

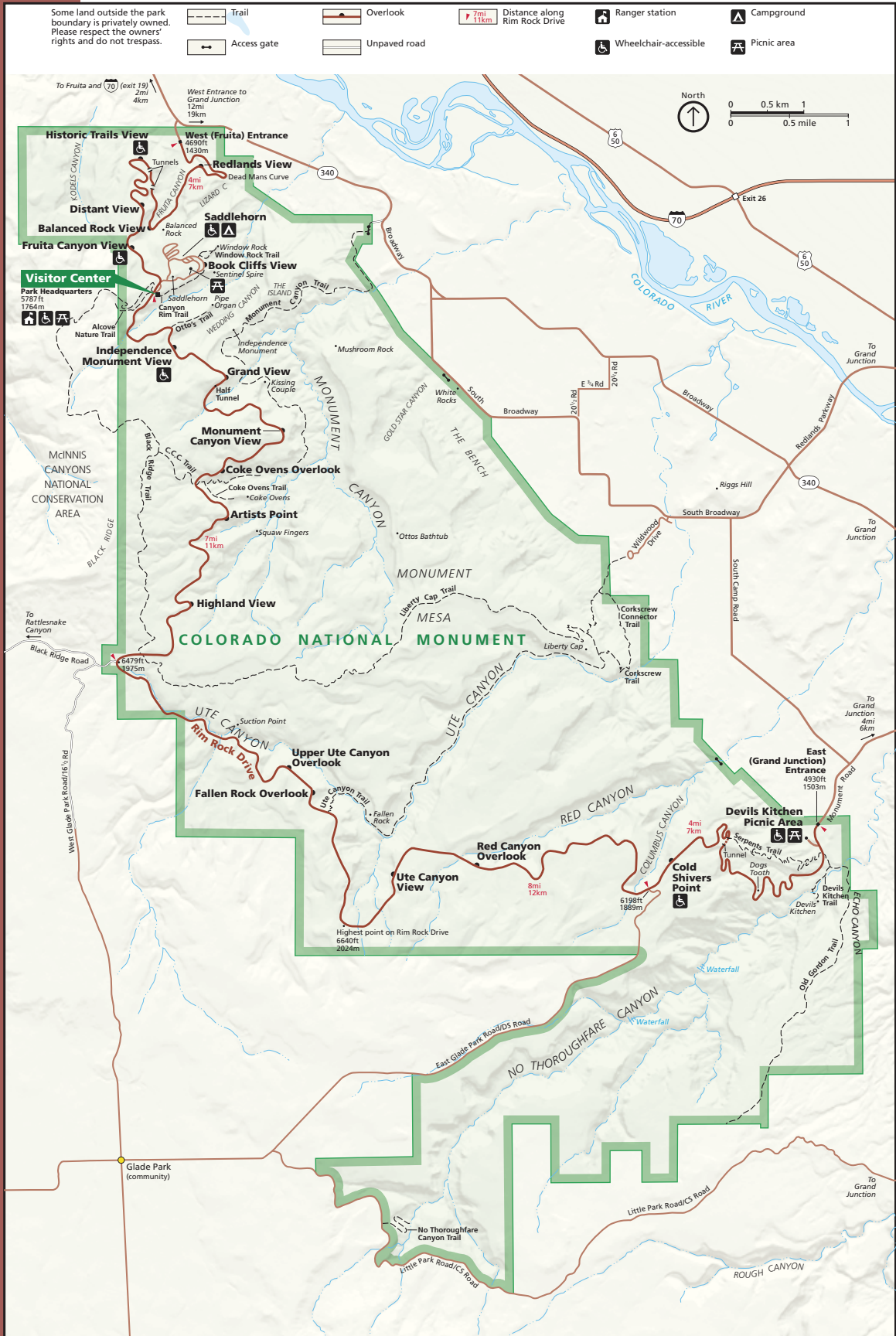


Foundation Document Colorado National Monument

Colorado

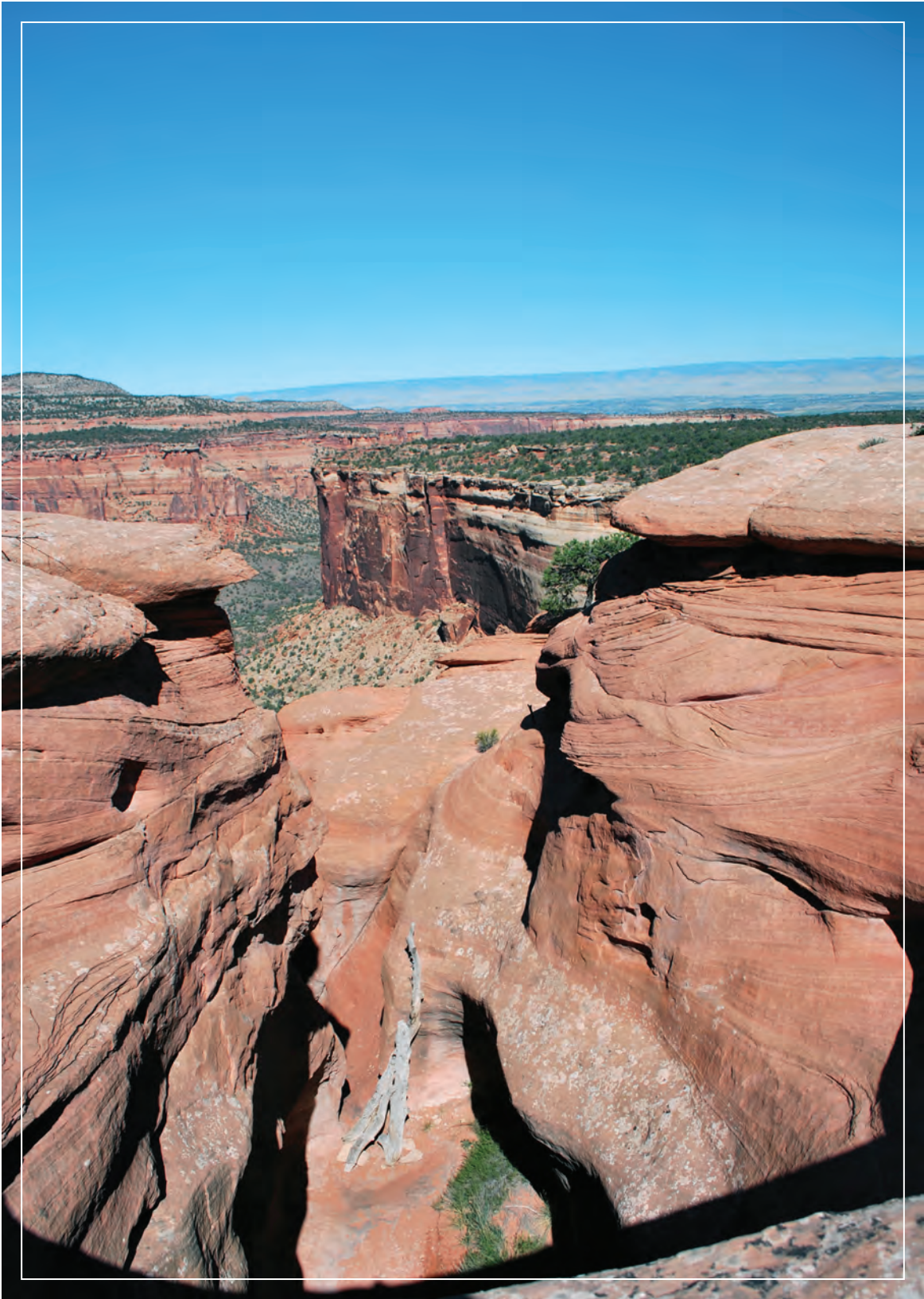
March 2015





Contents

Mission of the National Park Service	1
Introduction	2
Part 1: Core Components	3
Brief Description of the Park	3
Park Purpose	4
Park Significance	5
Fundamental Resources and Values	6
Other Important Resources and Values	7
Interpretive Themes	8
Part 2: Dynamic Components	9
Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments	9
Special Mandates	9
Administrative Commitments	10
Assessment of Planning and Data Needs	11
Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values	11
Analysis of Other Fundamental Resources and Values	26
Identification of Key Issues and Associated Planning and Data Needs	29
Planning and Data Needs	32
Other Management Actions Identified	38
Part 3: Contributors	39
Colorado National Monument	39
NPS Intermountain Region	39
Other NPS Staff	39
Appendixes	40
Appendix A: Enabling Legislation for Colorado National Monument and Subsequent Proclamations and Legislation	40
Appendix B: Inventory of Administrative Commitments	48
Appendix C: Traditionally Associated Tribes	50



Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The NPS core values are a framework in which the National Park Service accomplishes its mission. They express the manner in which, both individually and collectively, the National Park Service pursues its mission. The NPS core values are:

- **Shared stewardship:** We share a commitment to resource stewardship with the global preservation community.
- **Excellence:** We strive continually to learn and improve so that we may achieve the highest ideals of public service.
- **Integrity:** We deal honestly and fairly with the public and one another.
- **Tradition:** We are proud of it; we learn from it; we are not bound by it.
- **Respect:** We embrace each other's differences so that we may enrich the well-being of everyone.

The National Park Service is a bureau within the Department of the Interior. While numerous national park system units were created prior to 1916, it was not until August 25, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Organic Act formally establishing the National Park Service.

The national park system continues to grow and comprises 401 park units covering more than 84 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These units include, but are not limited to, national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. The variety and diversity of park units throughout the nation require a strong commitment to resource stewardship and management to ensure both the protection and enjoyment of these resources for future generations.



The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represents historical and archeological values.

Introduction

Every unit of the national park system will have a foundational document to provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions—a foundation for planning and management. The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park as well as the park’s purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. The foundation document also includes special mandates and administrative commitments, an assessment of planning and data needs that identifies planning issues, planning products to be developed, and the associated studies and data required for park planning. Along with the core components, the assessment provides a focus for park planning activities and establishes a baseline from which planning documents are developed.

A primary benefit of developing a foundation document is the opportunity to integrate and coordinate all kinds and levels of planning from a single, shared understanding of what is most important about the park. The process of developing a foundation document begins with gathering and integrating information about the park. Next, this information is refined and focused to determine what the most important attributes of the park are. The process of preparing a foundation document aids park managers, staff, and the public in identifying and clearly stating in one document the essential information that is necessary for park management to consider when determining future planning efforts, outlining key planning issues, and protecting resources and values that are integral to park purpose and identity.

While not included in this document, a park atlas is also part of a foundation project. The atlas is a series of maps compiled from available geographic information system (GIS) data on natural and cultural resources, visitor use patterns, facilities, and other topics. It serves as a GIS-based support tool for planning and park operations. The atlas is published as a (hard copy) paper product and as geospatial data for use in a web mapping environment. The park atlas for Colorado National Monument can be accessed online at: <http://insideparkatlas.nps.gov/>.

