

# Tonaquint

The Tonaquint planning block is an approximate 2900-acre parcel west of the City of St. George in Washington County Utah. The majority of the piece is currently unincorporated. It is bound on the north, east and south by development within the City of St. George and on the west by the BLM. The property is very rugged and is characterized by large boulders and surface sandstone over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the parcel.

This piece has heavy historic and current use by several user groups, including climbers, mountain bikers and hikers. Because of this, this piece has been very politically charged. Attempts at development of an adjoining piece of Trust land on South Gate Ridge met fierce opposition from these groups, which ultimately doomed the transaction slated for it. Because of this, the Trust staff has undertaken an extensive outreach program as we have moved forward in planning this piece. Both land planner Dave Bell and conservation planner Marty Zeller have been contracted to help in this regard.

In the summer of 2006, initial planning charrettes with each of the user groups were undertaken. Through this, accurate and realistic patterns of usage were identified to aid in planning efforts. Concurrently a master utility and master traffic study were undertaken on this piece. These efforts are complete and under review by the City of St. George.

After several months of dialogue, user groups were reconvened in April of 2007 to share our findings. It is believed that the Trust has reached accord with each of the user groups on a basis upon which annexation and entitlement may be pursued with the City of St. George. Trust lands staff has also worked closely with city staff on setting development boundaries and formulation of plans that will bring the totality of this piece within the City boundaries with base entitlement by the fiscal year end.



