

San Juan County Policy on Recreation and Tourism

San Juan County is rapidly becoming a destination center for recreation. Opportunities stem from the National Park, National Recreation Area and National Monuments in the County. Edge of Cedars State Park, Dark Canyon Wilderness Area, Cedar Mesa, Grand Gulch and the San Juan River have focused a great deal of attention on backpacking, and outdoor recreation. In addition, the LaSal and Blue Mountains offer opportunities for cross country skiing, hunting and fishing. The county offers both desert and mountain experiences in a relatively short travel distance.

The county views recreation and tourism as an additional economic opportunity. The County believes this opportunity may only be in its infant stage. The County will continue to assist the travel council in promoting the county's tourist industry.

San Juan County believes and encourages private sector development of recreational facilities and services. The county will also continue to support and work in partnership with agencies, entities and interest groups to promote recreation and tourism in San Juan County.

When evaluating recreational developments and investments, San Juan County will consider:

- the county's ability to provide essential services (law enforcement, emergency services, water and waste management and search and rescue).
- impacts on traditional recreational uses.
- anticipated economic costs and returns.

San Juan County Recreation and Tourism Preferences:

The following objectives were identified as the San Juan County Recreation and Tourism priorities.

Objective: Conduct a farm/ranch recreational opportunity feasibility study. This would include studying the possibilities of having guide and outfitter operations associated with ranch operations.

It will require the full cooperation of the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, State Lands and Forestry, and the Division of Wildlife resources to accomplish this task. This however, could be another example of value added agriculture.

Objective: Cultivating a recreation and tourism facility development and maintenance partnership with agencies and other interest groups.