

SMITHS FORK DRAINAGE

The Smiths Fork Basin is a small drainage system on the north slope of the Uinta Mountains situated near the center of this 100-mile-long range. The drainage is diverse and characterized by steep glacial cirques in headwater regions to the south, by narrow river valleys between broad truncated ridges, and by gently sloping timbered plateaus to the north. The natural beauty and scenic appeal of this basin is unsurpassed in the region. The highest point of land is Wilson Peak which stands at 13,095 feet in elevation.

The Smiths Fork Basin is composed of two major tributary systems including the West Fork and East Fork drainages. Most of the more than 60 lakes, reservoirs and beaver ponds lie within the larger East Fork Basin. These waters range in elevation from 9,210 feet at Grahams Reservoir to 11,542 feet at Upper Red Castle. The majority of the more remote lakes in this basin are situated above 10,600 feet in elevation. Twenty eight of these waters currently contain fish populations, or are under experimental fisheries management.

Brook and cutthroat trout commonly occur in the backcountry lakes of the Smiths Fork Basin. Fish populations are supplemented by occasional aerial stocking of fingerling as needed. In addition, rainbow trout fingerling are stocked in Lower Red Castle and arctic grayling are planted at China to add variety to the anglers creel. Due to the road access provided and the heavy fishing pressure directed to the popular Bridger and Marsh Lakes, these waters receive periodic stockings of rainbow and/or albino rainbow catchables to supplement these fisheries.

The Smiths Fork Basin is located some 20 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming, on Highway 410 and the China Meadows Forest Service Road. Access is also provided by the North Slope Road east from the Bear

River Drainage and U-150. A few lakes are directly accessible to vehicles, but the vast majority are situated in remote terrain and are accessible only by trail or cross-country travel. Major trails providing access to the backcountry include the East Fork Smiths Fork Trail which originates at the China Meadows Trailhead, and the West Fork Smiths Fork Trail which begins at the end of the Mansfield Meadows Road south of the Hewinta Guard Station. Access can also be obtained from the Cache Trailhead in the Blacks Fork Drainage to the west or the Yellowstone Drainage to the south on the Bald Mountain - Smiths Fork Pass Trail. The interbasin Highline Trail, the Big Meadows Trail and the Sargent Lake Trail provide access to the lower basin. Trails are posted, generally well maintained and identified on the Smiths Fork map by trail number.

Although the Smiths Fork Drainage contains some of the most popular and well known lakes in the Uinta Mountains, many of the smaller and more remote lakes are seldom visited. Greater than 75 percent of the fish producing waters in this basin are subject to moderate or light angling pressure. The heaviest fishing and camping activities occur at accessible waters such as Bridger, Marsh and China although substantial angler use also occurs at the popular Hessie, Red Castle and Lower Red Castle Lakes. Full service Forest Service campgrounds are available at Bridger and Marsh Lakes as well as China Meadows.

The Utah Wilderness Act of 1984 greatly expanded the size of the High Uintas Wilderness Area to include a large portion of the Smiths Fork Drainage. The use of motorized or mechanized equipment within the wilderness area is, of course, prohibited.

U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps applicable to the Smiths Fork Drainage include the Mount Lovenia, Mount Powell, Gilbert Peak NE, Bridger Lake and Lyman Lake quadrangles. The High Uintas Primitive Area Map available at local ranger stations of the Wasatch and Ashley national forests may also be of some use.



Bald, G-63

BALD, G-63. This natural cirque lake is situated in rugged timberline terrain at the base of Bald Mountain in the West Fork Smiths Fork Drainage. Bald is 6.4 acres, 11,030 feet in elevation, with 23-foot maximum depth. The immediate watershed is composed of steep talus slopes to the west and low stunted conifers in the glacial moraine to the north and east. Camping areas are available without horse feed or spring water sources. Access is 2 1/2 miles south of the Hewinta Guard Station on the Mansfield Meadows Road to the Wilderness Boundary and then 2 1/2 miles further south on the West Fork Smiths Fork Trail to the junction with the Highline Trail. Leave these trails and continue southwest for an additional 1 1/2 miles overland following the drainage system to the head of the basin and Bald Lake. Bald sustains moderate to light angling pressure and contains a large population of brook trout produced by natural reproduction.

