



SYLVAN SENTINEL

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The Utah Environmental Congress

Mission Statement:

UEC Mission Statement: Reclaiming and acting upon our ancestral responsibility to the land, the Utah Environmental Congress brings people together to engage in genuine protection of living forest systems that provide islands of refuge in Utah's desert country.

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UEC Says Farewell to Lindsay, Welcome Corinne!

Lindsay Myers was the UEC Membership Coordinator for the past two years and did a great job managing our membership and outreach, coordinating big events like our annual conference, and handling detailed administrative work. Lindsay has resigned and is moving back home to Indianapolis, Indiana, and will be sorely missed! Lindsay has a great passion for preserving our National Forests and wildlife, and it showed in her work and her positive attitude! The UEC would like to thank Lindsay for all of her hard work and dedication and wish her the best of luck!

With the Membership Coordinator position vacant, UEC took the opportunity to reassess our membership goals and current outreach strategy and programs. We decided to create a new position which would still consist of membership management, but take on a new life of active grassroots marketing. We are very excited to announce Corinne Piazza as the new Development Director of UEC!



Corinne Piazza,
Development Director

Corinne was born and raised in West Hartford, Connecticut, and earned her BA in Communications while on a Division I soccer scholarship at the University of Rhode Island. She has since worked for several non-profit organizations throughout the country, building their grassroots marketing from the ground up, increasing membership and community outreach. Corinne is a great fit for the UEC, bringing valuable experience and know-how, as well as possessing a genuine love and passion for the conservation of the environment and its wildlife.

In her free time, Corinne volunteers with Ching's Farm Sanctuary and the Utah Assistance Animal Therapy Association, enjoys training in Muay Thai Kickboxing, and dining on good vegan cuisine. She is the proud guardian of Buckey, an orange tabby cat with white paws whom she adopted after he was rescued from an abusive living situation, and Glitter, a torti-tabby who was rescued meowing and homeless at a gas station and is now queen of the household.

Corinne is looking forward to the challenge of the Development Director position. "The UEC does outstanding work to protect the National Forests and our native wildlife", said Piazza, "I'm ecstatic about the opportunity to be a part of the UEC team and help develop greater support of our work in the community!" We wish Lindsay all the best, and look forward to seeing what Corinne will contribute to the UEC and the fight to defend our National Forests and native wildlife!

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UEC Invites You to Celebrate Earth Day!

Earth Day is fast approaching and UEC is celebrating in participation with Earth Jam 2007 at Liberty Park, Sunday April 22. Come out and join us for a family festival filled with music, dance, and information on how you can make everyday Earth Day! We will be giving out educational info, goodies, and selling our merchandise at our booth.

Also, we will have a free children's craft contest at our booth with prizes! Please see below "Kids Challenge: Make a 'Your Change for Change' Jar & Win!" for details.

Finally, all UEC members will be receiving a UEC Earth Day button in the mail to wear in celebration, so no matter where you are on Earth Day this year, you can promote Earth Day as a proud member of the UEC! For more information on Earth Jam, please visit www.earthjam.org.

special instructions! Then get creative and dazzle us! All winners will be announced on our website on April 30!



Calling all Volunteers: Help UEC Keep Little Cottonwood Canyon Creek Beautiful!

UEC is proud to announce our sponsorship of a section of the Little Cottonwood Canyon Creek through the Adopt-A-Waterbody (AAW) program. The AAW is an innovative program where through our sponsorship, we assist in keeping the stream clean and safe for the environment, the wildlife, and for the people who recreate there. Our adopted section, from Tanner's Flat to the White Pine Trail, is an area UEC has proposed to be included in the Lone Peak wilderness territory!

We need volunteers to come out for our first clean up day! UEC will provide gloves and garbage bags, and you'll receive a free UEC t-shirt as our thanks for your help! We do not have a set date yet, but we plan on having our first clean-up in the beginning of June and hope to have several clean-up days throughout the summer and fall.

If you are interested in participating and would like more information, please keep your eyes peeled on our website, or e-mail Corinne at corinne@uec-utah.org. It's a great way to beat the summer heat, help make a difference, and have fun! We look forward to seeing you out there!



Kids Challenge: Make a "Your Change for Change" Jar & Win!