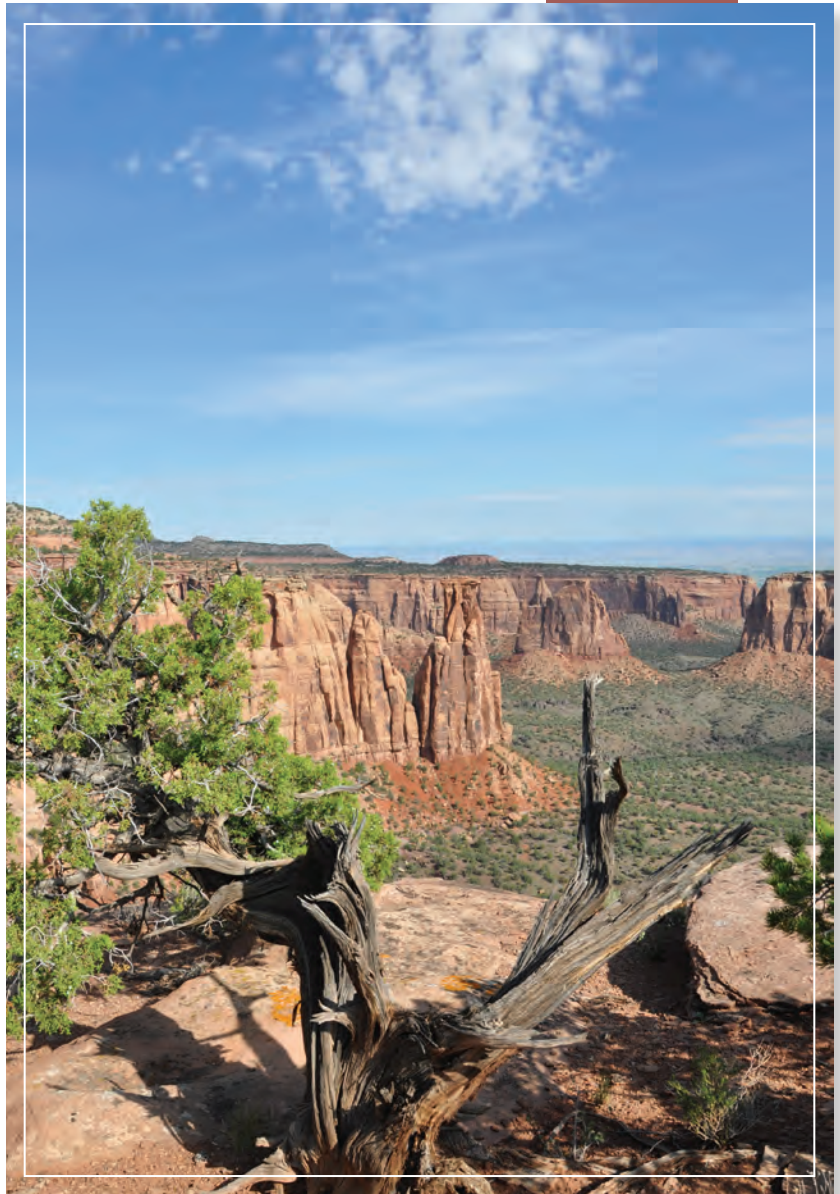


Part 1: Core Components

The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park, park purpose, significance statements, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. These components are core because they typically do not change over time. Core components are expected to be used in future planning and management efforts.

Brief Description of the Park

Colorado National Monument preserves one of the grand landscapes of the American West. Sheer-walled canyons, towering monoliths, colorful formations, desert bighorn sheep, soaring eagles, and a spectacular road reflect the environment and history of the plateau and canyon country. Historic Rim Rock Drive offers 23 miles of breathtaking panoramic views and numerous scenic overlooks. Trails lead across mesa tops and into backcountry canyons. Picnicking and camping are available. At an average elevation of 6,000 feet at the rim, the climate is relatively mild, but can change rapidly to snow or summer storms. Around 440,000 people per year visit Colorado National Monument to enjoy these and other opportunities. The monument encompasses some 20,000 acres, of which approximately 15,000 acres has been identified or proposed as wilderness and serves as a refuge for self-discovery, solitude, and natural quiet. The wilderness acreage is still under congressional consideration and is managed under NPS policy as a wilderness until formally designated by Congress.



Park Purpose

The purpose statement identifies the specific reason(s) for establishment of a particular park. The purpose statement for Colorado National Monument was drafted through a careful analysis of its enabling legislation and the legislative history that influenced its development. The monument was established by presidential proclamation by President William Howard Taft on May 24, 1911. (See appendix A for the presidential proclamation and subsequent amendments.) The purpose statement lays the foundation for understanding what is most important about the monument.

The purpose of COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT is to provide for the preservation, understanding, and enjoyment of its natural and cultural resources as showcased by its extraordinary erosional, geological, and historical landscapes reflective of the northern Colorado Plateau and of great scientific interest.



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Park Significance

Significance statements express why a park's resources and values are important enough to merit designation as a unit of the national park system. These statements are linked to the purpose of Colorado National Monument and are supported by data, research, and consensus. Statements of significance describe the distinctive nature of the park and why an area is important within a global, national, regional, and systemwide context. They focus on the most important resources and values that will assist in park planning and management.

The following significance statements have been identified for Colorado National Monument. (Please note that the sequence of the statements does not reflect the level of significance.)

1. Colorado National Monument exposes and preserves three different groups of rock and sediment—the first is the Early to Middle Proterozoic gneiss and schist; then the horizontally bedded Mesozoic sedimentary rocks; and the youngest being the various types of Quaternary deposits such as alluvium, colluvium, and dunes reflecting two billion years of Earth history. Wind and water erosion continues to form and reveal spectacular land forms and viewsheds of canyons, plateaus, and towering monoliths at the northeastern gateway of the Colorado Plateau.
2. Colorado National Monument preserves and protects representative examples of intact high desert ecosystems of the Colorado Plateau, providing opportunities for scientific studies.
3. Colorado National Monument preserves and protects cultural, physical, paleontological, biological, and geological resources and values for education, interpretation, and enjoyment within a growing urban community.



Fundamental Resources and Values

Fundamental resources and values (FRVs) are those features, systems, processes, experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells, or other attributes determined to warrant primary consideration during planning and management processes because they are essential to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. Fundamental resources and values are closely related to a park's legislative purpose and are more specific than significance statements.

Fundamental resources and values help focus planning and management efforts on what is truly significant about the park. One of the most important responsibilities of NPS managers is to ensure the conservation and public enjoyment of those qualities that are essential (fundamental) to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. If fundamental resources and values are allowed to deteriorate, the park purpose and/or significance could be jeopardized.

The following fundamental resources and values have been identified for Colorado National Monument:

- **Geologic Processes.** The magnificent scenery, character and beauty of the monument are the result of geologic processes in many forms, including sedimentation, faulting, uplift, erosion, landslides, rockfalls, and flash floods. Geologic processes dominate all other natural processes acting on the monument landscape.
- **Geologic Features.** The abundant geologic features preserved at Colorado National Monument provide an ideal outdoor lab for ongoing scientific study of the geology of the Colorado Plateau. Particularly notable are the hanging canyons (U-shaped valleys), rock layers that record geologic history, distinctive monoliths and canyons, and the Great Unconformity (1.2 billion years of absent rock history).
- **Ecological Systems.** The species, landscapes, and related attributes so highly valued by monument visitors and society at large cannot be preserved without also conserving the ecological systems of which they are a part. Some of the key components of the system are eco-regional distinctiveness (old-growth pinyon-juniper forest, hanging gardens), ecological functionality (air, water, and hydrological processes; biological soil crusts; riparian and wetland ecosystems); and native grasslands and sagebrush shrublands.





- **Human History.** The continuum of human use and cultural ties are revealed by rock art, lithic scatters, and historic trails and routes of ancestral peoples including the Archaic, Fremont, and Ute tribes, informing the rich and diverse museum collections of Colorado National Monument. Other historic cultural resources such as Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Mission 66 structures, artifacts, and stories serve to document the more recent time line of human history in the monument.
- **Rim Rock Drive.** The idea of a roadway along the rim of the red rock canyons was a rallying point for local support that led to the preservation of the national monument. As a road engineering masterpiece of the Great Depression era, Rim Rock Drive has earned its listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The scenic roadway is inseparable from the identity of the monument, providing the primary platform from which visitors can experience, understand, and appreciate the beauty of the monument.
- **Scenery.** The striking and colorfully sculpted canyons, monoliths, rock formations, and distant views of the Grand Valley, Book Cliffs, and Grand Mesa along with the Colorado River, encompass a visual beauty that stirs imaginations, forges individual connections between people and the monument, and is embedded in the identity of Colorado’s Western Slope.

Other Important Resources and Values

Colorado National Monument contains other resources and values that are not fundamental to the purpose of the monument and may be unrelated to its significance, but are important to consider in planning processes. These are referred to as “other important resources and values” (OIRV). These resources and values have been selected because they are important in the operation and management of the monument and warrant special consideration in park planning.

The following other important resources and values have been identified for Colorado National Monument:

- **Wilderness.** The monument encompasses some 20,000 acres, of which approximately 15,000 acres have been identified or proposed as wilderness and serve as a refuge for self-discovery, solitude, and natural quiet. The wilderness acreage is still under congressional consideration and is managed under NPS policy as a wilderness until formally designated by Congress.
- **Diversity of Visitor Experiences.** Colorado National Monument’s proximity to an urban setting provides opportunities for a diversity of visitor experiences through education, interpretation, and recreation.

Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes are often described as the key stories or concepts that visitors should understand after visiting a park—they define the most important ideas or concepts communicated to visitors about a park unit. Themes are derived from, and should reflect, park purpose, significance, resources, and values. The set of interpretive themes is complete when it provides the structure necessary for park staff to develop opportunities for visitors to explore and relate to all park significance statements and fundamental and other important resources and values.

Interpretive themes are an organizational tool that reveal and clarify meaning, concepts, contexts, and values represented by park resources. Sound themes are accurate and reflect current scholarship and science. They encourage exploration of the context in which events or natural processes occurred and the effects of those events and processes. Interpretive themes go beyond a mere description of the event or process to foster multiple opportunities to experience and consider the park and its resources. These themes help explain why a park story is relevant to people who may otherwise be unaware of connections they have to an event, time, or place associated with the park.

The following interpretive themes have been identified for Colorado National Monument:

- Colorado National Monument’s dramatic landforms and spectacular vistas are but the latest manifestation of the earth’s continuous recycling process of mountain building, erosion, and deposition within a greater geologic story of continent building and the evolution of unique and regional landforms.
- The evidence of human use within the imposing and dramatic landscapes of Colorado National Monument is a powerful reminder of how geologic features and forces have challenged, and continue to challenge, the human drive to occupy, survive, and thrive in seemingly inhospitable landscapes.
- The spectacular landforms and sublime natural beauty of Colorado National Monument provide opportunities for solitude, exploration, inspiration, and renewal that can fulfill the human need for self-discovery through connection to the land.
- Established during the Progressive Era in American history, Colorado National Monument is emblematic of our nation’s first conservation movement, during which concerned citizens such as John Otto worked with vision and perseverance to have recognized and preserved for future generations those special lands and values that make up our American heritage.
- The protected lands of Colorado National Monument, adjacent to a large and growing urban population, preserve habitat for biotic communities of the Colorado Plateau and serve as an outdoor laboratory for scientific research and environmental education.



Part 2: Dynamic Components

The dynamic components of a foundation document include special mandates and administrative commitments and an assessment of planning and data needs. These components are dynamic because they will change over time. New special mandates can be established and new administrative commitments made. As conditions and trends of fundamental and other important resources and values change over time, the analysis of planning and data needs will need to be revisited and revised, along with key issues. Therefore, this part of the foundation document will be updated accordingly.

Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

Many management decisions for a park unit are directed or influenced by special mandates and administrative commitments with other federal agencies, state and local governments, utility companies, partnering organizations, and other entities. Special mandates are requirements specific to a park that must be fulfilled. Mandates can be expressed in enabling legislation, in separate legislation following the establishment of the park, or through a judicial process. They may expand on park purpose or introduce elements unrelated to the purpose of the park. Administrative commitments are, in general, agreements that have been reached through formal, documented processes, often through memorandums of agreement. Examples include easements, rights-of-way, arrangements for emergency service responses, etc. Special mandates and administrative commitments can support, in many cases, a network of partnerships that help fulfill the objectives of the park and facilitate working relationships with other organizations. They are an essential component of managing and planning for Colorado National Monument

Special Mandates

- **Rim Rock Drive Public Right-of-Way.** Nonrecreational and commercial traffic travels between the East Entrance and the Glade Park cutoff road (DS Road) without having to pay an entrance fee. A 1986 U.S. District Court ruled on the dispute regarding the right-of-way through the monument on the 4-mile eastern segment of Rim Rock Drive, because at that time there was no other year-round paved access. (Since 1996, the alternative Little Park Road has been paved.) The court determined that a public right-of-way exists on this segment, and only this 4-mile segment, and the use of that road for continuous travel through the monument is a nonrecreational use (including commercial traffic), for which no fee can be charged.
- **Identified and Proposed Wilderness.** The monument encompasses some 20,000 acres, of which approximately 15,000 acres has been identified or proposed as wilderness and serves as a refuge for self-discovery, solitude, and natural quiet. A proposal to designate 7,700 acres of Colorado National Monument as wilderness was submitted to Congress in 1972 and subsequently an additional 7,435 acres were identified in 1978 as potential wilderness.

