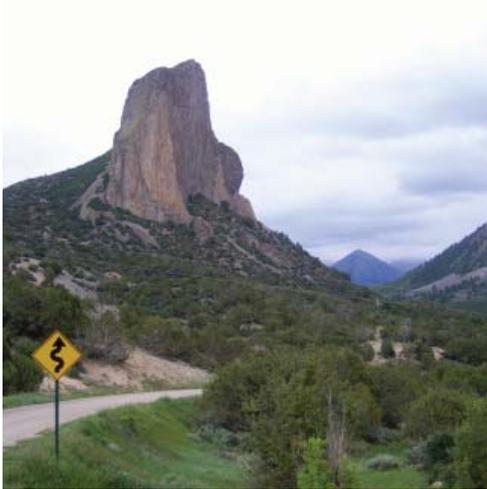


Visual Resource Inventory



Bureau of Land Management
Uncompahgre Field Office



September, 2009

Visual Resource Inventory

Prepared for the
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Uncompahgre Field Office
Montrose, Colorado

September, 2009

Prepared by
Otak, Inc.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Bureau of Land Management to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

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Index of Scenic Quality Rating Units by Unit Number

No.	SLRU Name	Pages		No.	SLRU Name	Pages	
01	Bull Mountain	A-4	B-2	42	Upper San Miguel River	A-146	B-45
02	Stevens Gulch	A-7	B-3	43	Beaver Mesa Complex	A-149	B-46
03	Somerset	A-11	B-4	44	Oak Hill	A-152	B-47
04	Paonia Reservoir	A-14	B-5	45	Hamilton Creek	A-156	B-48
05	Deep Creek	A-17	B-6	46	Hamilton Mesa	A-159	B-49
06	Thousand Acre Flats	A-20	B-7	47	Naturita Canyon	A-162	B-50
07	Beebe Gulch	A-23	B-8	48	Norwood Valley	A-165	B-51
08	North Delta OHV	A-26	B-9	49	San Miguel – Piñon to Beaver Creek	A-168	B-52
09	Redlands Mesa	A-29	B-10	50	Mailbox Park	A-171	B-53
10	Paonia Valley	A-33	B-11	51	Naturita Ridge	A-174	B-54
11	Jumbo Mountain	A-37	B-12	52	Dry Creek Canyon	A-177	B-55
12	Minnesota Creek Valley	A-40	B-13	53	San Miguel – Vancorum to Piñon	A-180	B-56
13	Elephant Hill	A-43	B-14	54	Third Park	A-183	B-57
14	McDonald Mesa	A-46	B-15	55	First Park/Second Park	A-186	B-58
15	Upper Gunnison River	A-49	B-16	56	Sawtooth Ridge	A-189	B-59
16	Alkali	A-53	B-17	57	Sawtooth Ridge Face	A-193	B-60
17	Adobe Badlands WSA	A-56	B-18	58	Davis Mesa	A-196	B-61
18	Escalante Canyon – Bennett's Basin	A-59	B-19	59	Dolores River Canyon WSA	A-200	B-62
19	Escalante Canyon	A-62	B-20	60	Wray Mesa	A-203	B-63
20*	Monitor Mesa Complex	A-66	B-22	61	Paradox Valley	A-206	B-64
21	Cactus Park (Drylands)	A-71	B-24	62	Middle Dolores Canyon	A-211	B-65
22	Greater Delta/Montrose Valley	A-75	B-25	63	San Miguel/Tabeguache	A-215	B-66
23	Grand View Mesa	A-79	B-26	64	Tabeguache SMA	A-218	B-67
24	Smith Fork	A-82	B-27	65	Atkinson Mesa	A-221	B-68
25	Fruitland Mesa	A-85	B-28	66	Lower Dolores River	A-225	B-69
26	Youngs Peak	A-88	B-29	67	Sewemup Mesa WSA	A-229	B-70
27	Needle Rock	A-91	B-30	68	Roc Creek	A-232	B-71
28	Crawford Reservoir Valley	A-94	B-31	69	Carpenter Ridge	A-235	B-72
29	Castle Rock Foreground	A-97	B-32	70	La Sal Creek	A-238	B-73
30	Dry Creek Basin	A-100	B-33	71	Maverick Mesa Complex	A-242	B-74
31	Crystal Valley	A-104	B-34				
32	Uncompahgre Plateau	A-107	B-35				
33	Southeast Montrose Hills	A-110	B-36				
34	Waterdog Foothills	A-113	B-37				
35	Cimarron Valley	A-117	B-38				
36	Spruce Mountain	A-122	B-39				
37	Ridgway Reservoir	A-126	B-40				
38	Cimarron Ridge Foothills	A-129	B-41				
39	Pleasant Valley	A-133	B-42				
40	Uncompahgre Canyon	A-138	B-43				
41	Mount Sneffels Foothills	A-142	B-44				

*Includes 3 Sensitivity Level Units

Index of Scenic Quality Rating Units in Alphabetical Order

No.	SLRU Name	Pages		No.	SLRU Name	Pages	
17	Adobe Badlands WSA	A-56	B-18	48	Norwood Valley	A-165	B-51
16	Alkali	A-53	B-17	44	Oak Hill	A-152	B-47
65	Atkinson Mesa	A-221	B-68	04	Paonia Reservoir	A-14	B-5
43	Beaver Mesa Complex	A-149	B-46	10	Paonia Valley	A-33	B-11
07	Beebe Gulch	A-23	B-8	61	Paradox Valley	A-206	B-64
01	Bull Mountain	A-4	B-2	39	Pleasant Valley	A-133	B-42
21	Cactus Park (Drylands)	A-71	B-24	09	Redlands Mesa	A-29	B-10
69	Carpenter Ridge	A-235	B-72	37	Ridgway Reservoir	A-126	B-40
29	Castle Rock Foreground	A-97	B-32	68	Roc Creek	A-232	B-71
38	Cimarron Ridge Foothills	A-129	B-41	49	San Miguel – Piñon to Beaver Creek	A-168	B-52
35	Cimarron Valley	A-117	B-38	53	San Miguel – Vancorum to Piñon	A-180	B-56
28	Crawford Reservoir Valley	A-94	B-31	63	San Miguel/Tabeguache	A-215	B-66
31	Crystal Valley	A-104	B-34	56	Sawtooth Ridge	A-189	B-59
58	Davis Mesa	A-196	B-61	57	Sawtooth Ridge Face	A-193	B-60
05	Deep Creek	A-17	B-6	67	Sewemup Mesa WSA	A-229	B-70
59	Dolores River Canyon WSA	A-200	B-62	24	Smith Fork	A-82	B-27
30	Dry Creek Basin	A-100	B-33	3	Somerset	A-11	B-4
52	Dry Creek Canyon	A-177	B-55	33	Southeast Montrose Hills	A-110	B-36
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51	Naturita Ridge	A-174	B-54				
27	Needle Rock	A-91	B-30				
08	North Delta OHV	A-26	B-9				

