

SB0209S01 compared with SB0209

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in SB0209 but was omitted in SB0209S01

inserted text shows text that was not in SB0209 but was inserted into SB0209S01

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Gooseberry Narrows State Park Designation

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Derrin R. Owens

House Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill addresses the creation of Gooseberry Narrows State Park.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▸ provides that Gooseberry Narrows State Park become part of the state park system upon the Division of State Parks (division):

- managing, purchasing, or operating all federally-managed land in the gooseberry narrows;

- studying and reporting the feasibility and cost of a state park and dam in the gooseberry narrows; and

- receiving funding from the Legislature;

▸ authorizes the ~~{Division of State Parks (division)}~~ division to:

- enter into an agreement with the United States Forest Service (USFS) to operate land managed by USFS as a state park;

- receive donations of land or facilities in the gooseberry narrows; and

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- engage in transfers, exchanges, or purchases of land in the gooseberry narrows{;} , in coordination with the Public Land Policy Coordinating Office; and
- allows the division to consult with local governments regarding:
 - the construction of a dam at Gooseberry Narrows State Park;and
 - the necessary acquisition or transfer of water rights for a potential dam at Gooseberry Narrows State Park{;and} .
- {~~resolving disputes related to the development of Gooseberry Narrows State Park; and~~}
- {~~provides that Gooseberry Narrows State Park is part of the state park system upon the division entering into an agreement with USFS.~~}

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

79-4-609 , Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section 1 is enacted to read:

79-4-609. Gooseberry Narrows State Park-- Study -- Report.

(1) As used in this section:

- (a) "Gooseberry narrows" means the land on Gooseberry Creek between the Lower Gooseberry Dam and Fairview Lakes described by the map and legal description on file with the division.
- (b) "Impacted local government" means a local government, as that term is defined in Section 63G-16-201, that:
 - (i) has jurisdictional land located within the gooseberry narrows;
 - (ii) has a property interest in the gooseberry narrows;
 - (iii) holds a water right or interest in a water right in Gooseberry Creek; or
 - (iv) manages land located within the gooseberry narrows.
- (2) The division may enter into an agreement with the United States Forest Service to:

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- 42 (a) manage land in the gooseberry narrows;
43 (b) purchase or exchange land in the gooseberry narrows; and
44 (c) operate the gooseberry narrows as a state park.
45 (3) The division may consult with an impacted local government to:
46 (a) in coordination with the Division of Water Resources created in Section 73-10-18, provide
assistance on the development or construction of a dam at Gooseberry Narrows State Park; ~~and~~
49 (b) in coordination with the Division of Water Rights created in Section 73-2-1.1, provide information
on the acquisition or transfer of a water right needed for the development of a dam at Gooseberry
Narrows State Park{ ~~;~~ ~~and~~ } .
52 { ~~(c) { resolve a dispute regarding the development of a dam at the Gooseberry Narrows State Park~~
~~between; } }~~
54 { ~~(i) { two or more landowners; } }~~
55 { ~~(ii) { a landowner and an impacted local government; or } }~~
56 { ~~(iii) { two or more impacted local governments. } }~~
57 { ~~(4) { If the division enters into an agreement as described in Subsection (2), the gooseberry narrows~~
~~is; } }~~
59 { ~~(a) { designated as Gooseberry Narrows State Park; and } }~~
60 { ~~(b) { included in the state park system. } }~~
61 (5){ ~~(4)~~ The division may, in coordination with the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office created in
Section 63L-11-201:
62 { ~~(a) { receive donations of land or facilities in the gooseberry narrows for the creation of, and inclusion~~
~~within, Gooseberry Narrows State Park; } }~~
64 { ~~(b) { engage in land transfers and exchanges of land in the gooseberry narrows for inclusion in~~
~~Gooseberry Narrows State Park; and } }~~
66 (c){ ~~(a)~~ { ~~purchase~~ receive donations of land or facilities in the gooseberry narrows for inclusion in
Gooseberry Narrows State Park{ ~~;~~ } .
61 (b) negotiate a transfer or exchange of land in the gooseberry narrows for inclusion in Gooseberry
Narrows State Park; and
63 (c) negotiate the purchase of land or facilities in the gooseberry narrows for inclusion in Gooseberry
Narrows State Park.
65 (5)

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(a) The gooseberry narrows is designated as Gooseberry Narrows State Park and included in the state park system upon:

(i) the division managing, purchasing, or operating all federally-managed lands in the gooseberry narrows;

(ii) the division reporting the results of the study described in Subsection (6) to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee; and

(iii) the Legislature appropriating funding for the construction and development of Gooseberry Narrows State Park.

(b) The division shall report the designation of the Gooseberry Narrows State Park to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee upon the completion of the requirements described in Subsection (5)(a).

(6)

(a) The division shall study the feasibility of creating the Gooseberry Narrows State Park, including:

(i) any necessary requirement for the development or construction of a dam at Gooseberry Narrows State Park;

(ii) the expected cost to the state of:

(A) transferring, exchanging, or purchasing all federally-managed lands in the gooseberry narrows;

(B) constructing and developing infrastructure needed for the state park; and

(C) constructing and developing a dam in the gooseberry narrows; and

(iii) a recommendation for the Legislature to appropriate funds for Gooseberry Narrows State Park.

(b) The division shall report the results of the study described in Subsection (6)(a) to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee before November 30, 2026.

Section 2. **Effective date.**

Effective Date.

This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.

2-4-26 8:02 AM