Definitions

Statement for Management

The Statement for Management (SFM) documents the park's purpose, significance, management objectives, obstacles to achieving those objectives, owners of the obstacles, and actions that need to be taken to overcome the obstacles.

Management Assessment Process

A three-day management assessment workshop is conducted at each park area with participants from the park area, the regional office, and the public. The session clearly defines the park's purpose, significance, management objectives, obstacles, owners, and actions. This information has been incorporated into the park's statement for management and forms the basis for developing and justifying future regional programs and identifying how funding and staffing will be allocated.

The management assessment process begins by looking at the park's legislation in an effort to clearly define the park's purpose and significance. The next step is to identify management objectives, which are broad, conceptual descriptions of what the park could be like, based on the kinds of resource conditions, visitor services, and administrative goals the National Park Service wishes to provide. Obstacles are then identified. Obstacles are impediments or barriers to achieving management objectives. Next, actions and owners are identified. Actions are steps required to remove obstacles, and owners are individuals or groups that are identified as responsible for each action.

In the future, the SFM will be revised as necessary to ensure that it reflects a current view of the park, both internally and within its regional context. The management objectives, obstacles, actions, and owners will be reviewed annually by park staff.

Recommended by: /s/ John Welch — February 1994
Superintendent — Date
Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument

Approved by: [signature] — 2/22/94
Regional Director — Date
Rocky Mountain Region

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The Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument was established on March 2, 1933, by Presidential Proclamation No. 2033. This *Statement for Management (SFM)* documents Black Canyon's role and purpose and its significance in the National Park System. The *SFM* is intended to guide decision making and direct future planning and study efforts.

Purpose

Purpose statements are based on legislation, legislative history, and historic trends.

The purpose statements below reflect what the park believes is the legislative intent for BLCA. Other legislation affecting the national park system, such as the 1916 Organic Act and the Wilderness Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Historic Preservation Act, and Endangered Species Act influence management at BLCA and every other unit in the system.

The purpose of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument is to provide for

- preservation and protection of the spectacular gorges and scenic values;
- protection of natural, cultural, scientific resources, and items of educational interest;
- educational, scientific, and interpretive opportunities;
- preservation of the integrity and characteristics of lands designated as wilderness;
- opportunities for public use and enjoyment of these resources in a manner that will leave them unimpaired for future generations; and
- management of monument resources as an integral part of the Gunnison River Basin.

Significance

Significance is summarized in statements that capture the essence of Black Canyon's importance to our natural and cultural heritage. Significance statements are not an inventory of significant resources but rather describe the importance or distinctiveness of the aggregate of the resources in the park.

- The dynamic evolution of the Black Canyon, involving the forces of heat, pressure, and water action, has created one of the world's premier wild canyons, because of its sheer cliffs, depth, and narrowness, as it towers over the rapidly falling river. It is a visual attraction that draws hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.

- Clean air and panoramic views pale the influence of humans and give a feeling of what once was throughout the west.

- It's the view!

- The monument contains a diversity of plant and animal species, several of which are rare, endangered, or unique to the area. Natural resources provide an unaltered baseline from which to measure changes in regional and global conditions.

- The writing is on the wall. Without opening a book, one can go back over 1.7 billion years of geologic history as these vertical walls tell their story.

- BLCA is the centerpiece of geologic diversity in a relatively small area, reflecting 1.7 billion years of geologic evolution.

- The inner canyon wilderness is truly a wild, foreboding place.

- Tourism is a leading industry in the Gunnison Basin. Centrally located in the basin, Black Canyon is an accessible destination that serves more than 300,000 visitors annually and directly contributes about $4 million annually to the local economy.

- The establishment of BLCA as a unit of the National Park System is a symbol of community pride.

- Its position along the Gunnison River combined with its values makes BLCA an integral part of ecosystem management of the Gunnison River Basin.

- At every turn, nook, and cranny, BLCA affords the opportunity for visitors to discover new vistas of nature and self.

- BLCA is a superlative example of continuing river erosion that is accessible to and understandable by the public.

- The combination of its depth and narrowness makes BLCA a one of a kind setting in North America.

- The sheer size of the canyon creates the experience of nature's dominance over people.

- The steep gradient of the Gunnison River and the depth and narrowness of the Black Canyon is a physical barrier to the migration of fish, plants, and animals. This has resulted in a diverse group of isolated biological communities that provide unique opportunities for scientific study, for example, evolution of plants and animals, impacts of migration barriers, and so forth.

- The park's canyons and backcountry areas are quiet places where the sounds of nature create an experience for visitors that last a lifetime. You can hear the river flow and the wind in the trees. At times the river talks.

- One can go into the wilderness and experience primal America and bring back a sense of adventure and discovery.

- The canyon is a great place for scientific discovery and environmental education. It is a living classroom providing unique insights into geology, water and wind erosion, air quality, wildlife habitat, and cultural history.

- The magnificence of the canyon -- its spectacular depth and color -- defy description. It touches the emotion, the imagination, and the spirit. And a river runs through it!

- People can enjoy the canyon through numerous recreational experiences including sight-seeing, fishing, hiking, climbing, rafting, kayaking, photography, wildlife watching, meditation, and solitude.

Table 1 - Summary of Management Objectives, Obstacles, Owners, and Actions

The following management objectives and obstacles are categorized as Resource Management, Visitor Services, and Human Resources. Action statements and owners have been identified for the highest-priority management objectives in each category. Where applicable, goals corresponding to "A Five-Year Vision for the Rocky Mountain Region, 1997 and Beyond" are indicated (e.g., RM.G4,a,b,c,d, where RM = resource management, G = goal, and additional letters and numbers represent subsections of the goal. For other designations, VS = visitor services and HR = human resources).

Resource Management

- **Black Canyon is ensured of sufficient and permanent water flows following a more natural flow regime in the Gunnison River. (RM.G4, a,b,c,d)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
There are competing interests for water resources.	Welch, Kimball, McCall	Work with WASO, region, and the competing interests to resolve problems and meet as many needs as possible with the same water. Work with region and other agencies involved to keep decision making capability at the lowest level possible for the most efficient operations.
There is a lack of information regarding how individual stakeholders will be affected by agreements, contracts, or adjudicated water rights.	Welch, McCall, Williams	Keep stakeholders informed through periodic meetings with them to discuss issues and their resolution.

- **BLCA is managed as part of the larger Gunnison River Basin ecosystem. (RM.G4,a)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
There is a need to define ecosystem.	Lipson, Welch	Submit the Gunnison River Basin as a candidate area for an ecosystem plan. If selected, the planning team's task will be to identify what the ecosystem consists of.
There is a lack of resource management strategy.	Chase, Moon	Work with the ARD--Operations and Resource Management to develop a strategy. Develop a system to coordinate with other agencies within the Gunnison River Basin ecosystem. A Resource Management/Research Strategy Model is being developed at GRSA to address natural and cultural resource strategy, including defining ecosystems. The Regional Director is committed to each park that needs such a strategy.

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
There is inadequate data (natural, cultural, socioeconomic) for determining ecosystem interactions.	Chase, Reynolds	Gather natural, cultural, and socioeconomic data for determining ecosystem interactions as part of the Gunnison River Basin ecosystem in a GIS format compatible with other agencies.

- **Natural and cultural resources are managed in a manner that ensures they can be enjoyed unimpaired by future generations. (RM.G2,a,b,c; RM.G3,f,j; RM.G6)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
There are resource conflicts directly related to visitor use.	Welch	Implement management actions or plans to lessen or eliminate impacts on resources from visitor use. Look at Visitor Experience - Resource Protection (VERP) process as a method of identifying these resources.
There is an inadequate inventory and monitoring capability.	Chase	Submit funding proposals to increase inventory and monitoring capabilities.
There is a lack of resource management strategy.	Chase, Moon	Review BLCA's Resource Management Plan and update project statements as needed to ensure natural and cultural resources are managed in a manner that will leave them unimpaired for future generations and add project statements as needed. Work with ARD--Operations and Resource Management to develop a strategy.
The *General Management Plan* is outdated.	Gardner, Welch	RMRO will work with park to ensure request is included in OPR request. Then present case to Executive Council in the priority setting session. Complete VERP as a part of the *GMP* update process.

- **Adequate baseline data is in place and an information management system is functional in helping manage resources, physical facilities, and visitor use. (RM.G2,a,b; RM.G3,j,h)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Need data input into GIS system.	Reynolds	All available data is in GIS in a useable form.
There is a need for a cooperative agreement with BLM to ensure release of data.	Baker, Welch	Write a cooperative agreement between BLM and NPS outlining the conditions for data release. Action complete 12/93. Comment: Coop agreement written and signed by BLM, CURE, and BLCA.
There is a need to identify data needs and develop resource strategy to meet the needs.	Chase, Moon	Identify data needs, prioritize those needs, and seek alternatives for meeting needs within a GIS for assisting in managing resources, physical facilities, and visitor use.

- **Wilderness areas are properly monitored for resources, impacts, and usage. (RM.G2,a,b,c)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
There is a need to develop a monitoring strategy.	Chase	Develop a monitoring strategy for resources, impacts, and usage in the wilderness/backcountry areas of BLCA.
There is a need to identify staff and resources necessary to implement the monitoring program.	Welch	Review FY94 and future budget for funds to monitor wilderness areas.

- **A program is in place to protect the viewshed on Vernal Mesa. (RM.G10,a,b)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Vernal Mesa is privately owned.	Welch, Young	RMRO division of Land Resources will provide assistance to develop protection strategies that identify viewshed and methods for protecting scenery on adjacent Vernal Mesa property. Need to obtain authorization to proceed with acquisition of land or interests.
Boundary study needs to be performed as part of *GMP* to determine need to expand boundary to protect resources.	Gardner, Welch	Ensure that issue concerning resource protection is included in the *GMP* for resolution.

- **A program is in place to protect the viewshed along the scenic approaches to the monument. (RM.G10,a,b)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Lands are privately owned.	Welch, Young	RMRO Division of Land Resources will provide assistance to develop protection strategies that identify viewshed and methods for protecting scenery of property adjacent to approach roads. Need to obtain authorization to proceed with acquisition of land or interests.
County does not have zoning plan.	Welch	Explore with the county ways to protect the present character of the approach road.
The *GMP* needs to address the importance of scenic approaches to the monument.	Gardner, Welch	Ensure the issue is included in the *GMP* for resolution.
The NPS is not represented on the county zoning board.	Welch, Gina Guy	Approach county about NPS membership on the board (if such action is legal) and/or explore other methods of participation in zoning decisions. Action complete 12/93. Comment: Submitted John Welch as citizen member of planning commission. Also made contact with planning commission chairman Belt, and if membership is not possible, then begin periodic meeting with him to discuss planning issues related to BLCA.

- **A process is in place that provides for stakeholders to participate in decisions related to resource management. (RM.G2,a; RM.G4,f)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
A stakeholder coordinating committee does not exist.	Greenough, Zaenger	Identify participants and offer them an opportunity to serve on the committee.
Park lacks public information officer.	Zaenger	Identify a PIO. Action complete 11/93. Comment: Paul Zaenger has been identified as BLCA's public information officer.

- **Facilities at BLCA adhere to a common architectural theme. Facilities at East Portal complement the BLCA theme. (VS.G1,d,e)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
BLCA does not have an identified architectural theme.	Siroky, Welch	Document the architectural theme and apply it to future facilities.
Existing facilities at East Portal would have to be modified or replaced.	Welch, Chapman, Baker	Work together to identify an acceptable architectural design for the adjacent facilities of CURE and BLCA and apply it to future and existing facilities.

- **Ambient sound levels, night lighting, and air pollution levels are at or below 1993 levels. (RM.G2,b; RM.G3,e,g; RM.G4,b,c)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Data is inadequate regarding current conditions for sound, night lighting, and air pollution.	Grasser, Christiano, Chase	Gather data regarding current conditions for sound, night lighting, and air quality. Implement one-year, continuous sound-monitoring program at two sites in BLCA in FY94. Work with WASO AQD to establish a full air quality/visibility monitoring program at BLCA within the next five years that will provide adequate data from which both air quality and night lighting information can be derived.
Sources of pollution are off-site and not managed by NPS.	Baker, Welch, Grasser	Monitor development and provide comments as necessary to protect existing conditions. If new pollution sources are developed and threaten the monument, BLCA will need regional office help to establish and fund an air quality-monitoring program. Work with WASO AQD office to explore possible connections between monitored data showing reductions in visibility at the monument with level of operations at adjacent sources. Jointly determine next level of action if a causal relationship appears to exist.

- **Local agencies, the state, BLCA, and private groups work together to aggressively protect air quality, visibility, and viewshed. (RM.G4,a,b,c,f; RM.G3,g)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
A full air quality-monitoring station does not exist at BLCA.	Wise, Christiano, Welch	Work with WASO to obtain a full monitoring station (baseline) at BLCA.
The park lacks an ecosystem resource plan.	Lipson, Welch	The park will work with the ARD--Operations and Resource Management to develop an ecosystem management plan for the Gunnison River Basin. (A Resource Management/Research Strategy Model is being developed at GRSA to address natural and cultural resource strategy, including defining ecosystems. The Regional Director is committed to each park that needs such a strategy.)
There is a need to develop consensus on importance of visibility and viewshed in the Gunnison River Basin.	Welch, Zaenger	Start an education program on the impacts of air pollution and reduced visibility.

- **The issue of national park designation/status for BLCA has been resolved. (RM.G8,a,b,h)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Requires legislation.	Lipson, Welch, Kitty Roberts	Work with WASO to complete action on BLCA legislation. Continue to provide various interests the rationale for the NPS's position based on previous studies. Also explore other alternatives, as funding permits.

- **BLCA boundaries are adequately marked to resolve conflicts. (RM.G5,c)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Boundary survey needs to be performed to reflect 1984 changes.	Baker, Young	Complete survey along new boundary. **Comment: Congress has not appropriated funds for boundary surveys within the Land and Water Conservation Fund for many years, and none are anticipated in the near future. Funding for a boundary survey would need to come from the park. Region does not have the funds. BLM would be the official surveyor. An estimate should be requested from BLM. After the survey, the boundary will be fenced.**

- **All lands suitable for wilderness have been recommended to Congress for designation. (RM.G6,a; VS.G2,c)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Wilderness assessment for inholdings acquired since original designation has not been performed.	Welch, ARD-R	Review with RMRO assistance the North Rim areas added since 1976 to determine which can be legally and practically added to the designated wilderness area.

- **All inholdings have been acquired as required by legislation. (RM.G10,a)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Agreements to purchase do not exist.	Young	Division of Land Resources will provide assistance to develop strategies to develop agreements to purchase inholdings. Need to obtain authorization to proceed with acquisition of land or interests.

- **Adequate scientific knowledge continues to be gathered to aid in resource management decisions. Research programs are proceeding with guest scientists and NPS employees focusing on critical issues and preservation needs. (RM.G2,b,d,e,g,i; RM.G3,b,d,e,f,g,j,k)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
A regional and park-specific research strategy is needed.	Huff, Welch, Moon	Work with park and appropriate regional staff to schedule the resource management strategy session for BLCA.
There is an uncertainty about what NBS role in park-specific research will be.	Huff	Relay information to park on NBS's role in park-specific research as soon as it becomes available.
Universities lack awareness of BLCA research opportunities and needs.	Huff, Welch	Update "Catalog of Research Needs" to include BLCA research issues identified in the resource management strategy development Process.

- **The resource management program is enhanced by interpretive programming that provides protection through public education. (VS.G3,a,e,j)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
A viable interpretive prospectus (IP) does not exist.	Zaenger, Walls	RMRO, Division of Interpretation will develop a cost-effective format for an interim IP in FY94. The document itself will be written by park staff. A complete, long-range interpretive plan will follow in the future.
The resource management issues need to be identified, ranked, and addressed through the interpretive prospectus.	Welch, Zaenger, Chase	Identify and rank resource management issues to be addressed through the interpretive program and/or interpretive prospectus.
Facilities are inadequate for meeting basic orientation and information needs.	Zaenger, Walls	Plan, design, and implement rehabilitation of facilities and exhibits, or, when possible, implement recommendations of the interim IP.

- **Interpretive programming is in place that addresses park resource issues in the context of the Gunnison River Basin ecosystem. (VS.G6,a,b,d,e,f,g,i,j,k,m)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
There is a need to identify ecosystem and issues.	Lipson, Welch	The park will work with the ARD-Operations and Resource management to develop an ecosystem management plan for the Gunnison River Basin. The Gunnison River Basin will be submitted as a candidate area for an ecosystem plan. **(Comment: A resource management/research strategy model is being developed at GRSA to address natural and cultural resource strategy, including defining ecosystems. The Regional Director is committed to each park that needs such a strategy.)**
A viable IP does not exist.	Zaenger, Walls	RMRO, Division of Interpretation will develop a cost-effective format for an interim IP in FY94. The document will be written by park staff. A complete, long-range interpretive plan will follow.
Resource management issues need to be identified, ranked, and addressed through the interpretive program.	Welch, Zaenger, Chase	Identify and rank resource management issues to be addressed through the interpretive program.
There is a need for better coordination and sharing of information between resource management and interpretive staff.	Zaenger, Chase	Provide better coordination and sharing of information between resource management and interpretive staff.

• **Park staff are able to inform visitors about resource issues on surrounding lands, and surrounding land management agencies are able to communicate park resource issues to their visitors. (VS.G6,a,c,d,e,i,j,m)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
There is a lack of information and understanding regarding other agency missions and policies.	Welch	Build greater staff awareness about adjacent land management agencies' missions and programs. Work with the adjacent land management agencies to develop and implement cross-agency ecosystem management and other cooperative projects.