*Includes 3 Sensitivity Level Units

I. Introduction

The Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO) lies in western Colorado and is within parts of Montrose, Delta, Mesa, Gunnison, Ouray, and San Miguel Counties. The planning area encompasses approximately 3,216,600 acres of federal, state, and private lands and includes twenty-five distinct and diverse communities. The UFO is responsible for managing more than 900,000 acres of public lands in southwestern Colorado. Notable areas of the Field Office include the newly designated Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area, Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area and Wilderness, and the Unaweeep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway, San Juan Skyway, and West Elk Loop Scenic Byway. Also included in the area are four notable river systems: the Gunnison, San Miguel, Dolores, and Uncompahgre.

The area falls into two physiographic provinces (the Colorado Plateau and Southern Rocky Mountains) and as a result has varied topography, geology, soil, and fauna and flora, including desert scrub,

riparian, sagebrush parks, pinyon/juniper woodlands, mountain shrub, ponderosa pine, and spruce/fir forests. The topography within the UFO is varied and ranges from lowland riparian along the Dolores River (4,706 feet) to red rock desert to pinyon/juniper woodland up to sub-alpine forest on Storm King Mountain (11,412 feet). The UFO has extensive areas of rugged terrain, deep canyons, spectacular river valleys, dramatic cliffs and mesas, and other prominent geologic features.

The BLM has basic stewardship responsibilities to identify and protect visual values on all public lands. In order to accomplish this, the BLM is directed to prepare and maintain, on a continuing basis, an inventory of visual values. This document provides complete visual resource inventory information that will be used during the update of the Uncompahgre Resource Management Plan (RMP).





Visual Resource Inventory Overview

The Visual Resource Inventory is a process to determine visual values within the Field Office at a specific point in time. Visual Resource Inventories are conducted according to the guidelines in BLM Manual Handbook H-8410-1 – Visual Resource Inventory.

There are three primary components to a visual resource inventory.

- Scenic Quality Evaluation
- Sensitivity Level Analysis
- Delineation of Distance Zones

Based on these three factors, BLM-administered lands are placed into one of four Visual Resource Inventory Classes which represent the relative value of the visual resources. Classes I and II are the most valued, Class III represents a moderate value, and Class IV represents the least value.

Class I is assigned to areas where a management decision has been made to maintain a natural landscape and is generally assigned to special areas such as national wilderness and other congressionally and administratively designated areas where decisions have been made to preserve a natural landscape. Without the special area designation, it is not possible for lands to rate as Class I through the inventory process.

Visual Resource Inventory Classes

Visual resource *inventory* classes are assigned through the inventory process. They are informational in nature and provide the basis for considering visual values in the RMP process. They do not establish management direction and should not be used as a basis for constraining or limiting surface-disturbing activities. They are considered the baseline data for existing conditions.

Visual Resource Management Classes and Objectives

Visual resource *management* classes are assigned for all BLM-administered lands through the RMP process. The assignment of visual management classes is ultimately based on the management decisions made in RMPs, which must take into consideration the value of visual resources. During the RMP process, inventory class boundaries can be adjusted as necessary to reflect resource allocation decisions made in RMPs.

For example, a landscape may be rated as Class III during the inventory process due to degradation of its natural state, but be elevated to a Class II landscape as a management decision to allow the landscape to rehabilitate.



The following Visual Resource Management Objectives have been established for each class in the BLM Manual Handbook H-8410-1 – Visual Resource Inventory:

- **Class I**—The objective of this class is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention.
- **Class II**—The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.
- **Class III**— The objective of this class is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.
- **Class IV**—The objective of this class is to provide for management activities which require major modification of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance, and repeating the basic elements.

Inventory Lands

BLM-administered public lands often occur in areas with mixed land-ownership patterns. The UFO administers areas with mixed ownership that may include BLM, state, private, Forest Service, Bureau of Reclamation, and National Park Service (NPS) lands among others. Split-estate lands that have private surface ownership and federal subsurface minerals management are included in the inventory because the BLM may administer the mineral rights.

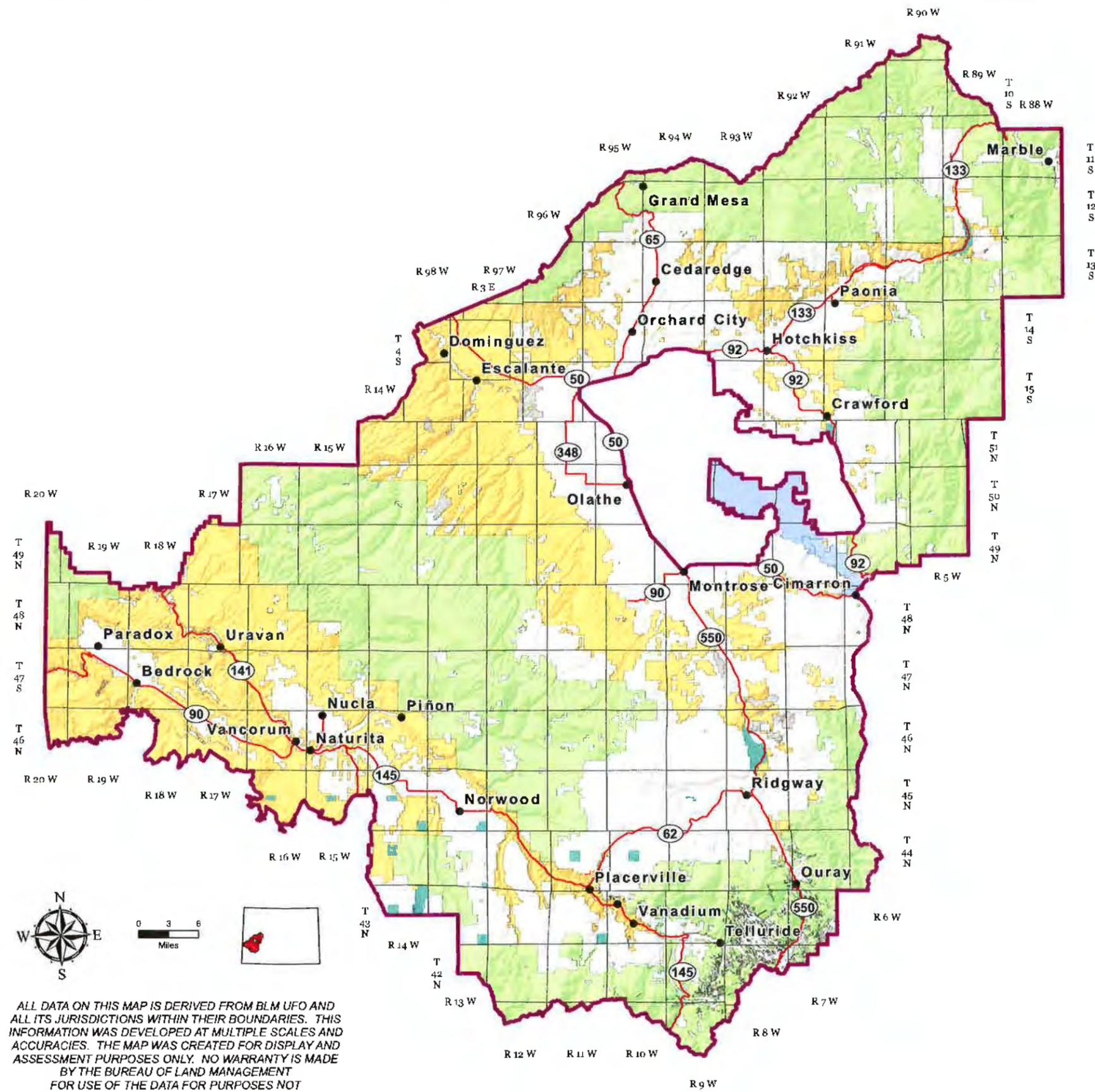
Designated Wilderness Areas are automatically assigned to Class I and were not included in the inventory process. However, Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) are under consideration for suitability for designation as wilderness areas and are rated because WSA status is temporary and may be changed with Congressional action. Lands in the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area (NCA) were not inventoried because a recent planning effort contains

