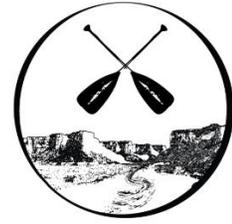




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Smithsonian Exhibition, *Water|Ways*, Continues Utah Tour at the John Wesley Powell River History Museum

Salt Lake City, Utah, March 22, 2021 – As part of Think Water Utah, a statewide conversation on the critical topic of water presented by Utah Humanities and its partners, [Utah Humanities](#) announces that the Smithsonian's *Water|Ways* exhibition continues its Utah tour with a stay at the John Wesley Powell River History Museum in Green River. Presented by Utah Humanities, the [Smithsonian Institution](#), and communities statewide, the **Green River portion** of the *Water|Ways* tour **takes place from April 3rd through June 6th, 2021**.

The Smithsonian's *Water|Ways* exhibition dives into water – an essential component of life on our planet, environmentally, culturally, and historically. Water is a vital global, regional, and local resource. We'll explore Utah's water stories and issues through the lens of our shared heritage and interests.



In addition to featuring *Water|Ways*, The John Wesley Powell River History Museum will offer their local companion exhibition "Our River is Our Community" through December, 2021.

"**Our River is Our Community**" shows how the Green River is essential to life and culture in southeastern Utah. Visitors are invited to explore the significance of the river to the community's past, present, and future. In addition, the Museum has partnered with Green River High School to create a student water photography exhibit and river stories podcast series. A full schedule of *Water|Ways* events at the John Wesley Powell River History Museum and surrounding areas is available [here](#) or on the Museum's [website events page](#). The Green River is essential to life and culture in southeastern Utah. Explore the significance of the river in our community's past, present, and future.



Candice Cravins, Executive Director, John Wesley Power River History Museum says "We are thrilled to partner with Utah Humanities to bring *Water|Ways* to the John Wesley Powell River History Museum here in Green River. This partnership has given us the opportunity to connect with our local community not only through the development of our companion exhibit, *Our River is Our Community*, which highlights the importance of the Green River to life and culture in southeastern Utah, but through thoughtfully-planned programming in collaboration with our community organizations and partners throughout the region. We are so excited to be included in the statewide tour of *Water|Ways* and look forward to exploring the crucial role water plays in our lives with our visitors.

Megan van Frank, Director of the Center for Community Heritage at Utah Humanities, is coordinating the exhibition tour in Utah. In explaining the critical role Utah Humanities plays in bringing the Smithsonian tour to Utah, she says, "We work hard to bring this experience to local communities, and the collaboration among national, state, and community organizations benefits everyone. We work closely with the host museums, helping to support their expertise in hosting a national exhibition. The entire experience directly strengthens Utah museums and helps to preserve and share Utah history." She also hopes that, "visitors to the exhibition will come away with a panoramic and personal view of how water has shaped the state of Utah as well as its role in their personal lives. The exhibition is a unique opportunity for Utahns to tell their own water stories as part of local, state, and national conversations."

Gregory Smoak, Director of the American West Center, University of Utah, and state scholar for the Utah tour of Water|Ways remarks that “Water is life. It has shaped the stunning, inspiring, and often difficult landscapes of our state. It sustains our very existence and has largely defined where Utahns have lived for the past 12,000 years. And there can be no future without water. While the challenges facing Utahns appear daunting, the story of Utah’s water ways can offer us a guide. By trying to understand the natural world, its limitations and reasonable opportunities, and considering the many ways in which Utahns have engaged our precious waters, we might use history to map a sustainable way forward.”

To learn more about the statewide tour, contact Utah Humanities at 801.359.9670 or visit the [Think Water Utah portion of the Utah Humanities website](#).

The four host sites and dates for this exhibition are:

August 22 – October 11, 2020 | Fremont Indian State Park Museum, 3820 Clear Creek Canyon Road, Sevier, UT 84766, 435.527.4631

October 17 – December 13, 2020 | [Kanab Heritage Museum](#), 13 South 100 East, Kanab, UT 84741, 435.644.3506

December 19, 2020 – March 27, 2021 | [Swaner Preserve & EcoCenter](#), 1258 Center Drive, Park City, UT 84098, 435.797.8943

April 3 – June 6, 2021 | [John Wesley Powell River History Museum](#), 1765 Main Street, Green River, UT 84525, 435.564.3427

Water|Ways has been made possible in Utah by Utah Humanities. *Water|Ways* is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and State Humanities Councils nationwide. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress. *Water|Ways* was adapted from an exhibition organized by the American Museum of Natural History (New York) and the Science Museum of Minnesota (St. Paul), in collaboration with Great Lakes Science Center (Cleveland), Field Museum (Chicago), Instituto Sangari (Sao Paulo), National Museum of Australia (Canberra), Royal Ontario Museum (Toronto), San Diego Natural History Museum, and Science Centre Singapore.

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About Utah Humanities: Utah Humanities empowers Utahns to improve their communities through active engagement in the humanities. UH is funded by the Salt Lake County Zoo, Arts, and Parks Fund, the State of Utah, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and through gifts from individuals, foundations, and corporations. Each year, Utah Humanities supports hundreds of educational and cultural programs throughout Utah. For more information, visit www.utahhumanities.org.

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