Hey kids, if you like constructing cool crafty creations, then this project is for you! UEC has teamed up with generous local businesses to place coin jars at their registers. Each jar has information as to what the UEC does to protect our National Forests and native wildlife, and how donating your change can help.

Where does your creativity come in? We want you to make your own coin jar! For example, that peanut butter jar that gets tossed in the recycling bin, could be painted, decorated, whatever the artist in you feels, and if your jar is one of the contest winners, it will be placed at a partner store!

This contest will be featured at our booth at Earth Jam 2007, (see "UEC Invites You to Celebrate Earth Day!" above for details) or you and your friends can make them at home, and mail it in or drop it off at the UEC office! If you are a business who would like to host a UEC "Your Change for Change" jar, please contact Corinne at corinne@uec-utah.org. Please visit www.uec-utah.org for

UEC Changes Web Servers



UEC ran into some technical difficulty this past month when our ISP, Aros, shut down without notice. We apologize for any inconvenience as our web page and our e-mail accounts were not working for several weeks.

UEC would like to thank X-Mission for donating their services as our new website host. Please note our website is still www.uec-utah.org, but our main e-mail is now uec@uec-utah.org. Please visit our website for staff e-mails.

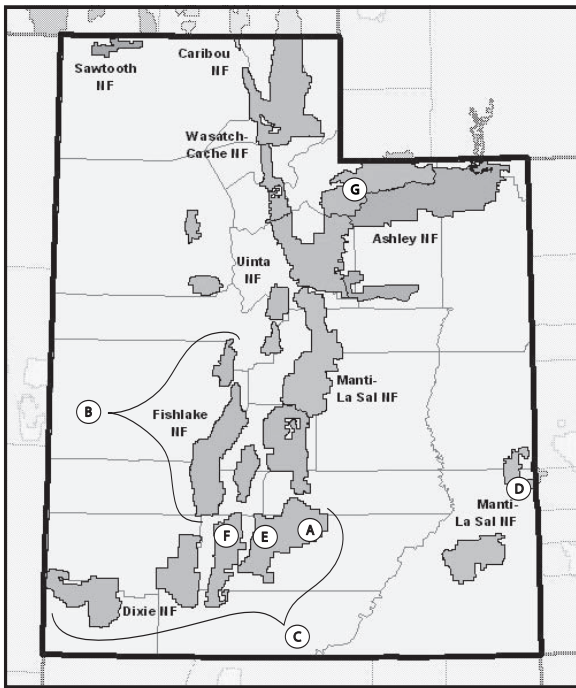


Want to Work for the Utah Environmental Congress?

Come make a difference for the National Forests with UEC! We are looking for a permanent part-time Office Manager to handle accounting (must be efficient in QuickBooks), Legal Notice and Federal Register searches for the UEC Forest Monitoring Program, phones, filing, and other tasks as assigned.

The hours are Monday through Friday 9AM-12 PM or 9AM-1PM with a pay range of \$10-\$12 / hour depending on experience. Please visit www.uec-utah.org for application instructions.

UEC FOREST WATCH UPDATE



[Map letters coordinate with the following articles]

UEC Reaches Resolution on Dixie National Forest Wildland Urban Interface Project

In February of this year, UEC filed an appeal with the Dixie National Forest over the Boulder Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) project [A], and then reached an appeal resolution agreement. UEC appealed the shaded fuel breaks project because the decision allowed for unlimited retreatments far into the future, which would be illegal. The decision also failed to include any considerations for protected migratory birds.

The resolution agreement UEC was able to reach limits the duration of the project to no more than five years and added timing restrictions to avoid any treatments in the migratory bird nesting season that take place in spring and summer. Thanks to the UEC, Boulder Wildland Urban Interface migratory birds won't be harmed with this project and the treatments will be limited!

New OHV Policy on Fishlake & Dixie National Forests

In the past, the Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Policy for National Forests was set up so that all areas were open to OHV's, unless the Forest designated an area closed. In late 2005, the Administration revised a large set of national rules for ATV and OHV travel planning for all National Forests where lands will be closed to OHV travel, except for areas designated open.