complete inventory and management information. However, the newly designated Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area was included since it does not have a current inventory. Future planning efforts will remove this area to a separate stand-alone plan.

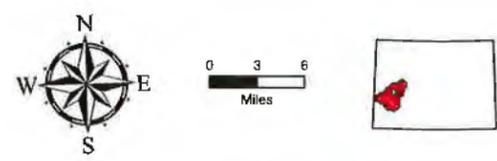
While the inventory is done on a landscape basis, the inventory results and the subsequent Visual Resource Management Objectives established in the RMP apply only to BLM-administered lands. Some areas within the UFO were not included in this inventory and are labeled as NR or "Not Rated" on the inventory maps and are shown on Map 1-2.



Map I-1 Land Ownership

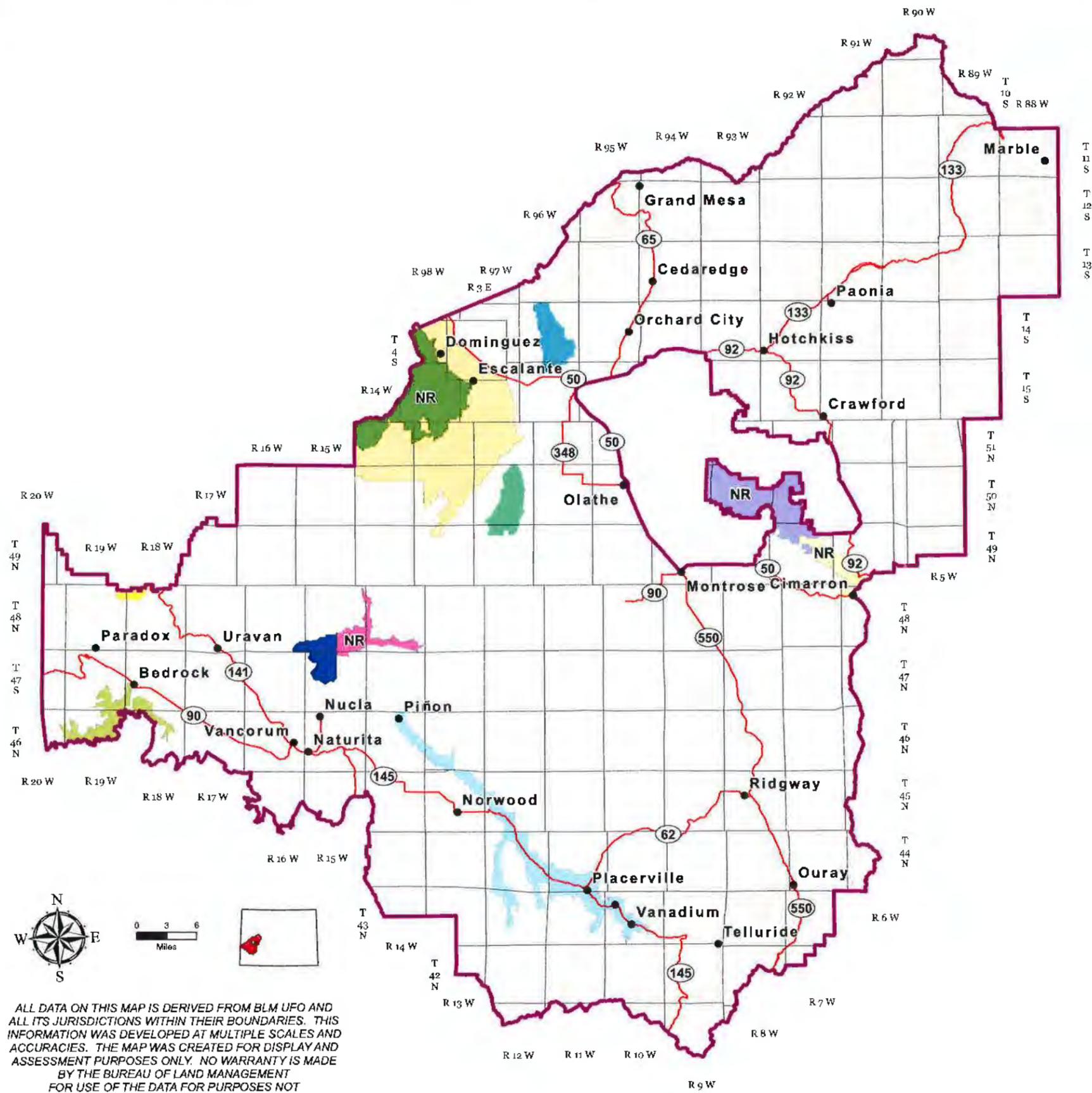


- Field Office Boundary
- Township
- Bureau of Land Management
- Local
- National Park Service
- Private
- State
- US Forest Service



ALL DATA ON THIS MAP IS DERIVED FROM BLM UFO AND ALL ITS JURISDICTIONS WITHIN THEIR BOUNDARIES. THIS INFORMATION WAS DEVELOPED AT MULTIPLE SCALES AND ACCURACIES. THE MAP WAS CREATED FOR DISPLAY AND ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY. NO WARRANTY IS MADE BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT FOR USE OF THE DATA FOR PURPOSES NOT INTENDED BY BLM.

