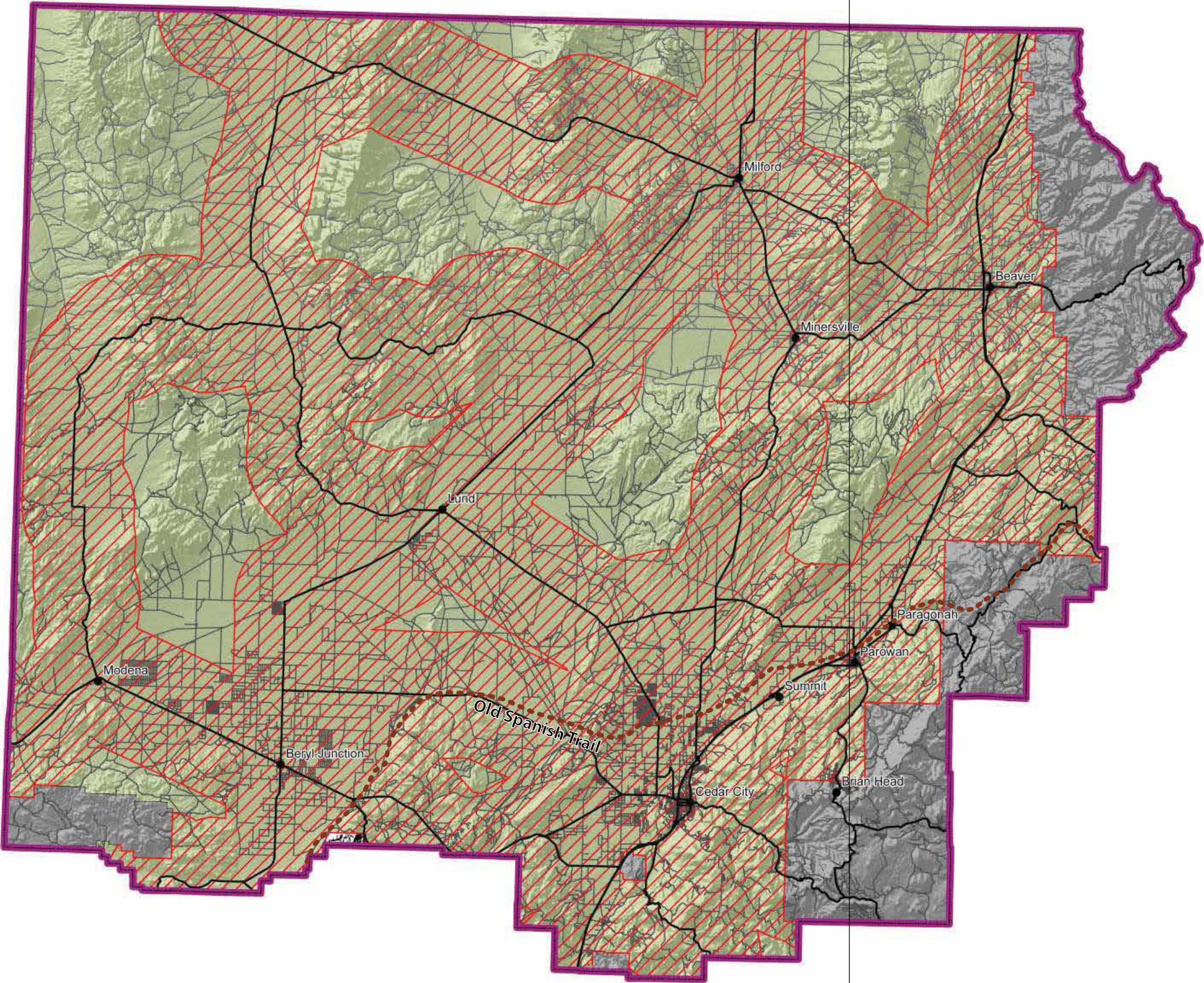
Note: Acreage includes all BLM and non-BLM administered lands