BRIDGER, G-20. Bridger is a productive sub-alpine water situated in timbered terrain with open shorelines in the lower Smiths Fork Basin. This natural lake is 21.0 acres, 9,350 feet in elevation, with 15-foot maximum depth. Bridger is located 25 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming, on Highway 410 and improved Forest Service Roads. The route is well marked with signs. The Forest Service maintains a full service campground with 25 units at the lake and a summer guard station is located nearby. Bridger is a popular lake and receives substantial levels of fishing pressure.

Shore fishing is difficult due to extensive beds of yellow pondlily growing in shoal areas around much of the lake's perimeter. Bridger is most effectively fished with a small boat or inflatable raft. There are no launching facilities for larger boats. Bridger Lake receives periodic stocking of rainbow trout catchables throughout the summer, and annual plants of brook trout fingerling.

CHINA, G-21. China Reservoir is a scenic sub-alpine water situated in thick timber in the lower Smiths Fork Basin. It is 31.2 acres maximum, 9,408 feet in elevation, with 45-foot maximum depth. The lake has been enlarged by a dam at the northern end. Reservoir operation is capable of annual fluctuation of up to 9 feet and surface area reduction of about 39 percent. Access to China Lake is 1/8 mile north of the North Slope Road on foot following an old timber road which has been closed to vehicular access. This route begins at a small turnoff and parking area 1/2 mile west of China Meadows. Primitive camping is available with no sources of spring water. China Lake experiences moderate to heavy levels of angling pressure. This lake was previously managed to produce cutthroat trout, but is presently scheduled to receive annual stocking of brook trout supplemented by occasional plants of arctic grayling.

G-13. G-13 is an elongated natural lake located in a heavily timbered basin directly east of Lower Red Castle Lake. It is 7.9 acres, 10,860 feet in elevation, with 17-foot maximum depth. Trail access is 1 mile southeast of the footbridge immediately below Lower Red Castle Lake on the Bald Mountain-Smiths Fork Pass Trail. G-13 lies to the south of and within sight of the aforementioned trail. Adjacent campsites are available with a limited amount of horse feed in wet meadows to the north. Running water is not present in the lake vicinity. G-13 is subject to occasional winterkill and fishing success can be quite variable. The lake receives frequent stocking of brook trout to compensate for winterkill losses and sustains moderate to light angling pressure.

G-30. This lake does not sustain fish life. It is shown on the map as a landmark.

G-31. This lake does not sustain fish life. It is shown on the map as a landmark.

G-34. This small reservoir lake is located near the junction of the China Meadows and North Slope Roads at the lower end of China Meadows. It is 1.0 acre in size, 9,390 feet in elevation, with 6-foot maximum depth. G-34 is fed by a large spring to the south and contains dense growths of aquatic vegetation. Camping opportunities are provided at the nearby China Meadows Campground. G-34 receives heavy recreational use due to the access afforded by improved Forest Service roads. The lake contains populations of brook and rainbow trout.



G-13

G-36. G-36 is an abandoned beaver pond located in a natural glacial depression in thick timber in the lower Smiths Fork Basin. It is 4.7 acres, 9,430 feet in elevation, with 11-foot maximum depth. The lake is easily accessible and located 1/8 mile east of the bridge at the lower end of China Meadows. Potential camping areas are available with no source of spring water. Experimental stocking was accomplished during 1985 to evaluate the potential of G-36 to sustain a fishery. At present G-36 experiences light recreational pressure.

G-45. G-45 is a small glacial lake situated above timberline 1/8 mile northwest of Smith Fork Pass Lake. It is 3.1 acres, 11,220 feet in elevation, with 12-foot maximum depth. The lake is irregular in outline and composed of 2 arms connected by a narrow and shallow channel. Campsites and horse feed are not available in the immediate lake vicinity due to the rugged and windswept nature of the surrounding terrain and lack of fuelwood. However, camping areas with adequate pasture are available in timbered country to the north. Spring water sources are available at the lake. G-45 is stocked with brook trout, but fishing can be unpredictable due to a potential for occasional winterkill.