Map I-2 Special Management Areas



- Field Office Boundary
- Township
- Tabeguache Area BLM
- Dominguez Canyon Wilderness (Not Rated)
- Dominguez-Escalante NCA
- Tabeguache Area USFS (Not Rated)
- Black Canyon NP (Not Rated)
- Curecanti NRA (Not Rated)
- Adobe Badlands WSA
- Camel Back WSA
- Dolores River Canyon WSA
- Sewemup WSA
- San Miguel SRMA



ALL DATA ON THIS MAP IS DERIVED FROM BLM UFO AND ALL ITS JURISDICTIONS WITHIN THEIR BOUNDARIES. THIS INFORMATION WAS DEVELOPED AT MULTIPLE SCALES AND ACCURACIES. THE MAP WAS CREATED FOR DISPLAY AND ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY. NO WARRANTY IS MADE BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT FOR USE OF THE DATA FOR PURPOSES NOT INTENDED BY BLM.

2. Scenic Quality Evaluation

Scenic Quality Evaluation measures the visual appeal of a landscape. Public lands are rated as Class A (High, 19 points or more), Class B (Medium, 12 to 18 points), or Class C (Low, 11 points or less) based on the apparent scenic quality. Lands are reviewed and rated on a 1–5 scale using seven key factors, and the total score determines the rating. BLM Handbook Manual H-8410-1 – Visual Resource Inventory, provides the following information about each of the seven factors:

Landform—Topography becomes more interesting as it gets steeper or more massive, or more severely or universally sculptured. Outstanding landforms may be monumental, as the Grand Canyon, the Sawtooth Mountain Range in Idaho, the Wrangell Mountain Range in Alaska, or they may be exceedingly artistic and subtle as certain badlands, pinnacles, arches, and other extraordinary formations.

Vegetation—Give primary consideration to the variety of patterns, forms, and textures created by plant life. Consider short-lived displays when they are known to be recurring or spectacular. Consider also smaller-scale vegetational features which add striking and intriguing detail elements to the landscape (e.g., gnarled or wind-beaten trees, and Joshua trees).

Water—That ingredient which adds movement or serenity to a scene. The degree to which water dominates the scene is the primary consideration in selecting the rating score.

Color—Consider the overall color(s) of the basic components of the landscape (e.g., soil, rock, vegetation, etc.) as they appear during seasons or periods of high use. Key factors to use when rating “color” are variety, contrast, and harmony.

Influence of Adjacent Scenery—Degree to which scenery outside the scenery unit being rated enhances the overall impression of the scenery within the



rating unit. The distance at which adjacent scenery will influence scenery within the rating unit will normally range from 0–5 miles, depending upon the characteristics of the topography, the vegetative cover, and other such factors. This factor is generally applied to units which would normally rate very low in score, but the influence of the adjacent unit would enhance the visual quality and raise the score.

Scarcity—This factor provides an opportunity to give added importance to one or all of the scenic features that appear to be relatively unique or rare within one physiographic region. There may also be cases where a separate evaluation of each of the key factors does not give a true picture of the overall scenic quality of an area. Often it is a number of not-so-spectacular elements in the proper combination that produces the most pleasing and memorable scenery—the scarcity factor can be used to recognize this type of area and give it the added emphasis it needs.

Cultural Modifications—Cultural modifications in the landform/water, vegetation, and addition of structures should be considered and may detract from the scenery in the form of a negative intrusion or complement, or improve the scenic quality of a unit.

Each factor of the seven factors is rated on a comparative basis against similar features within the physiographic province in which the inventory area is located. For the UFO, the physiographic province is the Colorado Plateau and Southern Rocky Mountains.

The Scenic Quality Field Inventory sheet uses the characteristics of form, line, color, and texture to describe the seven elements of the landscape. These characteristics are briefly defined as follows:

Form—The mass or shape of an object or objects which appear unified, such as a vegetative opening in a forest, a cliff formation, or a water tank.

Line—The path, real or imagined, that the eye follows when perceiving abrupt differences in form, color, or texture. Within landscapes, lines may be found as ridges, skylines, structures, changes in vegetative types, or individual trees and branches.

Color—The property of reflecting light of a particular intensity and wavelength (or mixture of wavelengths), to which the eye is sensitive. It is the major visual property of surfaces.

Texture—The visual manifestations of the interplay of light and shadow created by the variations in the surface of an object or landscape.

All public lands have scenic value, but areas with the most variety and harmonious composition have the greatest scenic value. Evaluation of scenic quality is also done in relationship to the natural landscape, which does not mean that man-made features within a landscape necessarily detract from scenic value. Man-made features that complement the natural landscape may enhance the scenic value, and evaluations should avoid bias against man-made modifications to the natural landscape.

Maps 2-2 through 2-8 show the ratings of the seven factors for each unit.

Delineating Scenic Quality Rating Units

The UFO was divided into preliminary Scenic Quality Rating Units (SQRUs) based on like physiographic characteristics such as geology, vegetation, hydrology, texture, color, variety, and topography (Map 2-1).

Preliminary units were drawn in the field and adjusted as necessary after consulting BLM staff to provide an accurate boundary. High-quality aerial photographs and terrain models available on Google Earth™ and Google Maps™ were also used to verify the boundary locations. In addition, 1:100,000 scale topographic maps and a 25m Digital Elevation Model (DEM) provided by the BLM were used. These maps and photos clearly show the topographic and visual features of the landscape which enabled the inventory team to divide the area into SQRUs.

The size of SQRU varies, but is generally not less than 100 acres in order to maintain managerial significance. The UFO was divided into a total of 71 SQRUs and the sizes of the SQRUs range from 100 acres to 132,978 acres.

Scenic Quality Evaluation Process

The inventory team drove through each SQRU, stopping at Inventory Observation Points (IOPs) at multiple locations within the unit to evaluate scenic quality from several viewpoints. An IOP is a critical viewpoint that is usually located along commonly traveled routes or at other likely observation points. IOPs are selected as representative views of the landscape character of a SQRU. Photographs and GPS coordinates are recorded at each IOP for further analysis, mapping, and report documentation.