001 Hamlin Valley	033 Government Well
002 Mountain Home CWPA	034 Haystack Mountain
003 Mountain Home	035 Bull Valley South
004 Pine Valley	036 Shoal Creek
005 Wah Wah WSA	037 Bumble Bee
006 Wah Wah Mountains	038 Zion National Park
007 Wah Wah Valley	039 Hurricane Cliffs
008 Frisco Mountains	040 Kolob Reservoir Scenic Backway
009 Big Wash	041 Cedar Breaks National Monument
010 Beaver Lake	042 Markagunt Scenic Byway
011 Escalante Desert	043 Antelope Mountain
012 Mineral Mountains Lower	044 Buckskin Valley
013 Horse Flats	045 Bull Valley North
014 I-15 Corridor	046 Cedar Breaks Scenic Byway
015 Sulphurdale	047 Cedar Valley
016 Wildcat	048 Desert Mound
017 Mineral Mountains Upper	049 Dry Lakes Summit Canyon Scenic Backway
018 Thermo Hot Springs	050 Little Bald Hills
019 Shauntie Hills	051 Long Hollow
020 Mountain Spring	052 Parowan Gap
021 Rustlers Draw	053 Parowan Valley
022 Indian Peak	054 Red Cliffs
023 White Rock WSA	055 Red Hills
024 Paradise Mountains	058 Table Butte
025 Steamboat Mountain	059 Three Peaks
026 Blue Mountain	060 Three Peaks SRMA
027 Black Mountains	
028 Bald Hills North	
029 Coyote Bench	
030 Jack Henry Knoll	
032 Government Well CWPA	

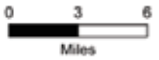


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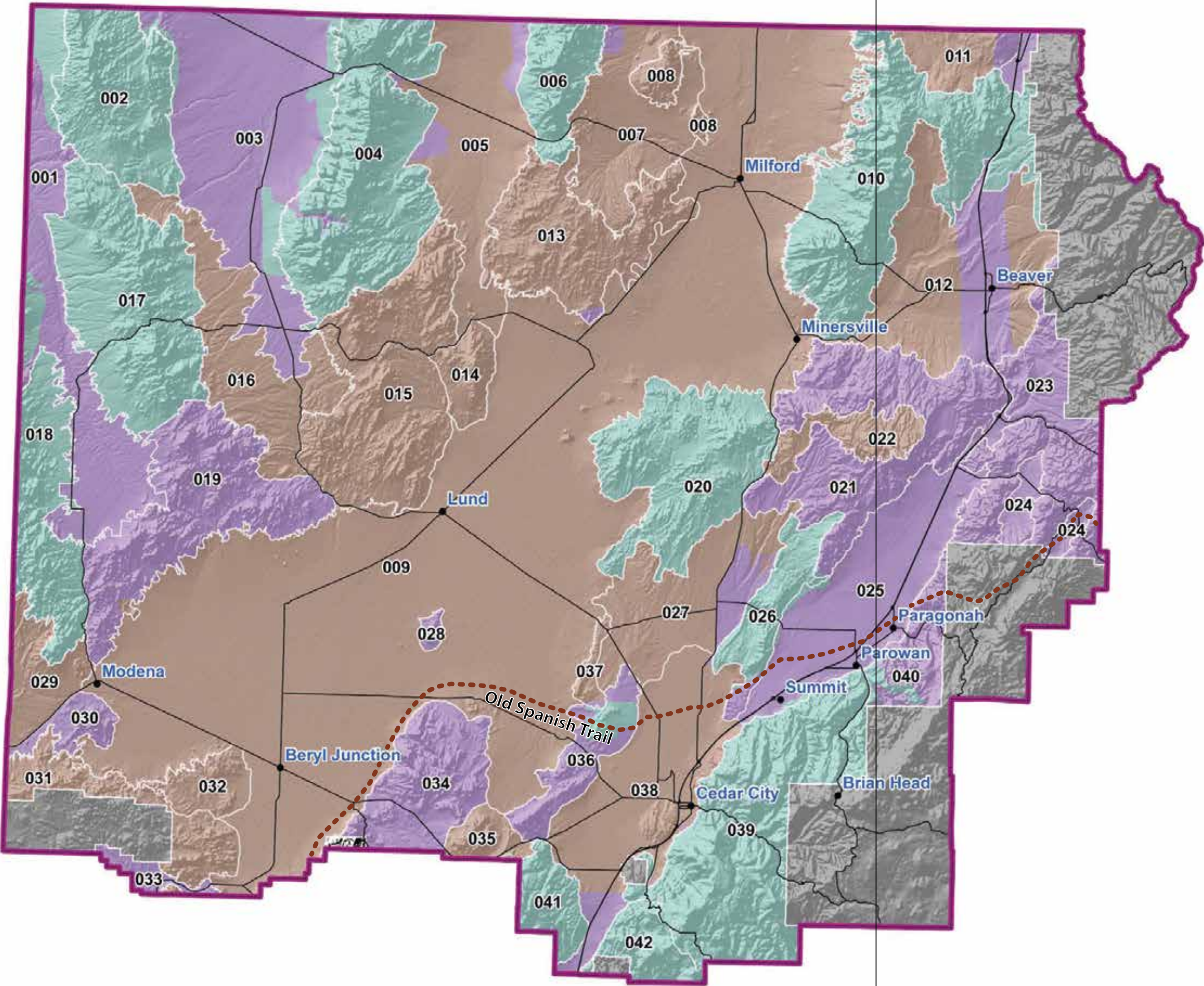


