

A SAMPLING OF THE COMPROMISES IN THE PUBLIC LANDS INITIATIVE ACT

IN ITS "CONSERVATION" SECTION, THE BILL WOULD:

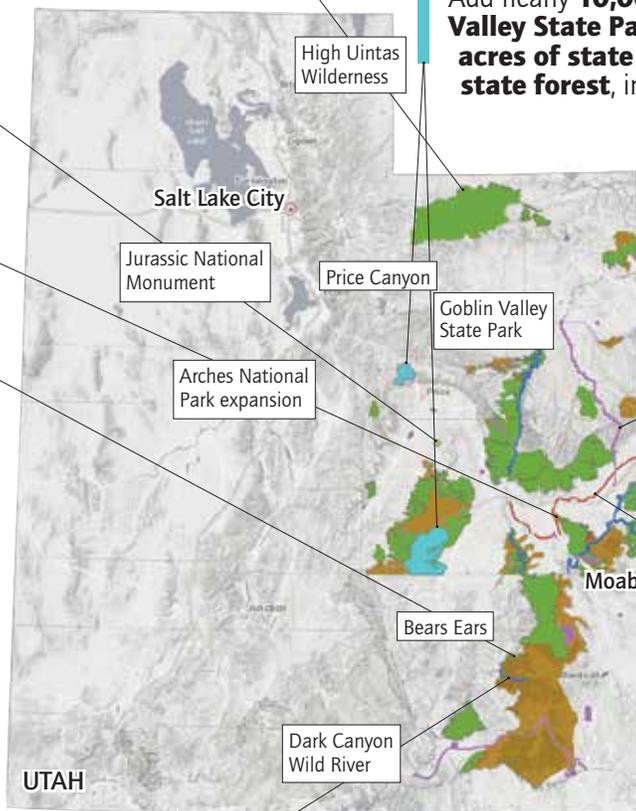
Create **41 new wilderness areas**, ranging in size from 599 acres in Bull Canyon to 473,272 acres in Desolation Canyon, for a total of 2.2 million acres. They include lands in Canyonlands and Arches national parks, Dinosaur National Monument, Labyrinth Canyon, the Book Cliffs and on Cedar Mesa. Many would replace existing wilderness study areas, but 80,797 acres of wilderness study areas would be released to multiple use.

Create an **867-acre Jurassic National Monument** northwest of Green River to protect the world's highest concentration of Jurassic Era fossils.

Expand **Arches National Park by 19,255 acres** to protect the area around Delicate Arch from development.

Create **14 national conservation areas** on federal land around the Colorado River, San Rafael Swell and elsewhere, totaling 1.8 million acres. Perhaps the most controversial – Bears Ears, west of Blanding – would conserve 1.1 million acres, with management shared by tribes, a county commissioner and the state. A coalition of **five tribes argues that 1.9 million acres deserves protection**, that protections should be stronger, and that tribes need a greater management role. It opposes the bill and plans to seek national monument designation from the Obama administration.

Give **301 miles of the Dolores, Colorado and Green rivers varying levels of wild and scenic protection**. The longest contiguous stretch of protected river is 62 miles, in Desolation Canyon; the shortest a 3.7 mile section of the Colorado.



IN THE "OPPORTUNITY" SECTION, THE BILL WOULD:

Consolidate 336,441 acres of state land within the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, or SITLA, a state agency that generates revenue for Utah public schools, mostly through energy development and mining. Because SITLA lands are exempt from federal environmental review, development is usually expedited.

Add nearly **10,000 acres of BLM land to Goblin Valley State Park**, and consolidate another **13,321 acres of state land to help create Utah's first state forest**, in Carbon County's Price Canyon.

Convey an additional **40,449 acres of federal land to state and local entities** to expand a state park, several small airports and a water treatment facility, and to create "recreation areas," a still-vague designation.

Transfer **4,596 acres of federal land to the state** to build the Seep Ridge Utility Corridor, or Book Cliffs Highway, which could be used to transport fossil fuels from proposed tar sand mines to Interstate 70.

Create a **93-mile "Red Rock Country Off-Highway Vehicle Trail"** to connect small towns in western Colorado and eastern Utah.

Designate **"energy planning areas" on an estimated 2.6 million acres of BLM land**, where the "highest and best use" of the land is the development of oil, gas, solar, wind, coal, shale

or other forms of energy. (This estimate is from the Southern Utah's Wilderness Alliance's analysis; the Utah congressional delegation did not calculate acreage for this designation.)

Grant Utah ownership over most trails and roads that fall under R.S. 2477, a Frontier Era law that allowed road-building across public land. **Many Western counties have tried to use it to open trails to motorized use, even in national parks and wilderness study areas.**