

LAKES OF THE HIGH UINTAS

SHEEP CREEK, CARTER CREEK & BURNT FORK

D R A I N A G E S

*Compiled and edited by
Tom Pettengill, Sport Fisheries Coordinator
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources*



Sheep Creek, Carter Creek & Burnt Fork

Publication 96-17/10M/1996



Revision 1996/10M

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Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

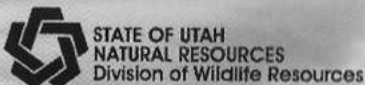
Booklet designed by Patti F. MaGann

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LAKES OF THE HIGH UINTAS

SHEEP CREEK, CARTER CREEK & BURNT FORK DRAINAGES

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INTRODUCTION

THE UINTA MOUNTAINS OF NORTHEASTERN UTAH ARE UNIQUE IN THAT THEY ARE THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN RANGE IN UTAH AND THE ONLY MAJOR RANGE OF MOUNTAINS IN THE CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES TO LIE IN AN EAST-WEST DIRECTION. King's Peak, Utah's tallest point of land, standing 13,528 feet, is hard to distinguish from its sister peaks, all of which stand over 13,000 feet in elevation. This is a country of snow-capped mountains, large alpine basins dotted with lakes, steep rocky slopes, green meadows and tall trees. Four of Utah's major rivers, the Duchesne, Provo, Weber and Bear, originate in the snowfields of these mountains. There are well over 1,000 natural lakes in the headwater regions of the Uinta Mountains.

Between 1956 and 1990 a total of 1,036 lakes were surveyed. Of that number, 427 lakes are currently being stocked on a prescribed cycle, 149 have sufficient natural reproduction and do not require stocking, and 460 are fishless. Presently 387 lakes are managed with brook trout, 158 have cutthroat



A trip to the High Uintas can be very enjoyable, but may also be uncomfortable or hazardous to unprepared travelers.

trout as the primary species and 38 are managed with rainbow trout as the primary species. Thirty-four of the 38 rainbow lakes are near roads and stocked with catchable sized rainbow trout. Currently, no lakes are known to contain golden trout. Two lakes have been stocked with splake and 16 lakes have Arctic grayling.

The lakes of the Uinta Mountains have now undergone three study cycles. The physical, chemical and biological features of each lake may change from year to year: therefore, management schemes must also change. This booklet contains information from the last full survey.

Information has been checked against the most recent stocking information to reflect current species management. No attempt was made to list all lakes in the respective drainage for this publication. Only those lakes which were found to support populations of game fish are included. In some cases fishless lakes are incorporated on maps to serve as landmarks or orientation points.

In early days, the use of pack animals for stocking mountain lakes meant that only a few lakes could be planted each year. Since 1955, aircraft have been used for planting these remote lakes, greatly increasing the number of waters stocked each year. As stated above, brook and cutthroat trout are the predominant species stocked as they have demonstrated an ability to grow and survive well in these alpine lakes.

Aerial stocking is designed to replenish populations or introduce fish into lakes that Division surveys have found suitable to receive experimental stocking. Care is taken not to overstock these lakes because it usually results in small, poorly developed fish. Because the optimum growing season for trout at this elevation is very short (June through August), growth is relatively slow and trout will reach only 8 to 12 inches by the third year of life. The more inaccessible lakes are stocked on a 3 - 5 year cycle to encourage growth, and the heavily fished lakes are planted on a 1 - 2 year cycle to maintain population levels.

A trip into the High Uintas can be very enjoyable, but may also be uncomfortable or hazardous to unprepared travelers. As most of the lakes lie in remote basins, it is recommended that trips be well planned and adequate preparations made beforehand. Always leave word with a friend or relative on your approximate destination and when you plan to return. Most of these lakes can be accessed on well marked U.S. Forest Service trails. Other lakes can only be reached by going cross-country. However, cross-country travel should be avoided unless the user is familiar with this type of travel. While the trails have been



Brook Trout

updated in this booklet, it is a good idea to carry a topographical map for reference. These can be purchased from the U.S. Geological Survey. Ordinarily trips up to 5 miles can be made on foot when the angler plans to spend only one day on the lake and return home that evening. However, backpackers who wish to stay overnight can easily reach more remote lakes. Those wishing to use horses in the Uintas should study available pastures and plan their trip accordingly.

Because of the altitude and unpredictable weather of the Uintas, users should take steps to prevent possible hypothermia. Warm clothing (layered wool and down) and good rain gear should be carried at all times. It typically clouds up and rains most afternoons. Remember that snow showers are common all seasons at these high elevations, and the temperature can drop 20 to 30 degrees in a matter of minutes. Carry instant energy food, such as candy and fruit, and avoid exhaustion. If you get hot, ventilate to dispel body heat and moisture. Avoid drinking large quantities of cold water when chilled. Be sure to carry plenty of insect repellent for you and your animals. A hat will really help

Fishing is unpredictable, especially in the High Uintas. If one lake fails to produce fish, try another; there is usually one nearby.

protect you from biting flies. You may also wish to bring suntan lotion and lip balm to protect the skin from the intense sunshine of high elevation. Users should be cautioned that drinking untreated water in back country areas may cause giardia, a parasitic infection which can make you very ill. Symptoms, which include chronic diarrhea, abdominal cramps, bloating, fatigue and weight loss, may not appear until 2-3 weeks after contact. Recent studies have shown that water purifiers will not kill the parasite. As a safeguard against giardia, boil all drinking water 3 - 5 minutes before using it.

HYPOTHERMIA PRECAUTIONS

Warm clothing (layered wool and down) and good rain gear should be carried at all times. Remember that snow showers are common all season at these high elevations, and the temperature can drop 20 to 30 degrees in a matter of minutes.

Carry instant energy food, such as candy and fruit, and avoid exhaustion. If you get hot, ventilate to dispel body heat and moisture.

Avoid drinking large quantities of cold water when chilled.

Be sure to carry plenty of insect repellent for camp and horse, at least until mid-August.