IOPs were selected in the field while touring the unit on existing public roads. Some units did not have legal access through all areas which limited the extent to which the inventory team could cover the unit. However, thorough coverage of every unit was conducted to the extent possible. Notes and photographs were taken at each stop to document the

landscape character. A total of 243 stops were made throughout the UFO (Map A-1).

All fieldwork personnel were trained in and familiar with the BLM visual resource inventory system. In addition, UFO personnel familiar with the areas to be evaluated accompanied the inventory team for 8 of the 13 fieldwork days and participated in the rating efforts. The ratings were completed as a team, not by an individual person, and reflect the overall impression of a unit. The rating units were documented in the field using the standardized Scenic Quality Field Inventory Sheet.

Once the inventory was complete, the SQRUs were reviewed by the inventory team for final adjustment before the information was digitized into GIS. Appendix A provides the following information for each SQRU:

- Scenic Quality Field Inventory sheet describing the visual characteristics of the SQRU
- Locator map showing the location of each SQRU within the Field Office and the IOPs within the SQRU
- Photos documenting the views at each IOP



SCENIC QUALITY INVENTORY AND EVALUATION CHART

Key Factors

Rating Criteria and Score

Landform	High vertical relief as expressed in prominent cliffs, spires, or massive rock outcrops, or severe surface variation or highly eroded formations including major badlands or dune systems; or detail features dominant and exceptionally striking and intriguing such as glaciers. 5	Steep canyons, mesas, buttes, cinder cones, and drumlins; or interesting erosional patterns or variety in size and shape of landforms; or detail features which are interesting though not dominant or exceptional. 3	Low rolling hills, foothills, or flat valley bottoms; or few or no interesting landscape features. 1
Vegetation	A variety of vegetative types as expressed in interesting forms, textures, and patterns. 5	Some variety of vegetation, but only one or two major types. 3	Little or no variety or contrast in vegetation. 1
Water	Clear and clean appearing, still, or cascading white water, any of which are a dominant factor in the landscape. 5	Flowing, or still, but not dominant in the landscape. 3	Absent, or present, but not noticeable. 0
Color	Rich color combinations, variety or vivid color; or pleasing contrasts in the soil, rock, vegetation, water or snow fields. 5	Some intensity or variety in colors and contrast of the soil, rock and vegetation, but not a dominant scenic element. 3	Subtle color variations, contrast, or interest; generally mute tones. 1
Influence of Adjacent Scenery	Adjacent scenery greatly enhances visual quality. 5	Adjacent scenery moderately enhances overall visual quality. 3	Adjacent scenery has little or no influence on overall visual quality. 0
Scarcity	One of a kind; or unusually memorable, or very rare within region. Consistent chance for exceptional wildlife or wildflower viewing, etc. 5+*	Distinctive, though somewhat similar to others within the region. 3	Interesting within its setting, but fairly common within the region. 1
Cultural Modifications	Modifications add favorably to visual variety while promoting visual harmony. 2	Modifications add little or no visual variety to the area, and introduce no discordant elements. 0	Modifications add variety but are very discordant and promote strong disharmony. -4

* A rating of greater than 5 can be given but must be supported by written justification

Source: Visual Resource Inventory - BLM Manual Handbook 8410-1

Scenic Quality Rating Summary

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT SCENIC QUALITY RATING SUMMARY										Date:	July, 2009
										District:	Southwest District
										Field Office:	Uncompahgre Field Office
I. Evaluators:										Otak, Inc.: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter BLM: Barney Buria, Amanda Rainey, Dean Stindt	
SCENIC QUALITY RATING UNITS (1)	(2)Landform	(3)Vegetation	(4)Water	(5)Color	(6)Adjacent Scenery	(7)Scarcity	(8)Cultural Modification	(9)Total Score	(10)Scenic Quality Rating	EXPLANATION (11)	
01	2	4	3.5	4	4	2	0	19.5	A	Scenic and varied; adjacent scenery adds interest	
02	3	3.5	1	3	3.5	2	0	16	B	Rolling, varied landform, some outcrops; dense aspen, conifer, pinyon/juniper meadow, seasonal color; reservoir, canal and creek occasionally visible	
03	3	4	4	3	0	2	-2	14	B	Steep canyon walls with nice river, some vibrant color; heavy human activity from mining, transportation	
04	3.5	5	4	4	0	3	-0.5	19	A	Deep river canyon with reservoir; distinctive color, varied vegetation; views of snow-caps from Anthracite	
05	2.5	5	1	4	5	3	0	20.5	A	Rounded ridges, hills, deep drainages; great variety of vegetation and seasonal color; high mountain scenery	
06	2	4	0	3.5	4	2	0	15.5	B	No major features; variety of vegetation, seasonal color; spectacular surrounding mountains	
07	3	2	0	2	2	1	0	10	C	Muted colors, interesting landforms; view of Grand Mesa is a minor influence	
08	3	1	0	1	3	2	-2	8	C	Interesting buttes, mesas; human impacts dominant	
09	2	3.5	2	3	3	1	0	14	B	Low, rolling; native and agricultural vegetation; ditches, stream, reservoir	
10	2	3.5	3	3	4	2.5	0	18	B	Flat valley with agricultural crops, river/canals; gravel pits and industrial modification; dominant adjacent scenery	
11	3.5	3	0	3.5	4	2	0	16	B	Dominant visual feature; some diversity of color, vegetation; surrounded by spectacular, varied landscapes	
12	2	4	1	3	3	1	1	15	B	Beautiful, narrow valley; mature hay meadows	
13	2	3	0	2	4	1	0	12	C	Low but noticeable hill complex with pinyon/juniper; spectacular adjacent scenery	
14	2	3	0	2.5	4	1	0	12.5	B	Some ruggedness, few interesting features; sparse vegetation; bold adjacent scenery	
15	4	3.5	4	4	1	2	1	19.5	A	Dramatic river valley with orchards, vineyards	
16	2	2	0	2	3	1	-0.5	9.5	C	Few interesting features, some color variety; power lines, communication sites	
17	2	1	0	2	1	1	0	7	C	Open, horizontal panorama with some interesting features; mostly muted colors, minimal vegetation	
18	1	3	0	2	1	1	0	8	C	Low, rolling hills; some variety in color and vegetation	