G-46. This lake does not sustain a resident fish population. It is shown on the map as a landmark only.

G-47. This lake does not sustain fish life. It is included on the map as a landmark.

G-48. This lake does not sustain fish life. It is shown on the map as a landmark.

G-49. G-49 is a small narrow lake which abuts a steep talus shoulder of Red Castle Peak in the East Fork Smiths Fork Basin. This lake is 3.9 acres maximum, 10,830 feet in elevation, with 11-foot maximum depth. G-49 is subject to natural water level fluctuation of 7-8 vertical feet which in turn reduces the size of this lake to only 30 percent of maximum area by late summer. G-49 is located 100 yards east of the East Fork Smiths Fork Trail from the stream crossing 1/2 mile south of Lower Red Castle Lake. G-49 is located on the major drainage system between Red Castle and Lower Red Castle lakes. Good campsites and horse feed can be located in the general area, but spring water is not available. This small fluctuating lake contains a varied population of brook, cutthroat and rainbow trout which is able to overwinter in the small minimum pool and adjacent drainage system. G-49 receives light angling pressure and is often overlooked by anglers.

G-50. This small glacial lake is situated on a timbered ridge directly west of Broadbent Meadow in the Smiths Fork Drainage. G-50 is 3.7 acres in size, 10,639 feet in elevation, with 5-foot maximum depth. The lake is shallow in overall depth and subject to limited fluctuation in water level. Access is 6 1/4 miles southwest of the China Meadows Trailhead on the East Fork Smiths Fork Trail to Broadbent Meadow and then 1/2 mile west up the steep ridge to the lake. The lake is situated in thick timber some distance from access trails and can be difficult to locate. Several campsites are available for small groups with a limited amount of boggy horse pasture. A good spring water source is not immediately available. G-50 contains a population of brook trout sustained by natural reproduction.

G-51. G-51 is a scenic natural lake situated in thick timber at the western flank of Flat Top Mountain in the Smiths Fork Basin. It is 8.1 acres, 10,620 feet in elevation, with 5-foot maximum depth. Access is 7 1/4 miles southwest of the China Meadows Trailhead on the East Fork Smiths Fork Trail to the second footbridge. Without crossing this footbridge, follow an obscure trail south and east around the timbered ridge and across an open meadow for about 1 mile to the lake. Excellent campsites are available with abundant horse feed in the large riparian park to the west. Spring water is present at the lake. G-51 sustains moderate to light fisherman use and contains a population of brook trout.

G-52. G-52 is a small glacial lake located at the top of the steep bare ridge 1/8 mile northwest of G-53. The lake 2.6 acres, 11,340 feet in elevation, with 4-foot maximum depth. G-52 is situated above timberline and the surrounding terrain is composed of alpine tundra with scattered patches of

willow and stunted conifers. Campsites are not available in the immediate lake vicinity, but good sites are present to the southeast in the vicinity of G-53 and G-96. G-52 is extremely shallow and contains marginal fish habitat. The lake is stocked with cutthroat but fishing is unpredictable due to a potential for winterkill. Angling pressure at G-52 is very light.

G-53. G-53 is a scenic alpine lake situated in partly open timberline terrain in a small cirque basin. It is 5.5 acres, 11,180 feet in elevation, with 17-foot maximum depth. Access is 8 1/2 miles southwest of the China Meadows Trailhead on the East Fork Smiths Fork Trail to the junction with the Bald Mountain-Smiths Fork Pass Trail. Proceed 1 mile northwest on this trail to a point where it crosses over a timbered ridge, and then leave the trail heading southwest for another 1/2 mile to the lake. G-53 is located immediately west of G-96. Excellent camping areas are available with a good source of spring water. Pasturage is present in the general lake vicinity and to the east. G-53 contains a naturally reproducing population of cutthroat and brook trout and sustains moderate fisherman utilization.

G-55. This small lake is not capable of sustaining a fishery. It is shown on the map as a landmark.

