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Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area contains 207,363 acres of land and water, almost equally divided between Utah and Wyoming. The area was given the name "Flaming Gorge" by John Wesley Powell during his 1869 expedition down the Green River, due to the spectacular red sandstone cliffs that surround this part of the river. The Flaming Gorge reservoir was created by the 1964 construction of the Flaming Gorge Dam across the Green River. The nearly flat-lying shale and ledge-forming sandstones are of Late Cretaceous age (Mancos Shale capped by Mesa Verde Group sandstones). Photo by Clyde Dabbs, CPG-09865.

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