The wilderness acreage is still under congressional consideration and is managed under NPS policy as wilderness until formally designated by Congress.

Administrative Commitments

- **Cooperating Association.** The Colorado National Monument Association (CNMA) is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) established under Colorado law, with which the National Park Service has signed a standard cooperating association agreement. Under the agreement, the association supports the monument by providing interpretive services and activities, which include sales of books and other interpretive media products. The Colorado National Monument Association also is authorized under a commercial services authorization to sell limited visitor convenience items. Proceeds from sales support projects that benefit Colorado National Monument, including scientific research, interpretation, and education.
- **Rights-of-Way.**
 - A right-of-way agreement with one telecommunications company allows an aerial telecommunications line to cross the eastern portion of the monument. It is in a corridor of potential wilderness, flanked by recommended wilderness. Maintenance practices must conform to wilderness management policies. If abandoned, it would become recommended wilderness.
 - The Ute Water Conservancy District provides domestic water to Colorado National Monument at the monument’s north boundary near the Fruita entrance and to the developments near the Grand Junction entrance pursuant to a contract entered into between the National Park Service and the district on August 9, 1979.
 - The National Park Service holds a right-of-way across Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-administered lands in the E1/2, SE1/4, Sec. 27, T.11S., R.101W., 6th P.M. for a parking lot, trailhead, and trail access to the Liberty Cap and Ute Canyon trails (BLM reservation C-36742).
 - Power is provided to the monument by two companies. Grand Valley Power serves the West Entrance and headquarters developments and Xcel Energy serves the East Entrance developments.
- **Other.**
 - Under the Clean Air Act of 1977 (as amended), the monument is designated a federal class II airshed. The State of Colorado has designated the monument “Category I” for air quality, which provides a level of protection from in-state sources of sulphur dioxide (SO²) equal to the protection afforded under federal class I standards. These designations afford the monument modest protection of its air quality-related values.
 - The National Park Service has concurrent law enforcement jurisdiction with the State of Colorado over all lands within Colorado National Monument.
 - A cooperative agreement was established for the Upper Colorado River Interagency Fire Management Unit between the Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service to collaborate on interagency fire management planning.

For more information about the existing administrative commitments for Colorado National Monument, please see appendix B.

Assessment of Planning and Data Needs

Once the core components of part 1 of the foundation document have been identified, it is important to gather and evaluate existing information about the park's fundamental and other important resources and values, and develop a full assessment of the park's planning and data needs. The assessment of planning and data needs section presents planning issues, the planning projects that will address these issues, and the associated information requirements for planning, such as resource inventories and data collection, including GIS data.

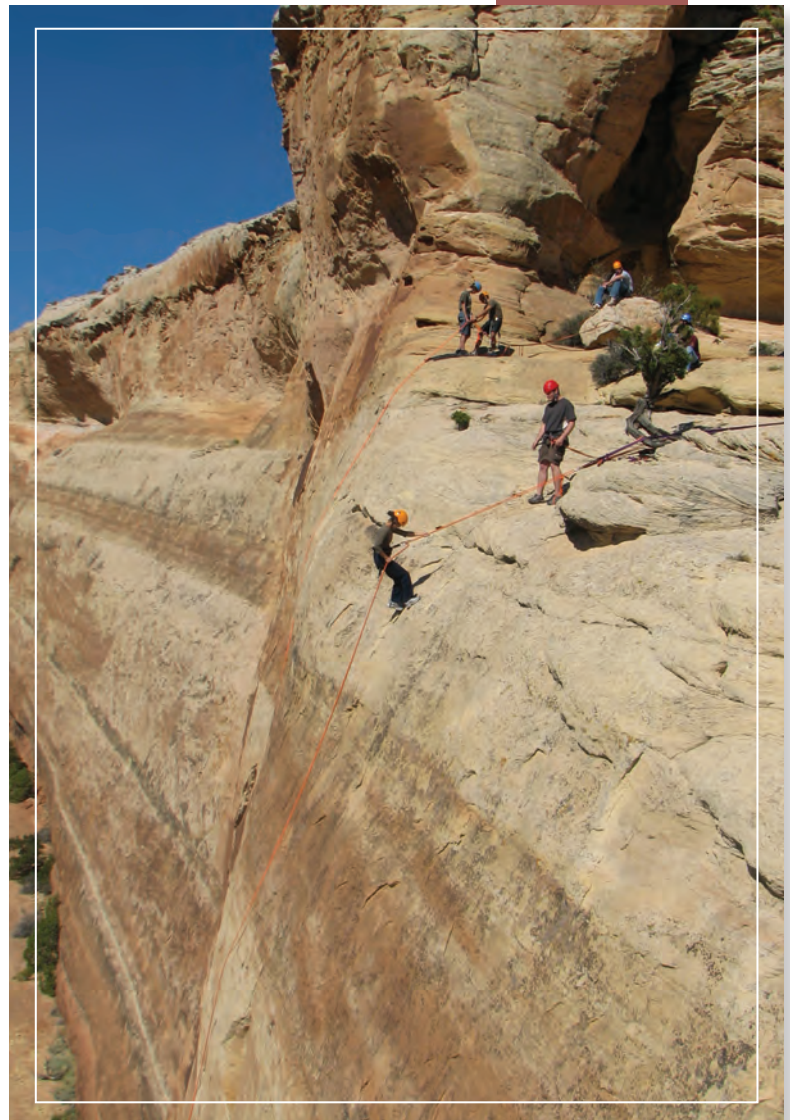
There are three sections in the assessment of planning and data needs:

1. analysis of fundamental and other important resources and values
2. identification of key issues and associated planning and data needs
3. identification of planning and data needs (including spatial mapping activities or GIS maps)

The analysis of fundamental and other important resources and values and identification of key issues leads up to and supports the identification of planning and data collection needs.

Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values

The fundamental resource or value analysis table includes current conditions, potential threats and opportunities, planning and data needs, and selected laws and NPS policies related to management of the identified resource or value.



Fundamental Resource or Value	Geologic Process
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>1 Colorado National Monument exposes and preserves three different groups of rock and sediment—the first is the Early to Middle Proterozoic gneiss and schist, then the horizontally bedded Mesozoic sedimentary rocks, and the youngest being the various types of Quaternary deposits such as alluvium, colluvium, and dunes reflecting two billion years of Earth history Wind and water erosion continues to form and reveal spectacular land forms and viewsheds of canyons, plateaus, and towering monoliths at the northeastern gateway of the Colorado Plateau</p> <p>3 Colorado National Monument preserves and protects cultural, physical, paleontological, biological, and geological resources and values for education, interpretation, and enjoyment within a growing urban community</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions and Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The natural processes of erosion are ongoing • Geologic processes range from stable to landslide conditions • Human intervention is not impeding or accelerating the natural processes at a landscape level
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for landslides and rockfalls threaten visitor safety, monument structures, roads, and trails • Visitor impacts from creating new social trails to climbing and canyoneering activities accelerates erosional processes and damages biological soil crust in both frontcountry and backcountry locations • Changing weather patterns, including temperature, moisture, and magnitude of storms, may alter erosion and weathering rates • Mitigation of resource impacts may impede or accelerate geologic processes • Potential for geologic shifting due to area hydro-fracturing • Continued limited staffing and inadequate science/technical capacity to perform documentation and monitoring <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory geological hazard areas including landslides and rockfalls, and model flash flood hazards with the assistance and expertise of the local university, U S Geological Survey (USGS), NPS Intermountain Region (IMR), and NPS Washington offices (WASO) • Continue to learn from scientific research conducted on geologic features and processes • Establish monitoring program based on repeat photography • Monitor and manage climbing activities, including social trail access, to minimize resource damage to monoliths, talus slope approaches, and other geologic features • Monitor air quality and rainfall to detect human-caused chemical threats to rock faces and biological soil crusts • Complete the systematic inventory of paleontological resources and analyze relative threats • Share knowledge of human effects on geological and associated biological features through education and outreach to climbers and hikers • Develop and implement an active rockfall management plan to safely address hazards and preserve geologic processes • Routinely monitor and maintain drainage structures on Rim Rock Drive and the boundary perimeter to ensure the capacity of stormwater structures are adequate to handle extreme rainfall events • Work with landowners and local governments to improve drainage structures outside the monument to ensure continued flow during rain events • Communicate known geologic hazards and risks through visitor information and educational programs

Fundamental Resource or Value	Geologic Process
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeps and springs inventory and monitoring • Climate change assessment • Geohazards assessment • Soils inventory and mapping • Wilderness character assessment • Social trail inventory and carrying capacity analysis where appropriate • Natural resource condition assessment (started in 2014) • Visitor use surveys and studies (to monitor and analyze visitor use levels, patterns, and characteristics)
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource stewardship strategy • Trails management plan • Visitor use management (noncommercial and commercial uses and activities) • Comprehensive interpretive plan / long-range interpretive plan • Wilderness and climbing management plan • Road maintenance and hazard plan • Interagency fire management plan
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA); 42 USC 4321 • Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009; Subtitle D – Paleontological Resources Preservation Act • “Preservation of natural, cultural and archeological resources” (36 CFR 2.1) prohibits possessing, destroying, or disturbing mineral resources in park units <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director’s Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Natural Resource Management Reference Manual 77</i> • Director’s Order 12: <i>Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making and DO-12 Handbook</i> • Director’s Order 14: <i>Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration</i> • Director’s Order 77: <i>Natural Resource Protection</i> • Director’s Order 79: <i>Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities</i> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4.4.2.4) “Management of Natural Landscapes” • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4.8.2) “Management of Geologic Features” • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4.8) provides general direction on the protection of geologic and soil resources



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Fundamental Resource or Value	Geologic Features
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>1 Colorado National Monument exposes and preserves three different groups of rock and sediment—the first is the Early to Middle Proterozoic gneiss and schist, then the horizontally bedded Mesozoic sedimentary rocks, and the youngest being the various types of Quaternary deposits such as alluvium, colluvium, and dunes reflecting two billion years of Earth history Wind and water erosion continues to form and reveal spectacular land forms and viewsheds of canyons, plateaus, and towering monoliths at the northeastern gateway of the Colorado Plateau</p> <p>3 Colorado National Monument preserves and protects cultural, physical, paleontological, biological, and geological resources and values for education, interpretation, and enjoyment within a growing urban community</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions and Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geologic features, such as canyon walls and monoliths, may be affected by human use (i.e., climbing activities) • Biological features associated with geologic features (such as bird nesting sites, lichen colonies, and hanging gardens) may be impacted over time by geologic processes • Information, documentation, and protection of known paleontological resources are limited
<p>Threats</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for landslides and rockfalls threaten visitor safety, monument structures, roads, and trails • Visitor impacts from creating new social trails to climbing and canyoneering activities accelerate erosion processes and damage biological soil crust in both frontcountry and backcountry locations • Changing weather patterns, including temperature, moisture, and magnitude of storms, may alter erosion and weathering rates • Mitigation of resource impacts may impede or accelerate geologic processes • Susceptible to lightning strikes • Degraded air quality in Grand Valley and related impacts on scenery • Potential for geologic shifting due to hydro-fracturing in the area • Continued limited staffing and inadequate science / technical capacity to perform documentation and monitoring • Paleontological resources are at risk from looting and soil erosion • Resource impacts associated with special monument uses and commercial use authorizations