Scenic Quality Rating Summary

SCENIC QUALITY RATING UNITS (1)	(2)Landform	(3)Vegetation	(4)Water	(5)Color	(6)Adjacent Scenery	(7)Scarcity	(8)Cultural Modification	(9)Total Score	(10)Scenic Quality Rating	EXPLANATION (11)
19	4	3.5	4	4	0	2	0	17.5	B	Steep river canyon; bold contrast of vegetation and red rock banding
20	4	2.5	0.5	3	2	2	0	14	B	Numerous highly eroded canyons; sparse vegetation; subtle color; views of Grand Mesa, Gunnison Gorge
21	1	1.5	0	1.5	3	1	-0.5	7.5	C	Some irrigated valley bottom contrasts with rolling hills, gentle drainages; views of Grand Mesa, Delta Valley, tips of San Juans
22	1	3	2	3	3.5	1	0	13.5	B	Agricultural with non-native trees, views of Uncompahgre Plateau and Cimarron Ridge
23	2	4	2	3	4	2	1	18	B	Scenic agricultural area surrounded by mountains
24	3	3.5	2	2.5	0	3	0	14	B	Deep canyon, irrigated valley create pleasing contrast
25	1	3	0	2	4	1	0	11	C	Rolling hills with spectacular adjacent scenery
26	2	2	0	2	4	2	-1	11	C	Low hills, one prominent ridge; some color variation; adjacent to Needle Rock and national forest
27	5	2	0	3	2	5	0	17	A	Prominent, unusual red-rock spire; little species variety, some variety and intensity of color
28	1	3	3	3	4	1	1	16	B	Picturesque valley with reservoir, defined by rising foothills and Fruitland Mesa
29	3	3	0	3	4	2	0	15	B	Steep slopes, rugged topography, some variety in vegetation, seasonal color; spectacular surroundings
30	2.5	3.5	0	3	3	1	-0.5	12.5	B	Dry Creek, conifers, mountain shrubs; seasonal color; pipelines, power lines; views of Grand Mesa, San Juans
31	2	5	1	5	3	3	0	19	A	Pleasant landforms, diverse vegetation, surrounded by national forest
32	1	3	0	2	3.5	3	-0.5	12	B	High, flat plateau; sage flats interrupted by home development; views of San Juans and national forest
33	3	2	0	2	2	1	-0.5	9.5	C	Interesting erosion patterns, sparse vegetation; power lines; adjacent scenery adds interest
34	2.5	3	0	3	3	1	0	12.5	B	Juniper and agricultural fields intermingle; some contrast, diverse color; drier area compared to adjacent Cimarron Valley
35	3.5	4	3	4	5	3	0	22.5	A	Steep foothills from wide river valley to ridge, rock outcrops; varied vegetation and seasonal color; views of Cimarron Ridge, Uncompahgre wilderness
36	2	4	2	3.5	5	3	0	19.5	A	Ponds, small streams on mesa top with meadows, aspen, conifers, scrub oak; San Juans dominant
37	3	2.5	4	3.5	3	3	0	19	A	Dominant presence of water; contrasting color with rock, vegetation; San Juans in view
38	2	4	3	3	4	2	0	18	B	Diverse vegetation, bold adjacent scenery; foreground for Cimarron Ridge
39	1.5	3	1	3	5	2	0	15.5	B	Agriculturally developed valley; San Juans and Cimarron Ridge create pleasant setting
40	4	3	3	4	2	3	0	19	A	Dramatic river canyon; bold red banding, dense vegetation; harmonious modifications; view of San Juans