• **BLCA has accomplished its role in the recovery of threatened and endangered species found at the monument. (RM.G2,b,e; G4,a,b,c,d)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Data on the existence of threatened and endangered species within the monument boundaries is inadequate.	Huff, Welch	RMRO will work with park to develop project proposals for listed species surveys.
There is a need to define the NPS's role regarding recovery of threatened and endangered species in the monument.	Welch, Moon, Chase	Update the resource management plan as needed to define the role of BLCA in the recovery of threatened and endangered species found in the monument. For those species identified as present within the boundaries or near the monument, define the protection measures to be taken by the staff to ensure the species' continued existence.

• **A road and parking system exists that is safe, accommodating moderate growth, efficient, and consistent with resource management and visitor experience objectives. (RM.G6,a; VS.G1,d,e.)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Visitor experience objectives have not been determined.	Welch, Gale, Carr, Covington	Develop objectives for front and backcountry, North and South Rim visitor experiences and adjust plans and management programs to accommodate these objectives. Seek visitors' opinions - ask them to fill out "chance to comment" sheet in the park newspaper. Compile the results of this voluntary survey and incorporate results in VERP.
There is a lack of funding.	Baker	See comment same item earlier objective.
Road and parking area designs are nonexistent.	Gess	Work with RMRO engineering to review existing road and parking facilities, where deficiencies are identified, develop design and seek funding to improve facilities.
Plans are not up-to-date.	Gardner	RMRO will work with park to ensure project is included in OPR request. Request will be presented to Executive Council in the priority-setting session.

• **Government and concessioner-provided services are available to enhance visitor enjoyment and protect resources. Services accommodate basic needs (food, drink, rest rooms), provide theme-related amenities (film, showers, souvenirs), and meet special user needs (climbing and tours). (VS.G1,c,d; G2,b,c; RM.G3,c; G6,a)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Information of visitor demographics and expectations is lacking.	Roberts	Evaluate newspaper comments and analyze answers; revise and republish "comments" section in future editions of the newspaper.
Visitor experience objectives have not been determined.	Welch, Gale, Carr, Covington	Develop objectives for front and backcountry, North and South Rim visitor experiences, adjust plans and management programs to accommodate these objectives. Seek visitors' opinions - have them fill out "chance to comment" sheet in the park newspaper. Compile the results of this voluntary survey and incorporate the results in VERP.
The NPS has an unclear, confusing concession policy.	Jennings	Congressional committees are reviewing NPS laws, policies, and guidelines. RMRO will share with parks when changes are made.
Diverse interests and groups need to be involved.	Welch	Seek public input for determining which concession services should be provided. Ask visitors to comment. Determine which interest groups should be involved and begin assembling a mailing list.

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
The park does not know the source of the domestic water supply.	Welch	Work with RMRO and/or Tri-County water to determine the most feasible alternative for providing domestic water to the North and South Rim facilities.
The park does not know the impact of various visitor facilities.	Roberts	Develop a list of present and potential services and anticipated impacts.
The park is uncertain what type of facilities should be provided, and where.	Welch	With local and RMRO input, determine the proper locations and types of facilities for BLCA, as a part of the GMP process.
Plans are not up-to-date.	Gardner	RMRO will work with park to ensure the project is included in OPR request. The request will be presented to the Executive Council in the priority-setting session.
Lack of funding.	Baker, Welch, Carr, Covington	Incorporate funding request with the visitor center package. The park will receive a 5 percent increase in their base budget in FY94 and the superintendent will make priority decisions for the expenditure of this increase. **(See previous comment re: same obstacle.)**

• **The park and surrounding lands have a coordinated and comprehensive trail system that connects the inner gorge and other significant features and resources like the South Rim's Rim Rock Trail. (VS.G2,b; G6,a; RM.G3,a;G6,a)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Resource baseline information is incomplete.	Roberts	Establish inventory/research to acquire baseline data. Determine present trail system in BLCA and surrounding area and identify potential additions.
Visitor experience objectives have not been determined.	Welch, Gale, Carr, Covington.	See action for same obstacle in previous objectives.
All partners and affected private landowners have not been identified.	Roberts	Compile a list of public and private landowners that might be impacted.
There is no boundary management/trails plan.	Chase	Develop wilderness/backcountry management plan that includes a planning strategy for trails.

• **The park and surrounding communities understand who the visitors are, where they are from, and what their expectations are. (VS.G2,b; G6,a)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
There is a lack of information regarding visitor demographics and expectations.	Roberts, Van Gemert, Susan Hansen	Evaluate newspaper comments. Share/consult with agency/ community representatives to determine additional data needs. Also evaluate county-acquired data.
Park is uncertain as to which "areas" should be included with surveys and data collection.	Welch, Roberts	Review with representatives from Montrose and Delta Counties and determine what locations should be surveyed and who should do the survey.

• **Accurate information on the park (river flows, width, depth; geology; wildlife, etc.) is readily available to visitors in a variety of media (books, radio, video, brochures, maps, wayside exhibits) on a year-round basis. (VS.G2,d; G3,j; G5,b,c; G6,a,j,m)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Not all media is presently available.	Zaenger	Use revised IP to evaluate needed media. Ensure necessary funding requests are in place to acquire media, including alternative funding.
A viable IP does not exist.	Zaenger, Walls	RMRO, Division of Interpretation will develop a cost-effective format for an interim IP in FY94. The park will write the document. A complete long-range interpretive plan will follow in the future.
There is a lack of funds	Baker, Welch, Cooperating Association	See previous comment for same obstacle.
Agreement is needed on which information should be distributed, and when.	Van Gemert, Zaenger	Reach agreement on which, when, and how information is to be distributed.
The bird and other species lists are incomplete.	Chase, Guadagno	Complete lists of birds and other species found in the monument.
All partners need to buy in to the program.	Van Gemert, Welch	Use quarterly meetings to determine which information should be distributed and work with partners to obtain funding.

• **The park is presented in the context of its regional setting. Visitors understand the uniqueness of Black Canyon and the interrelationship of the park with the surrounding area. (VS.G5,a,b,d,e,g,i,j,m)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
The outreach program needs improvement.	Zaenger	Develop outreach programming that speaks relevantly to specific groups, brings groups to the monument when it serves resources better, and that is resource based.

• **Facilities and programs are available for visitors with disabilities. (VS.G2,b,c,d,e)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
There is a need to identify programs and interpretive options to meet the needs of persons with disabilities.	Roberts, Masden, Frye, Garland	Form an accessibility working group (park staff and outside assistance -- include individuals with disabilities). Provide awareness training to park staff (Roberts and Masden have already attended some training). When ADMS (Accessibility Data Management System) becomes available, conduct an accessibility evaluation (with public input) of facilities (including work and employee housing areas), and recreational and interpretive opportunities to determine exact needs and give direction to facility and program modifications. If modifications to facilities are necessary, involvement of RMRO will be mandatory in order to meet design and construction accessibility standards.
There is a lack of funding.	Baker, Welch	See previous comment regarding same obstacle.

Visitor Services

• **A visitor center has been designed and located to protect resources, attract and educate the public, enhance experience, provide information on the park and surrounding areas, orient new visitors, meet basic visitor needs, and minimize impacts to resources. (VS.G3,b,c,d,e; G6,d,i,m)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
A visitor center for BLCA has a low construction priority in the region and nationwide.	Baker	At the Regional Directors' meeting in December 1993, BLCA will be considered in the development of priorities for new construction. Comment: Action complete. Ranking in RMRO #43.
There is a lack of funding.	Baker	The park will receive a 5 percent increase in their base budget in FY94. The superintendent will make priority decisions for the expenditure of this increase. At congressiona hearing, Baker provided examples of impacts of budget shortfalls on parks and the need for increased budget. **(Comment: The increase was only 4% percent, which amounted to $26,000. Three items reduced it: a reduction for FTEs (-$12,000); a reduction for administrative streamlining (-$3,000); and no funding was provided to cover the 3.09 percent locality increase for all GS employees for the January to September period (approx. -$9,000). When reductions are factored in, $2,000 of the original $26,000 was realized as the FY94 increase.)**
The best location for the visitor center has not been determined.	Welch, Gale	Work with local community and RMRO to identify the best location for the building -- possibly during the GMP planning.
There is no design for the visitor center	Gess	Regional office will assist park in preparing a comprehensive design for the visitor center.
The degree of community and area support for the project is uncertain. Park is uncertain whether a partnership or NPS-only approach to accomplishing the project is appropriate.	Welch, Gale	Work with the local community leaders to determine the best way to accomplish the project.
Up-to-date plans are lacking.	Gardner	RMRO will work with the park to ensure that the project is included in the OPR request. The request will be presented to the Executive Council in the priority-setting session.

• **A carrying capacity for the park that protects resources and provides a wide range of experience opportunities has been determined. (VS.G1,c,d; RM.G3,a,e; G6,a)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Resource baseline information is incomplete.	Roberts	Define resources most likely to be impacted and work with the Division of Resource Management to establish inventory/research to acquire baseline data.
Visitor experience objectives have not been determined.	Welch, Carr, Covington	Develop objectives for front and backcountry, North and South Rim visitor experiences, and adjust plans and management programs to accommodate these objectives. Get visitors' opinions - have them fill out "chance to comment" sheet in the park newspaper. Compile the results of this voluntary survey and incorporate results in VERP.
There is a lack of funding.	Baker	The park will receive a 5 percent increase in their base budget in FY94 and the superintendent will make priority decisions for the expenditure of this increase. **(See comment under same obstacle, previous page.)**
Plans are not up-to-date.	Gardner	RMRO will work with the park to ensure that the project is included in the OPR request. The request will be presented to the Executive Council in the priority-setting session.

• **Partnerships (federal, state, local, private) to exchange information, to develop a complete and consistent visitor information package, and to support a variety of information distribution points and programs continue to expand. (VS.G6,a,b,d,g,i,j,m)**

- **Visitors' lengths-of-stay in Montrose and Gunnison Basin area is increased.**
- **Local public and businesses are kept informed.**
- **Message is consistent and available.**
- **Pre-visit information is available so visitors can plan trips.**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
There is a lack of communication between the potential partners.	Van Gemert, Welch	Provide a forum for improving communication--the quarterly meeting of interested parties could also address this issue.
There is a lack of agreement as to which information should be distributed, and when.	Van Gemert, Zaenger	Determine what, when, and how information is to be distributed.
All partners have not bought in to the program.	Van Gemert, Welch	Use quarterly meetings to determine the information that should be distributed and work with partners to get funding.

• **The park has identified and presents year-round, its compelling story(s), which touches visitors emotionally and is related to human experiences. This includes information regarding local leaders who helped establish BLCA, early explorers, and early settlers. (VS.G3,a,b,c)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
The park has not identified its compelling story.	Roberts, Rudd	Staff members have attended Compelling Story workshops and are in the process of identifying and writing BLCA's compelling story. Use the regionally prepared guidebook to integrate compelling story into the visitor services program.
The park lacks media necessary to present compelling story.	Roberts, Rudd	Use revised IP to evaluate needed media. Ensure necessary funding requests are in place to acquire media, including alternative funding.
The park needs an IP.	Zaenger, Walls	See previous comment regarding same obstacle.

• **Visitors clearly understand how to access and enjoy the national monument, as a partial result of coordinated signing among federal, state, and local governments, and identified safety and use constraints. (VS.G1,a,c,d; G2,d)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
The park needs a complete/coordinated sign plan.	Masden, Reiley, Zaenger	Develop a coordinated sign plan.
The park needs a standardized system for signs (color, type).	Masden	Develop a standardized sign system and incorporate it into the sign plan.

• **Federal, state, and private entities coordinate short- and long-range recreation use and tourism goals, including use levels and growth, accommodations, and infrastructure. (VS.G6,a,b,d,j,m)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
All potential partners don't communicate.	Van Gemert, Welch	Provide forum for improving communication. Quarterly meeting of interested parties could address this issue.
Need agreement on which information should be distributed, and when.	Van Gemert, Zaenger	Reach agreement on which, when, and how information should be distributed.
All partners need to buy in to program.	Van Gemert, Welch	Use quarterly meetings to determine which information should be distributed, and work with partners to obtain funding.

•Water is available in a variety of locations on both rims to meet basic visitor, resource protection, and operational needs. (VS.G1,c,d,f; RM.G3,a)

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Park needs to know the source of the domestic water supply.	Welch	Identify source(s) of water and seek funding to provide water from the most feasible source.
Park is uncertain of impact of water development.	Roberts	Develop alternative water development scenarios and anticipated impacts.
Plans are not up-to-date.	Gardner	RMRO will work with park to ensure project is included in OPR request. A request will be presented to the Executive Council in the priority-setting session.
There is a lack of funding.	Baker, Welch	See previous comment regarding the same obstacle.

• The issue of visitor access through Red Rock Canyon has been resolved. (RM.G6,a)

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Private landowner is unwilling to allow access across his land.	Young	RMRO Division of Land Resources will provide assistance to develop strategies to obtain agreement for access across private land. Need to obtain authorization to proceed with acquisition of land or interests.
Need up-to-date plans.	Gardner	RMRO will work with park to ensure project is included in OPR request. Request will be presented to the Executive Council in the priority-setting session.

Human Resources

- **The park has adequate funding and staff to provide quality visitor services, resource management, maintenance, and administration. (RM.G6,a; HR.G1,h,p)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Funding in overall ONPS account is insufficient.	Baker	See previous comment regarding lack of funding.
BLCA needs to reevaluate and update its organizational chart.	Welch, Winterhalder	By January 1, 1994, BLCA will send in an updated organizational chart that shows current staffing. (Action complete 11/93. Comment: Revised organizational chart signed and submitted to RMRO.)
BLCA needs a general management plan/ development concept plan based on the VERP to justify additional staff and funding.	Welch, Gardner	Develop a VERP and use it as a basis for revising the GMP/DCP. RMRO will work with the park to ensure the project is included in the OPR request. The request will be presented to the Executive Council in the priority-setting session.

- **An appropriate compensation and a comprehensive benefits package (insurance, retirement, thrift savings, child care, etc.) are available to all (permanent and nonpermanent) employees. Positions are properly classified and graded. (HR.G1,c,d,h,i)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
The federal classification system is inadequate, and the park has limited access to professional classification specialists.	King, Alex Young	These issues will be addressed as the National Performance Review recommendations are implemented. The Office of Personnel Management has been instructed to scrap the Federal Personnel Manual by December 1994, and to establish a set of "guiding principles" to assist agencies in the administration of personnel management programs. We anticipate major changes in the classification and compensation systems when this occurs. This could take the form of "pay banding," which will give supervisors and managers much greater flexibility in setting pay rates for their employees. Legislation has recently been proposed by Congress to expand the federal benefits package (i.e., participation in life and health insurance and retirement programs) to seasonal employees.
There is a lack of sufficient funding for equitable pay and benefits.	Baker	See previous comment regarding lack of funding.

• **Communications among intergovernmental agencies (local, regional, state, federal), private landowners, the general public, and special interest groups are timely and accurate. Interested parties are well-informed with respect to the management of BLCA. (VS.G6, a,b,d,g)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
The park needs a plan regarding communication goals.	Welch	Identify those areas that should be focused on in order to increase awareness of monument operations.
Communication needs to be accomplished in a more timely manner.	Welch, Roberts, Zaenger	Implement monthly news releases on monument operations.

• **The park's workforce reflects the cultural diversity of the region. (HR.G1,a,e,f,g,k,o)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Culturally diverse applications do not appear on job certificates.	Welch, Montoya, Alex Young, Winterhalder	Identify the makeup of the local workforce and identify the culturally diverse groups. Work with RMRO EO office to improve certificates and understanding of NPS programs. **(Comment: in 1993, the population distribution of Montrose County was 87.8 percent Caucasian, 11.2 percent Hispanic, 1 percent Native American, Black, Asian, and other.)** Efforts will be made to hire Hispanic people in filling positions in order to comply with EO and park operations needs.
There is a lack of trust and understanding among culturally diverse groups.	Welch, Montoya, Winterhalder	Work with groups identified above to build trust and understanding and to encourage and assist them in filling out job applications. After these two actions are accomplished, implement the NPR changes in hiring practices, as authorities are given to agencies and delegated to the manager to hire a culturally diverse workforce. Seek to expand usage in the park of the co-op program and the outstanding scholar hiring provisions. Identify needs and work with the outreach coordinator (Diane Sontag) to hire women and minorities at colleges and universities.

• **All employees have a well-defined, meaningful, and attainable employee development plan, and opportunity for advancement within a well-defined career ladder. (HR.G5,a,b,c,d,e)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Employee development plan goals are not realistic.	Young, Welch, Winterhalder	The systemic constraints in the present SNAP-TRAC system will be improved as part of the overall National Performance Review implementation. The adequacy and attainability of employee development plans are issues that can and should be dealt with at the park level. It is a supervisory responsibility to ensure that EDPs are realistic, meaningful, and attainable. BLCA will review all EDPs to make them more realistic and achievable.
Career ladders are not well defined. Funding, staffing, and training opportunities are limited.	Alex Young, Welch, Baker	Implement the Ranger Futures and other career initiatives and have employees define career ladders. For other occupations, review work that is required and institute a position management review that maximizes the career progression for employees in the park. The regional office is developing regionwide career development programs, specifically a Leadership Development Model, and the newly developed NPS Orientation Program.