G-56. This small alpine lake sits well above timberline, 1 1/2 miles southwest of Lower Red Castle Lake in the Smiths Fork Drainage. G-56 is 1.5 acres, 11,460 feet in elevation, with 12-foot maximum depth. Follow the East Fork Smiths Fork Trail south from Lower Red Castle for 1/2 mile to the stream crossing, and then head west up the sparsely timbered ridge to the small glacial depression encompassing the lake. The surrounding terrain is open and windswept in nature and not suitable for camping activities. In addition, horse feed and spring water are not available in the lake vicinity. G-56 is seldom visited and contains a brook trout population. Fishing is reported to be both hot and cold.

G-58. G-58 is a small natural lake situated in thick conifers 25 yards east of and below Hessie Lake on the outlet stream. It is 1.3 acres, 10,620 feet in elevation, with 5-foot maximum depth. G-58 is very shallow in overall depth, but inlet flows are sufficient to sustain a cutthroat trout population in this lake. This fishery is sustained by migration from Hessie. Campsites are available at G-58 and adjacent to Hessie, but fuelwood is scarce due to the heavy camping activity in the vicinity. Spring water can be located at Hessie, and horse feed is present in wet meadows to the east.

G-59. G-59 is a small pothole lake situated in rocky, timbered terrain 1/2 mile south of Hessie Lake along the base of the talus ridge. It is 3.2 acres maximum, 10,740 feet in elevation, with 24-foot maximum depth. G-59 is located in a glacial catch basin without inlet or outlet sources and experiences annual water fluctuation of up to 8 feet. Good camping area are present in the lake vicinity with some horse feed in parks to the east.

Spring water sources are unavailable. G-59 receives light recreational use and provides a good opportunity for those anglers and hikers seeking solitude. G-59 is stocked with brook trout, but is known to experience winterkill and does not consistently provide fish to the angler.

G-60. G-60 is a small meadow lake situated at the foot of a timbered ridge southeast of Hessie Lake in the East Fork Basin. It is 2.5 acres, 10,500 feet in elevation, with 9-foot maximum depth. This lake is a remnant of a much larger beaver dam impoundment which was reduced in size by past breaching in the dam. G-60 is located 250 yards south of the stream crossing in Hessie Lake Basin some 5 1/4 miles south of the China Meadows Trailhead on the East Fork Smiths Fork and Highline Trails. Excellent camping areas are available with an abundant supply of horse feed. Spring water can be obtained from any one of several sources at the lake. G-60 is stocked with brook trout and sustains moderate to light angler use patterns.



G-53

WYOMING

TO MT. VIEW WYOMING
20 MILES

TO HENRY'S FORK
CAMPGROUND
6.5 MILES

TO LYMAN LAKE
CAMPGROUND
6 MILES

TO BLACKS FORK
DRAINAGE
[091]

TO HENRY'S FORK
DRAINAGE

TO YELLOWSTONE
DRAINAGE

Key to Forest Service Trails

- [091] Bear River-Smiths Fork Trail
- [105] Highline Trail
- [107] West Fork Smiths Fork Trail
- [110] East Fork Smiths Fork Trail
- [111] Bald Mountain-Smiths Fork Pass Trail
- [114] Big Meadows Trail
- [115] Sargent Lake Trail