However, to implement the new OHV policy, each National Forest is required to write an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) studying the new policy before it

can take effect. The Fishlake [B] approved about 40 miles of road construction inside roadless areas in violation of the law. The UEC submitted detailed comments but they were not considered and Fishlake's approval of the project stayed in violation of the law. UEC, in conjunction with other groups, has appealed their decision and await a response.

The Dixie [C] is currently writing its Draft EIS. UEC, along with about ten other organizations, recently submitted a detailed alternative travel plan. Our alternative would obliterate over 600 miles of roads and would not designate new roads inside roadless areas. The public will have another opportunity to weigh in on this new OHV policy later this year.

Government Looking to Uranium Mines for First Time Since the Cold War

For the first time since UEC's Forest Monitoring program started in 1998, we recently received notice of a proposal to start mining Uranium once again on our National Forests. Uranium is mostly used for weapons and nuclear power. The mine is on the South side of the La Sal Mountains [D].

When a mine is "reclaimed" it means it is closed forever. In the proposed program, the Government is looking to re-open a reclaimed mine to see how much usable uranium is available. The UEC is concerned about the project because radio active material will be disturbed and exposed by the activities proposed at the mine shaft which is immediately adjacent to a stream. The mining process will have negative impacts on the water quality, aquatic health, sensitive wildlife, and human health, as well as construction of new roads.

Upcoming projects:

UEC is currently considering appeals for a number of additional logging decisions. These include the Bug Lake [E] and Mount Dutton [F] timber sales on the Dixie N.F., and the West Bear [G] timber sale on the Wasatch-Cache N.F., located north and west of the Mirror Lake Highway, near Whitney Reservoir. We will keep you posted on our projects!



Does your business want to reach out to environmentally conscientious people, while contributing to the UEC at the same time? You could place **your ad**

HERE in our next issue of the Sylvan Sentinel!

Please contact Corinne at corinne@uec-utah.org or 801-466-4055 for more details!



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Help Join UEC in the Fight to Ban Dangerous and Inhumane M-44 Traps

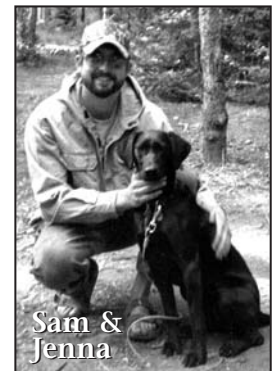
It started like any other day for Sam, he and his dog Jenna were out enjoying Federal lands at Brough Reservoir, fifteen miles South West of Vernal, Utah. As they walked, Jenna was attracted to an M-44, a predator trap with a small lure sticking out of the ground. When Jenna touched it with her nose, it shot a pellet of sodium cyanide into her mouth. "Jenna started gagging, frothing, and then threw up," said Sam, "I held her in my arms, she was terrified and scared, and I was completely helpless. She died in my arms about a minute-and-a-half after she was poisoned."

The land Sam and Jenna were hiking on is overseen by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture oversees the Dept. of Wildlife Services (WS), previously known as Animal Damage Control, who was responsible for placing the traps. There is no contesting that the WS is responsible for poisoning Jenna, however there is currently a dispute over whether or not they broke the law in their use of the M-44 trap.

In violation of the Environmental Protection Agency M-44 restrictions, no "elevated sign" was "placed within 25 feet" of the "individual M-44 device warning persons." Also, the M-44 was not "placed at least at a 50-foot distance or at such a greater distance from any public road or pathway." Sam has been making inquiries for over a year to make sure this never happens again, or to a child. WS has still not been held accountable or changed their use of the traps.

M-44's are paid for with your tax-dollars. The traps are indiscriminate and kill hundreds of non-target animals every year, including endangered species. Cruel and inhumane predator control methods such as poisoning can easily be replaced with humane methods. If you would like to help UEC and other dedicated groups hold WS responsible for the placement of M-44's, and encourage them to ultimately adopt more humane methods of handling predators, please contact the EPA, who has the authority to ban M-44 traps: **Stephen Johnson, EPA Administrator**, USEPA Headquarters, Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Mail Code: 1101A, Washington, DC, 20460 / 202-564-4700 / johnson.stephen@epa.gov.

UEC would like to thank Sam Pollock, Joel Ban, and Wendy Keefover-Ring for their contributions to this article. Please visit our website and Sinapu at www.sinapu.org for more information.



Sam & Jenna