• **Employees are trained in the latest trends and technologies to provide the highest level of services. (HR.G5,d,e)**

Obstacles to Achieving Objectives	Owners of Obstacles	Actions
Employee development plan goals are not realistic.	Welch, Young	Review plans and make them more realistic and achievable. Set aside a percentage (1-3) of the base budget to be dedicated to training.
Career ladders are not well defined. Funding, staffing, and training opportunities are limited.	Alex Young, Welch, Baker	Address the issue of career ladders, in part, through the servicewide review of ranger and administrative occupations. This is a component of a comprehensive review that is planned for all occupations/groupings as part of the implementation of the Vail Agenda recommendations. The regional office is developing regionwide career development programs, specifically a Leadership Development Model, and the newly developed NPS Orientation program.

Glossary

Purposes are the reasons for which the park was set aside as part of the National Park System. Purpose statements are based upon legislation, legislative history, and historic trends.

Significance is summarized in statements that capture the essence of the park's importance to our natural and cultural heritage. Significance statements are not an inventory of significant resources, rather they describe the importance or distinctiveness of the aggregate of resources in the park.

Management objectives are broad conceptual descriptions of what the park could be like, based on the kinds of resource conditions and visitor experiences the park wishes to provide. Management objective statements describe desired ends, not specific solutions or means of accomplishing ends.

There are **obstacles** or impediments to reaching management objectives. Obstacles identify the problems, they do not identify the solutions.

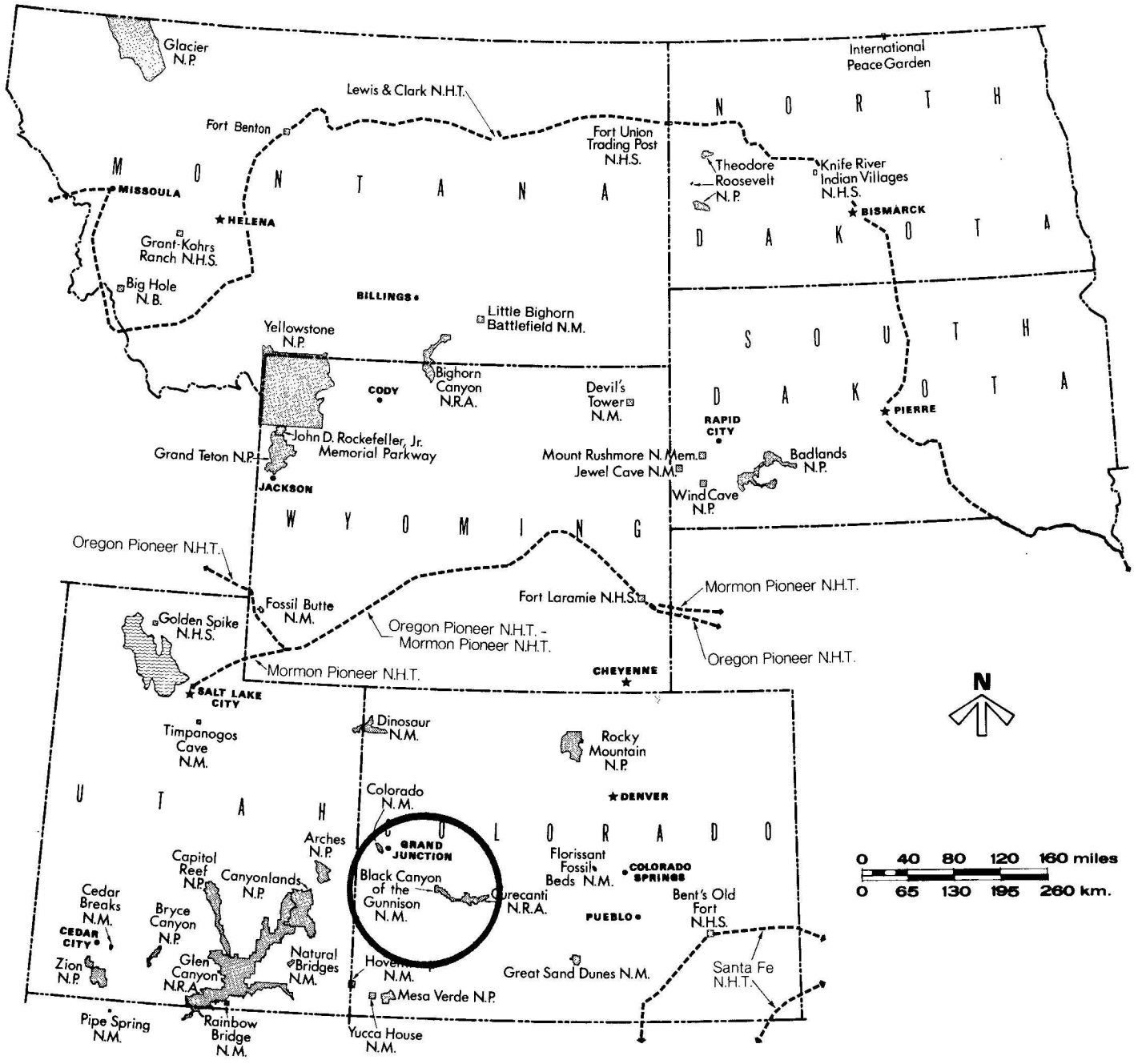
Ownership identifies the responsible individual or group that can resolve the obstacle or problem. Owners, may be identified as an individual in the park, region, or Washington office, as well as interests from outside the NPS.

Resolution of obstacles by owners are **actions.** High-priority actions are included in annual performance standards to better measure implementation and success.

Evaluation and feedback evaluate accomplishments and provide direction to ensure objectives are being achieved. Evaluation will be carried out through annual performance standards and appraisals, and the Regional Office will oversee a master list of actions.

Management objectives are cornerstones of the **"Program and Project Formulation System" (PPFS).** The PPFS ensures that all program and project requests are consistent with park purpose and significance, biographic area strategies, and the Rocky Mountain Region's Five-Year Vision.

Appendix



Legend

- • Locations of Major Cities
- ★ Locations of State Capitals
- State Boundary Lines
- National Park Service Areas
- ----- National Park Service Historical Trails

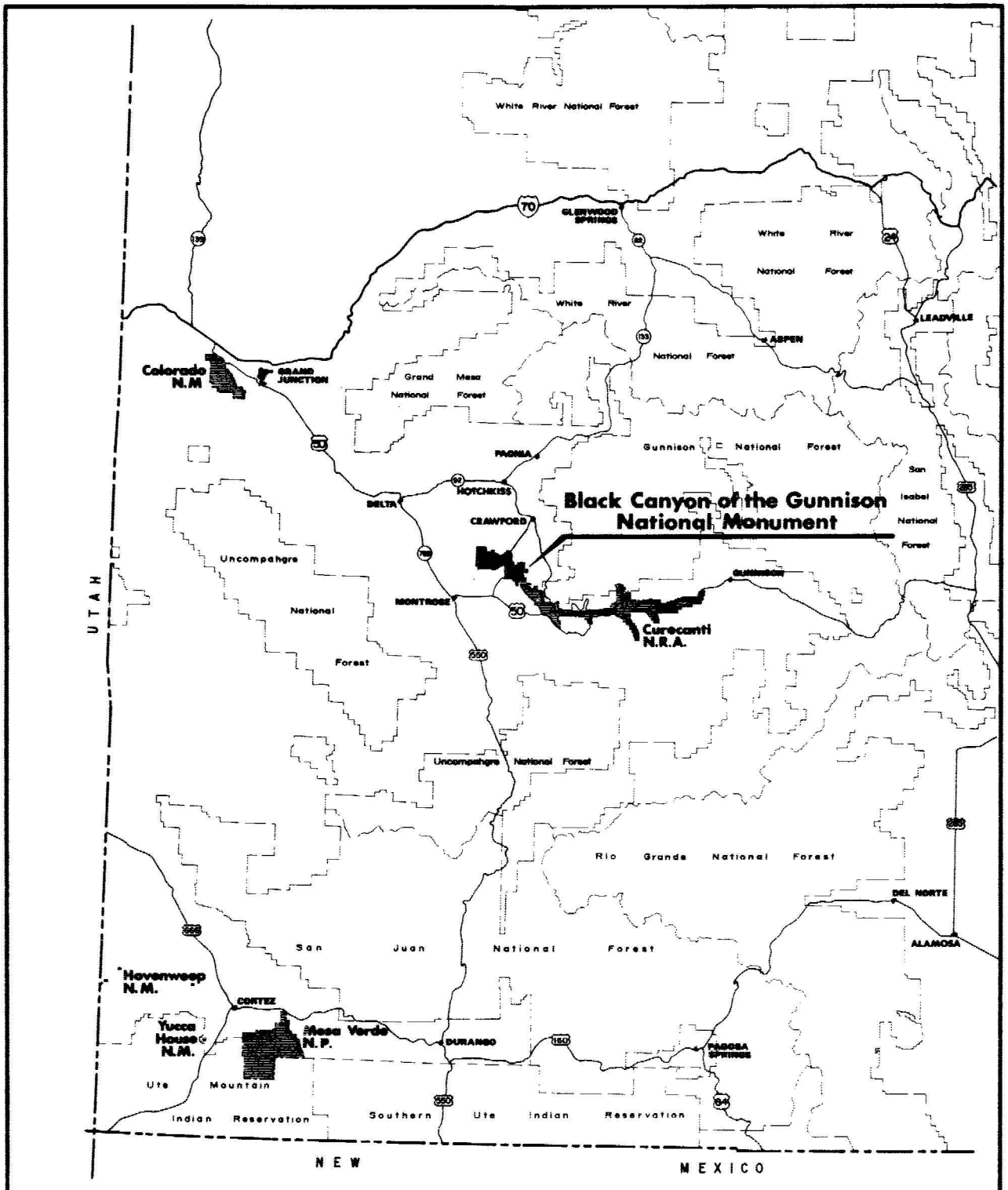
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

National Park Service

United States Department of the Interior

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Vicinity Map

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument

Montrose County, Colorado

U.S. Dept. of the Interior - National Park Service

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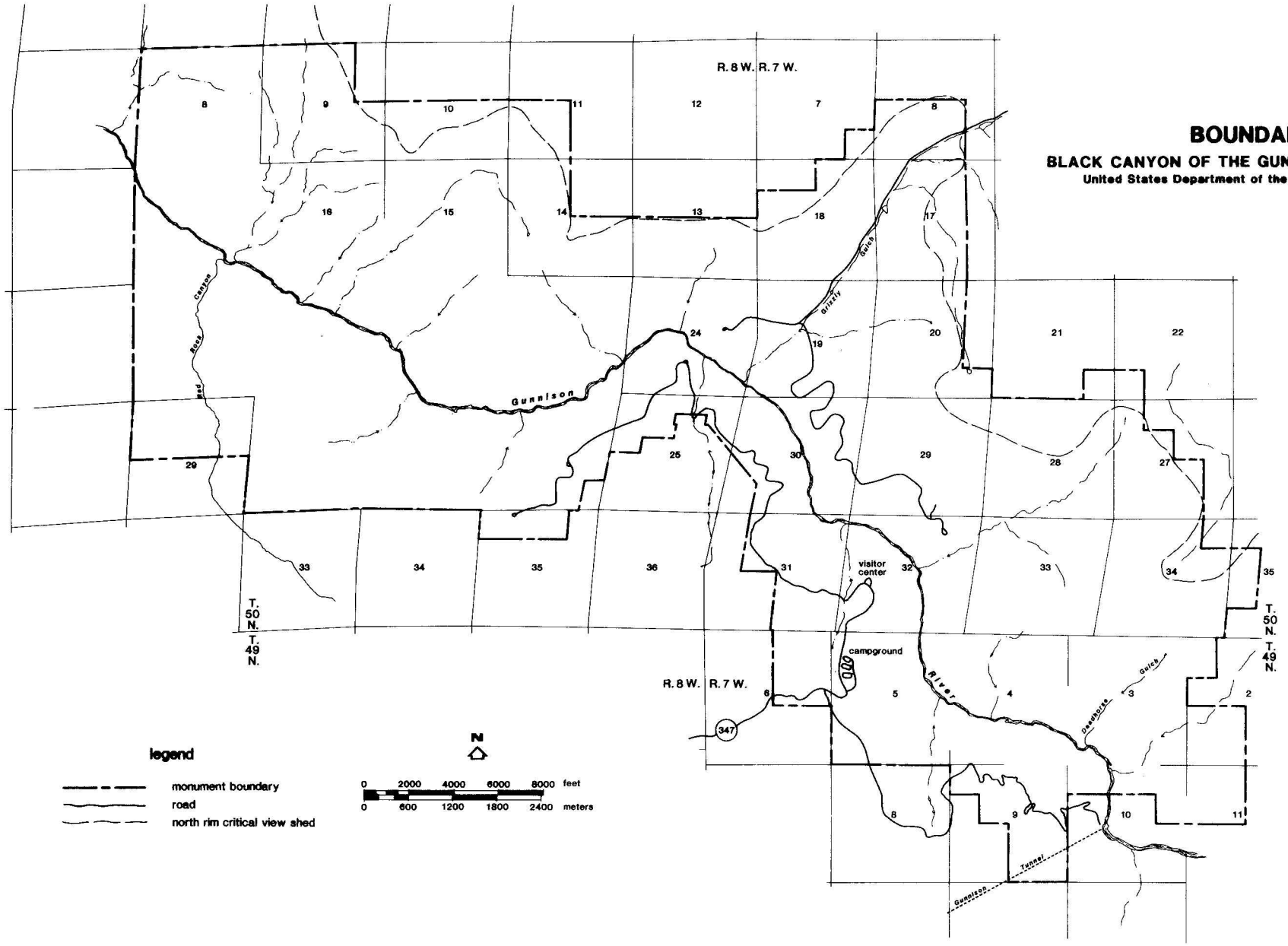
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BOUNDARY MAP

BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON NATIONAL MONUMENT

United States Department of the Interior - National Park Service



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ON MICROFILM

Location

The Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument is in Montrose County on the "Western Slope of Colorado," in the Third Congressional District.

Primary Management Statement

The Black Canyon staff will strive to preserve and protect the natural, historic, and archeological resources of Black Canyon. They will also provide services to enhance opportunities for present and future employees and visitors from around the world to gain an understanding and appreciation for the Gunnison River, its spectacular gorges, and the associated features of scenic, scientific, and educational interest. These efforts will result in employees, the visiting public, and the surrounding communities having a better understanding of Black Canyon and its environment and the reasons for protecting this nationally significant resource. Black Canyon will also strive to instill in visitors and employees a sense of pride, value, dignity, and self-satisfaction that moves the soul and mind.

Influences: Inventory and Analysis

Legislative and Administrative Requirements

The Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument is managed as a natural area of the National Park System and is required to meet all regulations, policies and guidelines pertaining to such an area. It is under the jurisdiction of Executive Order 11593 as a federal property and must operate under constraints imposed by National Park Service historic preservation policies. Archeological surveys have identified 38 sites within the monument (Breternitz, 1974).

The monument is also under the jurisdiction of Executive Orders 11988 and 11990, Flood Plain Management and Protection of Wetland Habitats. Proposals for development must conform to these constraints.

Wilderness Act. The Inner Gorge and the majority of the western-most upland, consisting of 11,180 acres, is wilderness designated under Public Law 94-567 (October 20, 1976) and is subject to all regulations, policies, and guidelines that protect legislated wilderness values.

Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 *et seq.*). The wilderness portion of Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument is designated as a mandatory class I area to preserve, protect, and enhance the monument's air quality. The Secretary of the Interior and the

superintendent of the monument have an affirmative responsibility to protect the monument's air quality-related values, including visibility, plants, animals, water quality, historic and archeological objects and structures, and any other resources that may be sensitive to air pollution. Class I designation places the most stringent constraints on the construction and operation of major air pollution-emitting facilities near the monument. (Part C - Prevention of Significant Deterioration of Air Quality.)

In section 169A of the act, Congress established a national goal of remedying any existing, and preventing any future man-made visibility impairments in mandatory class I areas. Since Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument has been designated as a mandatory class I area, where visibility is an important value (40 CFR 81.406), visibility regulations promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) apply to Black Canyon (40 CFR 51.301 *et seq.*) These regulations require the state of Colorado to develop a state implementation plan (SIP) consistent with the EPA requirements, including provisions for visibility monitoring, new source review, long-term strategies and retrofit control requirements for certain existing air pollution sources.

The act also places constraints on any park development or management activities that could affect air quality by requiring the monument to comply with all federal, state, and local air pollution control laws and regulations (Section 118 - Control of Pollution from Federal Facilities).

Wild and Scenic River. The Gunnison River, from the eastern boundary of the monument to the junction of the North Fork of the Gunnison, was designated for study as a potential addition to the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System by P.L. 93-621. A Park Service study completed in September of 1979 found the area worthy of designation as a wild river. In addition, the canyon downstream from the national monument (referred to as the lower gorge or Gunnison gorge), which is administered by the Bureau of Land Management, is a proposed wilderness area.

Authorized Area. The monument's present authorized area includes 20,766.14 acres, of which 7,055.15 acres were authorized under Public Law 98-357 (98 Stat. 397). Federal ownership of fee and scenic easement consists of 20,646.14 acres, leaving 120 acres in private ownership. This private land is one contiguous parcel on the South Rim. No monetary ceiling has been established for the purchase of these private lands.

Jurisdiction. The National Park Service shares concurrent jurisdiction over lands within the monument with both the Colorado State Patrol and the Montrose County Sheriff's Department.

Permits and Agreements. Special use permits have been issued to Richard Mott for livestock grazing. This special privilege was authorized in the purchase agreement for his former North Rim property (4,202 acres) as a retention of use for a twenty-year period.

A special use permit for grazing has also been issued to John Botti for the former BLM tracts now included as part of Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument. The areas covered by this special use permit are unfenced government ownerships immediately adjacent to Mr. Botti's private inholding.