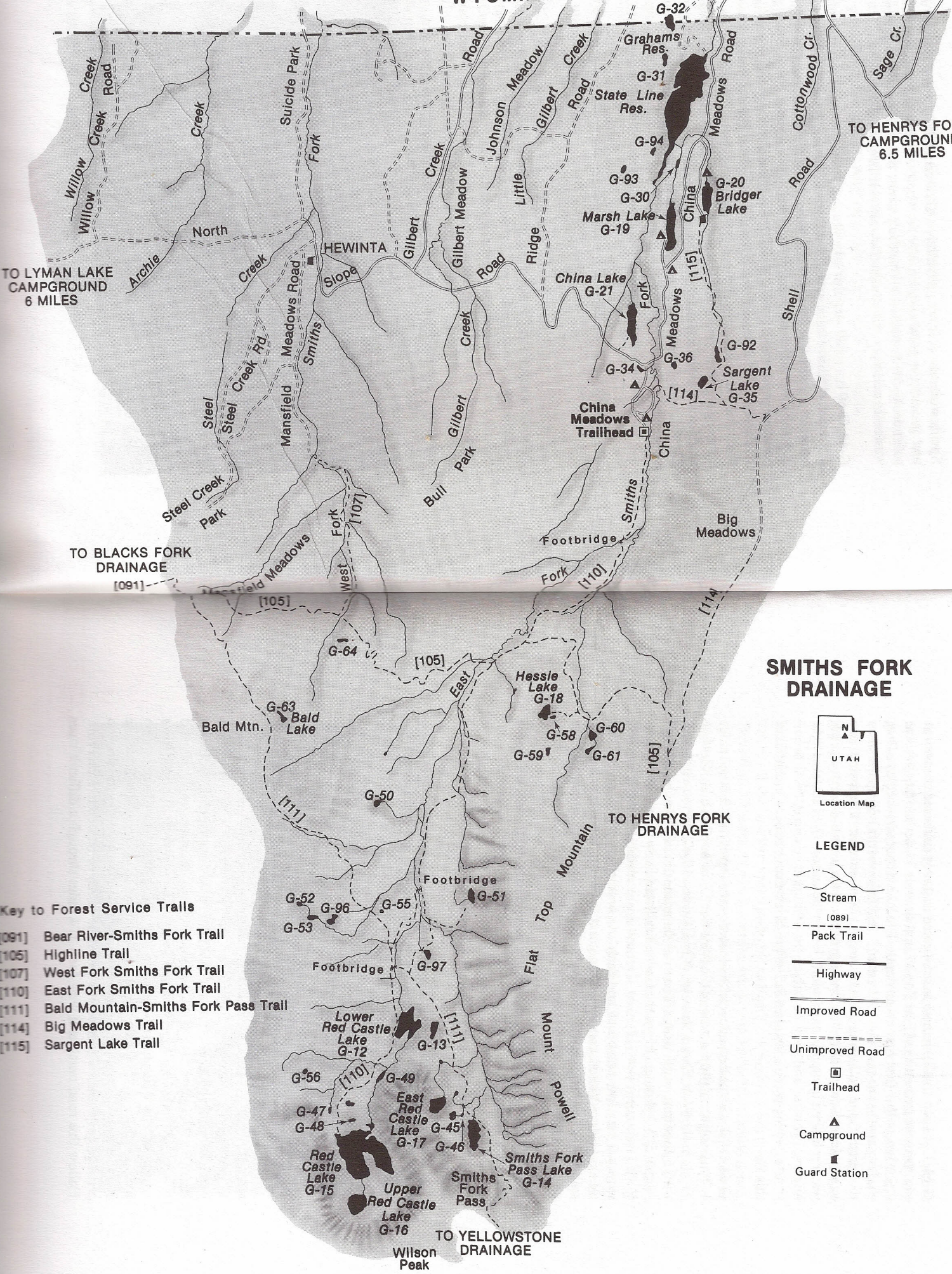
SMITHS FORK
DRAINAGE



Location Map

LEGEND

- Stream
- Pack Trail
- Highway
- Improved Road
- Unimproved Road
- Trailhead
- Campground
- Guard Station



G-61. G-61 is a small, shallow lake situated in partly timbered country at the northern extremity of Flat Top Mountain. It is 3.1 acres, 10,669 feet in elevation, with 6-foot maximum depth. The lake is characterized by a long shallow arm to the east. G-61 is located 1/8 mile south of G-60 up the steep timbered ridge following G-60's major inlet stream. Campsites are available with ample horse feed in large parks to the west and north. Spring water is limited in supply, particularly late in the season. G-61 sustains light angling pressure and may be subject to winterkill. Experimental brook trout stocking was undertaken in 1984 to further evaluate the potential of this water.