Bring suntan lotion and lip balm to protect the skin from the intense sunshine of high elevation.

Users should be cautioned that drinking untreated water in back country area may cause giardia, a parasitic infection which can make you very ill.



PLEASE LEAVE THESE BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAINS AND LAKES THE WAY YOU WOULD LIKE TO FIND THEM WHEN YOU RETURN.

KNOW AND OBEY STATE AND FISH AND GAME LAWS.

DUMP WASTE WATER A MINIMUM OF 150 FEET FROM SPRINGS, LAKES AND STREAMS.

BURN COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS.

USE EXISTING FIRE RINGS WHEN POSSIBLE.

PACK OUT UNBURNABLE TRASH, INCLUDING PLASTICS AND METAL FOIL.

PACK OUT LITTER LEFT BY THOSE LESS COURTEOUS THAN YOURSELF.

LEAVE A CLEAN CAMP AND A DEAD FIRE.

A GOOD WILDERNESS TOILET IS MADE BY DIGGING A "CAT HOLE" NO DEEPER THAN 8 TO 10 INCHES AND AT LEAST 200 FEET FROM SPRINGS, LAKES AND STREAMS. COVER THE WASTE WITH 4 TO 6 INCHES OF TOPSOIL.

Of major concern is maintaining the aesthetic beauty and wilderness appeal of the Uinta Mountains. Camping, hiking and fishing use is increasing in the Uintas. Excessive recreational pressure can quickly damage this alpine habitat if conscious efforts are not made to preserve its beauty. Those entering the high country should minimize their impact and leave these mountains the way they would like to find them when they return. Remember to burn all combustible material and pack out everything that is nonburnable. **DO NOT** bury any litter. Pack out refuse left by those less courteous than yourself. Dump waste water a minimum of 150 feet from springs, lake and streams and use biodegradable soap. Select a campsite carefully and avoid clearing the vegetation or ditching around a tent. It is a good idea to utilize previously constructed fire rings whenever possible. Avoid camping in one spot longer than 5 days. Horse packers should carefully select suitable pasture away from lakes and streams, avoiding boggy areas. It is recommended that horses be hobbled or picketed during the evening to allow grazing over a large area. Picketed animals should be moved frequently to prevent trampling and beat-out circles in meadows. A good wilderness toilet is made by digging a "CAT HOLE" no deeper than 8 - 10 inches and, at least 200 feet from water sources. Cover human waste with 4 - 6 inches of lightly compacted topsoil.

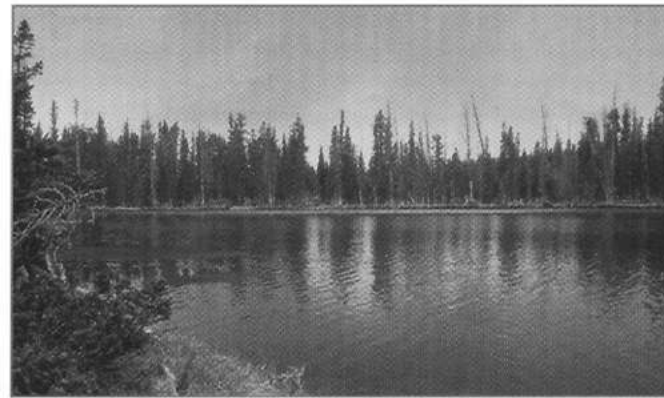
Large groups encroach upon the solitude of others and have a greater impact upon the wilderness environment than the same number of users scattered among several parties. Boy Scout and other leaders of larger groups should remember to check with the U.S. Forest Service officials for guidelines and helpful suggestions. Scout



groups may wish to take part in the "Leave No Trace" wilderness training programs offered by their local Boy Scout councils.

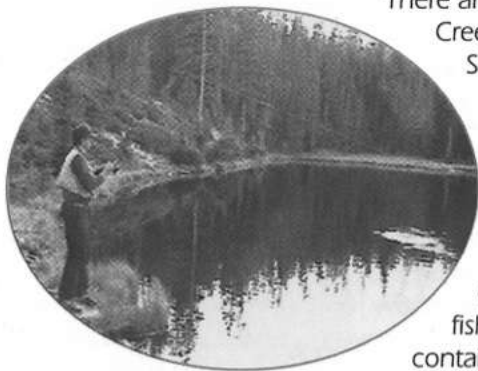
Fishing is unpredictable, especially in the high Uintas. If one lake isn't producing try another; there is usually one nearby. If the lakes are slow, try fly fishing the numerous streams. If you like elbow room to camp and fish, and enjoy discovering new scenic wonders, let us recommend the High Uintas.

SHEEP CREEK AND CARTER CREEK DRAINAGE



Lakes of the Sheep Creek and Carter Creek drainages are located on the north slope of the Uinta Mountains and encompass the first series of alpine lakes west of Flaming Gorge Reservoir. Since no major geographical feature separates the westerly Sheep Creek Drainage from the Carter Creek Drainage, subsequent references will address the area as the Sheep/Carter Creek Drainage. Higher elevations are characterized by short rocky ridges and lobes which extend north from the main Uinta divide. A number of peaks rise over 12,000 feet in elevation. The highest point in the drainage is an unnamed peak west of Weyman Lakes Basin which rises to 12,276 feet.





There are over 62 major lakes in the Sheep/Carter Creek Drainage. Four of these, Browne Lake, Sheep Creek Lake, Spirit Lake, and Long Park Reservoir, are large impounded waters accessible by vehicle. These are not discussed further in this booklet; however, all provide angling and car camping opportunities. Of the remaining major lakes, 34 contain populations of game fish or are under experimental fisheries management. The drainage also contains well over 300 waters that are less than 2 acres in size. Most of these small lakes and ponds are not permanent. Some of the on stream ponds may contain populations of small pan-sized trout. Managed lakes range in elevation from 9,200 to nearly 11,000 feet with the majority located at elevations above 10,000 feet.

