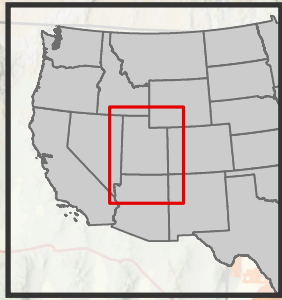



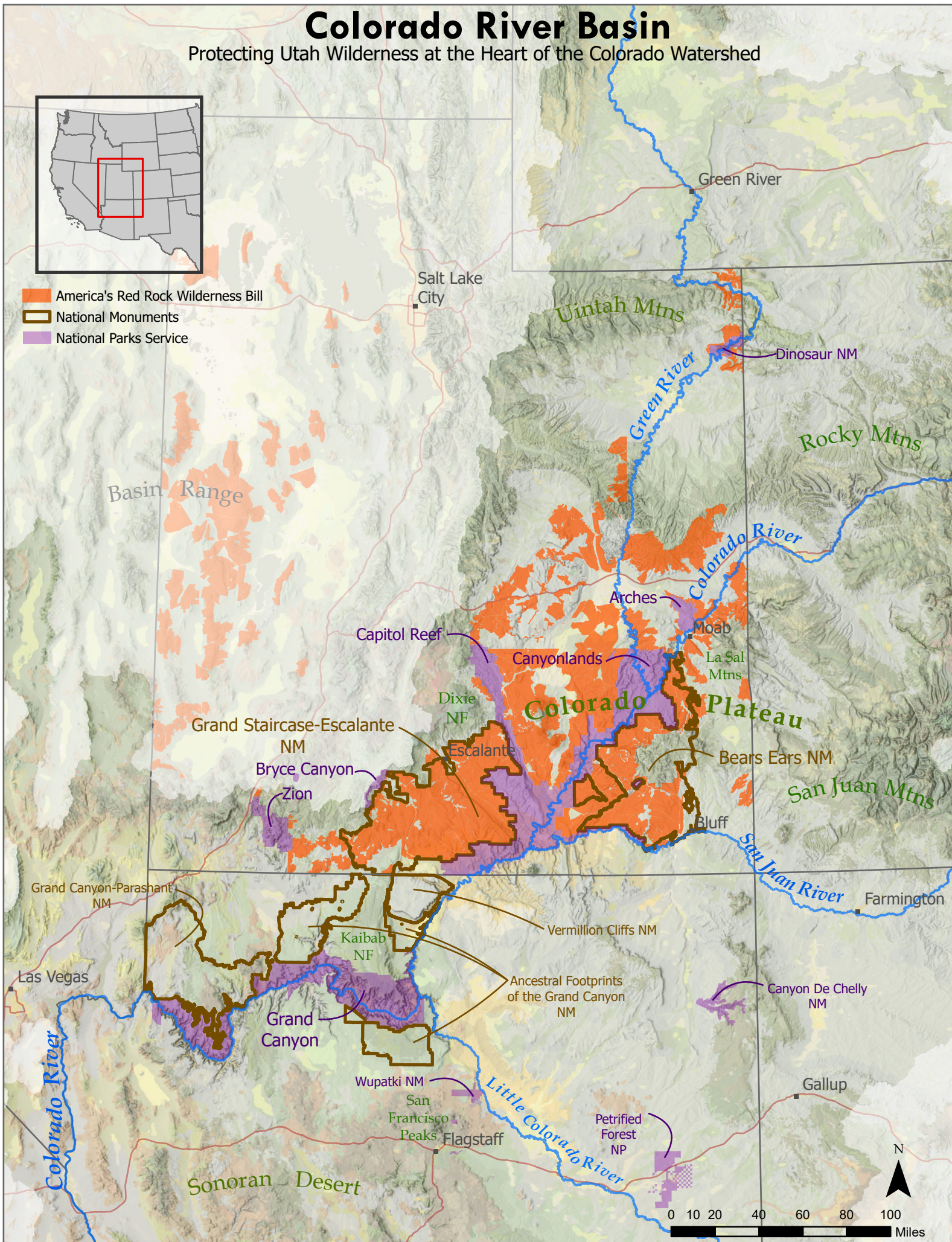


Colorado River Basin

Protecting Utah Wilderness at the Heart of the Colorado Watershed



-  America's Red Rock Wilderness Bill
-  National Monuments
-  National Parks Service



The Colorado River is experiencing some of the driest conditions in 1,200 years. With climate change and prolonged drought, preserving the essential Colorado River – by using water smartly – is an ongoing challenge. It's critical that we make sure communities in the Colorado River Basin have equitable access to water for the people, wildlife and the lands that rely on a healthy watershed.

The Colorado River and its tributaries deliver the water for 40 million (40m) people in one of the fastest growing regions of the United States. In fact, it's the second largest American watershed after the Mississippi-Missouri (70m) and ahead of the Great Lakes (34m), the Ohio (25m) and Delaware (14m).

Yet remarkably – while western water managers get so much from the mighty Colorado – the river is the 37th largest American river based on an average discharge (water flow) of 22,000 cubic feet/second (cf/s); compared to the Mississippi-Missouri with an average discharge of 697,000 cf/s.

Protecting intact Grand Staircase-Escalante and Bears Ears national monuments and the 8.5 million acres of wilderness qualifying land under the purview of the Bureau of Land Management – known as America's Red Rock Wilderness Act – is an essential first step in protecting this vital watershed of upstream pollution from oil, gas and mineral extraction, fracking, and erosion from clearcutting piñon-juniper forests and reckless ill-conceived roadbuilding projects.

Join Utah interfaith leaders calling for the protection these wildlands of Utah which will

- Mitigate the impacts of climate change;
- Protect the Colorado River watershed;
- Defend ancestral lands of at least eight Indigenous peoples and their tribes;
- Preserve essential wildlife habitat and migration corridors – for species and biodiversity: charismatic mammals such as deer, elk, antelope, bighorn sheep, mountain lion, bear, and potentially wolves, keystone species beaver, prairie dogs and migratory birds;
- Support more than 75% of Utahans who back the protection of our public lands as wilderness now and for future generations.

Salt Lake City Catholic Diocese
Congregation Kol Ami
Episcopal Diocese of Utah
Evangelical Lutheran Church – Rocky Mountain Synod
Greek Orthodox Church of Greater Salt Lake
United Methodist Church in Utah
Presbyterian Church of Utah
United Church of Christ
Unitarian Church of Utah
First Baptist Church