

A wide-angle night photograph of a desert landscape. The sky is filled with stars, and the Milky Way galaxy is clearly visible, arching from the upper left towards the right. In the foreground, there is a dark, sandy area with some sparse vegetation. In the middle ground, a white, single-story house with a dark roof is illuminated from within. To the right of the house is a tall, dark silo. Behind the house and silo, a line of tall, thin trees stands against a dark hill. The hill is lit up from below, showing its rocky texture. The overall scene is a mix of natural beauty and human habitation.

Utah's Night Skies

Preserving a Legacy

PANELISTS

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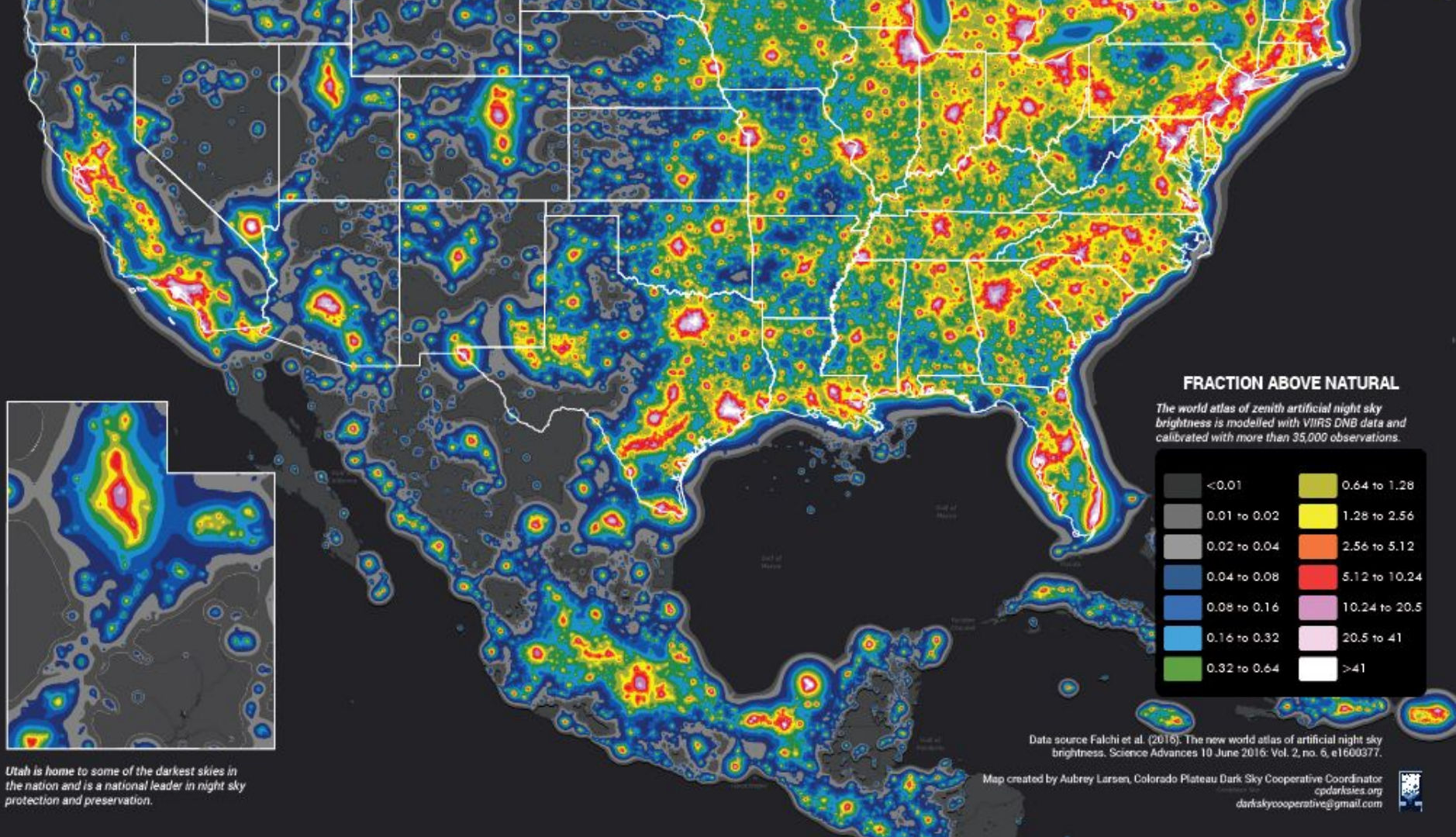
OUTLINE

- I. Introduction
- II. Panel Discussion
- III. Audience Q&A
- IV. Resources



A deep space photograph showing a vast field of stars against a black background. In the center, a constellation of stars is clearly visible, forming a pattern that resembles a beehive. The stars vary in brightness, with some appearing as sharp points of light and others as softer, more diffuse clouds. The overall composition is centered, with the constellation acting as the focal point.

