



What's the Big Deal With Nine Mile Canyon

Reasons to Get Involved

Oil Hauling semi-trucks Could be
Traveling Down
Gate Canyon and
Nine Mile Canyon
To Carbon County



Duchesne County wants to turn Gate Canyon into a hydrocarbon highway

- The improved highway would transport “waxy crude oil” from the Uintah Basin to a storage facility near Wellington, Utah
- By the company’s own calculations, an oil tanker would be passing through there **every three minutes**
- The company is currently only talking about Gate Canyon, the backcountry road leads from the Uintah Basin to Nine Mile Canyon to a spot where it intersects with the Nine Mile road near the Nutter Ranch in Carbon County

What happens to Gate Canyon would also Happen in Nine Mile

- **Duchesne County's proposal would include:**
 - **Construction improvements to Gate Canyon- and by default Nine Mile Canyon**
 - **Elimination of five sharp bends**
 - **Drainage**
 - **Safety improvements**
 - **Installation of huge culverts**
 - **Duchesne County has**



Oil production in Uintah basin would increase dramatically

- The application indicates production in the Basin would increase from 30,000 a day to 100,000 barrels per day
 - An increase of 1 billion gallons per year
 - The Wildcat Loadout west of Price (designed to store



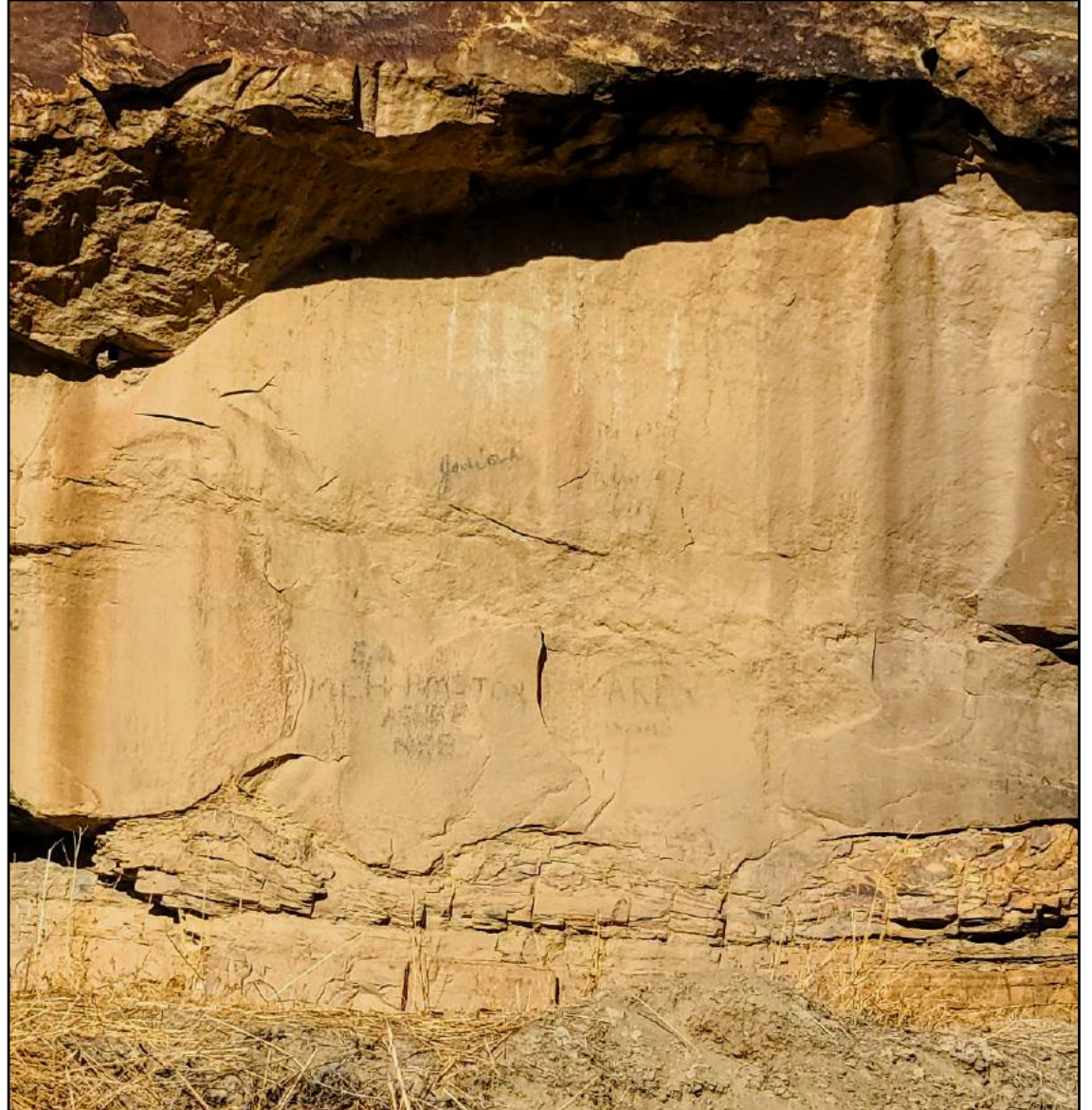
Simultaneously A rail line was proposed

- Runs from Uintah Basin to haul the crude to the same Carbon County location
- The project was rapidly moving forward when a judge recently stopped the project ruling the BLM had not completed the necessary NEPA work for the line
- That ruling has placed huge



The project is shaping up to be hugely expensive

- Seven County Infrastructure Coalition has secured two billion dollars in private bonds
- Some estimate an addition 2.9 billion dollars will be needed



Historic axle grease signatures in Gate Canyon

Latest news on the project

- Permanent Community Impact Board promised \$3 million
- Duchesne County is saying EA could be done as early as fall this year (seems optimistic)
- Nine Mile Canyon Coalition will let newsletter subscribers know when comments open (join the newsletter)
- A proposal to greatly expand Wildcat Loadout west of Price has been submitted



What is at Risk?

- Historic signatures from Utah's past
- An important link to Ute history

An important piece of Utah & ~~Carbon county~~ past



Help fight a bad idea and save Utah rock art

- **I have been quoted saying:
“Tourists and oil tankers don’t
mix.”**
- **We can also say, “”Rock art and
this place need saving from a**

ORAVA members do?

- Email Vernal BLM to register disapproval
 - **Contact is Joel Ward**
jmward@blm.gov
- Review and comment where available
- Talk about the project and explain the issues
- Make it a priority
- Project is **Wells Draw Road**



My advice

- Visit the canyon
- Take photos
- Form a personal connection to the place
- Survey and catalogue rock art and structures there
- Become very familiar with Gate Canyon, its rock art and axle grease signatures
- Comment on the BLM





Questions???



Oh, and
then
there's this

Oil tanker fires

- “There is no doubt we’ll have to fight a tanker fire in Nine Mile if they start sending tankers down there,” said Price Fire Chief Fitz Petersen, the man who took the

A large fire with a fire truck in the foreground. The fire is intense, with bright orange and yellow flames and thick black smoke rising into the air. The fire truck is dark and partially obscured by the smoke and fire. The overall scene is dramatic and chaotic.

The protocol is to let them burn

“We used to fight them with foam but that’s a carcinogen, so now we just let them burn.”

Nine Mile is a sacred place

- “I would send all the resources I could muster but one day, somehow, that oil will end up on those panels and that would be a tragedy.”