G-64. G-64 is a small meadow lake situated at the top of the timbered ridge 1/4 mile south of the junction of the West Fork Smiths Fork and Highline Trails in the West Fork Drainage. It is 3.4 acres, 10,470 feet in elevation, with 5-foot maximum depth. The total distance from the Hewinta Guard station is 5 3/4 miles. From the Cache Trailhead in the East Fork Blacks Fork Drainage it is 4 1/2 miles. Campsites are readily available at G-64 with wet meadow horse feed and early season spring water sources. This lake is seldom visited and provides a good opportunity for users seeking solitude. G-64 is stocked with cutthroat trout, but fishing can be unpredictable due to a potential for winterkill.

G-92. This large beaver pond does not sustain fish life. It is shown on the map as a landmark.

G-93. This lake does not sustain fish life. It is shown on the map as a landmark.

G-94. This beaver pond does not sustain fish life. It is shown on the map as a landmark.

G-96. This lake does not sustain fish life. It is shown on the map as a landmark.

G-97. This lake does not sustain fish life. It is shown on the map as a landmark.

GRAHAMS, G-32. Grahams is a moderately sized reservoir lake located in timbered terrain in the lower Smiths Fork Basin. It is 18.5 acres maximum, 9,210 feet in elevation, with 25-foot maximum depth. Grahams straddles the state line with portions of this reservoir in Utah and Wyoming. The lake is highly stained and is coffee brown in color due to an accumulation of suspended organic material. The best route of access is on foot, 3/4 mile northwest of the China Meadows Road across the Stateline Reservoir dam and along the timbered ridge. Grahams is also accessible on a rough jeep road which begins 1/2 mile north of Stateline Reservoir. Follow this road north and west for 1 1/4 miles through a difficult river

ford to the lake. Campsites are available at Grahams, but running water is not present in the lake vicinity. This lake is productive in nature, and does not sustain a fish population at present due to low oxygen concentrations and winterkill problems. The Forest Service has installed a water circulator on the surface of Grahams Reservoir in an attempt to improve wintering conditions, and stocking may be undertaken at some future time.

HESSIE, G-18. This natural moraine lake is located in heavily timbered terrain at the base of a rocky point in the East Fork Smiths Fork Drainage. Hessie is 13.2 acres, 10,620 feet in elevation, with 18-foot maximum depth. Access is 3 1/2 miles southwest of the China Meadows Trailhead on the East Fork Smiths Fork Trail to the junction with the Highline Trail heading east. Follow the Highline Trail south and east for 1 1/2 miles to the Hessie Lake Cutoff, and proceed west for an additional 1/4 mile to the lake. There are several well used campsites along the eastern and southern lake perimeters. Fuelwood is scarce due to the heavy camping activity at Hessie, but spring water is available. Horse feed can be located in boggy meadows to the east. Hessie Lake contains a population of cutthroat trout maintained by aerial stocking. Remember to pack out your refuse and exercise minimum impact camping.