Fundamental Resource or Value	Geologic Features
<p>Opportunities</p>	<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and monitor areas most susceptible to potential threats, develop intervention thresholds for protecting and preserving fossils, and develop protocols for recovering and documenting fossils after intervention • Establish a formal agreement with the Museum of Western Colorado, or other qualified institution, to store, protect, and make available to researchers paleontological specimens collected or recovered at Colorado National Monument • Incorporate new knowledge of paleontology into interpretation, education, and outreach at the monument and among other organizations of the “Dinosaur Diamond National Scenic Byway” that follows paleontological sites in Colorado and Utah • Preserve and protect locational data while interpreting resources Needs to be managed as a sensitive resource, as with archeology • Inventory geological hazard areas, including landslides and rockfalls, and model flash flood hazards with the assistance and expertise of the local university, USGS, IMR, and WASO offices • Continue to learn from scientific research conducted on geologic features and processes • Establish monitoring program based on repeat photography • Monitor and management of climbing activities, impacts to resources including expansion of social trailing can mitigate unintentional impacts to wall monoliths, talus slope approaches, and other geologic features and processes • Monitor air quality and rainfall to detect human-caused chemical threats to rock faces and biological soil crusts • Complete the systematic inventory of paleontological resources and analyze relative threats • Share knowledge of human effects on geological and associated biological features through education and outreach to climbers and hikers • Assess and monitor rockfall activity to address hazards and visitor safety and to preserve geologic processes • Routinely monitor and maintain drainage structures on Rim Rock Drive and the boundary perimeter to ensure capacity of stormwater structures is able to handle extreme rainfall events • Work with landowners and local governments to improve drainage structures outside the monument to ensure continued flow during rain events • Communicate known geologic hazards and risks through visitor information and educational programs • Expand monitoring and management of special monument uses and commercial use authorizations; update permit/authorization language to incorporate best practices, and address issues identified during monitoring

Fundamental Resource or Value	Geologic Features
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanded survey of entire monument for geologic features • Inventory and monitor seeps and springs • Climate change assessment • Geohazards assessment • Soils inventory and mapping • Wilderness character assessment • Social trail inventory and carrying capacity analysis where appropriate • Natural resource condition assessment (started in 2014) • Visitor use surveys and studies (to monitor and analyze visitor use levels, patterns, and characteristics) • Expanded survey of entire monument for geologic features • Paleontology inventory and assessment
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource stewardship strategy • Trails management plan • Visitor use management (noncommercial and commercial uses and activities) • Comprehensive interpretive plan / long-range interpretive plan • Wilderness and climbing management plan • Road maintenance and hazard plan • Interagency fire management plan
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; 42 USC 4321 • Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009; Subtitle D – Paleontological Resources Preservation Act • Executive Order 13007, “Indian Sacred Sites” • American Indian Religious Freedom Act • Religious Freedom Restoration Act • Executive Order 13175, “Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments” • “Preservation of natural, cultural and archeological resources” (36 CFR 2.1) prohibits possessing, destroying, or disturbing mineral resources in park units <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director’s Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Natural Resource Management Reference Manual 77</i> • Director’s Order 12: <i>Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making and DO-12 Handbook</i> • Director’s Order 14: <i>Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration</i> • Director’s Order 77: <i>Natural Resource Protection</i> • Director’s Order 79: <i>Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities</i> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4.8) provides general direction on the protection of geologic and soil resources • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4.4.2.4) “Management of Natural Landscapes” • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4.8.2) “Management of Geologic Features” • Department of the Interior Policy on Consultation with Indian Tribes



Fundamental Resource or Value	Ecological Systems
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>2 Colorado National Monument preserves and protects representative examples of intact high desert ecosystems of the Colorado Plateau, providing opportunities for scientific studies</p> <p>3 Colorado National Monument preserves and protects cultural, physical, paleontological, biological, and geological resources and values for education, interpretation, and enjoyment within a growing urban community</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions and Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The canyon rims, walls, and mesa tops support a diverse assemblage of plant and animal life including lizards, birds, bats, ringed-tailed cats, and bighorn sheep • A complex relationship of soil structure and living organisms called biological crusts are supported where soil can accumulate • One of the rarest and potentially most sensitive habitats is the wetland areas associated with seeps and springs. These habitats potentially support endemic species found only in that one wetland. Scarcity of such wetlands increases their importance to wildlife • Disturbance by landslides or rockfalls into the canyons has occurred and will continue
<p>Threats</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contaminants of emerging concern such as pharmaceuticals and cosmetics • Water wells in neighboring communities may impact aquifer • Invasive plants, changing weather patterns, and fire management activities may alter natural fire regimes • Network of social trails and nonnative vegetation destabilize biological soil crusts and impact native vegetation • Potential changes in soil erosion and weathering and change in frequency and magnitude of storms due to altered weather patterns • Increased vehicle traffic impacting natural quiet and wildlife • Light pollution from the valley floor impacts night skies and viewsheds • Potential for a hazardous chemical spill on the “east hill” due to commercial transports and on the west side due to delivery of propane and fuel for maintenance activities • Rock climbing activities impact nesting and roosting locations for birds and bats • Domestic and feral animals impacting vegetation and wildlife • Barbed-wire fencing inside the monument and along the boundary impedes wildlife movement and creates a physical hazard • The transportation of uncovered hay through the monument has the ongoing potential to spread nonnative and invasive plants along Rim Rock Drive • Impacts on native species from infestation of nonnative bullfrogs in monument wetlands • Continued limited staffing and inadequate science/technical capacity to perform documentation and monitoring • Ongoing park and fire management activities may be increasing soil erosion

Fundamental Resource or Value	Ecological Systems
<p>Opportunities</p>	<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperative planning with the Bureau of Land Management to promote ecological system management • Support and expand partnership opportunities with universities, various science agencies, and NPS regional and WASO offices to assist with natural resource survey work and to increase knowledge of monument resources • Develop and implement management strategies in recommended and proposed wilderness to manage visitors and address wilderness character • Work with adjacent land agencies and communities to develop best practices for transporting hay and for protection of night skies • Work with agencies, local governments, residents, and others to prevent human activities from adversely affecting the hydrologic system • Engage and educate community partners on wildland fire management issues in coordination with federal, state, and local agencies • Establish cooperative agreements with local agencies for weed management and control of invasive plants • Promote educational opportunities with boundary neighbors to build understanding of monument natural processes, wildlife and habitat management, and threats to resources
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilderness character assessment • Climate change assessment • Bat inventory and monitoring • Raptor survey to identify important use and nesting areas • Natural resource condition assessment • Seeps and springs inventory • Ecological integrity assessment • Bighorn sheep health assessment • Invasive plant mapping • Inventory and mapping of soils and biological soil crusts • Air quality assessment • Viewshed mapping • Soundscapes and intrusive noise assessment • Paleontology inventory and assessment • Kit fox survey and management strategy • Wildlife population assessments • Collect invasive plant data along Rim Rock Drive to support analysis of impacts from transport of uncovered hay through the monument • Social trail inventory and carrying capacity analysis where appropriate
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource stewardship strategy • State of the parks report • Trails management plan • Wilderness and climbing management plan • Wildlife management plan • Interagency fire management plan • Soundscape management plan • Integrated pest management plan

Fundamental Resource or Value	Ecological Systems
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; 42 USC 4321 • Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended • National Invasive Species Act • Lacey Act, as amended • Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974, as amended • The Clean Water Act • The Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq) gives federal land managers the responsibility for protecting air quality and related values, including visibility, plants, animals, soils, water quality, cultural resources, and public health, from adverse air pollution impacts • Executive Order 13175, "Consultation and Coordination of Indian Tribal Governments" • Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species" • Secretarial Order 3206: "American Indian Tribal Rights, Federal-Tribal Trust Responsibilities, and the Endangered Species Act" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Natural Resource Management Reference Manual 77</i> • Director's Order 12: <i>Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making and DO-12 Handbook</i> • Director's Order 14: <i>Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration</i> • Director's Order 77: <i>Natural Resource Protection</i> • Director's Order 79: <i>Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities</i> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (1 6, 4 1, 4 1 4, 4 4 1) provides general direction for managing park units from an ecosystem perspective • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4 4 2 4) "Management of Natural Landscapes" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4 7 2) "Weather and Climate" • Department of the Interior Policy on Consultation with Indian Tribes



Fundamental Resource or Value	Human History
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>3 Colorado National Monument preserves and protects cultural, physical, paleontological, biological, and geological resources and values for education, interpretation, and enjoyment within a growing urban community</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions and Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graffiti, vandalism, and looting rock art and lithic scatters are ongoing issues due to the urban interface • The monument is identified as a “Vanishing Treasures” park unit and has two identified resource staff for program support for the Serpents and Dugway trails • Limited information available on archeological resources • Limited condition assessment information exists for historic structures • Historic trails and routes are included in interpretive history of the monument • Cultural landscape inventory completed for Rim Rock Drive • Monument maintains relationships with associated tribes and conducts government-to-government consultations • Archeological sites have and continue to deteriorate from exposure to the elements and impacts from visitors
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rockfalls, flooding, erosion, and landslides occur and impact cultural resources • Ongoing fire management and other monument activities may be increasing soil erosion • Graffiti, vandalism, and looting rock art and lithic scatters are ongoing issues due to the urban interface and there is a lack of adequate documentation and monitoring due to limited staffing • Deferred maintenance on historic structures • Undocumented features and occurring resource loss • Lack of archeological monitoring plan • Limited knowledge of archeological resources prevents their protection • Continued staffing limitations have led to inadequate science and technical capacity to perform documentation and monitoring of archeological resources • Mitigation of resource impacts may impede or accelerate geologic processes • Resource damage from increasing use of social trails as short-cuts <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to expand documentation and treatment of cultural and historic resources through “Vanishing Treasures Program ” • Include volunteers in monitoring cultural sites • Expand and promote education about protection of cultural resources and preservation of cultural sites • Collaborate and plan with neighboring land management agencies to prepare for flash flood events • Promote and provide opportunities for scholarly research and study of cultural resources • Develop an approach and implement active rockfall management • Inventory human-made structures and modifications and remove any that do not contribute to the purposes and management of the monument • Manage the monument’s diverse museum collection, archival materials, and specimens to inform resource management and preservation and provide for scientific study, scholarly research, and historical documentation

Fundamental Resource or Value	Human History
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change assessment • Archeological condition assessment • Archeological documentation and Archeological Sites Management Information System (ASMIS) database updates • Historic structure surveys and integrity assessments • Comprehensive GIS database management • Facility Management Software System condition assessment • Accessibility assessment • Updated Facility Management Software System (maintenance system database) to include cultural resources under maintained archeological sites and landscape asset types • Museum core documents to address collection backlog and updates • Mission 66 eligibility assessment • Visitor use surveys and studies (use statistics and mapping of recreational climbing and hiking) • Social trail inventory and carrying capacity analysis where appropriate • Several developed areas need cultural landscape inventories to inform a comprehensive cultural landscape report and to guide future management actions
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic structure preservation and treatment plan • Archeological monitoring plan • Collections management plan • Museum emergency action plan • Comprehensive cultural landscape report
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Antiquities Act of 1906 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • Executive Order 13007, "Indian Sacred Sites" • Executive Order 13175, "Consultation and Coordination of Indian Tribal Governments" • American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act • Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 • Religious Freedom Restoration Act • "Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archaeological Collections" (36 CFR 79) • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2008 Programmatic Agreement among the National Park Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (5 3 5 5) states that the National Park Service "will collect, protect, preserve, provide access to, and use objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections...in the disciplines of archeology, ethnography, history, biology, geology, and paleontology to aid understanding among park visitors, and to advance knowledge in the humanities and sciences" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (5 3 5 2) requires preservation of the physical attributes, biotic systems, and uses of cultural landscapes that contribute to historical significance • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> (1998) • Director's Order 28A: <i>Archeology</i> (2004) • Vanishing Treasures Program Charter • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i> • Department of the Interior Policy on Consultation with Indian Tribes

