



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY
Executive Director

Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office

REDGE B. JOHNSON
Director

December 11, 2024

Submitted electronically: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=67156>

Jared R. Whitmer
District Ranger
Fishlake National Forest
Forest Service
575 South Main Street
P.O. Box E
Beaver, UT 84713

Subject: Beaver Canyon Recreation Improvements Project
RDCC Project No. 86396

Dear Mr. Whitmer:

The State of Utah ("State"), through the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office ("PLPCO"), has reviewed the proposed Beaver Canyon Recreation Improvements project. The State supports this project and is committed to its success. The State commends the comprehensive approach to upgrading trailhead parking, expanding access, and improving safety measures. The proposed updates, including the expansion and paving of parking areas, installation of additional vault toilets, and construction of acceleration/deceleration lanes along Highway 153, will significantly enhance the user experience and reduce hazardous conditions caused by overcrowding. These actions align with the goals of the Fishlake National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, particularly in providing safe and accessible motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities. Including amenities such as day-use picnic areas, improved trailhead facilities, and upgraded trail access showcases the project's attention to creating a welcoming environment for a diverse range of users, from families enjoying outdoor activities to avid hikers, equestrians, and snowmobilers.

The State Resource Management Plan ("RMP") promotes the "sustainability and resiliency of Utah recreational opportunities, which attract millions of visitors annually and

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contribute significantly to the physical and mental health of Utah residents and local economies.”¹ This project aligns with those objectives. The State appreciates the opportunity to submit comments. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Redge B. Johnson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Redge B. Johnson
Director

¹ State of Utah RMP at 149