There are two major access points to lakes of the Sheep/Carter Creek Drainage. A relatively high quality dirt road leads to the west from Utah S.R. 44 and provides vehicle access to trail heads at Browne and Spirit lakes. This road continues to the north and intersects Wyoming S.R. 414 near McKinnon. Lakes of the Teepee Lakes area, Lamb Lakes Basin, and Weyman Lakes Basin are served by trail heads near Browne Lake. Trails which originate at Spirit Lake provide access to Weyman Lakes Basin, Daggett Lake, and the Jesson/Tamarack lakes area. Lakes in the eastern Burnt Fork Drainage are also accessible via the trail head at Spirit Lake. All trails are well marked except where noted in the individual lake texts. Each of the trails are identified by name and Forest Service trail number on the accompanying map. Additional inquires concerning trail conditions should be directed to the U. S. Forest Service office in Manila, Utah.

The Teepee Lakes area, Daggett Lake, and the Jesson/Tamarack lakes area generally receive the heaviest angling pressure. These areas are all within a few miles of the major trail heads and receive considerable day use. Recreational use in the Weyman Lakes Basin is only moderate, generally because overnight camping is usually required. Lamb Lakes Basin receives the least recreational pressure due to the lack of maintained trails and the abundant boulder fields in the basin's lower reaches. Generally lakes which lie some distance from the trails, even when located close to the trail heads, offer the best opportunity to those in search of solace.

The most abundant fish species in lakes of this drainage is brook trout which occurs in over 65% of the waters listed. Cutthroat trout are not uncommon in a number of lakes while rainbow trout are found exclusively in Daggett Lake.

The most abundant fish species in lakes of this drainage is brook trout which occurs in over 65% of the waters listed. Cutthroat trout are not uncommon in a number of lakes while rainbow trout are found exclusively in Daggett Lake. If Arctic grayling become available, several fishless lakes may be stocked on an experimental basis.

The U.S. Geological Survey 1:24,000 topographic maps applicable to the Sheep/Carter Creek Drainage include the Leidy Park, Whiterocks Lake, and Chepeta Lake quadrangles.

USGS topographic maps applicable to the Sheep/Carter Creek Drainage include the Leidy Park, Whiterocks Lake, and Chepeta Lake quadrangles.

-  Campsites Available
-  Horse Feed Available
-  Spring Water Available

ANSON, LOWER, GR-9. Located at the end of the maintained trail into Weyman Lakes Basin, Lower Anson Lake is impossible to miss. Total distance from Spirit Lake and the Beaver Creek Trail head are 6.2 and 8.1 miles, respectively. The lake is 14.5 acres, 10,575 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 20 feet. Good campsites are infrequent in rough, rocky terrain. The best spots are in the vicinity of the trail. Horse feed is spotty. If you plan an extended trip, it is probably a good idea to pasture horses in the meadows along the stream between Lower and Upper Anson lakes. There is no spring water at Lower Anson, but there is a large spring on the east side of the creek about 0.1 mile north of Upper Anson Lake. Lower Anson Lake has been stocked in the past with brook trout. Due to apparent success of natural reproduction, stocking of brook trout was discontinued. Fishing pressure is moderate to heavy on this fairly popular water. A few cutthroat trout are also available.

ANSON, UPPER, GR-10. Upper Anson is a natural lake just 0.2 miles south of Lower Anson Lake in the Weyman Lakes Basin. A maintained Forest Service trail drops down from higher country to Lower Anson. From there a faint trail leads south along the east side of the creek to Upper Anson. Total distance from the Beaver Creek Trail head and Spirit Lake is 8.8 and 6.9 miles, respectively. Upper Anson Lake is 7.7 acres, 10,660 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 58 feet. Horses can travel within 100 yards of the lake but no further due to rocky terrain. There are no good campsites at the lake itself, however spring water is available. Campsites, horse feed and additional spring water are found between Upper and Lower Anson lakes. Upper Anson Lake contains a population of brook trout which sustains itself through natural reproduction. Fishing pressure is moderate.

BUMMER, GR-22. This small, shallow lake is located on the east side of Lamb Lakes Basin approximately 6.5 miles from Browne Lake. There is no maintained trail for the last 1.5 miles. The most direct access to lakes in



this basin is cross-country from the junction of Forest Service trails 018-1 and 017 southwest up the bottom of the basin. The going is rough through rocky timber and across boulder fields. Horse access is impossible by this route and should not be attempted. Supposedly, horses can get into Lamb Lakes Basin via two little-used trails, one which drops from the ridge southeast of Bummer Lake, the other which drops from the ridge northwest of Ewe Lake. The existence of these trails was not verified during this project. Horse use in Lamb Lakes Basin would be restricted due to the rocky terrain. Bummer Lake is 1.9 acres, 10,350 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 6 feet. Wading can be an effective way to fish this lake. Use extreme caution, however, because footing is quite treacherous. The lake is periodically stocked with brook trout. Good campsites are rare, and there is no spring water. A little horse feed is found near the inlet. Fishing pressure is light.

CANDY, GR-17. Candy Lake is a rocky 5.5 acre pond lying in the northeast corner of Weyman Lakes Basin approximately 8.8 miles from the Beaver Creek Trail head. Follow the directions to Hidden Lake (GR-7). Candy lies 0.2 miles north through rocky timber. Horses can be taken as far as Lower Anson Lake. Candy Lake sits at an elevation of 10,290 feet and has a maximum depth of 29 feet. Campsites are rare in the immediate vicinity, but spring water is present. The lake does not overwinter fish due to poor inlet flows, and stocking has been discontinued indefinitely. The lake may be experimentally planted sometime in the future with Arctic grayling which may prove more tolerant of the harsh environment. Check with the Division of Wildlife Resources Office in Vernal for the current management of this lake.

CLEAR, GR-12. This pretty lake is aptly named. Located in Weyman Lakes Basin, Clear Lake lies 0.4 miles west of Lower Anson Lake, 8.5 miles from the Beaver Creek Trail head and 6.6 miles from Spirit Lake. The last 0.4 miles is through rocky timber, and horse access is impossible beyond Anson lakes. The lake is 10.2 acres, 10,780 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 25 feet. No campsites or spring water are found in the immediate area. Fishing pressure is light. The lake may contain cutthroat trout.