Fundamental Resource or Value	Rim Rock Drive
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>3 Colorado National Monument preserves and protects cultural, physical, paleontological, biological, and geological resources and values for education, interpretation, and enjoyment within a growing urban community</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions and Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The natural processes of erosion are ongoing and impact drainage, shoulder stabilization, and road surface as a result of rockfall events • The existing cultural landscape inventory helps guide future management activities along the road • Rim Rock Drive is managed as a dynamic historic resource that facilitates visitor access to and appreciation of the monument, protects its historic character, and provides local residents with passage between the Glade Park area and Grand Valley, below • Rim Rock Drive is in increasingly high demand for competing uses
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential impacts from landslides and rockfalls and natural erosion processes threaten visitor safety and roadway resource integrity • Impacts on roadway shoulder and drainage patterns from unauthorized parking to access overlooks and hiking trails • Negative human-wildlife encounters impact visitor use and wildlife safety • Drainage impacts from maintenance activities that impede or accelerate geologic processes • Roadway surface impacted from oversized vehicles on Rim Rock Drive <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand educational opportunities at overlooks through wayside exhibits and personal services • Engage in cooperative planning with agencies, local governments, and others to protect scenic vistas at overlooks and roadways • Compile and systematically track accident records to identify safety improvements consistent with historic and scenic values • Maintain and interpret historic values of road • Manage the monument’s diverse museum collection to inform resource management and preservation and provide for scientific study, scholarly research, and historical documentation • Identify and monitor geological hazards and analyze potential actions to reduce hazards • Develop agreements to coordinate emergency response efforts with local agencies to address potential major events that consider safety, natural processes, cultural resource values, and visitor access • Pursue long-range options with agencies, organizations, local governments, residents, and others to reduce conflicts for competing road uses such as alternative routes, alternative transportation
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geohazards assessment • Facility Management Software System management condition assessment • Invasive plant inventory • Air quality and viewshed assessment • GIS database management (mapping) • Visitor use surveys and studies (to monitor and analyze visitor use levels, patterns, and characteristics)

Fundamental Resource or Value	Rim Rock Drive
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East side entrance development concept plan • Trails management plan • Visitor use management (noncommercial and commercial uses and activities) • Final environmental management system (EMS) (workshop and draft foundation completed in December 2013) • West side entrance development concept plan • Alternative transportation plan • Interagency fire management plan • Comprehensive cultural landscape report
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Public Law 105-178, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) • 23 USC 204 – Federal Lands Highways Program <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2008 Programmatic Agreement among the National Park Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4 8 2) "Management of Geologic Features" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (5 3 5 2) requires the preservation of the physical attributes, biotic systems, and uses of cultural landscapes that contribute to historical significance • Director's Order 12: <i>Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making and DO-12 Handbook</i> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management (1998)</i> • Director's Order 28A: <i>Archeology (2004)</i> • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i>



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Fundamental Resource or Value	Scenery
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>1 Colorado National Monument exposes and preserves three different groups of rock and sediment—the first is the Early to Middle Proterozoic gneiss and schist, then the horizontally bedded Mesozoic sedimentary rocks, and the youngest being the various types of Quaternary deposits such as alluvium, colluvium, and dunes reflecting two billion years of Earth history. Wind and water erosion continues to form and reveal spectacular land forms and viewsheds of canyons, plateaus, and towering monoliths at the northeastern gateway of the Colorado Plateau.</p> <p>2 Colorado National Monument preserves and protects representative examples of intact high desert ecosystems of the Colorado Plateau, providing opportunities for scientific studies.</p> <p>3 Colorado National Monument preserves and protects cultural, physical, paleontological, biological, and geological resources and values for education, interpretation, and enjoyment within a growing urban community.</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions and Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generalized development in the Grand Valley is impacting night skies, views, and vistas.
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil and gas development and wind energy farms impact regional air quality and viewsheds. Urban development and related air pollution sources. Climate change may alter fire regimes and dust transmission, diminishing viewshed quality. Continued limited staffing and inadequate science/technical capacity to perform documentation and monitoring. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue work to achieve visibility improvement through the air quality program. Continue collaboration and coordination with adjacent land managers to mitigate the air quality impacts of oil and gas development through the air quality oil and gas memorandum of understanding. Opportunities for implementing park sustainability measures that reduce in-park pollution.
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish viewshed monitoring program. Special studies to examine pollution impacts on sensitive ecosystems. Special studies, including source attribution studies, to evaluate the impacts of windblown dust and climate change interactions on visibility. Continue collection of weather data at visitor center. Dark skies condition assessment.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource stewardship strategy. State of the parks report. Interagency fire management plan. Dark skies management plan. Alternative transportation plan.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Scenery
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Environmental Policy Act • Endangered Species Act • The Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq) gives federal land managers the responsibility for protecting air quality and related values, including visibility, plants, animals, soils, water quality, cultural resources, and public health, from adverse air pollution impacts (Note: Colorado air quality statutes apply more stringent standards; State of Colorado has designated the monument “Category I” for air quality, which provides a level of protection from in-state sources of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) equal to the protection afforded under federal class I standards) • Executive Order 13175, “Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments” • Secretarial Order 3206 American Indian Tribal Rights, Federal-Tribal Trust Responsibilities, and the Endangered Species Act <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director’s Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4 10) recognizes that natural lightscapes are natural resources and values that contribute to visitor experience. The policy further states that NPS staff will seek to minimize the intrusion of artificial light into the night scene. In natural areas, artificial outdoor lighting will be limited to meet basic safety requirements and will be shielded when possible. • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4 7) and NPS <i>Natural Resource Management Reference Manual 77</i> provide further direction on the protection of air quality and related values for park units. • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (1 4, 1 6, 3 1) require the National Park Service to conserve and protect scenery and scenic vistas. • Department of the Interior Policy on Consultation with Indian Tribes





Analysis of Other Fundamental Resources and Values

Other Important Resource or Value	Wilderness
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions and Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 15,000 acres of the monument were identified and proposed for wilderness designation in the 1970s. These lands have been managed as wilderness per NPS policy while they await congressional consideration. • A “minimum tool analysis” is conducted as part of compliance for activities in wilderness. • Backcountry camping permit levels are stable. • Technical climbing activities are not staff monitored. A voluntary trail log exists and not all climbers record information. • Search and rescue numbers have been stable between 2005 and 2013, with an average of seven rescues per year. • Project funding is requested (PMIS) to develop a wilderness management plan.
<p>Threats</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued limited staffing has led to inadequate science/technical capacity to perform documentation and monitoring. • Elements that define wilderness character are not identified so important issues may be missed during compliance. • Ongoing park and fire management activities may impact wilderness character. • Invasive plants have the ability to alter fire regimes, increasing the potential for unnatural landscape-altering fire.

Other Important Resource or Value	Wilderness
Opportunities	<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue outside support to supplement staffing limitations, i.e., regional/WASO office technical assistance request • Increase education opportunities on the importance of wilderness and the obligation to manage for it • Partnerships to pursue alternative transportation routes for commercial and commuter traffic along roadway • Monitoring special use and educational permits for wilderness impacts
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilderness character assessment – (<i>Keeping It Wild in the National Park Service User Guide</i> for cultural resource management should be referenced when developing wilderness character assessment) • Climate change assessment • Air quality assessment • Viewshed assessment • Dark skies condition assessment • Soundscapes assessment and management • Monitoring backcountry uses and special use permits to document use levels, patterns, and impacts • GIS database management (updates to document trails and visitor use areas)
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource stewardship strategy • State of the parks report • Trails management plan • Wilderness and climbing management plan • Interagency fire management plan • Soundscape management plan • Dark skies management plan • Natural resource condition assessment • Visitor use management (noncommercial and commercial uses and activities)
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilderness Act of 1964 • Executive Order 13175, “Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments” <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director’s Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director’s Order 47: <i>Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management</i> • Director’s Order 41: <i>Wilderness Stewardship</i> • NPS <i>Reference Manual 41: Wilderness Stewardship</i> • NPS <i>Keeping It Wild in the National Park Service User Guide</i> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (4.9) “Soundscape Management” • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (6.3, 6.4) • Department of the Interior Policy on Consultation with Indian Tribes

Other Important Resource or Value	Diversity of Visitor Experiences
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions and Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing population and tourism in the Grand Valley area has led to a gradual increase in visitation and a more rapid growth in requests for special events in the monument. In particular the park’s scenic roadway, Rim Rock Drive, provides a spectacular backdrop for such events. There is a need to ensure that the various park uses are compatible with the monument’s purpose and significance Trailheads along the urban interface on the north side of the monument are limited in numbers and size The monument’s current management plan does not allow for dogs or bikes on trails The park has now documented the most-used roadway stop locations Opportunities could exist to allow special park uses during off-season time and/or during non-peak hours to minimize impacts on the general public visiting the monument
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing the number/frequency of special events could, if not mitigated, impact the quality of the overall visitor experience <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the local tourism offices and other governmental and public agencies could lead to a more balanced regional tourism program that minimizes negative impacts and increases awareness of the multitude of resources available in the Grand Valley area
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitor use surveys and studies (to monitor and analyze visitor use levels, patterns, and characteristics) Carrying capacity analysis Accessibility assessments Social trail inventory and carrying capacity analysis where appropriate
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East side entrance development concept plan Trails management plan Wilderness and climbing management plan Visitor use management (noncommercial and commercial uses and activities) West side entrance development concept plan Alternative transportation plan GIS database management (updates to document trails and visitor use areas)
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Resource Protection, Public Use and Recreation: Fishing” (36 CFR 2.3) Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards 2006 NPS Concessions Management Improvement Act of 1998 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director’s Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPS Management Policies 2006 NPS Transportation Planning Guidebook Director’s Order 42: Accessibility for Visitors with Disabilities in National Park Service Programs and Services Superintendent’s Compendium

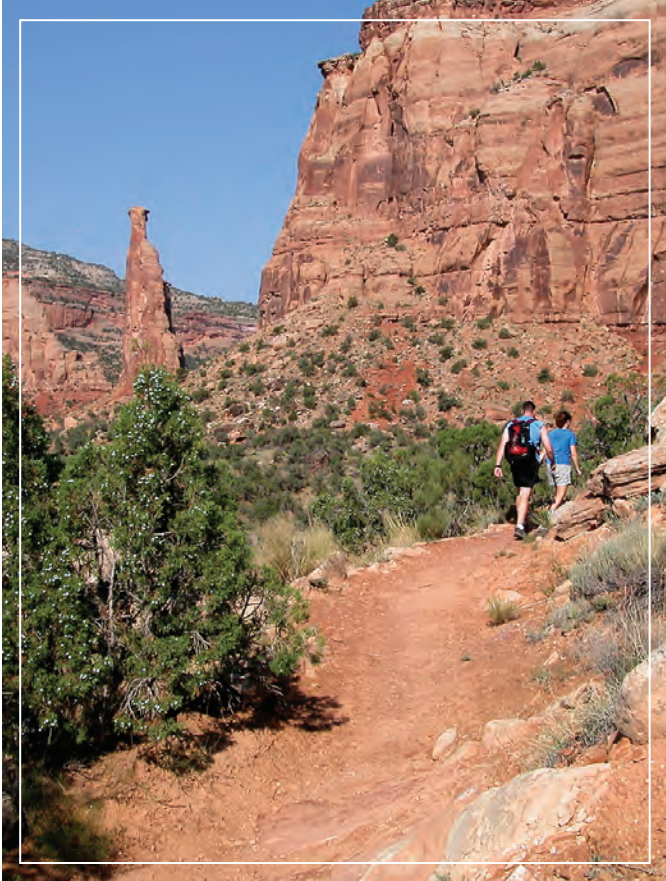
Identification of Key Issues and Associated Planning and Data Needs

This section considers key issues to be addressed in planning and management and therefore takes a broader view over the primary focus of part 1. A key issue focuses on a question that is important for the monument. Key issues often raise questions regarding park purpose and significance and fundamental and other important resources and values. For example, a key issue may pertain to the potential for a fundamental or other important resource or value in the monument to be detrimentally affected by discretionary management decisions. A key issue may also address crucial questions that are not directly related to purpose and significance, but which still affect them indirectly. Usually, a key issue is one that a future planning effort or data collection needs to address and requires a decision by NPS managers.