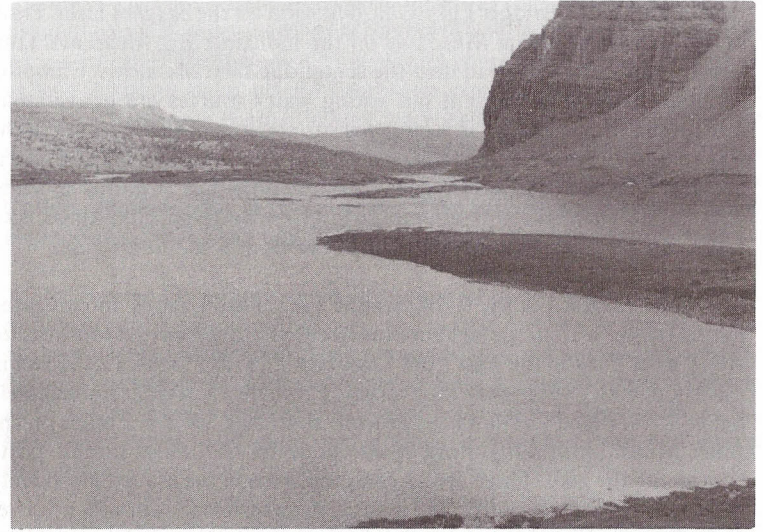
G-61

MARSH, G-19. Marsh is an elongated reservoir lake located in dense timber in the lower Smiths Fork Basin. It is 33.6 acres maximum, 9,335 feet in elevation, with 35-foot maximum depth. The annual water level fluctuation at this reservoir is about 4 feet. Marsh is accessible on an improved Forest Service road, 26 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming. There are 2 Forest Service campgrounds developed at Marsh with a combined capacity of 38 units. Marsh Lake experiences heavy fishing and camping activity, particularly on weekends. Marsh Lake is stocked with rainbow and albino rainbow catchables on a regular basis during the summer months. Stocking of brook trout fingerling has been presently discontinued due to winterkill problems. The Forest Service has installed a water circulator at Marsh in an attempt to increase oxygen concentrations and improve winter survival of fish.

RED CASTLE, G-15. Red Castle Lake is a picturesque natural water situated in a steep walled cirque basin in the shadow of 13,095 foot Wilson Peak. Red Castle is one of the largest and deepest natural lakes in the Uinta Mountains. It is 168.2 acres, 11,295 feet in elevation, with 103-foot maximum depth. Access is 11 miles southwest of the China Meadows Trailhead on the well used East Fork Smiths Fork Trail some 2 miles beyond Lower Red Castle Lake. Campsites and horse feed are not available in the immediate lake vicinity due to the open and rocky nature of the surrounding terrain. However, good camping areas with cover, horse feed and running water are available in timbered areas to the north. Fishing pressure is moderate to heavy for stocked cutthroat trout. Due to the size and depth of this popular water, Red Castle is most effectively fished with an inflatable raft of some type. However, if inflatables are used, be sure to carry life jackets and exercise extreme caution. Red Castle Lake is subject to occasional high winds and rapid changes in weather due to the high elevation of this water.

RED CASTLE, EAST, G-17. This deep natural lake is located in a steep walled cirque basin at the foot of Red Castle Peak in the Smiths Fork Drainage. East Red Castle is 21.1 acres, 11,190 feet in elevation, with 58-foot maximum depth. The lake is situated in open timberline terrain and campsites are not available in the immediate lake vicinity. However, good camping areas with horse feed can be located to the northeast. Several good sources of spring water are present at the lake. East Red Castle is located 3/8 mile northwest of Smiths Fork Pass Lake against the steep talus ridge. The cutthroat trout population present in East Red Castle is unusually wary and these fish may be difficult to catch at times. This water experiences moderate levels of angling pressure.

RED CASTLE, LOWER, G-12. This scenic natural lake is situated in a large alpine meadow at the foot of Red Castle Peak in the Smiths Fork Drainage. Lower Red Castle is large at 45.0 acres, 10,758 feet in elevation, with 28-foot maximum depth. The lake is located some 9 miles south and



Red Castle, G-15

west of China Meadows on the well maintained East Fork Smiths Fork Trail to just beyond the switchbacks. Lower Red Castle is a popular and well known lake receiving substantial fishing pressure. Good campsites are available but tend to be overused and fuelwood is extremely sparse. As a result, users are encouraged to carry in backpack stoves and make use of existing fire rings whenever possible. Spring water can be located during wet years and horse feed is available in boggy meadows surrounding the lake. People using horses should exercise proper management of pack animals to minimize impact to meadow areas. Lower Red Castle is currently stocked with rainbow trout, but cutthroat and brook trout are present as well.

RED CASTLE, UPPER, G-16. This deep natural lake is situated in a rugged cirque basin well above timberline at the head of the Smiths Fork Basin. Upper Red Castle is 25.6 acres, 11,542 feet in elevation, with 72-foot maximum depth. The lake is located at the top of a steep rocky ridge 1/8 mile south of the large Red Castle Lake. Access is difficult and impossible on horseback due to the steep talus slopes and vertical cliffs on either side of Red Castle Lake. Campsites are not available due to the extreme elevation and rugged nature of the lake basin. However, an excellent spring water source is available at the lake. Upper Red Castle sustains moderate to light fishing pressure and is stocked with cutthroat trout on a periodic basis. This lake has developed a reputation for slow fishing which produces an occasional large cutthroat trout.

