Welcome to the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve. When you step over one of the 105,000 boulders that dominate the 26,900 acre reserve, you become part of the Mojave Desert, the Baja Desert, and the Great Basin Desert. The reserve is managed by the Red Cliffs National Conservation Area (RCliff NCA) to protect both the natural and cultural resources of the reserve.

Although much of the reserve is remote and somewhat austere, it is also home to an extraordinary diversity of native plants and wildlife. The reserve supports over 150 native and endangered plant species and approximately 200 native and reintroduced animal species. Over 800 species of birds stop in the reserve during their annual migrations, and the warm, dry conditions of the reserve make it a year-round destination for many desert-dwelling species.

During the spring and summer, the Virgin River is an oasis in an otherwise dry landscape, attracting a variety of wildlife and providing a habitat for a diverse assortment of fish, amphibians, and mammals. The Virgin River is home to eight species of native fish, including the Flannelmouth Sucker, the Striped Dace, and the Black-Banded Dace. The reserve also supports a significant population of the Mojave Desert Tortoise, which is listed as a species of concern under the federal Endangered Species Act.

The reserve is also home to a variety of birds, including the Red-tailed Hawk, the Northern Goshawk, and the California Condor, which is listed as an endangered species. The reserve is also a popular destination for birdwatchers, with over 200 species of birds recorded in the area. The reserve is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in cooperation with the National Park Service (NPS), to protect both the natural and cultural resources of the reserve.

SNOW CANYON STATE PARK

As you enter the park, you will notice the stark contrast between the lush, green landscape of the Virgin River and the arid, rocky terrain of the surrounding desert. The park is home to a variety of wildlife, including the Joshua Tree, which is listed as a species of concern under the federal Endangered Species Act. The park is also home to a variety of birds, including the Northern Flicker, the Red-tailed Hawk, and the Western kingbird.

The park is managed by the Utah Division of Parks and Recreation, in cooperation with the U.S. National Park Service (NPS), to protect both the natural and cultural resources of the park.

TRAINS OF HISTORY

The reserve is located within the southern limit of the Clayton Unit of the Great Basin Desert. The conditions in the region are such that certain areas, such as blackbrush and sagebrush, are more common than others. The reserve is home to a variety of wildlife, including the Mojave Desert Tortoise, which is listed as a species of concern under the federal Endangered Species Act.

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OLD SPANISH TRAIL

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DESERT ADAPTATIONS

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PLANTS

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REPTILES

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MAMMALS

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AMPHIBIANS

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OCCASIONS

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GEOLOGY

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ENDANGERED PLANTS AND WILDLIFE SPECIES

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WELCOME TO THE RED CLIFFS DESERT RESERVE

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