COLUMBINE, GR-116. Columbine Lake sits on a rocky bench at the base of a talus slope 1.3 miles southwest of Spirit Lake. The lake is 5.7 acres and 10,550 feet in elevation. Follow the Middle Fork of Sheep Creek upstream from Spirit Lake until the stream goes underground. The lake lies across the boulder fields to the south. Horse access is impossible. Spring water is available at the lake, and a few campsites can be found in a grassy area on the lake's southwestern shore. Despite only a 5 foot maximum depth and a lake level that tends to fluctuate dur-

ing drier years, Columbine Lake still manages to support a small population of brook trout maintained through periodic stocking. Fishing pressure is light.

DAGGETT, GR-6. Located only 2.6 miles southeast of Spirit Lake via a good trail, Daggett Lake is one of the more accessible and popular lakes in the Sheep Creek drainage. It is 42.6 acres, 10,462 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 29 feet. Campsites are scattered around the lake. Spring water, although present, is not abundant. Horse feed can be found in a narrow meadow north of the lake or along the outlet below the dam. Daggett Lake is noted for hordes of mosquitoes that can quickly turn a pleasant hike into a real ordeal. Come prepared with lots of insect repellent. Fishing pressure is heavy for stocked rainbow trout. An occasional cutthroat can also be taken.

EWE, GR-18. Ewe Lake is located at the bottom of a talus slope in western Lamb Lake Basin. It is 3.0 acres, 10,750 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 10 feet. Ewe Lake is 7.3 miles from Browne Lake. The last 2.3 miles is cross-country across rough terrain. See Bummer Lake for a more detailed description of general access to the Lamb Lakes area. Campsites are scarce, but spring water can be found at the lake. Trout stocked in Ewe Lake in the past have not been able to overwinter, and as of 1986 the lake is fishless. Grayling may be introduced in the future on an experimental basis. Fishing pressure is light.

GAIL, GR-115. Gail is a small, seldom visited lake which sits at the bottom of a rock slide approximately 1.1 miles southwest of Spirit Lake. Follow the trail to Jesson Lake. Gail lies 0.2 miles to the south across downed timber and rocky terrain. The lake is 4.5 acres, 10,420 feet in elevation with 25 feet maximum depth. There are no campsites in this rough country, and spring water is not available. Horse access is difficult, if not impossible. Gail supports a small population of cutthroat trout. An occasional brook trout may also be taken. Fishing pressure is very light.

GR-11. This 2.6 acre pothole lake sits 200 yards southwest of Upper Anson Lake. Campsites, horse feed and sources of spring water are as described for Anson Lakes. GR-11 is 10,635 feet in elevation and has a maximum depth of 8 feet. This lake provides only marginal fish habitat and may winterkill. Fishing pressure is quite light for stocked brook trout.

GR-13. This natural moraine lake is situated on a glacial shelf at the bottom of a cirque in western Weyman Lakes Basin. The east-west orientation of the cirque makes this 9.2 acre lake susceptible to severe winds. GR-13



is located at timberline at an elevation of 10,820 feet and is surrounded by boulder fields and weathered stands of sub-alpine fir. The lake lies 0.7 miles west of Anson Lakes up rock slides and across rough boulder fields. Total distance from Spirit Lake and Beaver Creek Trail head is 7.8 and 9.7 miles, respectively. Horses are best left at Anson Lakes. Campsites are nonexistent, and no spring water is available. GR-13 is rather unique in that the lake's underground outlet is a visible siphon found along the northeastern shore. Fishing pressure is very light for stocked brook trout.

- GR-14.** This lake does not support fish life. It is shown on the map as a landmark.
- GR-20.** GR-20 is a fairly shallow, rocky pond which sits a short distance southwest of Bummer Lake in Lamb Lakes Basin. This lake is 5.7 acres, 10,355 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 8 feet. Access and camping are as described for Bummer Lake. The inlets and outlet of GR-20 are intermittent, and the lake provides only marginal fish habitat. Fishing is very light for stocked brook trout.
- GR-21.** Located less than 200 yards northwest of Bummer Lake, GR-21 is quite similar to GR-20. Habitat is marginal and the lake may winterkill. GR-21 is 3.7 acres, 10,355 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 7 feet. Fishing is very light for stocked brook trout.
- GR-31.** This natural, irregular shaped lake is essentially an on stream portion of the Sheep Creek Canal, which supplies irrigation water to northern Daggett County. This makes the lake fairly easy to find. Simply follow the canal 1.2 miles northwest from its junction with the Leidy Peak Trail [012]. GR-31 is the first lake you come to directly below the canal's first major waterfall. Total distance from Browne Lake is approximately 4.1 miles. The lake is 6.0 acres, 9,270 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 6 feet. There is no spring water, campsites, or horse feed in the immediate vicinity. Horse feed and a few campsites are available in a small meadow along the canal 0.3 miles upstream. Fishing pressure is very light for naturally produced brook trout.
- GR-104.** This 4.3 acre natural pond sits on a steep bench overlooking the Sheep Creek Canal approximately 3.1 miles from both the Beaver Creek Trail head and Spirit Lake. GR-104 is located 0.3 miles west of the junction of Forest Service trails 017 and 052. The lake lies at an elevation of 9,290 feet and is surrounded by rocky timber. Maximum depth is 19 feet. Campsites and spring water are not available in the immediate area. The lake does not have inlets or an outlet and does not overwinter trout. This is another water where grayling may be stocked sometime in the future. Contact the Division of Wildlife Resources Office in Vernal for up-to-date information. Fishing pressure is very light.