A nonbinding interim operating agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation (March 10, 1971) established the minimum and maximum amounts of water required to be released through the monument from upstream impoundments in order to maintain downstream fisheries. No other resource values were considered in this agreement. A proposed development by Uncompahgre water users for year-round use of the Gunnison tunnel to divert water to be used in power generation coupled with updated data on minimum fishery flow, have rendered the 1971 agreement inadequate to satisfy current needs, and a new agreement needs to be drawn up. The monument, the region and the Washington Office of Water Resources are exploring the possibility of establishing a contractual agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation, which would dedicate a portion of the flow from the Curecanti units as a conservation flow for the protection of a wider variety of Black Canyon resources. There also exists an unquantified federal reserved water right for Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, which, in concert with the contractual agreement, or as a separate filing, will provide some protection as a legal in-stream flow for the monument. The monument and Fort Collins Water Resources Branch are working on the results of research studies to quantify this water right. The federal reserved water right granted to Black Canyon by the Colorado supreme court is a property right and as such can't be abandoned by the Service. The Service and the U.S. Attorney's Office will need to resolve how the government will present our needs for water to the Colorado Water Court and the Colorado Water Board.

Other Requirements. The Gunnison River, including the Gunnison Gorge, has been designated "Colorado Gold Medal Fishing and Wild Trout Waters," and special state fishing regulations are enforced to protect and preserve this valuable fishery resource.

National Park Proposal. Legislation that would designate the Black Canyon as a national park was introduced in the House (H.R, 4472) during the 99th Congress on March 20, 1986, by former Congressman Strang. Though the bill was not acted on, local interest continued to support such legislation and then Congressman Ben Campbell requested a study to review management options for this area. In September of 1991, Congressman Campbell introduced legislation HR1321, which in part calls for a redesignation of Black Canyon as a national park without expanding the size of the monument. The national park study states if the monument remains in its present form it does not qualify for national park status. The designation of Black Canyon as a national park with or without expanded boundaries could impact the management of and planning for the area. Congressman McInnis and Senator Campbell continue to work with local groups to introduce legislation related to the original bill. Legislative proposals for both representatives is pending and may be reintroduced in 1994.

Resources

Climate. Black Canyon's climate is typically intermontane, with a variety of microclimates between the canyon rim and floor. The monument's temperature ranges from an average of 15 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter to the mid-80s in July and August. Average annual precipitation is 16 to 20 inches and snowfalls measure between 30 and 55 inches in mid-winter. Most of the precipitation occurs in the form of spring and summer rains. Access to the inner canyon is normally blocked by snow from November through May. The South Rim Road is open year round, but only to Gunnison Point in winter during snow season. The prevailing wind is southwesterly and can be moderately high in velocity (35 to 50 knots) during storms and in early spring, owing to elevation and exposure. As with many canyons, temperatures on the canyon floor can be 10 to 15 degrees higher than on the rims in the summertime.

Topography. The elevation of the canyon rim ranges from 7,400 to 9,040 feet above sea level. The canyon floor is about 6,000 feet above sea level. Sheer canyon walls raise 2,200 feet above the river and vary from steeply sloped ridges with deep side canyons, to vertical walls of unbroken Precambrian rock. The canyon rim is, for the most part, gently rolling and occasionally cut by steep side canyons. Because of the precipitous walls, no constructed or maintained trails exist from the rim to the canyon floor. There are eight or more primitive access routes and they are all subject to rock slides, debris flows, and flooding. River-level access by foot is available at East Portal from Curecanti National Recreation Area. This streamside access extends for a short distance into the canyon at flows above 600 cubic feet-per-second (cfs). At lower flows (300-500 cfs) access is not as restricted and visitors who are prepared for the rigors of inner-canyon travel, including wading and swimming the river can hike the entire canyon.

Inner Canyon. The Gunnison River is an excellent cold-water game fish habitat and is designated by the Colorado Division of Wildlife as "Gold Medal Fishing and Wild Trout Waters." Limited access, unscheduled daily fluctuations in-stream flow, and nearly impossible navigation of the canyon floor for distances greater than one mile at flows above 600 cfs, have historically kept visitor use low. Boating is difficult and challenging through the canyon because of large boulder fields in the river bottom and very dangerous rapids (e.g., the river drops at an overall rate of 95 feet-per-mile and at a rate of 480 feet in the 2 miles between Pulpit Rock and Chasm View). Historically only a few river kayakers and even fewer rafters traverse the river. The increasing popularity of inner-canyon hiking, boating, and excellent fishing are attracting more visitors to this wilderness area. Wilderness campsites at the end of rim-to-floor routes provide for overnight camping in the canyon for hikers and fishermen. Boaters generally use less accessible locations but may also use the facilities at these designated sites.

Hydrology, Flooding, and Floodplain. The Gunnison River through the Black Canyon is controlled by three major upstream impoundments, one (Crystal Dam) is 1½ miles from the

monument boundary. Natural floods are nonexistent on the canyon floor, but great variations in releases by impoundments can result in large seasonal and daily fluctuations. Extremes have measured from over 10,000 cfs - in the high run-off years of 1983-1984 - to a minimum of 200 cfs, with average flows ranging from 1,600 to 2,000 cfs. Silt transport and driftwood replenishment are both severely reduced because of the effects of the impoundments. The fluctuations do impact the river strand, the gravel and sand bar configuration and the fish habitat, however no data is available on the morphology or ecology of the river, since the cessation of natural flooding. Throughout the canyon the river floodplain is narrow, and within the monument, usually nonexistent.

Geologic Process and Conditions. The river channel of the Gunnison is typical of an actively down-cutting, youthful stream. It is still actively down-cutting in the Black Canyon although the process has been slowed owing to a lack of sediment load in the stream flow and a reduction of peak springtime flows. Uplift probably has ceased and the main geologic processes are those of weathering and erosion. The dominant rocks are Precambrian metamorphic and igneous, which are very resistant to erosion. Some sedimentary rocks form minor ridges, particularly on the North Rim. Rim soils are thin with much exposed bedrock. The North Rim walls are nearly vertical, bare bedrock, while the South Rim has a somewhat gentler slope and more side canyons. The canyon floor has alluvial outwash at the mouths of the side canyons and scattered along the main stream where backwater deposits occur. The side canyons and isolated soil deposits along the canyon floor support a wide variety of vegetation.

Wildlife. The wildlife of the monument is typical for the geography and elevations of the region. Large mammals include mule (black-tailed) deer, black bear, bobcat, elk, and an occasional cougar. Bighorn sheep are native and also were introduced on BLM lands to the west of the monument in 1985. Individual sheep, probably from this transplant, have been observed in the downstream areas of the monument. River otter were also reintroduced at the east boundary of the monument and are seen along the river in the monument. Small mammals are represented by a variety of rodents including porcupines and yellow-bellied marmots.

The cliffs have attracted a significant raptor population including golden eagles, bald eagles, prairie falcons, peregrine falcons, and many migrating birds of prey. A substantial population of swifts and swallows favors the same steep walls as nesting sites.

Detailed information on population, distribution, nesting habits and life cycle is lacking because of the inaccessibility of the nesting sites.

The monument staff and the Colorado Division of Wildlife have been researching and banding the resident peregrine falcons. When necessary, human activity has been curtailed in peregrine nesting site areas.

No research has been done to compare species characteristic of the river bottom with those of the rim. Ecological zones have been defined by expectation, based on data gathered at comparable areas. Various species have been identified and reported by both staff and visitors.

The upstream water impoundments have dramatically altered the historic fish populations. The native species of cutthroat trout, squawfish, bonytail chubs, and razorback suckers have been replaced by rainbow and brown trout. The excellent conditions for trout growth have lead to the designation of the river through Black Canyon of the Gunnison as a Gold Medal Fishery.

Flora. A number of ecological niches exist in Black Canyon because of topographic variation, soil developments, and exposure to sun and wind. The rims of the canyon are dominated by scrub oak and pinyon/juniper forests with patches of high desert sagebrush communities. Two sizable pinyon/juniper groves exist; one on each rim at about 8,000 feet. Within these groves are many large, very old pinyons. Some of these old pines are dying and the cause is not known and should be determined. The north-facing slopes of the canyon have conditions that favor the Douglas fir and spruce/fir groves found there. The river bottom has a number of deciduous trees and shrubs characteristic of river strands in the region. Generally, plant communities are stable, healthy, and show no signs of disease or insect plague. Limited public access to a large portion of the monument has kept human interference to a minimum but some disturbance can be seen in the areas of wilderness camps at the river's edge. Some areas of the monument contain identified relic plant communities worthy of further study.

Air and Water Quality. Gunnison River water quality is high, supporting an excellent trout fishery. Natural sources of water that could be treated to obtain public drinking water are not available in the monument and potable water must be hauled in to visitor-use areas from Montrose and Crawford. Visitors must carry their drinking water into the canyon or properly treat surface water, which may contain giardia. The only implication that water quality could be threatened in the foreseeable future is the proposal to further reduce the flow of the Gunnison by diverting water all year at the Gunnison Tunnel. Year-round diversion of water would increase the amount of stream flow presently exiting the river above the monument from the historic 30 percent to a 60 percent level, leaving only one-third of the flow to maintain water quality and natural systems of the canyon.

The vitality, significance, and integrity of many monument resources are dependent on good air quality. Air pollution, even at concentration levels below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, can harm vegetation, degrade visual air quality and diminish visitor enjoyment. Maintaining pristine air quality and remedying any existing air pollution effects are important management objectives and the park has submitted requests to upgrade the air quality-monitoring station so the park can build baseline data on air quality and measure any deterioration of present standards.

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument also includes numerous scenic views, which are important resources. The EPA visibility regulations gave the Secretary of the Interior an opportunity to identify scenic views from class I areas that were integral or important to the park visitors' visual experience. The regulations required states such as Colorado to include in their SIPs vistas identified by the Secretary before December 31, 1985, and to consider the costs and benefits of preventing visibility degradation to those vistas, before deciding to permit new air-pollution sources within those vistas.

Using *Criteria for the Identification of Integral Vistas*, developed by the National Park Service Air Quality Division, the monument prepared a list of integral vistas in 1980. Observation points included Gunnison Point, Chasm View, High Point, and Warner Overlook. The vistas included the North Rim, the West Elk Mountains, the Lower Gunnison Gorge, and the Uncompahgre Valley. The draft guidelines and preliminary list of integral vistas were published in the *Federal Register* in January 1981 (46 FR 3646) and April 1981 (46 FR 23389). The list of vistas was also given to the state of Colorado. Although the Secretary of the Interior decided on October 25, 1985, not to publish a final regulation officially designating integral vistas, the National Park Service was directed to work cooperatively with states to ensure protection of scenic views.

The Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks has notified the EPA that there is existing visibility impairment in the monument caused by regional haze. Once EPA publishes regulations addressing regional haze, Colorado may be required to adopt control strategies to remedy the existing visibility impairment.

A limited air quality-monitoring program consisting of one camera was in place but was not funded in 1994. No monitoring of air quality is being done and the photographs from the camera operation are less than adequate to document any changes in air quality. Concerted community efforts to attract industry to the nearby Uncompahgre Valley (upwind) call for continued and expanded monitoring, because the advent of industry to the area would likely impact air quality. The effects of far-removed air pollution from industrial centers further west is suspected but cannot be documented.

The staff in concert with the Denver Office of Air Quality have provided comments on the preliminary analysis and draft permit conditions for the Olathe Colorado Louisiana-Pacific Waferboard plant, 17 km east of Black Canyon. The permit conditions required by the Colorado Department of Health Division of Air Pollution Control include requiring Louisiana-Pacific to perform visibility monitoring and to install additional pollution control devices on the waferboard plant. The monitoring is a joint effort by the NPS (Black Canyon), Colorado Health Department and Louisiana Pacific (LP). A cooperative agreement was signed that called for two years of monitoring. A camera was purchased by LP and installed on BLM lands in the lower gorge. The NPS provides the staff to change the film and check the camera for proper operation. The state reads the pictures and provided a report to the NPS and LP. The state will use the photographs to assess impacts,

if any, of the LP plant on Black Canyon's air quality. This may be difficult, as the camera is a considerable distance from the monument and photos only document conditions near and around the plant in Olathe.

Natural Quiet. Two sound monitors were installed within the boundaries of Black Canyon in 1993. These monitors will help document the natural quiet found at the monument so programs to protect this resource can be developed.

Human Activities in and Adjacent to the Monument. The rural location of Black Canyon, the undeveloped quality of land around the monument, and the stable economy in the region, have limited impacts on resources and visitor enjoyment. The scenic viewshed is expansive and development within the view of the monument on either rim would impair scenic values. Public Law 98-357 of July 13, 1984, provides for protection of the North Rim viewshed, but there is no comparable protection for the South Rim viewshed. To date, the major use of land around the monument has been livestock grazing. However, one developer has purchase a large tract of land near the South Rim Entrance Road and intends to sell 35-acre homesites. Pressure from this type of rural development is becoming commonplace on the western slope and around the monument. Meanwhile, problems with livestock encroachment on monument lands have been encountered on both rims.

The difficulty of access into the canyon has helped keep the human impact on natural resources to a minimum. Lower water flows in the river and increased popularity of wilderness travel within Black Canyon will increase these impacts and require further restrictions on visitors to protect the resources. At highly accessible overlooks, campgrounds and picnic areas, the unauthorized collection of plants and Indian artifacts and the feeding of wildlife are minor problems. The possibility of wildfire started by humans in this fuel-rich vegetation complex, coupled with the lack of a fire management plan for Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, requires strict control of open fires.

Occasional vandalism occurs, usually in the off-season and at night when no one is present at the monument. The randomness of such occurrences makes enforcement difficult.

A superintendent's compendium of park regulations was completed in 1985 and is revised annually to protect the resource from recognized hazardous human uses, and to improve visitor safety.

Rock climbing is an increasingly popular use of the monument and must be carefully monitored to prevent resource damage and human injury. Backcountry wilderness use must be controlled and monitored for the same reasons. Fatalities have resulted from unregistered, backcountry users who were unprepared to deal with the hazards of the environment. This points out the need for a backcountry registering system.

The majority of the monument boundary is adjacent to private lands, which are presently used for hunting, grazing, and ranching operations. Property values are increasing and the area is becoming better known for summer and year-round homesites. The character of the surrounding land is changing and will require more intensive management by the NPS. A few of these residences are already present along the North Rim boundary.

Other Specialized Human Uses. Low-flying aircraft, both civilian and military, have occasionally created visual and auditory intrusions. The monument staff is working with the FAA to make pilots aware of the ceilings imposed to help protect resources and preventing low-level overflights.

A small amount of nonrecreational use of park lands is occurring. This use is associated with the Crystal Dam, Bureau of Reclamation employees who use the park access road, Highway 347 and the East Portal Road to get to and from work and the adjacent landowners who may enter the park on the North and South Rims to access adjacent property for agricultural purposes. There is no known use by Native Americans and no known potential for Native American religious sites.

Cultural Resources. Thirty-nine archeological sites generally associated with the Ute Tribe and classified as temporary camps have been identified in the monument. Most are remote from visitor-use areas and their locations are not generally public knowledge. Until more survey work is done, none of the sites are considered critical. The continued policy of allowing a site to remain "as is" seems to provide the best protection from impairment. The new area added to the park by Public Law 98-357 needs to be evaluated for cultural and archeological resources.

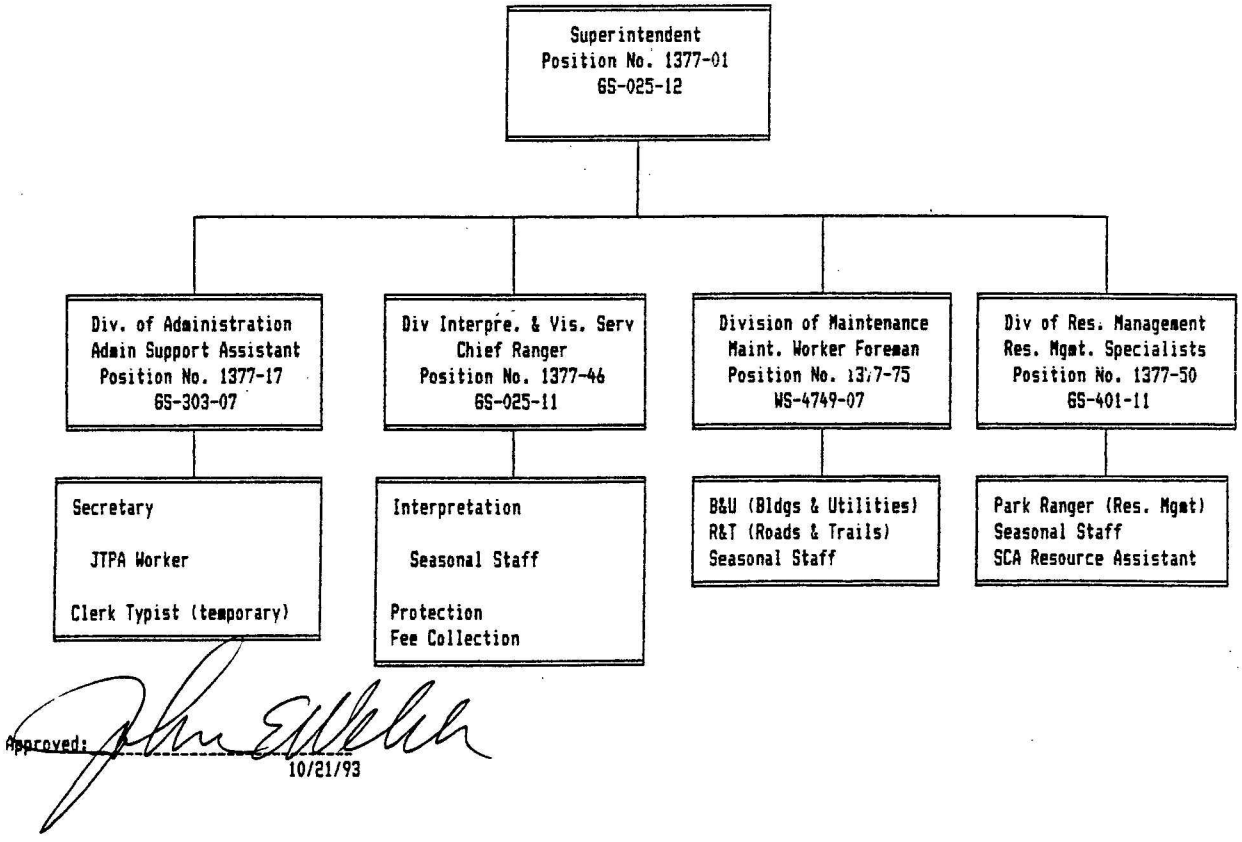
Though four WPA/CCC-era buildings remain in the park, one was moved from its original site and altered many years ago. The other three are on the North Rim and consist of two 1930-era quonset huts and a 1930-era cookhouse. The Rim House concession building was constructed in 1950 and modified by expansion twice in the last 30 years. The other structures in the monument are either temporary (house trailer) or built or extensively modified within the last 10 years. Some of the trails and overlooks were constructed by CCC labor as were portions of the North and South Rim roads. This construction was evaluated for historic value and a determination was made that the North Rim cookhouse, North Rim road alignment (and associated rock face culverts), and the rock wall supporting the road were historically significant. On the South Rim the Devils Overlook and Pulpit Rock areas were historically significant. On both rims the historic significance was related to CCC-era development and history and early monument history.

