

9-5 M-1 MOUNTAIN ZONE

9-5-1 Declaration of Legislative Intent

The Mountain Zone includes the watershed for the communities on the West side of the county. It is characterized by forested areas of the Manti Plateau, together with canyons, riparian and valley floors. It contains numerous reservoirs, streams and areas of snow pack, as well as forested areas and steep slopes.

Public concerns in this zone are prevention of forest fires and the health of forests, which in turn affect the water supplies to communities in and out of Emery County. Forestry methods which may result in erosion, silting of streams, loss of habitat for fish and wildlife, degradation of scenic vistas and other environmental damage are major concerns in this Zone. Because of these concerns, and other limitations imposed by topography, climate, soil conditions, and other natural features, use of the land within this zone has been restricted to uses which can be regulated to protect the watershed, wildlife habitat and the scenic values in the area, while allowing sustainable uses, such as livestock grazing, recreational camping, fishing, hunting, etc. and timber harvesting. Mining activity, which is a major part of the county's economy, is allowed as a conditional use with careful planning and permitting. The area contains some private land which may be used for cabins, provided they can be made compatible with the protection of the watershed and meet the requirements set forth herein.