HIDDEN, GR-7. Hidden Lake is a picturesque, natural lake which lies at the bottom of a wet meadow 0.7 miles northwest of Lower Anson Lake in Weyman Lakes Basin. Total distance from the Beaver Creek Trail head is 9.0 miles. Horses should be ridden only as far as Anson Lakes. From that point access is cross-country through



downed timber and across scattered boulder fields. The lake is 8.5 acres, 10,380 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 26 feet. Spring water can be found on the lake's southwestern shore, but campsites are few and far between in the rough country which surrounds the lake. Fishing pressure is light for stocked brook trout. The lake also supports a small number of cutthroat trout.

HIDDEN, GR-112. This natural lake, not to be confused with another water of the same name in Weyman Lake Basin, is surrounded by heavy timber and rock slides 0.8 miles northwest of the Spirit Lake campground. Direct access is through downed timber and across scattered boulder fields. The going is a little easier if you travel to Lost Lake via the maintained trail and then north cross-country 0.2 miles to Hidden. Total distance for this route is 1.3 miles. The lake is 4.3 acres, 10,270 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 8 feet. Campsites are limited due to the rough terrain, and there are no reliable sources of spring water. A small amount of horse feed is located on the lake's eastern shore. Hidden Lake is stocked with brook trout but also produces an occasional cutthroat trout. Fishing pressure is light.



JESSON, GR-1. Jesson Lake is a fairly large, popular water which lies approximately 1.0 mile southwest of Spirit Lake via a maintained but rocky trail. This natural lake is surrounded by rocky timber and good campsites are difficult to find. Spring water and a minute amount of horse feed are located on the west shoreline. Jesson Lake is 25.5 acres, 10,392 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 56 feet. Brook trout are regularly stocked, but don't be surprised if you land an occasional cutthroat. Fishing pressure is heavy.

JUDY, GR-25. This seldom visited, picturesque pond sits on a high bench 0.4 miles south of Tamarack Lake. The most direct access is from the south shore of Tamarack. A hard scramble up 400 vertical feet puts you on top of the bench. Judy Lake lies a short distance further south at the base of the boulder fields. Total distance from Spirit Lake is 1.8 miles. The lake is 4.7 acres, 10,830 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 24 feet. Horse access is difficult and there is no horse feed at the lake. No spring water is found in the immediate vicinity, and campsites



RAINBOW



are scarce due to the rough, rocky terrain. Fishing pressure is light for stocked brook trout.

LAMB, GR-19. Lamb Lake is located at the bottom of a small brushy meadow in the western lobe of Lamb Lakes Basin. Abutting a steep rock slide, this relatively murky lake is 6.0 acres, 10,540 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 10 feet. There is no trail to the lake. Follow access directions to Bummer Lake. Lamb Lake lies to the west 0.9 miles across downed timber and rocks. The lake is surrounded by rocky timber but generally has an open shoreline. Horse feed and campsites are scarce due to the rough terrain; however, spring water is abundant. This lake has marginal fish habitat and may be fishless. Fishing pressure is light.

LILY PAD, GR-11. This lake does not support fish life. It is shown on the map as a landmark.

LOST, GR-4. This shallow pond is located just north of the trail between Spirit and Tamarack lakes. Approximately 0.3 miles past Lily Pad Lake (not stocked) turn north off the trail. Lost Lake is 0.1 miles down the slope. Total distance from Spirit Lake is 1.1 miles. The lake can also be reached by following the outlet of Tamarack Lake northeast 0.3 miles. Lost Lake is 3.2 acres, 10,300 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of only 7 feet. Good water exchange enables fish to survive the winter in Lost Lake despite the fairly shallow water. A handful of campsites are available at the lake. Horse feed is limited, however, and spring water is not available. Cutthroat trout are able to reproduce in Lost Lake so stocking has been discontinued for the time being. Fishing pressure is light.

LOST, GR-101 (Mystery). This pretty, elongated lake lies in a pocket formed by two oblique ridges and is surrounded by dense timber. There is a trail to the lake, but it can be difficult to find. Follow the south bank of the Sheep Creek Canal downstream from the Leidy Peak Trail. Approximately 0.2 miles upstream of GR-31 the trail cuts up the slope to the south. Lost Lake, also called Mystery Lake in some references, is 1.1 miles further along the trail. The lake is 10.2 acres, 9,750 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 25 feet. Total distance from Browne Lake is 4.9 miles. Spring water is located on the lake's south shore. There is no horse feed, and decent campsites are difficult to find because of the rocky, timbered slopes around the lake. The lake is periodically stocked with brook trout. Cutthroat trout are also present in the lake. Fishing pressure is light to moderate.

MUTTON, GR-23. This natural lake abuts a rocky slope in the southern corner of Lamb Lakes Basin. There is no trail to the lake. Easiest access is to follow the inlet of Bummer Lake 0.6 miles south to Mutton. Total distance from Browne Lake is 7.0 miles. Mutton Lake is 3.8 acres, 10,570

feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 10 feet. Spring water is available at the lake, and a few campsites can be found around the inlet area. Horse feed is not abundant, and horse access to the lake, or anywhere in the basin, is difficult due to the rough terrain. Fishing pressure is very light for stocked brook trout.

ONE FISH, GR-32. One Fish Lake is located in heavy timber just a few yards north of the Sheep Creek Canal 0.3 miles downstream from where the canal crosses the Leidy Peak Trail. Total distance from Browne Lake is 3.0 miles. Campsites, horse feed and spring water are available in the large meadow 0.2 miles southeast of the canal. The lake is 4.5 acres, 9,350 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 35 feet. Unless you are an expert don't bother taking a fly rod. The dense timber makes back casting almost impossible. Fishing pressure is light for stocked brook trout.

PENGUIN, GR-16. This small, boulder-strewn pond is located just a few yards west of Upper Anson Lake in Weyman Lakes Basin. Penguin Lake is surrounded by talus slopes and rocky moraines. The lake is 2.1 acres, 10,665 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 20 feet. Total distances from Spirit Lake and the Beaver Creek Trail head are 7.1 and 9.0 miles, respectively. Campsites, spring water and horse feed are available in the vicinity of Anson lakes. Penguin supports a naturally reproducing population of pan-sized brook trout. Fishing pressure is light to moderate.