A museum collection of artifacts that relate to early exploration of the canyon (c. 1900-1920) and other historic objects exists. These items need proper cataloging, storage, and conservation work in order to satisfy standards. Seasonal museum curators were hired in 1988 and 1989 to begin cataloguing and to properly care for the collection. A separate room

in the South Rim ranger office was dedicated to museum collections storage and a deadbolt lock was installed on the door. As a result, the artifact storage and record keeping has been greatly improved but still does not meet NPS standards. A scope of collections statement was completed in 1986 and is used as a guide to determine which objects should be added to the collection.

Staff Resources. Black Canyon's organization includes a superintendent who oversees four divisional organizations. These four divisions include Administration, Resource Management, Interpretation and Visitor Services, and Maintenance.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON NAT'L MON
October 1993



Approved: _____ 10/21/93

The FTE ceiling for the monument in 1991 was 15.1. In 1994 this ceiling was reduced to 13.5. The monument responded by memo to the ceiling reduction stressing that 13.5 is not a realistic FTE ceiling and requesting a ceiling of 16.0. To date, no official response has been receive on this request. Ten of these FTEs are devoted to the permanent staff: (1) superintendent, (2) administration, (2) resource management, (2) interpretation and visitor services, and (3) maintenance. The remainder are included within the seasonal needs of the monument: (3.6) resource management and interpretation and visitor services, and (3.8) maintenance. The majority of the employees live in the Montrose area. The seasonal ranger staff is largely recruited from the servicewide registers compiled in Washington D.C. This recruitment effort results in a seasonal ranger staff whose origin is both local and nationwide.

Training needs and career plans of the staff are addressed in several fashions. The service training announcements are circulated and posted for all employees to review. Training programs are completed and reviewed on an annual basis for all permanent staff members. And while little opportunity can be offered for substantial promotions with in our small staff, the training and opportunities for additional responsibility can lead to promotions through transfer. The computerized vacancy announcements and "pink sheets" for the Service are circulated and posted. In addition the park also posts vacancy announcements for the Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation for staff use.

Working in a small area also provides the opportunity to become involved in many aspects of park management not found in larger park operations. These opportunities for training and responsibility provide additional job satisfaction and can and do lead to further advancement in career paths.

Land Uses and Trends

There are 120 acres of private land within the monument's authorized boundary on which the NPS holds no real estate interest. Currently these lands are owned by a Dr. Allison of Selma, Alabama. They are used for hunting, summer recreation, and some incidental livestock grazing. This 120-acre tract is on the South Rim near the campground and maintenance area. It is adjacent to the East Portal Road within section 5, T49N, R7W. The Rocky Mountain Region's Division of Land Resources is not negotiating with this landowner as he has expressed his opposition to the NPS purchasing any interest in this land.

Curecanti National Recreation Area has a common boundary with the monument along its eastern side. There is a ranger station, camping facilities, fishing area, and limited access to the monument via the canyon floor at the Curecanti East Portal site. An all-weather road to the site crosses monument lands in two places. This road is closed by the Bureau of Reclamation during the winter because of hazardous conditions caused by ice and snow on the steep road. The Bureau of Reclamation, Black Canyon, and Curecanti have signed a cooperative agreement that outlines each agency's responsibility along this road corridor.

Downstream to the west, the Bureau of Land Management manages an area designated the Gunnison Gorge Special Recreation Area. BLM management emphasizes recreation with the major activities being backcountry hiking and camping, commercial and private river-floating by raft or kayak, and fishing. The National Park Service completed a study on the possible addition of the area to Black Canyon National Monument. Results of the study indicate that nationally significant resources occur in this area and that the addition to the monument of 25,000 acres containing these resources would give Black Canyon national park character. The report was provided to Congress to be used in developing legislation for the Gunnison River area.

Lands, both south of the authorized monument boundary on the South Rim and north of the boundary on the North Rim, are mostly private, interspersed with BLM parcels. The dominant land uses are open range livestock grazing and sport hunting during the big-game seasons. Many of these adjacent landowners now lease their property for hunting during the big-game season. This private land is becoming dominantly used for recreational and rural homesites.

The monument is 12 miles from Montrose (1989 population 10,588), the seat of Montrose County. The population of Montrose County in 1989 was 26,004. Agriculture and tourism are the primary industries of the area. The Soil Conservation Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, Western Area Power Administration, and the National Park Service all maintain offices in Montrose. Montrose County contains all or portions of five national forests and two National Park Service areas. Within a 300-mile radius of the monument are three metropolitan areas: Denver-Colorado Springs-Pueblo; Ogden-Salt Lake City; and Santa Fe-Albuquerque. In 1980, the population within the 300-mile radius was estimated to be in excess of 3,600,000.

Recent attempts by communities surrounding Black Canyon to develop the tourist industry have led to such diverse developments as a visitor and convention bureau, bed-and-breakfast lodging, special events and festivals, tourist-promotion organizations, and a legislative proposal to establish the Black Canyon as a national park. Even the smallest communities are exploring schemes to develop tourism. This continues to focus a great deal of attention on the monument as a tourist attraction.

The Gunnison River is a major source of irrigation water and hydropower in the area. The Gunnison Tunnel, ¼-mile upstream from the monument boundary, diverts 1,060 cfs of the flow of the Gunnison to irrigate 50,000 acres in the Uncompahgre Valley. Crystal Dam, 1½ miles upstream from the monument boundary, was constructed to regulate the hydropower flows from Morrow Point Dam. Crystal Dam also produces power with its releases, which are generally in the range of 1,000 to 1,500 cfs. A nonbinding agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation keeps minimum flows in the Gunnison below the tunnel at or near 200 cfs. During the last few years they have tried to maintain a minimum flow of 300 cfs. Recent proposals to divert additional water from the Gunnison for trans-mountain domestic use and

to develop a hydropower facility in Montrose have required action by the NPS to quantify the reserved water right granted to Black Canyon by the Colorado Supreme Court. Studies were conducted to provide the basis for this water right filing. These studies also provided the basis for the NPS and BOR to begin discussions regarding the possibility of establishing a contractual agreement for delivery of conservation flows from the Aspinall unit to Black Canyon, to help protect the resource values of the monument.

The Dallas Creek Dam has been completed south of Montrose at Ridgeway. It will supply additional water for the Uncompahgre Valley and will provide state-managed, water-based recreation. The Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation is managing these facilities as the Ridgeway State Recreation Area. It also adds a new dimension to the hydropower facility proposed for development in Montrose. The local irrigation water users association now has a more reliable water source in the Uncompahgre River and can use this water for more irrigation needs in the valley. Meeting more of the irrigation needs with Uncompahgre water releases a greater amount of Gunnison River water for power generation purposes and increases the economics of the proposal.

The Fruitland Mesa Reclamation Project, designed to bring irrigation to the North Rim area, could have resulted in major developments near the North Rim. This project, however, has been tabled for the foreseeable future.

Mining, particularly of coal, and the use of locally mined coal could impact future air quality. Recent trends have been toward a substantial reduction of coal mining in nearby fields. There is a coal-fired electrical generating plant in Montrose. This facility is owned by Tri-State and although presently moth-balled, it could be reopened if future demand for electricity were to exceed the present generating capacity. There is a companion facility at Delta, Colorado, approximately 15 miles north and west of Black Canyon. This facility is occasionally used when the cost to generate power is less than the cost of purchasing it from Tri- State.

One important consideration is the general economics in the area. With the average age of population increasing and an in-migration of retired persons, slow but significant changes in population, land use, and economy are occurring, all of which may have impacts on the future use of the monument. The resort/ski industry of the Telluride area is also having an impact on the local community. Montrose and the surrounding region is becoming a bedroom and service area for the ski area and the high cost of living in the resort area is directly impacting local real estate.

Visitor Use Analysis

Visitation. Park visitation figures are shown on the enclosed 10-year bar chart and the monthly chart for 1993. Peak visitation occurs in July and August. The main visitor season runs from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.

Weekly Use Pattern. Summer weekly use patterns show a response to weather conditions rather than to days of the week. It appears that if weather were not a factor, weekly visitation would be evenly distributed. Both cold and precipitation lower visitation numbers. During the fall and winter, however, visitation is higher on the weekend.

Daily Use Patterns. Daily patterns demonstrate a typical day-use cycle of activity from sunrise until sunset with peak hours being mid-morning (10:00-11:00) and mid-afternoon (2:00-3:00).

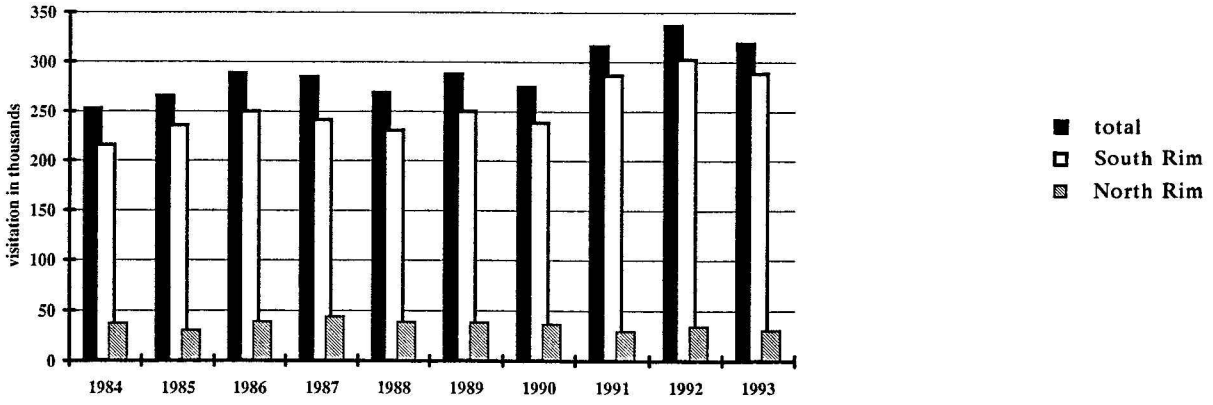
Visitor Origins. The origin of visitors is well distributed over the nation. A survey of visitors was conducted at the entrance station in 1989. From this survey a percentage of visitors by state and foreign country was developed. Results were, 24 percent came from Colorado. Most of these were eastern slope residents. Twelve percent came from Texas, 8 percent from California, 4 percent from Missouri, Kansas, and Illinois, 3 percent from Oklahoma, Arizona, and Florida, 2 percent from Iowa, New York, Ohio, New Mexico, and Michigan, 1.5 percent from Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Nebraska, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. These states represented the top twenty on the list. The top ten foreign countries were (1) Germany, (2) England, (3) France, (4) Canada, (5) Switzerland, (6) Holland, (7) Italy, (8) Australia, (9) Belgium, and Japan and Sweden tied for 10th place. Overall foreign visitors accounted for approximately 6.6 percent of the visitation.

Local visitation occurs more in the spring and fall. Colorado visitors are 88 percent nonlocal and 12 percent from the Grand Junction-Montrose-Delta area.

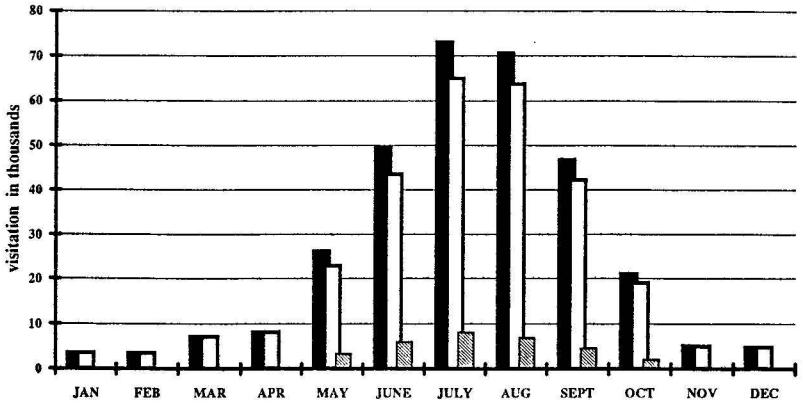
Length of Stay. Over 90 percent of the visitors to Black Canyon are day users. One-night campground use accounts for nearly all the rest. Less than 1 percent stay more than one day. The average length-of-stay is about four hours, enough time to visit the overlooks and the visitor center, hike a few short trails and possibly to stop at the concessioner for a meal, supplies, or a souvenir. The resource itself offers limited opportunity for the average visitor. Most of the canyon area of the monument is difficult to access, and except for the overlooks along the rim drive, individuals must be in excellent shape before venturing into the monument wilderness.

Principle Visitor Uses. The overwhelming visitor use is scenic viewing; all other uses, by comparison, are minor. Other uses include picnicking (mostly local residents), technical, big-wall rock climbing, fishing, white water boating, and hiking the inner canyon. Since rock climbing, white water boating, and use of the inner canyon require intense staff/visitor interaction in order to provide information, handle registration, and give safety and resource protection instructions, the majority of visitors (day-use, scenic viewers) receive less personal attention than the special-user minority.

Annual Visitation



1993 Monthly Visitation



Facilities and Equipment Analysis

Historic and Nonhistoric Roads and Trails. There are 8.4 miles of all-weather, two-lane, paved roads on the South Rim and 9.6 miles of gravel-surfaced road on the North Rim. There are no bridges in the monument. Each road system dead-ends in the monument with return loops at the end. Cattle guards have been placed at the South Rim entrance boundary to prevent livestock intrusions. The South Rim Road is in poor condition and will require an asphalt overlay in the near future to keep it from deteriorating beyond repair. In 1988 the South Rim Road was slurry-sealed, some problem areas were repaved, and the base material was replaced. After this work the road was re-striped. The major maintenance problems are caused by frost damage in winter and brittle conditions of the

surface due to the age of the asphalt. There are areas where water percolates beneath the road surface and breaks up the pavement. Several weeks of repairs are required in the spring, which keeps the road driveable during the peak use period.

The condition of the historic North Rim Road is often determined by precipitation. If precipitation for the year is normal, the road is in excellent condition. In unusually wet years, during visitor-use season (the road is closed to traffic after first snow until spring melt), the soils underlying the road retain water, and rutting and loss of crown configuration require extensive regrading. During very dry years the surface becomes one continuous washboard and grading cannot be done because of a lack of moisture. Many visitors turn around when they encounter the rough road long before they reach the monument boundary and never see the canyon. The monument does not have the equipment required to regrade roads and therefore must contract the work with local jobbers or work around the Curecanti schedule to use their grader. These contracts are very expensive and the Curecanti schedule is very busy, so the road is only graded on an average of twice a year, once in the spring and again sometime during the summer.

There are a total of 124 paved parking spaces on the South Rim. Eighteen of these serve the campground/amphitheater, forty-two serve the visitor center, and twenty-one serve the High Point Overlook, trailhead, and picnic ground. A gravel parking lot, which accommodates twenty-six cars, serves the concession facility at Pulpit Rock. The paved lots are in poor condition. The gravel lot at Pulpit Rock is fair.

There are also forty-three spaces at turnouts for various overlooks on the South Rim. All are paved, curbed, and in poor condition because of the age of the asphalt.

The North Rim has forty-two gravel-surface parking spaces. Six serve Chasm View Trail, ten the ranger station, and twenty-six the five overlooks. They are generally in fair condition but may be of poorer quality during periods of heavy rain or drought.

A total of 16.88 miles of maintained overlook and nature trails are along the North and South Rims. All are natural surface with rotted granite base or bedrock. On the South Rim, 8.0 miles of trail are for overlook access and 2.78 miles are for a self-guided nature trail. On the North Rim, 1.65 miles of trail are for overlook access 4.45 miles are used as nature trails. All North Rim trails were rehabilitated in 1987 and are in fair condition. South Rim trails received some maintenance in 1993 and are generally in good condition. The three newest trails are a 3-mile trail to the top of Green Mountain on the North Rim, a 2-mile loop trail at the Gunnison Point Visitor Center, and a 2-mile loop from the campground to the visitor center.