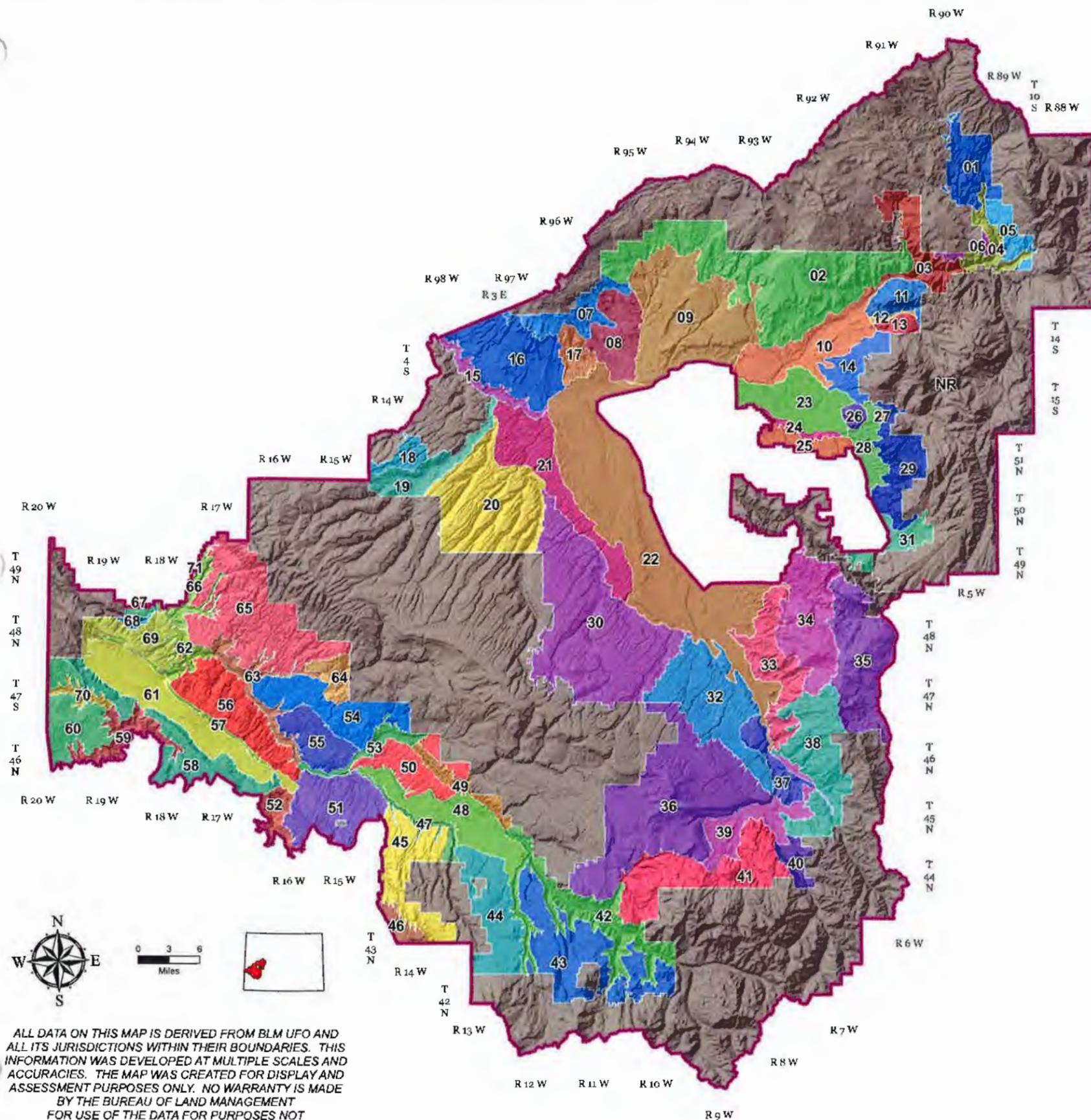
Scenic Quality Rating Summary

SCENIC QUALITY RATING UNITS (1)	(2) Landform	(3) Vegetation	(4) Water	(5) Color	(6) Adjacent Scenery	(7) Scarcity	(8) Cultural Modification	(9) Total Score	(10) Scenic Quality Rating	EXPLANATION (11)
41	3	4	0.5	3.5	5	2	0	18	B	Canyon to rolling hills with aspen, meadows, riparian and strong seasonal color; San Juans in view
42	4	4	4.5	5	0	3.5	-0.5	20.5	A	Rugged, steep outcrops; dense, diverse vegetation dominated by cascading water; contrasting color
43	2	4	1	4	4	3	0	18	B	Rolling hills and meadows, seasonal color variation; outstanding adjacent scenery
44	2	4	1	4	4	3	0	18	B	Rolling foothills with diverse vegetation, reservoirs; Cone Mountain provides backdrop
45	2	4	0	3.5	3.5	2	0	15	B	Low, rolling, minimal rock; varied, colorful vegetation; views of Cone Mountain and La Sals
46	1	3	0	2	4	1	0	11	C	Flat mesa top with oak/sage, subtle colors; views of Cone Mountain, San Juans, Dry Creek Basin
47	3	3	1	3.5	0	1.5	0	12	B	Riparian vegetation draws attention; water occasionally visible; valley floor relatively free of human impact
48	1	3	0	3	2	1	0	10	C	Irrigated farmlands harmonious with rolling fields
49	3	4	5	3.5	0	3.5	0	19	A	Steep, narrow, enclosed canyon with dense riparian and mountain shrubs; good fall colors
50	2	3	0	2	3	1	0	11	C	Pinyon/juniper and sage on rolling benches; adjacent San Juans and La Sals create setting
51	2	3	0	2	2	1	-0.5	9.5	C	Subtle colors
52	2.5	3	2	2.5	0	2	0	12	B	Small, noticeable stream; modest landforms, color
53	2.5	3.5	3.5	3	0	3.5	-2	14	B	Riparian vegetation creates nice contrast with fields; gravel pit, junkyard, and power plant discordant
54	2	3	0	2	3	1	0	11	C	Rolling hills; open sagebrush parks and pinyon/juniper; some mining activity; moderate adjacent scenery
55	3	3	1	3	3	2	0	15	B	SMA shared with Forest Service; interesting formations, riparian and pinyon/juniper; views of La Sals and national forest
56	3	3	0	3	4	2	-1	14	B	No single outstanding feature; notable views of La Sals and national forest; evidence of mining, many roads
57	4	2	0	4	2	3.5	0	15.5	B	Prominent ridge face, dramatic vertical relief, vivid color
58	3	3	0	3	2	2	0	13	B	Steep elevation gain; sagebrush and pinyon/juniper contrasts with red rock; noticeable roads
59	4.5	4	4	4	0	3.5	0	20	A	Roadless river canyon with dramatic red rock outcrops, varied vegetation
60	2	3	0	2	3	1	0	11	C	Low mesa with some Ponderosa, mostly pinyon/juniper and sage; good views of La Sals
61	2	3	2	2	4	1	0	14	B	Notable adjacent scenery, variety in features and vegetation; mining and agriculture
62	5	3.5	4	4.5	0	4	0	21	A	Dramatic, colorful sandstone canyon dominated by water; some varied vegetation

Scenic Quality Rating Summary

SCENIC QUALITY RATING UNITS (1)	(2)Landform	(3)Vegetation	(4)Water	(5)Color	(6)Adjacent Scenery	(7)Scarcity	(8)Cultural Modification	(9)Total Score	(10)Scenic Quality Rating	EXPLANATION (11)
63	3.5	4	4	3	0	3	0	17.5	B	Long canyon system dominated by water, extensive pinyon/juniper woodlands; reclaimed mining area
64	1.5	4	0	3	3	1	0	12.5	B	Diverse, colorful vegetation; irrigated agricultural fields; views of Uncompahgre Plateau and Sawtooths
65	2.5	3	0	2.5	4	2	0	14	B	Spectacular views of La Sals and national forest; pinyon/juniper and sagebrush dominate
66	4	3	3.5	3.5	0	3	-1	16	B	Pleasing canyon complex; notable topography, vegetation, water, and color
67	5	4	0	4	2	2	0	17	B	Dramatic vertical relief, rich colors, varied vegetation; some influence from Cone Mountain, Unaweep
68	4	4	1	4	0	3	1	17	B	Narrow slickrock canyon with diverse vegetation and spectacular landforms
69	2	2.5	0	2.5	2.5	1	-1	9.5	C	Sloping terrain with pinyon/juniper and incompatible cultural modification
70	4	4	3	4	0	3	1	19	A	Vibrant riparian, massive rock outcrops, notable color
71	3	3	0	3	2	1	-1	11	C	Mesas, canyons; some variety in color, vegetation (pinyon/juniper); human activity not readily seen