“This symbol, composed of a hive of stars, transposes our beehive symbol to a new and grand level as we enter our second century as a group of people living in a place where we can still see, with our own eyes, the beautiful and dim features of the starry universe.” - House Bill 140, 1996



*“When government officials, business leaders,
and citizens come together to build communities
that enrich people's lives, that’s planning.” - APA*



Protecting night skies enriches lives.





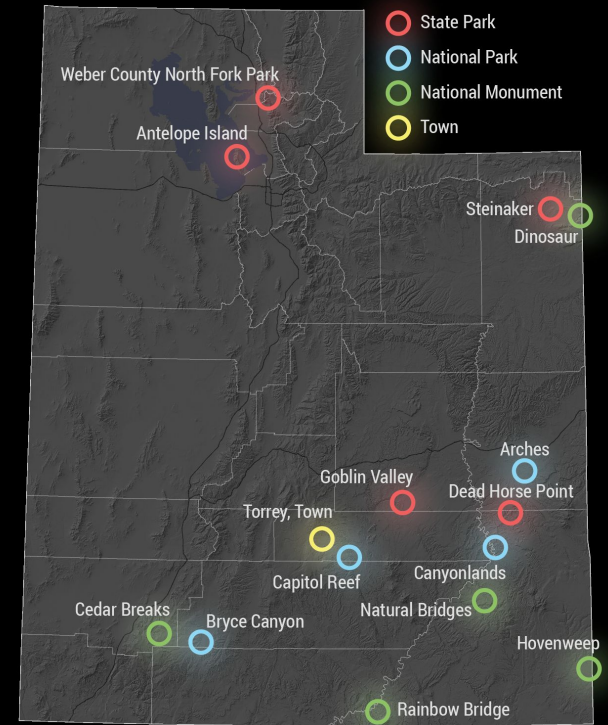
Coming together



International Dark Sky Places in Utah

The Dark Sky Places Program was started in 2001 by the IDA to encourage parks and communities around the world to preserve and protect dark skies through responsible lighting policies and education. The International Dark Sky Places Program offers five types of certifications:

1. Communities
2. Parks
3. Sanctuaries
4. Reserves
5. Development of Distinction



Data Sources: National Park Service and International Dark Sky Association

Dark Sky Reserves

International Dark Sky Reserves consist of a dark “core” zone surrounded by a populated periphery where lighting is appropriately managed to protect the darkness of the core.

1. CORE REQUIREMENTS:

- a. Visibility of the Milky Way to the unaided eye
- b. No nearby artificial light sources yielding significant glare (excessive brightness that causes visual discomfort).
- c. Any light domes present inside the core are dim, restricted in extent, and close to the horizon.
- d. Sky Quality Meter (SQM) readings of 21.2 magnitudes an arcsecond (mpsas) or higher