Buildings and Facilities. There are thirty-eight buildings in the monument, twenty-one are visitor-use facilities and seventeen are for park operations. They are as follows:

Visitor Facilities - South Rim

USE	TYPE	CONDITION
Gunnison Point Visitor Center	Double-wide Trailer	Fair to poor Rehabilitated 1985-1986
8 Vault toilets	Wood frame and metal-fiberglass	Fair
6 Vault toilets South Rim Campground	Wood frame	Good
Amphitheater	Wood frame	Good
10 Overlooks	Barrier fence	Poor
2 overlooks Gunnison and Tomichi Points	Rock column and Wood rail barrier	Good

Visitor Facilities - North Rim

Ranger quarters/ contact station	Wood frame	Excellent - 1989
2 Rest rooms	Concrete block	Fair
2 Vault toilets	Fiberglass	Fair
5 Overlooks	Barrier fence	Fair
1 Big Island Overlook	Stone column and wood rail barrier	Good

Operating Facilities - South Rim

Maintenance shop/equipment storage	Wood frame	Good - 1986
Maintenance shop	Wood frame	Good - 1983
Flammable-equipment storage shed	Wood frame	Good - 1985
Welding shop/laundry	Wood Frame	Remodeled, 1985
Ranger workshop (CCC)	Wood frame	Fair
Large supply storage (lumber)	Wood post	Fair
Fee collection office	Wood frame	Poor

Seasonal quarters	Mobile home	Poor - (near end of usable life)
Seasonal apartment complex -- 4 units	Wood frame	Good
Fuel distribution center	Cinder block and frame	New 1987
Operating Facilities - North Rim		
North Rim quarters	Quonset hut	Poor
Maintenance storage (WPA, CCC)	Quonset hut	Fair
Old bunkhouse (WPA, CCC)	Wood frame	Fair

Other facilities include eighteen overlooks - twelve on the South Rim and six on the North Rim - two of the heaviest used on the South Rim (Tomichi Point and Gunnison Point) and one on the North Rim (Big Island) were rehabilitated in 1986 and 1991 in natural wood and stone. The other fifteen have "zoo" guardrail and cyclone fences or rock wall barriers and are in fair condition. These overlooks remain essentially unchanged and appear much as they did when the NPS upgraded the 1930s construction with the zoo rail fence in the 1960s. One overlook on the South Rim was deemed historically significant during the 1989-1990 survey of structures. This overlook, Dragon Point, is little changed from the 1930 era and the historic character of the rock barrier construction should be maintained. Another overlook was identified as significant after this study was completed. The second overlook where the historic character should be protected is Pulpit Rock.

There are two campgrounds, one 102-site, 3-loop campground on the South Rim, with 1.2 miles of paved, loop road and a parking pad, picnic table, and fire grate at each site, and one 13-site, single-loop, gravel road campground on the North Rim, with a parking pad, picnic table, and fire grate at each site.

There is a five-table picnic area at High Point and a two-table area at Sunset View. No water or fire grates are provided for the picnic areas. The campgrounds and picnic areas are in very good condition. During the 1991 season the pit toilets were replaced with new buildings that are accessible to persons with disabilities. The park crews also built two campsites that are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Utility Systems.

Electrical. Delta-Montrose Electrical cooperative provides power for the entrance station, maintenance area, seasonal housing, and visitor center at Gunnison Point on the South Rim. There is no commercial electrical service beyond Gunnison Point on the South Rim and none on the North Rim. The seasonal housing, entrance

station, maintenance area, and visitor center are separately metered. The electrical service at the North Rim quarters/contact station is provided by an on-site propane generator that is coupled to a battery solar system. This solar system provides for most of the electricity used at this location.

Water System. The park water system is composed of six cisterns: three on the South Rim and three on the North Rim. The water for the South Rim is hauled from Montrose because no reliable water source is available in the monument. The park crews also haul water to North Rim facilities from municipal sources in Crawford. The systems are shut down in October and reopened in May because they are not protected from freezing and no one lives in the monument during the winter.

The South Rim's three cisterns are used as follows: a 10,000-gallon, fiberglass tank serves the campground, seasonal housing, and maintenance area; a 1,000-gallon tank serves Gunnison Point visitor center; and a 1,000-gallon tank serves the concession facility at Pulpit Rock.

On the North Rim, a 1,250-gallon concrete tank serves the campground, a 5,000-gallon tank serves the ranger quarters/contact station and a 1,000-gallon tank serves the Quonset hut.

The monument has only two septic system leach fields; one on the South Rim serves the maintenance area and seasonal housing, and one on the North Rim serves the ranger quarters. All other areas of the park are served by vault toilets, which are pumped on a schedule based on need.

Major Equipment. The fleet for Black Canyon is a combination of Interior-owned and GSA-leased vehicles. The GSA-leased vehicles include a 4x4 utility vehicle, a vehicle for general use by the headquarters office, a four-wheel drive pickup for the maintenance crew, a South Rim patrol vehicle, ¾-ton truck for garbage collection, and a North Rim pickup. Interior-owned vehicles include a two-ton dump truck for winter snow plowing and summer water hauling, a crew cab pickup, a van used to haul prison crews from Delta, and a ½-ton pickup. During the visitor season, up to four additional vehicles may be leased when they are available: light pickup for ranger use on the South Rim, a pickup for the South Rim maintenance projects, a sedan for use on the South Rim, and one additional pickup for North Rim maintenance.

Heavy equipment consists of a front-end loader purchased in 1989, a John Deere small tractor backhoe purchased in 1984 for trail maintenance and light work, two fire pumpers, a large three-axle trailer to carry the front-end loader to work sites. All equipment is in good to excellent condition.

The monument also has a GE radio system with two base stations, six mobile units and nineteen hand-held transceivers. The system was originally surplus from Curecanti, and has since been upgraded with newer equipment. The system operates well, but when it requires maintenance, it is hard to find parts for the old units, which slows repairs.

Concessions. The Black Canyon National Monument has two concession operations. One, the Rim House, has operated continuously since 1950. Mrs. Kathleen Koch managed the operation as corporate head and site manager from 1950 to 1986. In 1986 she sold the operation to Charles and Joann Carr and they took over site management in 1987.

The Rim House concession is at Pulpit Rock, and is open from mid-May to October. The concession building was constructed in 1950 with additions attached to the structure in 1955 and 1963. The present size is 806 square feet. The concession provides goods and services otherwise unavailable near the park, including meals, grocery items, clothing, photographic supplies, and souvenirs.

In 1988 the *Black Canyon National Monument General Management Plan* was reviewed and the section on concession operations was revised. The revision states the existing concessions facility will remain at Pulpit Rock until a new visitor/concession facility is built at Gunnison Point, west of the existing site, where partial views of the canyon are offered in addition to an easy walk to the existing overlook. The building is proposed as a multistoried structure with approximately 1,000 square feet devoted to the provision of essential concession services, consisting of gift articles, photographic supplies, grocery items, and limited food services.

The second concession is related to Black Canyon being recognized as an unparalleled technical climbing experience. The sheer walls of precambrian rock offer the ultimate in climbing experiences. Because of this unique opportunity, there is a constant demand for guided climbing trips. In an effort to meet this visitor need, a concession contract was issued for a technical climbing permit in 1991 to Fantasy Ridge Alpinism. The concessionaire operates his business out of an office in the nearby town of Telluride. The amount of demand for this service will be evaluated over the next few years to assess if there should be more than one concessionaire offering this service for guided technical big wall climbs.

Park Headquarters. Park headquarters, which houses the four division offices, sensitive equipment storage, computers, and radio and telephone communications, is in Montrose on Highway 50 east, 12 miles from the monument. It is in GSA-leased space consisting of 1,800 square feet devoted to NPS operations. The space is shared with the Department of Agriculture; APHIS Animal Damage Control Agent; The Colorado Job Service, a branch of Mesa College; and the Soil Conservation Service.

Status of Planning

Name of Plan/Study	Preparer	Date Approved	Adequacy	Repository
General Management Plan	DSC	June 1983	Needs revision	DSC
Development Concept Plan	DSC	June 1983	Needs revision	DSC
Resource Management Plan	Park	Feb 1993	adequate	Park
Wilderness Recommendations	Park	9/71	Estab. 10/20/76	DSC
Wilderness EIS	DSC	10/73	Estab. 10/20/76	DSC
Interpretive Prospectus	RMR	10/02/81	Needs updating	RMR
Land Protection Plan	Park	1/8/91	Adequate	Park
Engineering Study for Water and Sewage	DSC	1972	Obsolete	DSC
Lower Canyon Alternative Study	DSC	3/70	Obsolete (new done '90)	DSC
Wild & Scenic River Study	DSC	10/77	Adequate	DSC
Resource/Boundary Evaluation	RMRO	1/1990	Adequate	Park
Basic Resources Data	Park	1968	Needed	
Inventory of Archeological Resources	MWAC	1974	Incomplete	RMR
Backcountry Management Plan	Park	1973	Obsolete	Park
Scope of Collection Statement	Park	1985	Adequate	RMR

As indicated above, one of the major lacks in management information is the basic resources data. The 1968 version is incomplete and obsolete. It needs substantial revision to be a useable document. Other plans and studies that are needed include a visitor experience and resource protection plan (VERP), backcountry/wilderness/ river/ climbing management plan, fire management plan, water resources management plan, an air quality

management plan to protect the monument's class I designation, a park circulation plan for trail development and use, and a revised parkwide interpretive prospectus to include plans for the new North Rim contact station. The park also needs to develop a historic structures maintenance guide for the North Rim Road, Dragon Point, and the CCC cookhouse, and to review the 1984 addition to the park for archeological resources. The park knows little about visitors or what they expect from a visit to Black Canyon. This lack of information could be corrected by conducting a visitor-use survey. The administrative history of the monument was written in 1965. Significant events after this date have not been documented and need to be added as an update to this document.

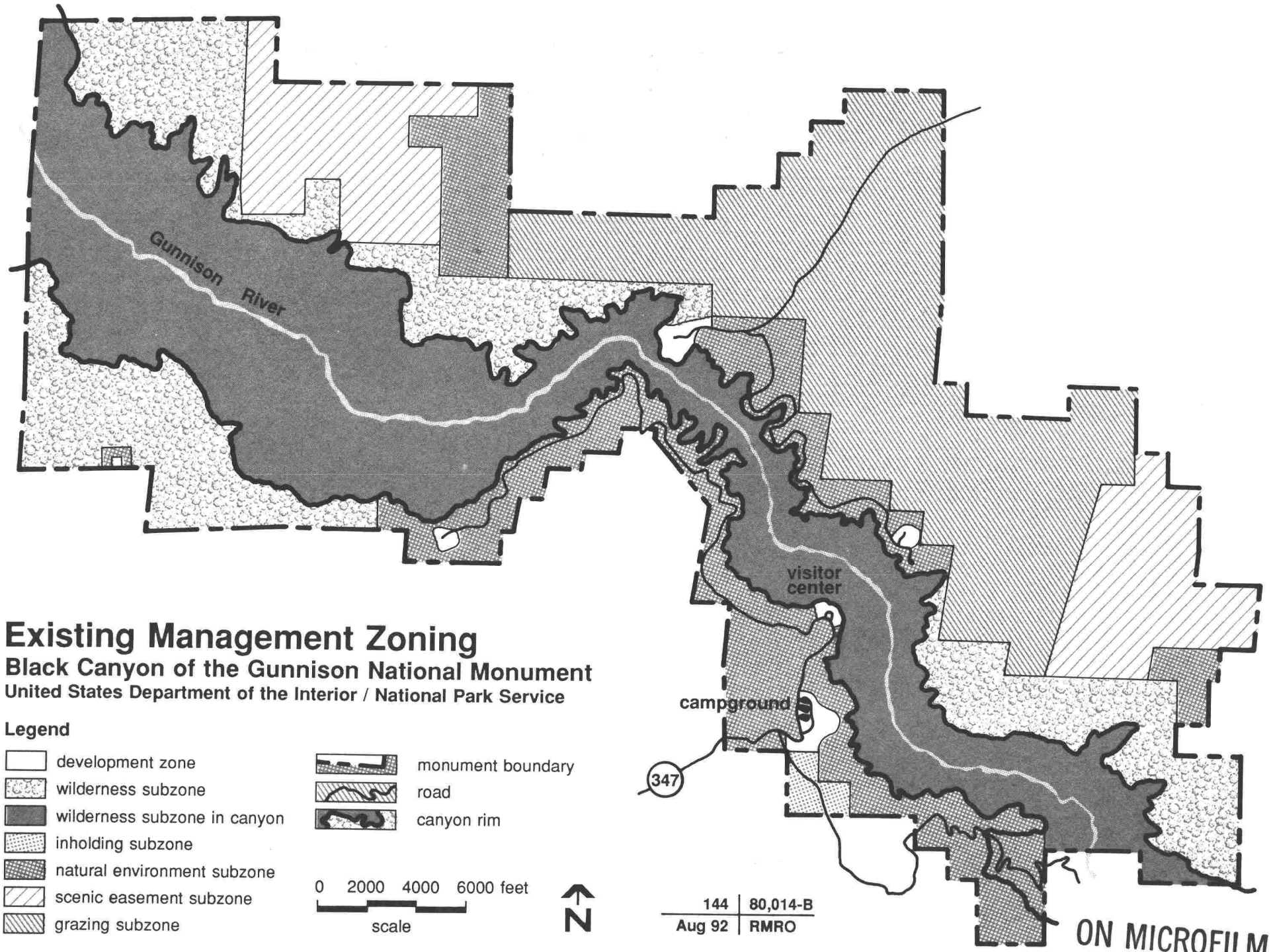
The *GMP,* written in 1979, is outdated and needs to be revised. The monument has doubled in size since this plan was developed and it doesn't address the added resources. Issues associated with water rights, boundary conflicts, scenic easements, and concessions management have not been addressed or have changed significantly.

Existing Management Zoning

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument lands are managed in two different zones according to their intended use. The location of these zones is shown on the Existing Management Zoning map. All lands within the boundary are included in the classification system. This zoning is based on consideration of land characteristics, existing and proposed development, future demands for visitor use, and land protection. The purpose, size, percent of total park acreage, and key features of each of the zones are described below.

Park Development Zone. The 210 acres within this management zone make up 1 percent of the total acreage within the authorized boundary. They include space for existing and proposed developments such as roads, buildings, housing area, maintenance area, campgrounds, parking, and utilities. These areas have the capacity to accommodate intensive visitor-use and the facility developments necessary to provide safe and convenient visitor access.

Natural Zone. The 20,556 acres within this zone are separated into five subzones: the natural environment subzone, the wilderness subzone, the scenic easement subzone, the twenty-year leaseback grazing subzone, and the inholding subzone. Areas within the natural environment subzone are managed primarily to preserve the natural environment and facilities are limited to those necessary for access to and interpretation of the natural environment. Typical facilities in this zone include foot trails, interpretive signs, and displays. On October 20, 1976, Public Law 94-567 established the 11,180-acre Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument wilderness, which encompasses the entire inner gorge and some of the higher elevations of the eastern and western portions of the monument. Lands in the wilderness subzone are managed in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964 to preserve and protect their primeval character. The act defines wilderness as, "an area where earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself



Existing Management Zoning

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument

United States Department of the Interior / National Park Service

Legend

- development zone
- wilderness subzone
- wilderness subzone in canyon
- inholding subzone
- natural environment subzone
- scenic easement subzone
- grazing subzone
- monument boundary
- road
- canyon rim

0 2000 4000 6000 feet

scale

N

144	80,014-B
Aug 92	RMRO

ON MICROFILM

is a visitor who does not remain." Facilities such as minimum rustic signing, foot trails and vault toilets are permitted in this zone only to the extent necessary to meet minimum requirements for protection and administration of the wilderness area.

The scenic easement subzone is considered as a natural environment where extensive development is not permitted. There are some management differences that require this area to be managed as a separate zone. The Service ownership extends only to a scenic interests in the property. The underlying owners can allow or prohibit public use of these lands. They also hold privileges to continue grazing operations and maintenance of facilities and vegetation related to grazing. One owner has also retained a hunting privilege.

The grazing leaseback subzone is entirely on the North Rim. These lands were purchased in fee by the Service and the owner retained the privilege of grazing livestock on the property for a twenty-year period ending on December 1, 2007.

The inholding subzone consists of 120 acres of privately held land falling within the authorized boundary. All of these acres are on the South Rim bordering the East Portal Road. Park management and the Rocky Mountain Region's Land Acquisition Officer made contacts to negotiate with the inholder in an attempt to acquire an interest in this property. The owner was not willing to sell any interest in his property at that time. Management will keep in contact and monitor the land to document any apparent change in land use, which might threaten the values of the natural and scenic character. The goal of this monitoring will be to prevent changes that would cause irreparable damage to land that will eventually become part of the monument. The land protection plan will further detail the management posture regarding this land.

Major Issues

Revision of General Management Plan

The *GMP,* written in 1979, is outdated and needs to be revised. The monument has doubled in size since this plan was developed and the added land and associated resources are not addressed in the present plan. Critical issues associated with water rights, boundary conflicts, adjacent land uses, scenic easements, and concessions management have not been addressed or have changed significantly. The present management document inadequately addresses scenic easements and their management, increases in the types and areas within management zones, and recognizes hunting as a use on the North Rim lands. Within the document much of the proposed development has been completed and new guidelines for further visitor and management facilities need to be outlined. The VERP and visitor survey should be done in conjunction with this GMP.