POTTER, LOWER, GR-27. This small circular pond is located just a few yards northeast of the much larger Upper Potter Lake. See the Upper Potter description for access instructions. Lower Potter Lake is 3.4 acres when full, 10,130 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 16 feet. Campsites are practically nonexistent because of the extremely rocky terrain. Horse feed is scarce for the same reason, and there is no spring water in the immediate vicinity. Fishing pressure is moderate for brook trout sustained by natural reproduction.

POTTER, UPPER, GR-27. Upper Potter Lake is a fairly large, deep, elongated lake located at the base of a steep rock slide. Easiest access is from Browne Lake. Follow the trail from Browne Lake to the bottom of Lamb Lakes Basin. Approximately 1.0 mile beyond where the trail crosses the West Fork of Carter Creek a faint trail cuts off to the south. Upper Potter Lake lies at the end of this trail. Total distance from Browne Lake is approximately 6.5 miles. A topo map is a good thing to carry if you are not familiar with the country. Upper Potter Lake is 21.3 acres, 10,130 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 75 feet. Campsites are not available in the immediate vicinity due to the rough terrain. There is no horse feed or spring water at the lake. Upper Potter is not stocked; however, the lake contains a self-sustaining pop-



ulation of brook trout. Fishing pressure is light.

RAM, GR-24. Ram Lake lies at the base of a rock slide approximately 0.6 miles west-southwest of Bummer Lake in Lamb Lakes Basin. See Bummer Lake for more detailed access instructions. Total distance from Browne Lake is 6.9 miles. There is no maintained trail into the basin. Ram Lake is 7.0 acres, 10,380 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 27 feet. The rough, rocky terrain in the immediate area affords few good campsites. Spring water is found in good supply along the eastern margin of the talus while horse feed is available in wet meadows to the west. This lake may contain a small population of cutthroat trout. Fishing pressure is light.



RED, GR-33. This fairly large, irregular shaped lake is located at the end of a rough, rocky trail 1.2 miles south of the Teepee Lakes. The trail to Red Lake diverges from the Leidy Peak Trail just south of its junction with the Sheep Creek Canal. Total distance from Browne Lake is 4.4 miles. Leidy Peak, located south of the lake, provides a stunning backdrop. Red Lake is 20.9 acres, 9,850 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 57 feet. Good campsites are very infrequent in the rough, timbered country surrounding the lake. Spring water is also unavailable. Sparse horse feed can be found in meadows to the north along the outlet. Deep sod-covered potholes abound in the meadow. You may want to picket horses on firmer ground rather than turning them loose with hobbles. Fishing pressure is light to moderate for stocked brook trout.



SESAME, GR-15. Surrounded by boulder fields and talus slopes, Sesame Lake lies in a shallow depression 0.4 miles west of Upper Anson Lake in Weyman Lakes Basin. The most direct access is due west from Penguin Lake up the rock slide and across some of the roughest boulder fields in the Uintas. Use caution when traversing the rocks. Even 5 ton boulders can sometimes shift when stepped on. The lake is located 7.4 and 9.3 miles, respectively from Spirit Lake and the Beaver Creek Trail head. Sesame Lake is 6.0 acres, 10,780 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 7 feet. The nearest campsites, spring water and horse feed are found at Anson Lakes. Sesame Lake is occasionally stocked with brook trout. Fishing pressure is very light. Fishing can be spotty as the lake may experience partial winterkill during particularly harsh winters.



SUMMIT, GR-5. This pretty, hourglass shaped lake sits at the bottom of a steep talus slope a short mile south of Spirit Lake. Easiest access is to travel due south of Spirit Lake until you hit a line of steep cliffs. Follow the base of the slope to Summit. The lake is 9.9 acres, 10,460 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of only 7 feet. Winterkill has been a problem in the past and, as of this writing, the lake does not support a fishery. Future plans call for the stocking of Arctic grayling on an experimental basis. You might want to call the Division of Wildlife Resources office in Vernal to inquire about the lake's status before you plan a trip. Even without a fishery, the lake is worth a visit. There is no spring water, however, good campsites and horse feed are available.



TAMARACK, GR-2. Tamarack Lake is by far the largest lake in the Sheep/ Carter Creek Drainage system. Located 1.4 miles west of Spirit Lake via a rocky but maintained Forest Service trail, Tamarack is a popular fishing lake for day hikers and scout groups. The lake is 79.1 acres, 10,429 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 90 feet. The best camping sites are found on the east side of the lake while a few springs can be found along the southern shoreline. A few small meadows east of the lake contain horse feed. Tamarack Lake supports a naturally reproducing population of brook trout. A small number of cutthroat also inhabit the lake. Fishing pressure is heavy.



TEEPEE, LOWER, GR-28. Lower Teepee Lake is a hourglass shaped lake surrounded by fairly heavy timber located at the head of the Sheep Creek Canal and 2.9 miles by trail from Browne Lake. Follow the canal upstream 0.2 miles from its junction with the Leidy Peak Trail. Lower Teepee Lake is



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The STREAM TEAM Program is designed to offer opportunities to anglers in becoming personally involved in cleaning, restoring and enhancing Utah's aquatic resources. There are several hundred miles of streams and lake shoreline that need help. STREAM TEAMS are given opportunities to monitor and improve habitat conditions by studying aquatic insect numbers, kinds, and varieties. The presence of "pollution tolerant" insects may indicate the presence of stream pollution. Riparian areas surrounding streams are surveyed to determine the presence of certain song birds that serve as "indicator" species of healthy riparian areas. Herbicides, fertilizers and other commercial and lawncare chemicals can destroy fisheries when dumped into rivers or through storm drains. The number of fish kills on Utah's waterways has steadily increased over the past ten years.

If you would like to do your share in tackling the problem by making the two year commitment to "adopt" and care for Utah's aquatic resources, please contact Phil Douglass, DWR Aquatic Education Coordinator, at (801) 538-4717.