2. BUFFER REQUIREMENTS

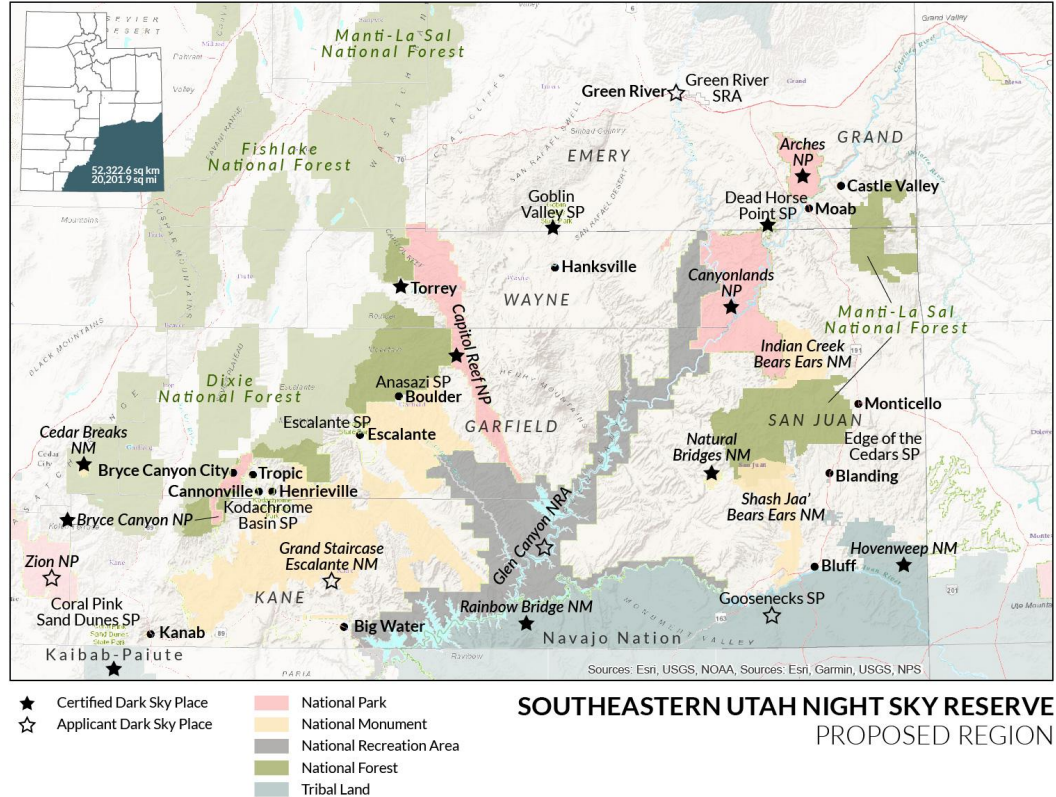
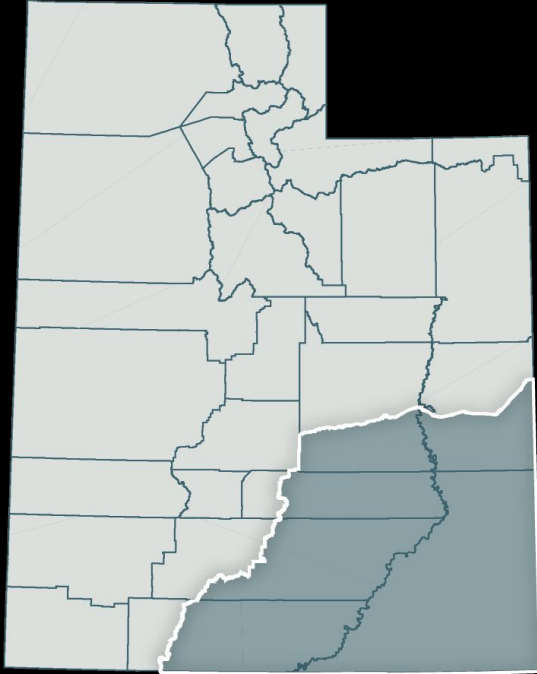
- a. The buffer region does not have a minimum sky quality requirement.


The Southeastern Utah Night Sky Reserve

A grassroots initiative to celebrate
Southern Utah's unique rural
character and landscapes by
preserving the region's heritage of
starry night skies for present and
future generations.



The Region



A person is silhouetted against a bright natural rock arch at night. The person is standing on a dark, rocky surface, looking up at the sky. The arch is illuminated from below, creating a warm glow. The sky is filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy is visible through the arch. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

"The work that was done at Arches National Park was a team effort including National Park Service employees, the Friends of Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, and the City of Moab and Grand County. It was a true team effort."

- Kate Cannon, Southeast Utah Group Superintendent



nightskyland.com

A Few Resources

CDO/ Colorado Plateau Dark Sky Cooperative:
cpdarkskies.org

- Dark Sky Planning: Guidance & Best Practices
- Dark Sky Assessment Guide: Resources & Evaluation Methods

International Dark Sky Association: darksky.org

- Dark Sky Reserves

Google Site for the SEUT Reserve:
nightskyland.com