Land Protection

The scenic viewshed of the North Rim includes 2,000 acres of private lands within the boundary that are covered by the stipulation of scenic easement purchases. Management of these lands includes oversight by the staff of Black Canyon to ensure the conditions of these scenic easements are meet as well as the legal obligations of Public Law 98-357. The park is also responsible to the private owners to ensure their interests as private landowners within the boundaries of a national park area are not infringed on by the visiting public.

Negotiations with the one remaining landowner on the South Rim were initiated but the landowner stated he was not interested in selling any interests in the property. This 120-acre tract boarders the East Portal Road and is also visible from the entrance and campground roads. There is always the risk of development, which could severely impact monument values. The owner is a Selma, Alabama, doctor who uses this property along with a larger area outside the boundary as a summer recreation/fall hunting retreat. Possible alternatives he, or another owner may consider in the future, include commercial development for tourism, subdivision, summer homesite development, or fee hunting.

Resource Management/Base Data

Basic resource data is grossly inadequate and does not allow knowledgeable planning and management of the natural resources in the monument. Baseline resource data, particularly for the inner canyon are sorely needed. The monument's difficult terrain and lack of accessibility compound the problem, but in order to ensure wise resource management decisions, it is absolutely necessary to gather the data. Some of these needs are described below.

Data on Water Quality, Needs, and Rights. Baseline water quality data and an ongoing monitoring program are needed to provide detection and response to resource degradation. A major tributary, Red Rock Creek, drains the highly developed agricultural area of Bostwick Park. This creek enters the Gunnison River within the wilderness and it may contribute pollution in the form of agricultural runoff to an otherwise uncontaminated Gunnison River.

A determination of the minimum amount of water necessary to preserve the integrity of the physical and natural resources as well as to support a positive visitor experience is needed. This lack of data is especially critical at this time as the monument staff, assisted by regional and Washington office personnel, are negotiating with the Bureau of Reclamation to develop a contractual agreement that will deliver flows from the Aspinall unit to Black Canyon, for resource protection.

Research to determine the legal federal reserved water rights of Black Canyon has been partially completed. This data needs to be reviewed before it is submitted in final, to be sure it meets all the strict requirements of the water court. It should also present as good a case for protecting the resources of Black Canyon as the Service can assemble. If there are gaps recognized after the final reports are reviewed, additional research should be completed to fill in the needed information before the case is moved to the court.

A comprehensive water resource management plan is needed. This plan should provide a method of obtaining water quality data, should inventory the springs and reservoirs, and should look at the possible solution to replace our present method of hauling all potable water for employee and visitor facilities.

Flora. Many ecological niches are present within Black Canyon because of its wide variations in topography, soil development, exposure to the sun and availability of water. However, other than along the roads, little is known about the monument vegetation and no parkwide vegetative inventory exists. The easily accessible locations on both rims have undergone surveys, but the less accessible areas of the canyon walls, steep side canyons, canyon bottom, and up and down stream wilderness areas have not been surveyed. Once the base data is gathered, a vegetative management plan should be developed to address issues including grazing management and revegetation within the impacted areas of the monument. The park also needs information on the status of exotic species, their impacts on native vegetation, and suggestions for their control. Status of the rare Black Canyon Gilia (*Gilia penstemonoides*), listed in an 1890 survey of the monument area, is unknown. It is not known whether several other rare plants, found elsewhere within northeast Montrose County are also in the monument. Surveys in similar habitats within the monument should be done to identify and protect any species found within the boundaries.

There is a large grove of old pinyon pines on each rim. The age and size of the trees make them a valuable, irreplaceable resource and an equally valuable visitor attraction. In the 1940s and 1950s the monument staff noted an increase in the numbers of porcupines feeding on these old pines. Their means of controlling the numbers of porcupine at that time, was to shoot them. Today, the park would rather research the relationship between the pines and porcupines, review the possible benefits as well as impacts of feeding on the trees, and look at the best method of preserving both the trees and the porcupines.

Fauna. Existing data on most animal species at Black Canyon was gathered prior to the construction of the upstream reservoirs. Little data has been gathered since. An inventory of invertebrates and vertebrates is needed to allow proactive management. Big game species have received more attention to date because of their visibility, but little is known about the Bighorn Sheep population. This lack of information is especially critical today, as an adjacent landowner began and then abandoned an attempt to have a exotic game ranch. At least one species he stocked, the Mouflon sheep, can interbreed with and out-compete the Bighorn. Some of these exotic sheep may have escaped and become established in the

canyon cliff areas. The park needs information on the location of bighorn herds to protect these natives from impacts of the exotic Mouflon. The park also needs to survey for and eliminate any Mouflon sheep found. The number of amphibians has dramatically decreased in the monument and in other areas of western Colorado. The reason for this decline should be investigated and actions necessary to restore this class of animals identified.

In 1976 the Colorado Division of Wildlife released ten river otters at Black Canyon in a reintroduction effort. No one has checked on the status of this animal since the 1976 release. The park has a few observation cards indicating that visitors occasionally sight animals that are similar to river otters, but a study is needed to determine their actual status.

Upstream water impoundments have dramatically altered the temperature, duration, and flow regime of the Gunnison. These impoundments may have also altered the ancestral fish populations and compositions. Information on the status of native species (cutthroat trout, squawfish, bonytail, humpback, razorback) is needed. The park also has little information on the status of the nonnative sport fishery the Gunnison is known for worldwide; the rainbow and brown trout.

One endangered species, the peregrine falcon, has received the most attention at the monument. Recent surveys and monitoring of known eries have added significantly to the data on this bird. Information on other endangered or threatened species is lacking and should be gathered.

Air Quality. The monument's wilderness area is designated as a class I area. Air quality baseline data has not been gathered so trends cannot be determined. Photographic monitoring, which may help determine haze analysis, was being done, but it was not funded in 1994. A more extensive monitoring station should be established within the monument to provide the information needed to establish the baseline data needed to protect the class I air quality. This monitoring is especially critical as a potential threat exists less than 5 miles from the boundary in the form of a waferboard plant, which emits 66 tons-per-year of particulate matter, 833 tons-per-year of volatile organic compounds, 43 tons-per-year of nitrogen oxides, and 344 tons-per-year of carbon monoxide. The 1984 legislation expanding the monument emphasized the scenic viewshed as a major reason for the expansion. Air pollution, even at concentration levels below the national ambient air quality standards can harm vegetation and degrade visual air quality.

Sound Monitoring. Equally important to the visitors' experience is a lack of man-made sounds. To document the existing conditions of sound, two monitors were placed within Black Canyon in 1993. One monitor was placed near the South Rim visitor center and the second within the wilderness near Red Rock Canyon. By monitoring these two locations, the park hopes to document existing conditions and protect this valuable resource from further degradation.

Grazing Management. Before the establishment of the monument in 1933 extensive grazing of the area occurred. After establishment, this grazing was reduced, but continued to occur because of a lack of boundary fencing. Currently most of the South Rim boundary is fenced and grazing has been eliminated. On the North Rim the fenced area surrounds the ranger contact station/quarters and the campground. All other monument lands on the North Rim are unfenced and grazing affects these lands. Also included within the North Rim boundaries are three scenic easement tracts and a 4,000-acre leaseback where grazing is legislatively permitted. An initial grazing management plan is in place but this document needs to be updated to include recently acquired easements. Carrying capacity and vegetation trend studies should be completed for each of the grazing allotments. Lacking this data the park cannot monitor changes or document inappropriate uses that could impact resources.

Wildland Fire Management. The present policy at Black Canyon is suppression of all wildfire. This policy has been implemented because little in known regarding the impacts or benefits of fire on park resources. Information on the effects of fire should be gathered so the park can assess whether the total suppression policy should be modified to allow wildfire to function as a more active part of resource protection efforts.

Visitor Use. The backcountry management plan written in 1973 is out of date and should be revised to include more specifics on resource protection and wilderness management to protect the legislated values. A section on white water boating and technical climbing should be added as components of this plan. The plan should also provide information for a circulation/trails development plan and provide for coordinated management with the adjoining Bureau of Land Management Gunnison Gorge Recreation Area.

Regional promotion efforts are being directed at expanding the visitation in the fall, winter, and spring. The park will need to evaluate the ability of the resources and staff to handle increased visitation in these seasons and adjust for increased visitation where budget will allow and resources will not be adversely impacted.

The communities and neighbors along the North Rim are working successfully with the Montrose County Commissioners in an effort to have the county road leading into the monument paved. Presently, the program established is to have the county pave 1 or 2 miles each year with the forecast that the entire road will be paved to the monument boundary in four years. The park needs to begin planning for handling the increased visitation this improvement will bring to the presently underutilized North Rim area. The park should also begin road improvement projects to ensure that the North Rim Drive is improved within this four-year period.

More information about Black Canyon's visitors is needed. Little or no information exists on visitor perceptions, expectations, or satisfaction with their monument visit. Data regarding visitor demographics, attitudes, motivations for visiting, perceptions of monument

management, and valuation of resources are also needed. Visitor-related economics issues, including visitor expenditures, economic impacts on nearby communities, and cost benefits of natural resource preservation should also be determined. The development of a VERP would meet many of these needs.

Cultural Resource Management

Cultural and Historical Resource Protection. The monument has a small collection of historic photographs, artifacts, a few documents related to the history of the Black Canyon, and an herbarium. The majority of these museum items are housed at the monument in an unheated back room of the ranger office. This facility does not meet the NPS standards for museum storage, but it is the only dedicated space the park can reserve for this function. A recent security survey conducted by a contractor for RMRO suggested the park should consider moving the entire collection to the Montrose office and leasing additional space for this operation. According to the report, this would require the installation of fire and security alarm systems at the Montrose facility.

Approximately 25 percent of the monument has been surveyed for archeological resources. These surveys, conducted before the 1984 boundary expansion, identified thirty-eight sites. A cultural overview and archeological site resource management plan should be developed for the monument. This document would help determine the best method of monitoring the known sites and documenting any changes in these areas, and would contain suggestions for mitigating or preventing resource damage. The remainder of the monument should be surveyed with the highest priority for surveys being potential construction areas and the new areas added to the monument on the North Rim.

Black Canyon's facilities and structures have undergone Section 106 evaluation. The results of this survey indicate that Dragon Point Overlook (South Rim), the North Rim Road alignment, and five culvert sites along the North Rim Road are eligible for consideration as additions to the National Register. An earlier survey suggested the North Rim CCC cookhouse may have some historic significance related to the early history of Black Canyon and the CCC era of the Park Service. A management plan directing intensity of preservation efforts, appropriate uses, needed research, and acceptable modification to, or maintenance practices for, these facilities is needed.

The Headquarters Office

The headquarters office is in Montrose in a privately owned structure leased by GSA. It is a facility shared with the Department of Agriculture APHIS Animal Damage Control Division, a branch of Mesa College, Soil Conservation Service, and the Montrose office of the Colorado Job Service. In December of 1989, GSA negotiated a ten-year contract for this facility. The lease is a firm contract obligating the NPS to occupy the building for five years with a five-year option to renew, which extends to November 30, 1999. When the visitor

center is approved for construction the possibility of moving all or part of the administrative functions to the monument should be evaluated.

Visitor Facilities

The addition of the quarters/visitor contact station greatly improved the North Rim interpretive facilities. While visitor facilities have been much improved by day labor, there are some deficiencies. The rehabilitation of a double-wide trailer, which serves as the South Rim visitor center has enhanced the visitor experience, but a more traditional visitor center is needed. The size of the present facility limits the monument's ability to provide even the most basic interpretive and informational services. Currently 1,100 to 1,500 visitors a day pass through a 10-foot by 40-foot room, where it is impossible to provide interpretive and information services.

A program to upgrade the vault toilets began in 1991 and needs to be continued until all facilities meet the handicap-accessible standards. Overlooks should continue to be upgraded following the standards set at Tomichi, Gunnison Point, and Big Island Overlooks. Through day labor or small contracts, most of these facilities can be upgraded in a cost-effective manner.

Adjacent Land Issues

Legislation. On March 20, 1986, former Congressman Strang sent a bill to the 99th Congress to establish the Black Canyon National Park Complex, providing national park status for the monument. Though the bill was not acted on in the 99th Congress, interest from communities surrounding the monument continued and citizen groups marshalled forces to revive this legislation through then Congressman Ben Nighthorse Campbell. When Campbell was elected to the Senate, the local interest, again approached him to reintroduce legislation to designate Black Canyon as a national park.
The National Park Service, in accordance with report language from the Interior Appropriations Act (PL 100-446, Stat. 1174) approved on September 27, 1988, and the supporting *Congressional Record,* was directed to conduct a study of lands adjacent to the national monument. The Service, working in cooperation with the Montrose Bureau of Land Management Office, issued this study of the Lower Gorge in January of 1990. The findings were that there are nationally significant resources within the lower gorge area, and if these resources were added to the present monument it would then have national park character. The study also identified continued management by the BLM as an alternative for these same resources. The study was provided for congressional review and possible action. Then-Congressman Campbell introduced HR 1321, entitled Black Canyon Conservation Act, to the Interior and Insular Affairs Subcommittee with a forecast of hearings on this bill in January of 1991. The bill calls for renaming Black Canyon as a national park without expanding the size of the unit. It also designates the lower gorge as a national conservation area under BLM management, designated the inner canyon as a wilderness, and nominates

the Gunnison as a wild and scenic river. This remains a sensitive and sometimes controversial issue, which must be treated with care to maintain good community and BLM relations, without compromising National Park Service policy and objectives. Senator Campbell has promised to reintroduce amended legislation during 1994.

Gunnison River Flows. The Gunnison Tunnel, approximately ¼-mile upstream from Black Canyon's boundary, diverts 1,060 cfs in the summer for irrigation use in the Uncompahgre Valley. The Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association and a development company, Mitex, have proposed to use this tunnel and a portion of the irrigation system to supply Gunnison River water to a hydropower facility in Montrose. If constructed, this project will divert an additional 30 percent of the total flow of the Gunnison. Combined with the existing irrigation diversion, approximately 60 percent of the annual average flow of the river would be removed upstream of the monument. Prompted by this project the NPS initiated studies on quantifying the federal reserved water right granted to the monument by the Colorado Supreme Court. Fieldwork on these studies was completed in 1992 and final reports are being prepared. The NPS is also discussing the possibility of establishing a contractual agreement with the BOR for conservation flows from the Aspinall Unit, which would be dedicated to the further protection of monument resources. Work on the federal reserved water right will progress as an ownership right. The park will also pursue the contractual agreement, which can be implemented somewhat quicker if all parties agree to the conditions of the contract.

Boundary. An accurate survey and monumenting of the new Black Canyon boundary, established in 1984, is needed to resolve law enforcement, resource, and possible encroachment issues. This need is most critical along the North Rim where the majority of the lands were added. In this area there is no evidence of the boundary and it cannot be related to topographic features. Consequently, the Service, adjacent private landowners whose property extends into the monument and is covered by scenic easements, and the BLM, which manages adjacent lands, all face problems that can only be solved by a survey. Negotiations for acquiring the scenic easements also included promises by the Service to survey the easement property to distinguish it from the adjacent private property that was outside the boundary. The lack of a marked boundary has resulted in conflicts with adjacent landowners, hunters, and other users. Conflict resolution and an increased level of resource protection can only be accomplished by the completion of an accurate, legal boundary survey.

Air Quality. Legislation establishing Black Canyon's wilderness in 1976 also placed this 11,800 acres of the monument under the constraints of the Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.). The class I air quality standards must be applied to the wilderness area of the monument. Nearby industry, especially the Olathe Waferboard Plant owned by Louisiana Pacific Corp., can impact the stringent standards of class I air quality. The Service must ensure that activities outside the monument do not degrade the air quality, by working with the surrounding communities, counties, and proponents of industrial development. The

Service must also design their management activity so as not to degrade those same standards.

Coordinated Recreation Efforts. Black Canyon has common boundaries with two other federal recreation facilities. They share a common upstream boundary with another NPS area, Curecanti National Recreation Area, and they adjoin the BLM-administered Gunnison Gorge Recreation Area at the downstream boundary. Coordination of recreation programs with these two other areas is a requirement and benefits both the managing agencies and the visitors who often use the resources of all three. The park is also a part of the local efforts to build an economic base in tourism. Black Canyon is marketed by the adjacent communities of Montrose, Delta, Paonia, Hotchkiss, and Crawford as part of their tourism packages. The monument must work with these communities to ensure that they present accurate, up-to-date information and that the visitors and communities benefit from these promotions without having an impact on the resources of the monument.

Funding and Effects of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings

Black Canyon's small budget has been stretched thin to cover inflationary increases. As a result it is inadequate for park operations. Any further reduction of this already inadequate budget may result in limited operations and inadequate maintenance, leading to significant deterioration of facilities and visitor services.

Complete History of Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument

The existing administrative history for BLCA was written twenty-five years ago and needs to be updated. Significant events including, but not limited to, the abolishment of the Colorado Area Office, designation of wilderness, expansion of the monument, and effort to have it designated a national park have all occurred since this document was written. Knowledgeable people with valuable information are passing out of existence. Action needs to be taken to document this history in the near future or valuable information will be lost.

