

# HOW THE WEST WAS . . .



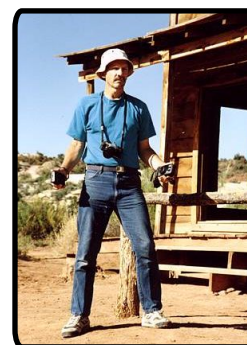
**A Little  
Photo-Parody by  
Partners  
Mary Helen "Mara"  
& Shuford "Ford"  
Smith**

(Originally written in 1994 by Porter Anderson, former editor of *The Islander* then journalist with CNN, now Executive Producer for INDEX)



## CAMPED

Mary Helen and Shuford Smith, nationally noted for their two books, *Camp the U.S. for \$5 or Less: Western States* and *Camp the U.S. for \$5 or Less: Eastern and Midwestern States*, this summer have found their travels taking them back to the Paria Movie Set in Utah. Scenes have been shot there for films including *Drums Along the Mohawk*, *Stagecoach*, *The Rainmaker*, *Planet of the Apes* and for TV's *The Lone Ranger*, *Death Valley Days*, *Route 66*, *Wagon Train*, *Daniel Boone*, *Gunsmoke*, and *The Six Million Dollar Man*.



Hero: Flash Smith  
(That's Shuford "Ford")



Love Interest: Ms. Sweaty  
(That's Mary Helen "Mara")

Inspired by their Wild Wild Western surroundings (and maybe a little sunstroked, maybe a little camping-fatigued, maybe deeply into one of those wines the West is producing these days), the Smiths got out their cameras and did us a poignant production of their own, complete with captions.

Here's the Paria Movie Set entry from the *Western States* book. (Note: "good photo possibilities.")

### PARIA MOVIE SET

BLM (801) 644-2672  
State map: K4  
From KANAB, go 34 miles (54.4 k) E on US 89. Turn Left (N) on unpaved spur road (impassable when wet) and drive 5 miles (8 k).

**FREE** but choose a chore. Open May 1–Oct 30; camping allowed off-season. 3 tent sites. Pit toilets, tables, grills, fire rings. In deep valley along Paria River with colorful rock walls of purples, yellows, and reds. Beautiful, relaxing place with good photo possibilities. NO water. Use trash receptacles (keep it clean). 19-ft limit. Crowded in spring and fall. Gnats can be pesty. 4265 ft (1278 m)

Reprinted from *Camp the U.S. for \$5 or Less: Western States* by Mary Helen and Shuford Smith, 1993, Globe Pequot Press, Page 343.

And he-e-e-e-are the Smiths!