The following are key issues for Colorado National Monument: (specific data, studies, and plans are also listed in subsequent planning and data needs tables):

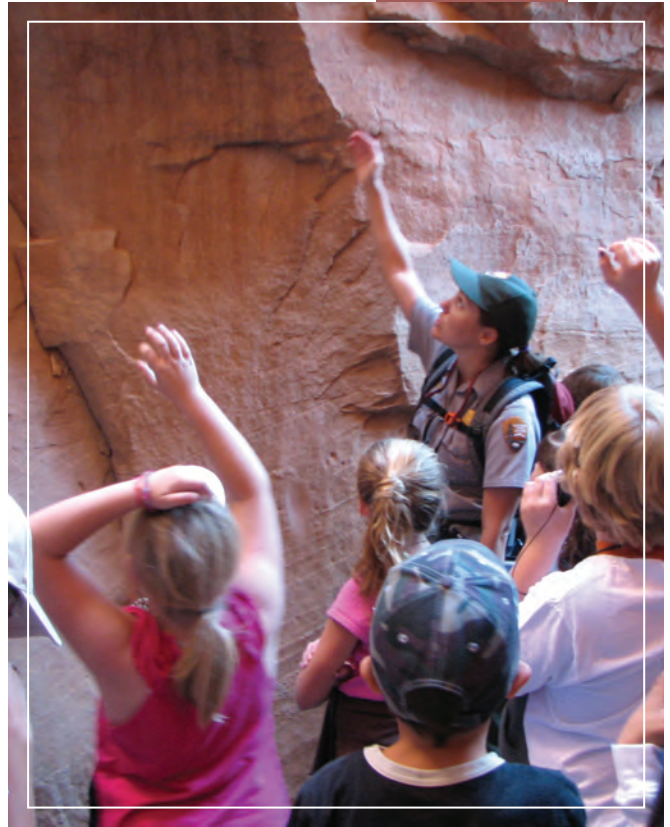
- **Rapid Urbanization.** Rapid urban development is occurring in the adjacent Grand Valley. Residential areas directly adjoining the monument boundary, both in Grand Valley and at a lesser density in and near the Glade Park community. Residential and other development is likely to continue on available private lands near the monument. Population growth has placed increasing local and regional demands on a national resource. Zoning on adjacent private land is mostly residential, but a change to commercial could result in incompatible “gateway” development. Planning and data needs include air quality assessments, dark skies condition assessment and management plan, and cooperative land use management planning.
- **Preserve Resources.**
 - **Managing ecosystems.** Overall resource management strategies must address protecting, restoring as appropriate, and maintaining natural resources and processes in their ecological context in coordination with neighbors (suburban homeowners, rural residents, and the BLM national conservation area). Many issues are interdependent with adjacent lands and regional ecosystems. Planning and data needs include invasive nonnative plant inventories, mapping and controls, coordinated interagency fire management planning, inventory and monitoring of groundwater resources (i.e., seeps and springs), cooperative planning for natural flood, erosion, and landslide events, and data collection concerning impacts of climate change on resources.
 - **Managing cultural resources.** Cultural resources (including rock art, other archeological sites, Rim Rock Drive, historic trails, CCC-era buildings, and cultural landscapes) are not fully identified. Planning and data needs include comprehensive inventories of cultural resources and development of strategies and plans to protect, stabilize as appropriate, and maintain cultural resources to reduce deterioration and loss.
 - **Identify ethnographic resources.** Ethnographic resources, sacred sites, and ties with associated American Indian tribes are not adequately identified. Planning and data needs include condition assessments and ongoing consultation with associated tribes.
 - **Comprehensive inventory and monitoring.** More comprehensive inventory and monitoring of natural and cultural resources are needed to fully understand the monument’s role in the greater ecosystem. Planning and data needs include comprehensive inventories of resources.
- **Vandalism and Resource Damage.** Natural and cultural resources are threatened by trampling, creation of social trails, and vandalism by visitors, from both the rim and the perimeter of the monument. Planning and data needs include visitor use surveys and studies.

- **Backcountry Use.** Planning and data gaps hinder an integrated management strategy for trails, wilderness, climbing, appropriate level of permitting, and use zones. Planning and data needs include inventories of resources/impacts to inform backcountry management planning.
- **Scenic Vistas, Air Quality, Dark Night Skies, and Natural Soundscapes.** These resources have been compromised by rapid development in Grand Valley and to a lesser extent by activities in the monument. Planning and data needs include viewshed mapping and air quality and soundscape assessments.
- **Provide for the Public Enjoyment and Visitor Opportunities.**
 - **Appropriate range of visitor opportunities.** Increasing demand for special events and concern about size, frequency, meaningful connection, and competing uses with NPS interpretive programs. Staff time is required to manage and monitor event and activity impacts, and increasing frequency requires increased staff responsibilities and oversight. Increasing frequency of events can affect general public use of and access to monument resources. Planning and data needs include visitor surveys and studies and visitor use management planning for noncommercial and commercial uses and activities.
 - **Trails and trailheads.** Management strategies for trails and trailheads are needed to address local use, concerns of neighbors, resource protection, and visitors from outside the area. Opportunities exist to connect Colorado National Monument to the regional network of trails, including Bureau of Land Management, Mesa County, Fruita, and Grand Junction trail systems. The differing, and sometimes competing, use policies and management strategies of contiguous land management agencies can negatively impact visitor understanding and experience. Opportunities to coordinate with partners and other land agencies to communicate trail information and trail choices/options should be explored. Planning and data needs include social trail inventories and assessments and trail management planning.



- **Increasing Use of Rim Rock Drive.** The 23-mile-long national register-listed Rim Rock Drive is the primary traffic access for the monument. Increasing demand for use of the road by multiple user groups (i.e., commuter traffic from local communities, commercial/service traffic on the west side, and by users accessing adjacent BLM lands) increases the need for monument staff to monitor/manage safety of visitors and resources, and has operational and maintenance consequences that could impact the longevity of Rim Rock Drive. Planning and data needs include visitor surveys and studies and visitor use management planning for noncommercial and commercial uses and activities, especially along Rim Rock Drive.
- **Potential failure of Rim Rock Drive.** Geologic processes that shape the monument could also result in damage or loss of sections of Rim Rock Drive. Therefore, the need to pursue opportunities to work with partners and state/federal agencies to develop and/or improve alternative routes (Little Park Road) to improve safety and reduce traffic. Planning and data needs include comprehensive condition assessments of the roadway and related infrastructure.

- **Wilderness.** Much of the monument has been formally recommended to Congress as wilderness, and in accordance with NPS policies, it is managed as wilderness. The public is generally not aware of the wilderness designation. Planning and data needs include further assessments of the recommended and proposed wilderness to maintain the wilderness quality and character, and wilderness and climbing management planning.
- **Education and outreach.** Visitor and interpretive services, education, and outreach are limited and opportunities to expand education and outreach should be explored. Staffing capacity to provide outreach on the East side entrance is limited and impacts opportunities to provide visitor information and education. There is growing interest in shared interagency information for visitors because of the proximity of so many recreational opportunities offered by multiple agencies in the same region. Planning and data needs include East side entrance development concept plan, visitor use management, and comprehensive interpretive plan.
- **Boundary adjustments.** Minor boundary adjustments around the monument perimeter would improve management efficiency, resource protection, visitor access, and relationships with neighbors. These include survey corrections, fence adjustments, clarification of proclamations, and settling unclear title claims. They involve relatively minor acreage immediately adjacent to the monument, primarily along the urbanized northeastern edge of the monument. Planning and data needs include boundary survey(s) and GIS data management.
- **Patrol of the east side.** Protection of visitors, resources, and facilities has become more difficult due to lack of monument staff / presence on the east end. An opportunity to provide visitors with monument information is limited.
- **Cooperative planning and management.** There are remarkable opportunities to work cooperatively with the Bureau of Land Management, other state/ federal agencies, local governments, nongovernmental organizations, tribes, the educational community, and individuals to protect resources, provide a broad range of visitor opportunities, and share operational resources and responsibilities. There is potential common interest with neighbors in protecting the rural character of the area. Colorado National Monument was created through the efforts and enthusiasm of local people, and planning processes should strive to strengthen and renew positive public interest and support. Planning and data needs include East and West side entrance development concept plans, alternative transportation plan, and visitor use management plan.



Planning and Data Needs

To maintain connection to the core elements of the foundation and the importance of these core foundation elements, the planning and data needs listed here are directly related to protecting fundamental resources and values, park significance, and park purpose, as well as addressing key issues. To successfully undertake a planning effort, information from sources such as inventories, studies, research activities, and analyses may be required to provide adequate knowledge of park resources and visitor information. Such information sources have been identified as data needs. Geospatial mapping tasks and products are included in data needs.

Items considered of the utmost importance were identified as high priority, and other items identified, but not rising to the level of high priority, were listed as either medium- or low-priority needs. These priorities inform park management efforts to secure funding and support for planning projects.

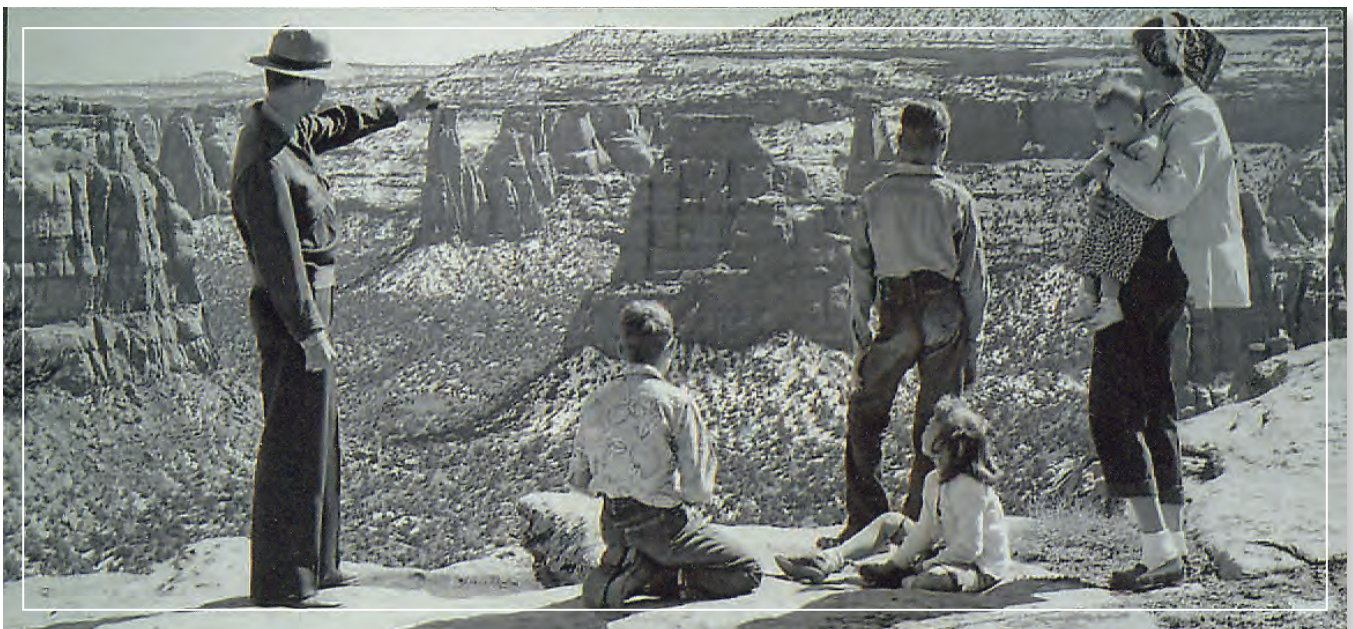
Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made

Related to a FRV or OIRV?	Data Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Seeps and springs inventory and monitoring	H	Planned and funded for fall 2014 Will establish inventory/ monitoring program and will guide the resource stewardship strategy To provide information for Fruita water rights concerns and park designation considerations
FRV/ OIRV	Wilderness character assessment	H	Will guide the wilderness and climbing management plan Needed to help fine-tune boundaries Could inform trail management plan; interagency fire management plan; backcountry management plan
FRV/OIRV	Climate change assessment	H	Assessment of resource impacts of climate change would be integrated into resource stewardship strategy or other policies
FRV	Geohazards assessment	H	Started in 2013 with partial funding for one year Under a technical assistance request Includes major trails and Rim Rock Drive May require additional funding and technical assistance request / servicewide combined call (SCC) request Important due to park legislation
FRV	Archeological condition assessment	H	Started baseline survey in 2013 (SCC request) 2013 SCC request to develop monitoring plan for 2016 funding commitment Condition assessment would inform ASMIS updates
FRV	Historic structures integrity assessment	H	Technical assistance request funded 2013; waiting for final report Would guide historic preservation plan
FRV	Protection planning for identified sensitive cultural resources	H	Identification of sensitive cultural resources completed Further protection planning may be required
FRV	Establish viewshed monitoring program	H	Monitoring changes to condition baseline serves to inform climate, viewshed, and scenery (FRV)
FRV	Update maintenance system database (FMSS)	H	Identified need includes cultural resources associated with under-maintained archeological sites and maintained landscape asset types
FRV	Collection of weather data	H	Weather data collection at visitor center will continue to provide baseline data to update trends and various plans