SARGENT, G-35. Sargent is an aesthetic sub-alpine lake situated in thick conifers at the eastern rim of the lower Smiths Fork Drainage. It is 8.3 acres, 9,690 feet in elevation, with 22-foot maximum depth. Access is 2 1/4 miles south of the Bridger Lake Guard Station on the Sargent Lake Trail, or 1 mile east of China Meadows on the indistinct Big Meadows Trail which begins as a jeep road near the center of China Meadows. Camping areas are present at Sargent but spring water sources are unavailable. Horse feed can be located in a large park to the south in the vicinity of the Big Meadows Trail. Sargent has a long history of winterkill, and the lake is presently fishless. However, the Forest Service has installed a water circulator on this lake in an attempt to improve wintering conditions. As a result, Sargent may support trout populations at some future time.

SMITHS FORK PASS, G-14. Smiths Fork Pass Lake is an elongated natural water with irregular shorelines located in open terrain southeast of Red Castle Peak in the East Fork Drainage. It is 26.1 acres, 11,152 feet in elevation, with 17-foot maximum depth. From the footbridge immediately below Lower Red Castle Lake, proceed southeast for 2 1/2 miles on the Bald Mountain-Smiths Fork Pass Trail to the large cirque basin containing the lake. There are no camping areas in the immediate vicinity due to the occurrence of this lake in rugged timberline terrain with no cover or fuelwood. However, good camping areas with adequate horse feed are located in timbered areas to the north. Spring water can be found at the lake. Smiths Fork Pass Lake receives light angling pressure and contains a population of cutthroat trout. Shorelines are open and well suited to fly casting.



Smith's Fork Pass, G-14

HENRYS FORK DRAINAGE

Henrys Fork is a small drainage on the north slope of the Uinta Range situated some 25 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming. This basin is typical of other north slope drainages and characterized by narrow river valleys draining steep glacial headwater cirques, and broad timbered slopes in the lower basin. Precipitous rocky ridges at the head of the drainage extend to the north and broaden into lofty tundra-covered plateaus, 11,000 to 12,000 feet above sea level. There are extensive areas of treeless alpine tundra in this drainage. The highest point of land is the prominent Gilbert Peak which stands at 13,442 feet in elevation.

The Henrys Fork Drainage is composed of some 50 natural lakes and numerous small ponds and potholes of less than one acre in size. Nineteen of these waters currently hold fish populations or are under experimental fisheries management. These lakes vary widely in elevation from 8,970 feet at G-101 to 11,443 feet at Cliff Lake. Lakes are concentrated in the headwater region and many are situated in rugged basins well above timberline.

Access to the drainage is provided by good Forest Service roads from Mountain View or Lonetree, Wyoming. Much of the lower country in this drainage is roaded due to timber, oil and gas developments. The major access point to lakes in the wilderness area is the Henrys Fork Trailhead located adjacent to the Henrys Fork Campground. In an attempt to keep horses and pack animals out of the campground, the Forest Service has developed facilities some distance below the campground complete with mangers and unloading facilities.

The primary trail providing access to the backcountry is the Henrys Fork Trail which begins at the Henrys Fork Trailhead and follows the drainage system south over Gunsight Pass into the Uinta River Drainage. Henrys Fork can also be reached via Smiths Fork to the west or Beaver Creek to the east on the interbasin Highline Trail. The Basin Trail provides direct access to many of the lakes along the western end of the drainage. All trails which receive maintenance or regular use are identified on the Henrys Fork Drainage map by Forest Service Trail number.

Henrys Fork is a popular backcountry retreat, and about one-third of the fish producing waters in this drainage support heavy fishing pressure. However, there are plenty of opportunities for anglers seeking solitude at the more remote and/or smaller lakes which seldom see visitors. Dollar Lake is a popular camping and stopover spot for groups attempting Kings Peak, and Alligator is commonly fished by day groups hiking in from the Henrys Fork campground.

Cutthroat trout are the most common species encountered in lakes of