Maintenance

Black Canyon is required to maintain a maintenance management system (MMS). An old IBM-compatible (Sperry) computer system is dedicated to this data-tracking effort. The expected benefits to the park maintenance division in planning, organizing, directing, and controlling maintenance activities were only partially realized. The existing system is a closed data base and not flexible, which means the park cannot extract specific information needed to make the program more useable. It also cannot be networked with other computer programs and data bases. The maintenance foreman has spent considerable time in developing and using MMS in maintenance operations for the initial setup and annual updates of the program. Records indicate he is spending 30 to 40 percent of his time for data maintenance. The direct benefits of MMS to the monument are questionable, given this

expenditure of time and the limited usability of the data. A program clerk could free the foreman to perform his supervisory tasks. Another issue soon to be faced is replacement of the expensive computer system required to log the data, which is nearing the end of its usable life.

Legislation

9. Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

[No. 2033—Mar. 2, 1933—47 Stat. 2558]

WHEREAS it appears that the public interest would be promoted by including the lands hereinafter described within a national monument for the preservation of the spectacular gorges and additional features of scenic, scientific, and educational interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Herbert Hoover, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the power in me vested by section 2 of the act of Congress entitled "AN ACT For the preservation of American antiquities," approved June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225), do proclaim and establish the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument and that, subject to all valid existing rights, the following-described lands in Colorado be, and the same are hereby, included within the said national monument:

NEW MEXICO PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN

T. 49 N., R. 7 W., sec. 3, lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, and 12, and S. ½;
sec. 4, all;
sec. 5, lots 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, NE. ¼ SW. ¼, and SE. ¼;
sec. 8, N. ½ NE. ¼;
sec. 9, E. ½, E. ½ NW. ¼, and NW. ¼ NW. ¼;
sec. 10, E. ½ NE. ¼, NW. ¼ NE. ¼, and N. ½ NW. ¼;
sec. 11, NW. ¼.

T. 50 N., R. 7 W., sec. 19, W. ½ SE. ¼, E. ½ SW. ¼, and lots 3 and 4;
sec. 29, SW. ¼ SE ¼, and SW. ¼;
sec. 30, E. ½, E. ½ NW. ¼, E. ½ SW. ¼, and lots 1, 2, and 3;
sec. 31, NE. ¼, and E. ½ NW. ¼;
sec. 32, all;
sec. 33, S. ½ SW. ¼.

T. 50 N., R. 8 W., sec. 16, SW. ¼ SE. ¼, and SW. ¼;
sec. 17, SW. ¼ NE. ¼, NW. ¼, and S. ½;
sec. 20, all;
sec. 21, all;
sec. 22, S. ½ NE. ¼, NW. ¼, and S. ½;
sec. 23, NE. ¼, and S. ½;
sec. 24, all;
sec. 25, E. ½ NE. ¼, NW. ¼ NE. ¼, NE. ¼ NW. ¼, and W. ½ NW. ¼;
sec. 26, all;
sec. 27, all;

sec. 28, all;
sec. 29, all.

Warning is hereby expressly given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of this monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

The Director of the National Park Service, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, shall have the supervision, management, and control of this monument as provided in the act of Congress entitled "AN ACT To establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes," approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535–536), and acts additional thereto or amendatory thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 2d day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-three, and of the Inde-
[SEAL] pendence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifty-seventh.

HERBERT HOOVER.

By the President:
HENRY L. STIMSON,
Secretary of State.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

[No. 2286—May 16, 1938—52 Stat. 1548]

WHEREAS certain lands adjoining the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument in Colorado have been donated to the United States for inclusion in and extension of the said monument; and

WHEREAS it appears that such lands are required for the proper care and management of the objects being protected by the said monument:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by section 2 of the act of June 8, 1906, ch. 3060, 34 Stat. 225 (U. S. C., title 16, sec. 431), do proclaim that the following-described lands in Colorado are hereby added to and made a part of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument:

NEW MEXICO PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN—COLORADO

T. 50 N., R. 7 W., sec. 19, S½ NW¼;
T. 50 N., R. 8 W., sec. 25, N½ SE¼ NW¼;
containing 100 acres.

Warning is hereby expressly given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any part or feature of this monument, and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

The Director of the National Park Service, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, shall have the supervision, management, and control of the monument as provided in the act of Congress entitled "An act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes," approved August 25, 1916, 39 Stat. 535 (U. S. C., title 16, secs. 1 and 2), and acts supplementary thereto or amendatory thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 16th day of May in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-eight, and of the Inde-
[SEAL] pendence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-second.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

By the President:
CORDELL HULL,
Secretary of State.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

[No. 2372—Oct. 28, 1939—54 Stat. 2669]

WHEREAS it appears that certain lands adjoining the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument in Colorado are required for the proper care, protection and management of the objects of scientific interest situated on lands within the said monument; and

WHEREAS it appears that it would be in the public interest to reserve the aforesaid lands as a part of the said monument:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the act of June 8, 1906 (ch. 3060, 34 Stat. 225; U. S. C., title 16, sec. 431), do proclaim that, subject to all valid existing rights, the following-described lands in Colorado are hereby added to and made a part of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument:

NEW MEXICO PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN

T. 49 N., R. 7 W., sec. 2, SW¼;
sec. 3, lots 1, 2, 7 and 8;
sec. 5, lots 4, 5 and 12;
sec. 6, lots 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 and 10;
T. 50 N., R. 7 W., sec. 19, SW¼NE¼;
sec. 31, SE¼;
T. 50 N., R. 8 W., sec. 8, All;
sec. 9, W½;
sec. 14, S½SW¼;
sec. 15, SE¼SW¼, W½SW¼; S½SE¼;
sec. 16, NW¼, E½SE¼, NW¼SE¼;
sec. 17, E½NE¼, NW¼NE¼;
sec. 22, N½NE¼;
sec. 23, NW¼;
sec. 35, NW¼NE¼, N½NW¼;

containing 2760 acres more or less.

Warning is hereby expressly given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of this monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

The Director of the National Park Service, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, shall have the supervision, management, and control of this monument as provided in the act of Congress entitled "An Act To establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes," approved August 25, 1916 (ch. 408, 39 Stat. 535; U. S. C., title 16, secs. 1 and 2), and acts supplementary thereto or amendatory thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 28th day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-nine and of the
[SEAL] Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-fourth.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

By the President:
CORDELL HULL,
The Secretary of State.

CHAP. 3060.—An Act For the preservation of American antiquities.

June 8, 1906.
[S. 4698.]
[Public, No. 209.]

American antiquities.
Penalty for unauthorized excavations, etc.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who shall appropriate, excavate, injure, or destroy any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any object of antiquity, situated on lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States, without the permission of the Secretary of the Department of the Government having jurisdiction over the lands on which said antiquities are situated, shall, upon conviction, be fined in a sum of not more than five hundred dollars or be imprisoned for a period of not more than ninety days, or shall suffer both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

Setting apart of historic, etc., public lands.

SEC. 2. That the President of the United States is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and may reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected: *Provided*, That when such objects are situated upon a tract covered by a bona fide unperfected claim or held in private ownership, the tract, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the proper care and management of the object, may be relinquished to the Government, and the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to accept the relinquishment of such tracts in behalf of the Government of the United States.

Proviso.
Relinquishment of private claims.

Permits for excavations, etc.

SEC. 3. That permits for the examination of ruins, the excavation of archæological sites, and the gathering of objects of antiquity upon the lands under their respective jurisdictions may be granted by the Secretaries of the Interior, Agriculture, and War to institutions which they may deem properly qualified to conduct such examination, excavation, or gathering, subject to such rules and regulations as they may prescribe: *Provided*, That the examinations, excavations, and gatherings are undertaken for the benefit of reputable museums, universities, colleges, or other recognized scientific or educational institutions, with a view to increasing the knowledge of such objects, and that the gatherings shall be made for permanent preservation in public museums.

Proviso.
Preservation in museums.

Regulations.

SEC. 4. That the Secretaries of the Departments aforesaid shall make and publish from time to time uniform rules and regulations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Approved, June 8, 1906.

CHAP. 3061.—An Act To appropriate the sum of forty thousand dollars as a part contribution toward the erection of a monument at Provincetown, Massachusetts, in commemoration of the landing of the Pilgrims and the signing of the Mayflower compact.

June 8, 1906.
[S. 4370.]
[Public, No. 210.]

Provincetown, Mass.
Appropriation to aid in erecting monument of landing of Pilgrims.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of forty thousand dollars, to aid in erecting a monument at Provincetown, Massachusetts, in commemoration of the first landing of the Pilgrims on Cape Cod and the signing of the compact in the cabin of the Mayflower in the harbor of said Provincetown: *Provided*, That the said sum of forty thousand dollars shall not be payable until there shall have been raised and made available for the erection of said monument an additional sum of at least forty thousand dollars: *Provided further*, That the design of said monument shall be approved by the Secretary of War, the governor of the Commonwealth of Mas-

Provisos.
Condition.

Approval of design etc.

2. Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument

Page
Exchange of monument lands authorized----------Act of May 1, 1958 389

An Act To authorize the exchange of certain lands at Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, Colorado, and for other purposes, approved May 1, 1958 (72 Stat. 102)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to bring about desirable land use and ownership adjustments relating to certain private and federally owned lands within the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, Colorado, and in order to facilitate the administration of such monument, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized, in his discretion, to exchange lands of approximately equal value as hereafter provided.

Gunnison National Monument, Colo. Exchange of lands.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to accept on behalf of the United States from Clarence B. Sanburg and Grace Sanburg, husband and wife, title to the following described lands: Northeast quarter northeast quarter, section 25, township 50 north, range 8 west, New Mexico principal meridian, as established by the dependent resurvey of the General Land Office made in 1940 and accepted in 1942, except 15.15 acres previously deeded to the United States by Douglas Lytle by deed dated October 13, 1933, and recorded in the records of Montrose County, Colorado, at page 260 of Deed Book 158, containing 25.45 acres, more or less; and that portion of the southeast quarter northeast quarter, section 25, township 50 north, range 8 west, New Mexico principal meridian, as established by the dependent resurvey of the General Land Office made in 1940 and accepted in 1942, lying north and east of a diagonal line from the northwest corner to the southeast corner of said southeast quarter northeast quarter, containing 20.10 acres, more or less, being lands conveyed to Clarence B. Sanburg by deed of March 8, 1943, recorded in the records of Montrose County, Colorado, at page 133 of Deed Book 303.

In exchange for the foregoing lands, the Secretary is authorized to convey, on terms and conditions mutually satisfactory, the following-described lands: Beginning at a point on the south boundary of the northwest quarter northeast quarter, north 88 degrees 26 minutes west, 109.7 feet from the southwest corner of the northeast quarter northeast quarter, section 25, township 50 north, range 8 west, New Mexico principal meridian, as established by the dependent resurvey of the General Land

Office made in 1940 and accepted in 1942; thence north 428.3 feet to a brass cap set in a concrete monument; thence west 1,320 feet to a brass cap set in a concrete monument; thence south 393.5 feet to the south boundary of the northeast quarter northwest quarter; thence south 88 degrees 26 minutes east on the south boundary of the northeast quarter northwest quarter and the northwest quarter northeast quarter, 1,320.45 feet to the point of beginning, containing 12.45 acres, more or less, reserving, however, to the United States of America a public road right-of-way 50 feet in width within the above-described tract, said right-of-way to be measured southerly from the centerline of the existing monument road where a portion of said road lies within said tract; and the east half west half southeast quarter, section 29, township 50 north, range 8 west, New Mexico principal meridian, as established by the dependent resurvey of the General Land Office made in 1940 and accepted in 1942, containing forty acres, more or less.

EXCLUDING LANDS FROM THE BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON NATIONAL MONUMENT—COLORADO

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

WHEREAS the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, in Colorado, was established by Proclamation No. 2033 of March 2, 1933 (47 Stat. 2558), for the preservation of certain spectacular gorges and other features of scenic, scientific, and educational interest, and was enlarged by Proclamation No. 2286 of May 16, 1938 (52 Stat. 1548), and Proclamation No. 2372 of October 28, 1939 (54 Stat. 2669); and

WHEREAS exchanges of private and Federally-owned lands within the boundaries of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument have been accomplished as authorized by the act of May 1, 1958, 72 Stat. 102; and

WHEREAS it appears that certain hereinafter-described lands now in private or Federal ownership within the external boundaries of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument are no longer required for the proper care, protection, and management of the objects of scientific interest situated on lands within the monument, and it would be in the public interest to exclude such lands from the monument:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the act of June 8, 1906, 34 Stat. 225 (16 U.S.C. 431), do proclaim that the following-described lands are hereby excluded from the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, and the boundaries of the monument are revised accordingly:

NEW MEXICO PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN

T. 49 N., R. 7 W.,
Sec. 8, N½NE¼;
T. 50 N., R. 7 W.,
Sec. 30, that portion of lot 3 lying south and west of a diagonal line from the

northwest corner to the southeast corner;

T. 50 N., R. 8 W.,

sec. 25, that portion of SE¼NE¼ lying south and west of a diagonal line from the northwest corner to the southeast corner;

sec. 26, SE¼SE¼ except for a strip of land 396 feet wide on the western side of such tract;

sec. 29, S½;

containing approximately 470 acres

The public lands excluded from the monument by this proclamation, comprising the E½SW¼ and the W½W½SE¼ of section 29, T. 50 N., R. 8 W., shall not be subject to application, location, settlement, entry, or other form of appropriation under the public-land laws until further order of an authorized officer of the Department of the Interior.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this eighth day of April in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-fourth.

[SEAL]

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:

CHRISTIAN A. HERTER,
Secretary of State.

Black Canyon of the Gunnison

An Act to designate certain lands within units of the National Park System as wilderness; to revise the boundaries of certain of those units; and for other purposes. (90 Stat. 2692) (P.L. 94-567)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in accordance with section 3(c) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1132(c)), the following lands are hereby designated as wilderness, and shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act.

* * * * * * *

(b) Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, Colorado, wilderness comprising eleven thousand one hundred and eighty acres, depicted on a map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, Colorado", numbered 144-20,017 and dated May 1973, to be known as the Black Canyon of the Gunnison Wilderness.

SEC. 2. A map and description of the boundaries of the areas designated in this Act shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and in the office of the Superintendent of each area designated in the Act. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, maps of the wilderness areas and descriptions of their boundaries shall be filed with the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, and such maps and descriptions shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided,* That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such maps and descriptions may be made.

SEC. 3. All lands which represent potential wilderness additions, upon publication in the Federal Register of a notice by the Secretary of the Interior that all uses thereon prohibited by the Wilderness Act have ceased, shall thereby be designated wilderness.

SEC. 6. The areas designated by this Act as wilderness shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act, and, where appropriate, any reference to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be deemed to be a reference to the Secretary of the Interior.

* * * * * * *

Approved October 20, 1976.

Public Law 98-357
98th Congress

An Act

To establish a boundary for the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument, and for other purposes.

July 13, 1984
[H.R. 3825]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Conservation.
National Park System.

SECTION 1. (a) The Congress finds that—

(1) the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Monument") is an integral and widely recognized part of the national park system, and possesses outstanding recreational opportunities and natural characteristics of high value which, if properly managed, contribute as an enduring resource for the benefit of the American people;

(2) the preservation of these valuable resources is significantly threatened by increased development activity and the subdivision of adjacent private lands;

(3) the Monument does not have a boundary established by legislation; and

(4) it is in the best interest of the United States to establish the boundary of the Monument so as to encompass the lands described as being within the Monument and those private lands posing the most immediate threat to the visual quality of the area.

(b) The purpose of this Act is to establish a boundary for the Monument in order to promote, perpetuate, and preserve the character of the land and to preserve scenic and historic resources.

Public availability.
16 USC 431 note.

SEC. 2. (a) The boundary of the Monument shall be as generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument", dated February 1984, and numbered 144-80,010-B, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior and in the office of the Park Superintendent, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument.

(b) Not later than six months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall file a legal description of the revised boundary with the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate. Such legal description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that corrections of clerical and typographical errors in such legal description (and in the map referred to in subsection (a)) may be made. Such legal descriptions shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

SEC. 3. (a) The Secretary is authorized to acquire lands or interests therein within the boundary of the Monument by donation, exchange, or purchase with donated or appropriated funds. The Secre-

tary may acquire less than fee interests in such lands in cases where such interest will adequately protect the visual quality, natural, or cultural resources of the Monument: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall not acquire lands in fee interest unless the owner of such land concurs with such action.

(b) All lands under the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary within the boundary of the Monument as of the date of enactment of this Act, shall be transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the National Park Service to be administered as a part of the Monument.

(c) Upon request by a landowner, and if determined by the Secretary that such action would not be detrimental to the visual resources of the Monument, the Secretary shall permit as a condition of the acquisition of any less than fee interest in land under this Act—

(1) livestock grazing to continue at the levels and locations customarily exercised by the owner of such land prior to August 1, 1983, and

(2) commonly accepted operation and maintenance practices supporting livestock grazing to continue to be allowed, including the maintenance of domestic, livestock and agricultural water conveyance systems, and the construction and maintenance of required fencing and stock ponds.

(d) Subject to valid existing rights, federally owned lands and interests therein within the Monument are withdrawn from entry or appropriation under the mining laws of the United States, from the operation of the mineral leasing laws of the United States, from operation of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970, and from disposition under the public land laws.

30 USC 1001 note

SEC. 4. The Secretary shall administer the Monument in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the provisions of law generally applicable to units of the National Park System including the Acts of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), and August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666).

43 USC 1457
16 USC 461

Effective date
Appropriation authorization.

SEC. 5. Effective October 1, 1984, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Department of the Interior such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Approved July 13, 1984.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H R 3825

HOUSE REPORT No 98-608 (Comm on Interior and Insular Affairs)
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol 130 (1984)
Mar 5, considered and passed House
June 28, considered and passed Senate