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to a FRV or OIRV?	Data Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Bat inventory and monitoring	H–M	Committed for funding fiscal years (FY) 2016–17 through Natural Resource Fund; (SCC request submitted 2013) Will guide the resource stewardship strategy Would identify state and federal species of management concern and those at risk from disease
FRV	Raptor surveys	H–M	SCC request submitted in 2013; committed for funding in FY 2017–18 Update the resource stewardship strategy, wilderness, backcountry plan, and climbing management plan Opportunity to consolidate all under one plan (wilderness climbing plan submitted in SCC call)
FRV/OIRV	Social trail inventory and carrying capacity analysis	H–M	Will identify use and social trails, and help guide management strategies Will update trails management and wilderness plans
FRV/OIRV	GIS database management	H–M	Assessment of existing data and identifying gaps for additional data Need data for ongoing and new projects Would establish a baseline of data across divisions/programs GIS would help capture/update trails systems, visitor use areas, and potentially be used to document/track resource impacts and boundary adjustments Could also be expanded to include law enforcement incidents
FRV	Ecological integrity assessment	H–M	Scheduled for September 2013 but impacted by federal government shutdown Assessment of vegetation landscape to identify planting/management needs Will be an assessment of ecologically degraded areas (bison) for future restoration projects Will guide resource stewardship strategy
FRV	Bighorn sheep health assessment (hormonal stressors)	M	Colorado State Parks and Wildlife has identified a need and has a funding source Colorado National Monument would use information from the assessment to understand stress on sheep Could guide resource stewardship strategy
FRV	Invasive plant inventory	M	Inventory of invasive plants (The monument has stopped prescribed burn program to manage invasives) Data could be incorporated into resource stewardship strategy; vegetation management; interagency fire management plan; and other applicable plans Working with the U S Geological Survey and Bureau of Land Management to do a “Detecting Early Season Invasives” project for cheatgrass
FRV	Soils inventory and mapping	M	Will survey cryptobiotic soils and identify and inform management actions for different soils Would guide trail management plan, climbing management plan, backcountry management plan, and resource stewardship strategy
FRV/OIRV	Air quality / viewsheds assessment	M	Need an assessment and to establish a baseline No longer doing for air quality due to funding cuts Would guide resource stewardship strategy May inform designation legislation, but Colorado National Monument does not have direct control over managing air quality
OIRV	Dark skies condition assessment	M	Need an assessment and to establish a baseline Assessment will guide resource stewardship strategy An item under NPS A Call to Action and dark skies management planning

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to a FRV or OIRV?	Data Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV/OIRV	Soundscapes assessment and management	M	A baseline was established in 2013. Would help inform management strategies/capacities. Would inform wilderness plan and support Rim Rock Drive studies, visitor use studies, and resource stewardship strategy.
FRV	Paleontology inventory and assessment	M	Underway in 2013. Start to inventory. Would guide trail management plan, climbing management plan, backcountry management plan, and resource stewardship strategy.
FRV	Comprehensive museum core documents development	M	SCC projects submitted, not currently funded. Development of museum emergency action plan, collections management plan will require collection condition survey. Catalog object, specimen, and archives backlog into the monument's museum collections; bring accession records to standard; identify items for museum collection.
FRV	Facility management condition assessment	M	Needs to be planned/funded. Would inform monument asset management plan updates.
FRV/OIRV	Visitor use surveys and studies (to monitor and analyze visitor use levels, patterns, and characteristics)	M	To support the visitor activity and commercial services planning effort, visitor use studies were conducted in fall 2012, summer 2013, and spring 2014. These studies identify and quantify current visitor use levels, patterns, and characteristics at Colorado National Monument, including general visitation and special use activity along Rim Rock Drive, and identify potential visitor use issues. These data provide a basis for developing indicators and standards that can be used to monitor resource and visitor use conditions over time. Data collection and analysis will inform the future need for specific planning documents and/or assist in identifying appropriate management strategies.
FRV/OIRV	Carrying capacity analysis	M	Studies to survey and analyze use areas and potential resource impacts triggered from changes in use. Would guide visitor use management strategies and planning for special events, special park uses, backcountry camping, and identify opportunities to minimize visitor conflicts and enhance visitor experience.
FRV/OIRV	Accessibility assessments	M	Need comprehensive evaluation of facility accessibility condition and recommendations.
FRV	Special studies, including source attribution studies, to evaluate the impacts of windblown dust and climate change interactions on visibility	M	Studies needed to establish baseline data and to monitor changes; would serve to guide climate and viewshed planning.

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to a FRV or OIRV?	Data Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
OIRV	Monitoring backcountry uses and special use permits to document use levels, patterns, and impacts	M	Monitoring backcountry and special park uses is a term and condition of permits and inform cost recovery Monument can require permittees to submit specific data/reports for the activities conducted This information/data would be used to guide a number of plans including trail management plan, visitor use management, and backcountry management
FRV	Wildlife population assessments	M	Monitoring wildlife studies for analysis
FRV	Boundary surveys	M	Would include survey corrections, fence adjustments, clarification of proclamations, and settling unclear title claims Involves relatively minor acreage immediately adjacent to the monument, primarily along the urbanized northeastern edge of the monument
FRV	Expanded survey of entire monument for geologic features	L	Comprehensive identification of surface geological resource features completed A complete inventory will inform backcountry planning
FRV	Special studies to examine pollution impacts on sensitive ecosystems	L	Studies needed to establish baseline data and monitor changes, Serves to inform climate and viewshed
FRV	Kit fox survey and management	L	Current population is unknown Would guide trail management plan, climbing management plan, backcountry management plan, and resource stewardship strategy
FRV	Mission 66 eligibility assessment	L	Technical assistance request funded 2013; waiting for final report
FRV	Expanded survey of entire monument for geologic features	L	Use and build upon inventory of existing data



Planning Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to a FRV or OIRV?	Planning Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV/OIRV	East side entrance development concept plan	H	Scope would include East Entrance station to DS Road and Rim Rock Drive intersection. Would include site surveys and identification of facility needs and boundaries for activities. Continue coordination with Colorado National Monument Association Trust on East Entrance plaza project and with Mesa Land Trust Book-End Project (bike trail from downtown to monument)
FRV/OIRV	Resource stewardship strategy	H	Natural resource condition assessment scheduled for early 2014. RSS will inform state of the park report
FRV/OIRV	Trails management plan	H	Identify social trail network; historic trails
FRV	Historic structure preservation and treatment plan	H	Address all CCC historic buildings and structures (guard walls)
FRV/OIRV	Wilderness and climbing management plan	H	Could be expanded to include trails management plan
FRV	Environmental management system	H	An EMS workshop was completed in December 2013, and a draft EMS plan completed. EMS plan needs to be finalized and implemented. Monument has also had a baseline environmental audit. This document should be revisited to confirm corrective actions were addressed and to incorporate applicable data/information into EMS plan
FRV	Archeological monitoring plan	H	Planned and funding committed for FY 2016. Informed by three-year assessment in data needs
FRV	Museum emergency action plan	H	Tied to structural fire management plan (completed 2012). Should be referenced / linked to collections management plan
FRV	Wildlife management plan	H	Developing with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Addresses key predator (mountain lion) and management responsibilities. Need to coordinate with Colorado Parks and Wildlife efforts to manage across federal land boundaries. May include agreements and adaptive management strategies in addition to specific plans for the monument
FRV/OIRV	Visitor use management (noncommercial and commercial uses and activities)	H	To support the visitor activity and commercial services planning effort, visitor use studies were conducted in fall 2012, summer 2013, and spring 2014. These studies identify and quantify current visitor use levels, patterns, and characteristics at Colorado National Monument, including general visitation and special use activity throughout the monument, and identify potential visitor use issues. These data provide a basis for developing indicators and standards that can be used to monitor resource and visitor use conditions over time. 2012–14 data collection and analysis will provide a baseline for future planning

Planning Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to a FRV or OIRV?	Planning Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Dark skies management plan	H	Informed by dark skies condition assessment
FRV	Protection planning for identified sensitive cultural resources	H	Identification of sensitive cultural resources completed Further protection planning may be required
FRV	Comprehensive interpretive plan	M	Comprehensive interpretive plan completed in 2000 – needs update
FRV/OIRV	State of the park report	M	Not currently on State of the Park schedule, but could be added once foundation is complete
FRV/OIRV	West side entrance development concept plan	M	Scope would include west entrance station, Stock Drive, West Hill, Saddlehorn complex to Independence monument overlook Would include site surveys and identification of facility needs and boundaries for activities
FRV	Collections management plan	M	Core documents for museum collection include museum emergency management system, collection management plan, collection condition assessment, integrated pest management plan, housekeeping plan Catalog object, specimen, and archives backlog into the park's museum collections; bring accession records to standard; identify items for museum collection
FRV	Integrated pest management plan	M	Needs to be linked to collections management plan Integrated pest management is also identified in the environmental management system and environmental audit for Colorado National Monument and should be incorporated/referenced in the integrated pest management plan Integrated pest management plan could also address spread of nonnatives by uncovered hay being transported through the monument
FRV	Road maintenance and hazards plan	M	
FRV/OIRV	Soundscape management plan	M	
OIRV	Alternative transportation plan	L	Investigate shuttle system, traffic patterns
FRV/OIRV	Interagency fire management plan	L	A fire management plan for Colorado National Monument was updated in 2012



Other Management Actions Identified

- Finalize documentation for state historic preservation officer on determination and concurrence that Mission 66 buildings are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. (The state historic preservation officer toured Mission 66 buildings during the monument’s biennial meeting and determined buildings were not eligible.)
- Ongoing compliance efforts for special park uses (programmatic compliance).
- Visitor use management at Saddlehorn complex.
- Update monument asset management plan triggering asset priority index review and update in Facility Management Software System.
- Boundary fence replacement and removal of interior fencing.
- Coordinate with adjacent land management agencies, Mesa County, partners, and private landowners on cross-boundary resource issues (e.g., resource protection, wildlife management, fire management, special park uses, special events, flash flood control, trail management, urban interface opportunities).