4.3 acres and sits at an elevation of 9,410 feet. The western basin of the lake is only 6 feet at its deepest point, but the larger eastern basin drops to 28 feet fairly quickly. Campsites, horse feed, and spring water are available in the vicinity of a long meadow 0.1 miles west of the lake across the trail. Fishing pressure is moderate to heavy for stocked brook trout.

TEEPEE, UPPER, GR-30. This circular lake is located in dense timber 150 yards southeast of Lower Teepee Lake (see Lower Teepee Lake access).



Upper Teepee Lake is 6.5 acres, 9,430 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 28 feet. Campsites are limited, and there are no springs or horse feed in the area. Fishing could be spotty as the lake winterkills occasionally. It may have a few cutthroat trout. Fishing pressure is moderate.

BURNT FORK DRAINAGE

The Burnt Fork drainage is located immediately west of the Sheep/Carter Creek Drainage and south of Hoop Lake on the north slope of the Uinta Mountains.

This relatively small drainage contains approximately 15 major lakes and over 100 small ponds which are less than 2 acres in area and often ephemeral. Eleven of the major lakes contain managed trout populations. Nearly all of the lakes which support a fishery are found at elevations exceeding 10,500 feet. At 12,726 feet in elevation, South Burro Peak is the highest point in the drainage.

The predominant fish species found in Burnt Fork lakes is the cutthroat trout. Only Fish Lake contains brook trout almost exclusively.

A dirt road from Lonetree, Wyoming, heads south to Hoop Lake, the primary access point for the Burnt Fork drainage. The eastern portion of the drainage can also be reached from Spirit Lake (see Sheep/Carter Creek map). The highest recreational use is directed at lakes in the Island Lake area and Kabell Lake. The popular lakes in the Fox Lake area of the upper Uinta River drainage are also accessible from Island Lake via a pass to the south across the Uinta divide. Additional questions concerning trail conditions should be directed to the U.S. Forest Service office in Mountain View, Wyoming.

The predominant fish species found in Burnt Fork lakes is the cutthroat trout. Only Fish Lake contains brook trout almost exclusively. Approximately half the lakes contain populations of both species.

U.S. Geological Survey 1:24,000 topographic maps applicable to the Burnt Fork drainage include the Hole-In-The-Wall, Hoop Lake, Fox Lake, and Chepeta



Lake quadrangles.

BENNION, LOWER, GR-134. Lower Bennion is a natural, somewhat elongated lake lying at the base of North Burro Peak in the southwestern corner of the Burnt Fork drainage. A maintained trail goes only as far as Island Lake. Lower Bennion, also called Bennion Lake in some texts, is located approximately 0.7 miles west of Island Lake across a large meadow and up a timbered slope. The lake lies 10.8 miles from Spirit Lake and 10.1 miles from Hoop Lake via Kabell Ridge. Lower Bennion is 7.7 acres, 10,950 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 13 feet. Campsites and spring water are found at the lake. Horse feed is located in small meadows along the eastern shore or in the vicinity of Whitewall Lake, a short distance to the southeast. The lake is stocked cyclicly with brook trout but also contains a small self-sustaining population of cutthroat trout. Fishing pressure is light.



BENNION, UPPER, GR-135. This small shallow pond is located on the edge of a rocky meadow only a few hundred yards upstream of Lower Bennion Lake. Upper Bennion Lake is 2.0 acres, 10,970 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 3 feet. Facilities and distances from major trail heads are as described for Lower Bennion. This lake is not stocked; however, both brook and cutthroat trout can migrate from Lower Bennion to Upper Bennion through the short connecting stream. Fishing pressure is light.



BOXER, GR-126. Boxer Lake is a relatively shallow, natural pond located against a talus slope at the head of a basin in the southeastern corner of the Burnt Fork drainage. A faint trail begins at the western end of Fish Lake (see Fish Lake access) and eventually cuts south across a ridge to Burnt Fork Lake. Boxer lies 0.3 miles to the southeast. The lake is 6.0 acres, 10,700 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 11 feet. Total distance from Spirit Lake is 6.5 miles. The lake is 10.6 miles from Hoop Lake via the Burnt Fork Trail. Campsites are plentiful, and large areas of wet meadow supply excellent horse feed. Spring water is found along the west shore of Boxer Lake or along the meadow edge. Fishing pressure is moderate for cutthroat trout. There is some natural reproduction, and stocking has been discontinued on an experimental basis.



BURNT FORK, GR-127. Burnt Fork Lake lies one mile by faint trail from the western end of Fish Lake (see Fish Lake access). The trail winds wester-



U.S. Geological Survey 1:24,000 topographic maps applicable to the Burnt Fork drainage include the Hole-In-The-Wall, Hoop Lake, Fox Lake, and Chepeta Lake quadrangles.



ly along the base of a ridge and then cuts south over the ridge to the lake. Burnt Fork Lake is 9.8 acres, 10,630 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 25 feet. The lake abuts a rock slide on its east side and is located 6.1 and 10.2 miles from Spirit Lake and the Hoop Lake Campground, respectively. Campsites, horse feed and spring water are located in areas as described for Boxer Lake. Cutthroat trout reproduce naturally, and stocking has been discontinued. Fishing pressure is moderate.



CRYSTAL, GR-128. This shallow, natural pond is located at the bottom of a steep talus slope 0.6 miles southwest of Burnt Fork Lake. Direct access is down a fairly steep, timber covered slope. If your compass bearing is right, you will exit the trees at the lake. A longer but more sure access route is to follow the outlet of Burnt Fork



Lake down the slope until you reach a wet grassy meadow. The outlet stream of Crystal Lake flows into Burnt Fork Creek on the west side of the meadow. Crystal is located 6.7 miles from Spirit Lake and 9.2 miles from Hoop Lake via the Burnt Fork Trail. The lake is 5.4 acres, 10,380 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of only 5 feet. The terrain is rough and sloping. Campsites are scarce, and horse feed is not plentiful. Spring water is located on the lake's south side. Cutthroat trout sustain themselves without stocking. A few brook trout also inhabit the lake. Fishing pressure is very light.



