Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs Approved, August 28, 2005

SUPPORT FOR AMERICA'S REDROCK WILDERNESS BILL, UTAH

In cooperation with the member groups of the Utah Wilderness Coalition, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance has developed a legislative proposal (America's Redrock Wilderness Act) to designate over 9 million acres of federal land in Utah as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

These lands contain large desert roadless areas, including the huge canyon systems of the Colorado, Green, San Juan and Delores rivers; the slickrock narrows of the Escalante, Dirty Devil, Paria, and Virgin rivers; the vast table lands and massive cliff walls of the Kaiparowits Plateau, the Book Cliffs, and the Grand Staircase; and the isolated mountain ranges and desert riparian areas of Utah's Great Basin country. These proposed, presently unprotected BLM wilderness areas surround and connect eight of Utah's nine national parks, monument, and recreation areas. These BLM lands easily equal their neighboring national parklands in scenic beauty, opportunities for primitive recreation and in ecological importance.

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs supports the protection of the remaining wilderness-quality public lands in Utah and calls upon the BLM to maintain their wilderness characteristics by prohibiting drilling and off-road vehicles from these proposed wilderness areas.