Part 3: Contributors

Colorado National Monument

Lisa Eckert, Superintendent

Karla Tanner, Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services

Michelle Wheatley, Vice Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services

Page Merrifield, Interpretation Intern

Kim Hartwig, Chief of Resource Management

Mark Davison, Chief Park Ranger

Dan Hallett, Chief of Maintenance

Shirley Johnston, Administrative Officer (retired)

NPS Intermountain Region

Art Hutchinson, workshop participant, Chief of Intermountain Region Planning and Compliance

Liza Ermeling, workshop facilitator, NPS Intermountain Region Planning and Compliance

Wendy Berhman, workshop facilitator, NPS Intermountain Region Planning Branch and Compliance, and Washington Support Office, Park Planning and Special Studies

Other NPS Staff

Nancy Shock, Foundation Coordinator, Denver Service Center, Planning Division

Pam Holtman, Workshop co-facilitator, Quality Assurance and Control, Washington Support Office, Park Planning and Special Studies

Mary Beth Homiak, Contract Librarian, Denver Service Center, Planning Division

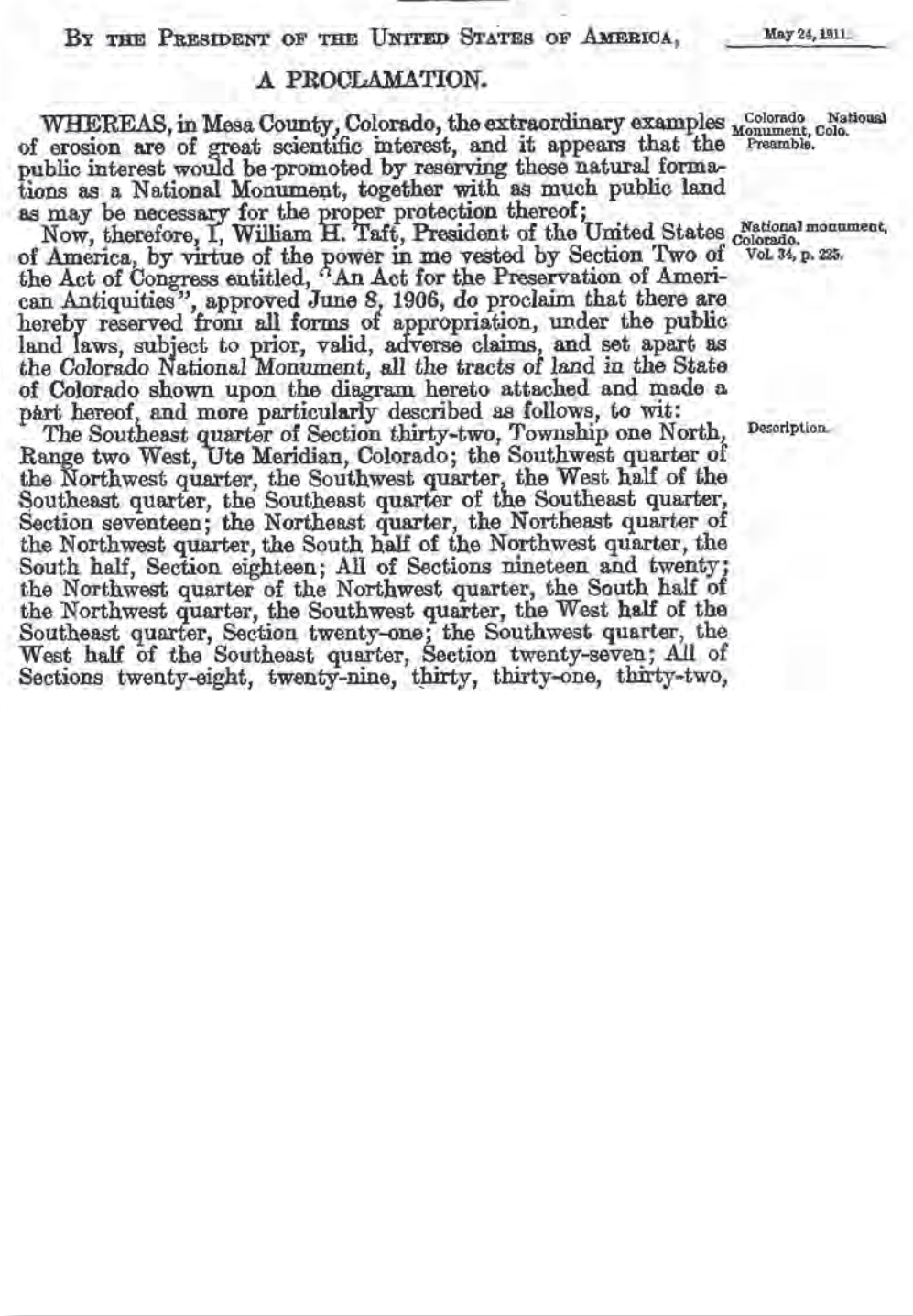
John Paul Jones, Visual Information Specialist, Denver Service Center, Planning Division

Wanda Gray Lafferty, Contract Editor, Denver Service Center, Planning Division

Appendixes

Appendix A: Enabling Legislation for Colorado National Monument and Subsequent Proclamations and Legislation

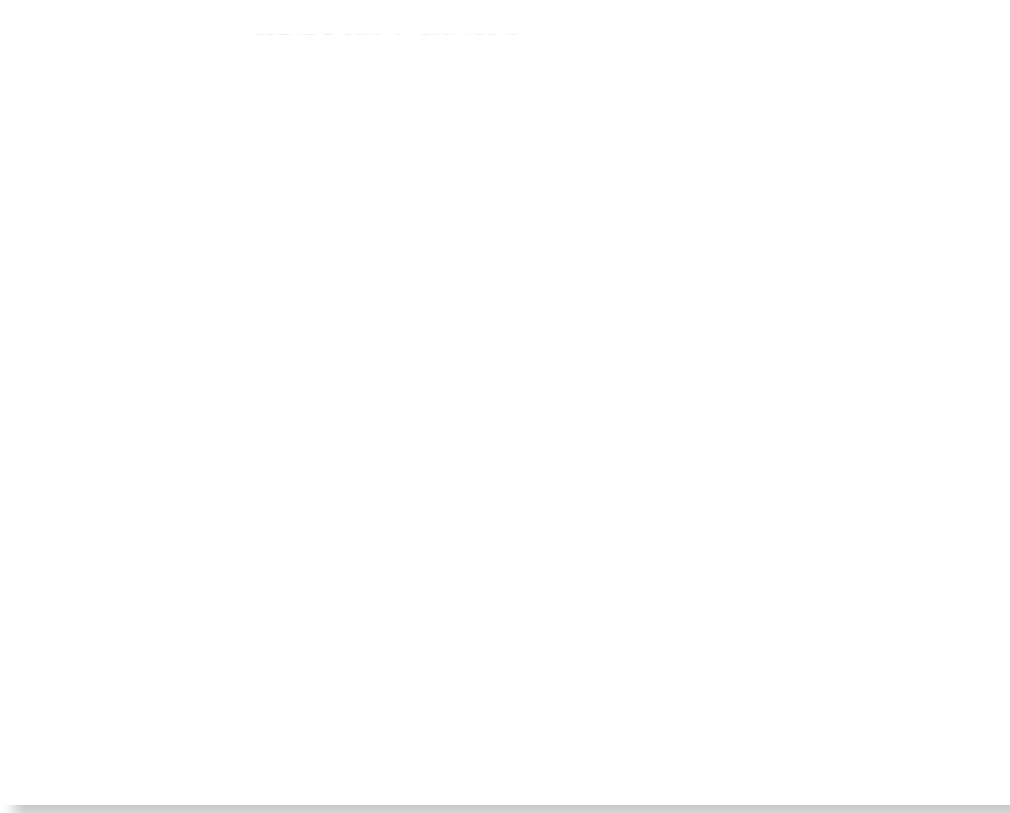
Colorado National Monument was established by Presidential Proclamation No. 1126, on May 24, 1911, 37 Stat. 1681 by President William Howard Taft.

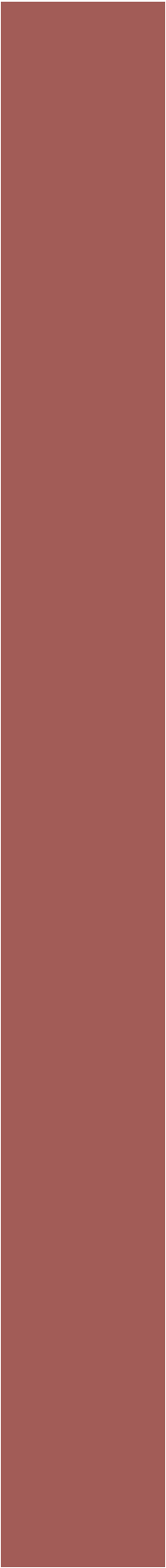


The boundary included 13,833.06 acres. Land was added to the boundary by Presidential Proclamation No. 2037, March 3, 1933, 47 Stat. 2563 by President Herbert Hoover.









The boundary was changed again by Presidential Proclamation No. 3307, August 7, 1959, by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, this time to exclude lands. The excluded lands remained within the Department of Interior (eventually BLM); however, two tracts excluded from the boundary remained in NPS ownership.





Congress expanded the boundaries on October 21, 1976, in Section 302 of Public Law 94-578. It authorized Colorado National Monument to acquire areas of scenic, historic, and geologic significance in No Thoroughfare Canyon and Red Canyon, not to exceed 2,800 acres.

Appendix B: Inventory of Administrative Commitments

Key Administrative Commitments

While the monument has other administrative commitments that are updated regularly, listed below are the key and more perpetual commitments. This table is intended to be a changing portion of the document; the monument maintains and updates this information periodically.

Name	Agreement Type	Start Date / Expiration Date	Stakeholders	Purpose	Notes
Utility Right-of-Way (ROW)	ROW		Colorado National Monument, telecommunication company	Maintenance practices in a corridor of potential wilderness, flanked by recommended wilderness	If abandoned, it would become recommended wilderness
Utility ROW	Special use permit	10/23/1946 / 50-year agreement (expired)	COLM, Mountain Bell or subsequent telecommunication company	Allows for an aerial telecommunications line to cross the eastern portion of the monument	Construction, operation, and maintenance of a telephone and telegraph line to provide service to Glade Park, Colorado
Ute Water Conservancy District	Contract	08/9/1979 /	COLM, Ute Water Conservancy District, Grand Junction boundary neighborhoods	Provision for domestic water to Colorado National Monument at the monument's north boundary near the Fruita entrance and to the developments near the Grand Junction entrance	
Grand Valley Power	Memorandum of agreement		NPS	Serves the West Entrance and headquarters developments	
Xcel Energy	Memorandum of agreement		NPS	Serves the East Entrance developments	
EMS-Medical Advisor	Memorandum of agreement	2/11/2013 / 2/11/2018	NPS	Medical advisor for emergency medical services	
Lower Valley Fire District	Memorandum of agreement	8/25/2013 / 8/25/2018	NPS / Lower Valley Fire District	Mutual aid for structural fire / emergency medical services	Provides structural fire support of structures and EMS support
Bureau of Land Management	Memorandum of agreement		NPS	For a parking lot, trailhead, and trail access to Liberty Cap and Ute Canyon trails (BLM reservation C-36742)	

Name	Agreement Type	Start Date / Expiration Date	Stakeholders	Purpose	Notes
Dispatch agreement	Contract	2014 / 2019		Paid services for dispatching through Grand Junction regional dispatch	Contract for payment for dispatch services through FY 2015
Commercial use authorization	Commercial use authorization	2012 / Annual	Private companies with commercial use authorization Cooperating Association	Provide climbing guide services in the monument	Five commercial use authorizations issued in 2012 for climbing One commercial use authorization for visitor convenience items sold by the cooperating association
Special Use Permit	Special Use Permit	Reference permit terms and conditions	NPS, public	Authorizes a short-term activity that takes place in a park area in accordance with Director's Order 53	In 2012, 57 Special Use Permits were issued. The monument maintains a list of special use permits issued each year. Activities authorized include, but are not limited to, the following: weddings, memorial services, bike events, group picnics, and running events.



Appendix C: Traditionally Associated Tribes

Navajo Nation Tribal Council

Navajo Nation
PO Box 9000
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Southern Ute Tribal Council

Southern Ute Indian Tribe of the Southern Ute Reservation
PO Box 737
Ignacio, CO 81137

Uintah and Ouray Tribal Business Committee

Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation
PO Box 190
Fort Duchesne, UT 84026

Ute Mountain Tribe of the Ute Mountain Reservation

PO Box 248
Towaoc, CO 81224

White Mesa Ute Board

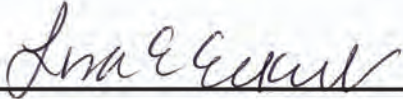
White Mesa Ute
PO Box 7096
White Mesa, UT 84511



Intermountain Region Foundation Document Recommendation Colorado National Monument

February 2015

This Foundation Document has been prepared as a collaborative effort between park and regional staff and is recommended for approval by the Intermountain Regional Director



2/25/2015

RECOMMENDED

Lisa Eckert, Superintendent, Colorado National Monument

Date



3/17/15

APPROVED

Sue E. Masica, Regional Director, Intermountain Region

Date



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

COLM 119/126986

March 2015

Foundation Document • Colorado National Monument