FISH, GR-125. Fish Lake is a relatively large, narrow lake bordered along its entire south shore by a steep rock slide. The lake sits atop the divide between the Burnt Fork and Sheep Creek drainage. A maintained Forest Service trail dead ends at the lake's western tip. Total distance from Spirit Lake and Hoop Lake via the Burnt Fork Trail is 5.1 and 9.2 miles, respectively. Fish Lake is 38.3 acres, 10,685 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 23 feet. Campsites and spring water are available at the lake. The best horse feed is located in a large park 0.5 miles north along the trail. Fish Lake is periodically stocked with brook trout but also holds a few cutthroat. Fishing pressure is moderate to heavy.



ISLAND, GR-132. Island Lake is a large impounded water located in the southwest corner of the Burnt Fork drainage. The lake is used for water storage, and the water level fluctuates according to irrigation demand downstream. The area is quite popular with scout groups and other campers. Island Lake lies 8.9 miles from Hoop Lake via the trail across Kabell Ridge and 9.6 miles from Spirit Lake to the east. Lakes in the



Uinta River drainage (Fox Lake area) are easily accessible across a pass to the south of the lake. Island Lake is 117.8 acres at full pool, 10,777 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 34 feet. Excellent campsites are in the vicinity. Spring water is located along the lake's south shore. The best horse feed is found around Whitewall Lake to the west or in a narrow meadow north of the lake. Island Lake contains a self-sustaining population of cutthroat trout and fair numbers of brook trout. Fishing pressure is heavy.

KABELL, GR-140. Kabell Lake is another popular lake with large hiking groups. From Hoop Lake a maintained trail leads south to Kabell Meadows. At the upper end of the meadows a trail splits off to the southeast and begins to climb the eastern tip of Kabell Ridge. A short distance down this trail a spur trail cuts to the right and terminates at Kabell Lake. Total distance from Hoop Lake is 5.2 miles. Kabell Lake is 14.7 acres, 10,348 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 23 feet. The lake is almost completely surrounded by dense timber, and campsites are fairly scarce. Small meadows located to the north along the outlet provide horse feed and possible camping areas. Spring water is found along the south side of the lake. Fishing pressure is moderate for stocked cutthroat trout.



ROUND, GR-131. Round Lake is a natural, picturesque lake which sits 0.4 miles southeast of the Island Lake outlet through heavy timber. Total distance from Spirit Lake and Hoop Lake via Kabell Ridge is 10.2 and 9.3 miles, respectively. Round Lake is 24.3 acres, 10,662 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 38 feet. Excellent campsites, horse feed and spring water are available in the immediate vicinity. Fishing pressure is moderate for stocked cutthroat trout.



SNOW, GR-130. This pretty lake is surrounded on three sides by talus slides and ledges. Snow Lake lies 0.3 miles east of Round Lake through a rocky draw. The lake is located 10.6 miles from Spirit Lake and 9.9 miles from Hoop Lake via Kabell Ridge. Horse access is impossible. Snow Lake, sometimes referred to as Andrea in older texts, is 9.4 acres, 10,550 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 35 feet. No campsites are available due to the uneven rocky terrain. A number of springs are located on the west end of the lake. Cutthroat trout are planted cyclicly, and fishing pressure is light.



WHITEWALL, GR-133. Whitewall Lake is a shallow natural lake which sits in a large meadow 0.4 miles west of Island Lake. The lake is located 9.8 miles from Hoop Lake across Kabell Ridge and 10.5 miles from Spirit Lake. Campsites and horse feed are plentiful while a number of springs are located on the west shore. Whitewall Lake is 14.5 acres, 10,900 feet in elevation with a maximum depth of 3 feet. The lake is



not stocked; however, both brook and cutthroat trout are able to migrate to the lake from Island and Lower Bennion lakes. Fishing pressure is light.



Pathways to Fishing Program

ENTER NOW THE WORLD OF FISHING WITH ALL ITS ANTICIPATION, EXCITEMENT AND LIFETIME BONDS WITH WILD THINGS AND NATURE, FAMILY AND FRIENDS – A PATHWAY OF ADVENTURE – A PATHWAY TO FISHING!

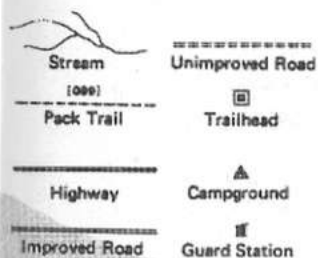
The new Pathways to Fishing Program is a trail taking the curious youngster and beginning angler through a simple discovery process in the concepts, ethics and functions of fishing implementing simple basics of aquatic life and fishing through a system of gentle instruction and hands-on experiences. The Utah Division of Wildlife's Pathway to Fishing is a multi-station, one-hour walk-through program that combines the basics, aquatic ecology, and provides information about local fishing opportunities. It is beneficial to people of all ages. Parents and guardians are encouraged to accompany the youngsters through the program and learn with them.

The Pathways program is conducted by a team of several trained instructors from the area of the clinic. These instructors are from various disciplines – some are experienced anglers often from local outdoor clubs, others are business people from fishing tackle stores, and some are fisheries biologists from agencies with natural resources responsibilities. The Utah Division of Wildlife provides the equipment and assistance. To learn more about the next Pathways Program in your area, contact Aquatic Education, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, 1594 N. West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84114, (801) 538-4717.



SHEEP CREEK DRAINAGE

LEGEND



Key to Forest Service Trails

- [011] Daggett Lake Trail
- [012] Leidy Peak Trail
- [015] Beaver Cr.- Weyman Park Trail
- [017] Browne- Spirit Lake Trail
- [018-1] Potter- Lamb Lakes Trail
- [020] Teepee- Red Lake Trail
- [021] Lost Lake Trail
- [022] Hicherson Park Trail
- [023] North Fork Sheep Creek Trail
- [024] Tamarack Lake Trail
- [030] High Ridge Trail
- [052] Weyman Creek Trail

