

NEWS RELEASE

Ashley National Forest

*Forest Supervisor's Office
355 North Vernal Avenue
Vernal, Utah 84078*



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 21, 2010

Louis Haynes 435-781-5105

EAST FORK OF ROCK CREEK FOOTBRIDGE ON TRAIL #069 WASHED OUT IN THE HIGH UINTAS WILDERNESS AREA ON THE ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST

Duchesne, Utah ... On June 16, 2010 a trail crew working on the East Fork of Rock Creek reported that the footbridge had been washed out on the East Fork of Rock Creek on Trail #069, in the High Uintas Wilderness area, specifically 1/8 mile south of the junction of Squaw Basin Trail #063 and Rock Creek Trail #069.

Animal Packer, Ken Reed, assessed the site on Thursday June 17, 2010. Ken Reed stated, "The trail is passable to hikers but would be a hazard to stock users. Where the bridge previously existed, the stream bed is now approximately 100 feet wide with huge boulders and debris deposited by the spring runoff."

The bridge at the Squaw Creek Junction is the primary access into Upper Rock Creek. The Trail Head hosts have been notified and have been provided with descriptions and photos so they can adequately inform the public. The Forest has posted a trail warning at the Rock Creek Trailhead and the Trailhead into Brown Duck Basin. The Rock Creek drainage can also be accessed through Brown Duck Basin/Squaw Basin over Tworoose Pass beginning at the Lake Fork Trailhead, trail conditions permitting.

The Ashley National Forest Engineering Staff has been notified and will be determine when reconstruction can take place.

For information about alternate routes to Upper Rock Creek, please contact Sheila Harper on the Duchesne Ranger District at 435-435-738-2482.