- Field Office Boundary
- Major Roads
- Major Roads  
Foreground/Middleground
- Secondary Roads
- Secondary Road  
Foreground/Middleground
- NR Not Rated



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- Field Office Boundary
- VRI Class II (874,315 Acres)
- VRI Class III (820,501 Acres)
- VRI Class IV (1,677,797 Acres)
- Not Rated (380,155 Acres)

Note: Acreage includes all BLM and non-BLM administered lands

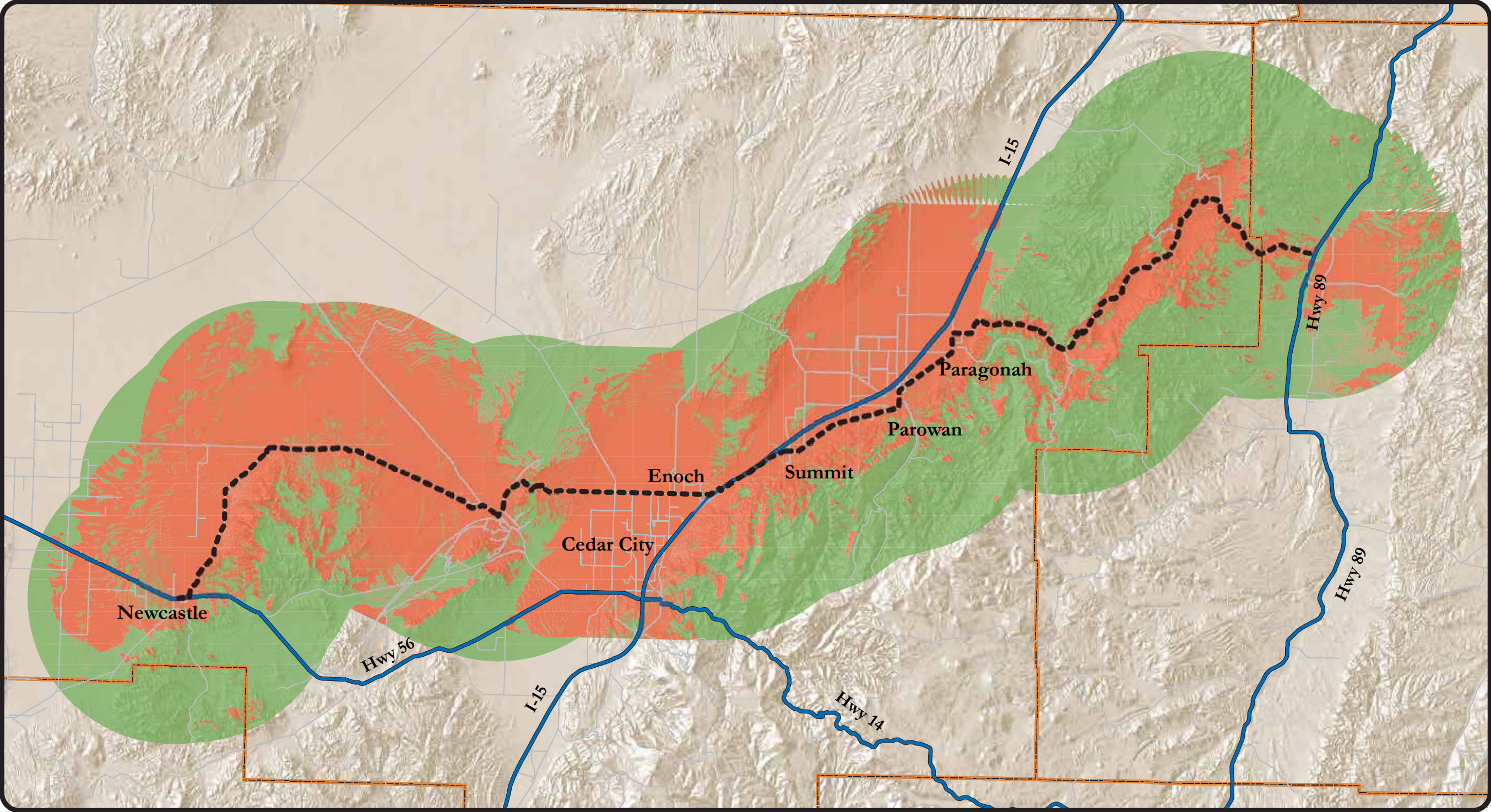
- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 001 Hamlin Valley      | 022 Jack Henry Knoll  |
| 002 Mountain Home      | 023 Coyote Bench      |
| 003 Pine Valley        | 024 Buckskin Valley   |
| 004 Wah Wah Mountains  | 025 Parowan Valley    |
| 005 Wah Wah Valley     | 026 Red Hills         |
| 006 Frisco Mountains   | 027 Long Hollow       |
| 007 Big Wash           | 028 Table Butte       |
| 008 Beaver Lake        | 029 Government Well   |
| 009 Escalante Desert   | 030 Haystack Mountain |
| 010 Mineral Mountains  | 031 Bull Valley South |
| 011 Horse Flats        | 032 Bull Valley North |
| 012 Wildcat            | 033 Shoal Creek       |
| 013 Shauntie Hills     | 034 Antelope Mountain |
| 014 Blue Mountain      | 035 Desert Mound      |
| 015 Mountain Spring    | 036 Three Peaks       |
| 016 Rustlers Draw      | 037 Little Bald Hills |
| 017 Indian Peak        | 038 Cedar Valley      |
| 018 Paradise Mountains | 039 Hurricane Cliffs  |
| 019 Steamboat Mountain | 040 Red Cliffs        |
| 020 Black Mountains    | 041 Bumble Bee        |
| 021 Bald Hills North   | 042 Spring Creek      |



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# Viewshed Analysis



- Old Spanish Trail Recreation Route

Interstate/Highways

County/State Roads

County Boundary
- Ground Level Target Visibility

Not Visible

Visible