Map 2 - I Scenic Quality Rating Units

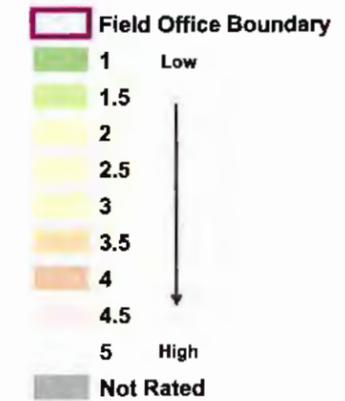
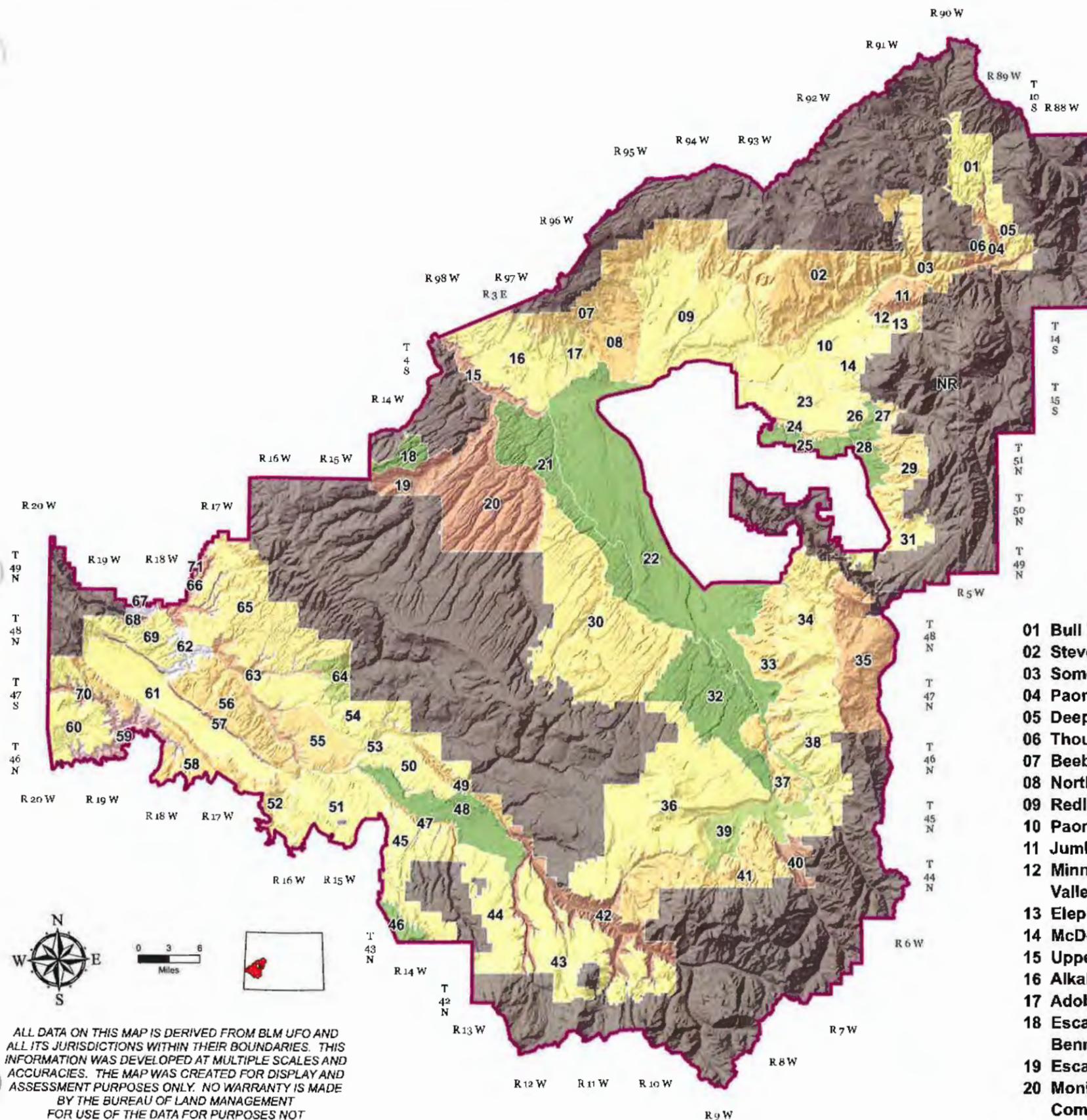


Field Office Boundary

- 01 Bull Mountain
- 02 Stevens Gulch
- 03 Somerset
- 04 Paonia Reservoir
- 05 Deep Creek
- 06 Thousand Acre Flats
- 07 Beebe Gulch
- 08 North Delta OHV
- 09 Redlands Mesa
- 10 Paonia Valley
- 11 Jumbo Mountain
- 12 Minnesota Creek Valley
- 13 Elephant Hill
- 14 McDonald Mesa
- 15 Upper Gunnison River
- 16 Alkali
- 17 Adobe Badlands WSA
- 18 Escalante Canyon – Bennett's Basin
- 19 Escalante Canyon
- 20 Monitor Mesa Complex
- 21 Cactus Park (Drylands)
- 22 Greater Delta/ Montrose Valley
- 23 Grand View Mesa
- 24 Smith Fork
- 25 Fruitland Mesa
- 26 Youngs Peak
- 27 Needle Rock
- 28 Crawford Reservoir Valley
- 29 Castle Rock Foreground
- 30 Dry Creek Basin
- 31 Crystal Valley
- 32 Uncompahgre Plateau
- 33 Southeast Montrose Hills
- 34 Waterdog Foothills
- 35 Cimarron Valley
- 36 Spruce Mountain
- 37 Ridgway Reservoir
- 38 Cimarron Ridge Foothills
- 39 Pleasant Valley
- 40 Uncompahgre Canyon
- 41 Mount Sneffels Foothills
- 42 Upper San Miguel River
- 43 Beaver Mesa Complex
- 44 Oak Hill
- 45 Hamilton Creek
- 46 Hamilton Mesa
- 47 Naturita Canyon
- 48 Norwood Valley
- 49 San Miguel – Piñon to Beaver Creek
- 50 Mailbox Park
- 51 Naturita Ridge
- 52 Dry Creek Canyon
- 53 San Miguel – Vancorum to Piñon
- 54 Third Park
- 55 First Park/Second Park
- 56 Sawtooth Ridge
- 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face
- 58 Davis Mesa
- 59 Dolores River Canyon WSA
- 60 Wray Mesa
- 61 Paradox Valley
- 62 Middle Dolores Canyon
- 63 San Miguel/Tabeguache
- 64 Tabeguache SMA
- 65 Atkinson Mesa
- 66 Lower Dolores River
- 67 Sewemup Mesa WSA
- 68 Roc Creek
- 69 Carpenter Ridge
- 70 La Sal Creek
- 71 Maverick Mesa Complex
- NR Not Rated (all dark-gray areas)

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Map 2-2
Scenic Quality Rating—Landform



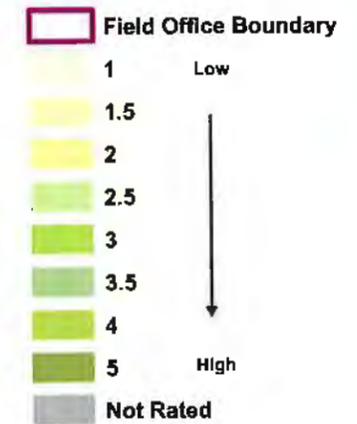
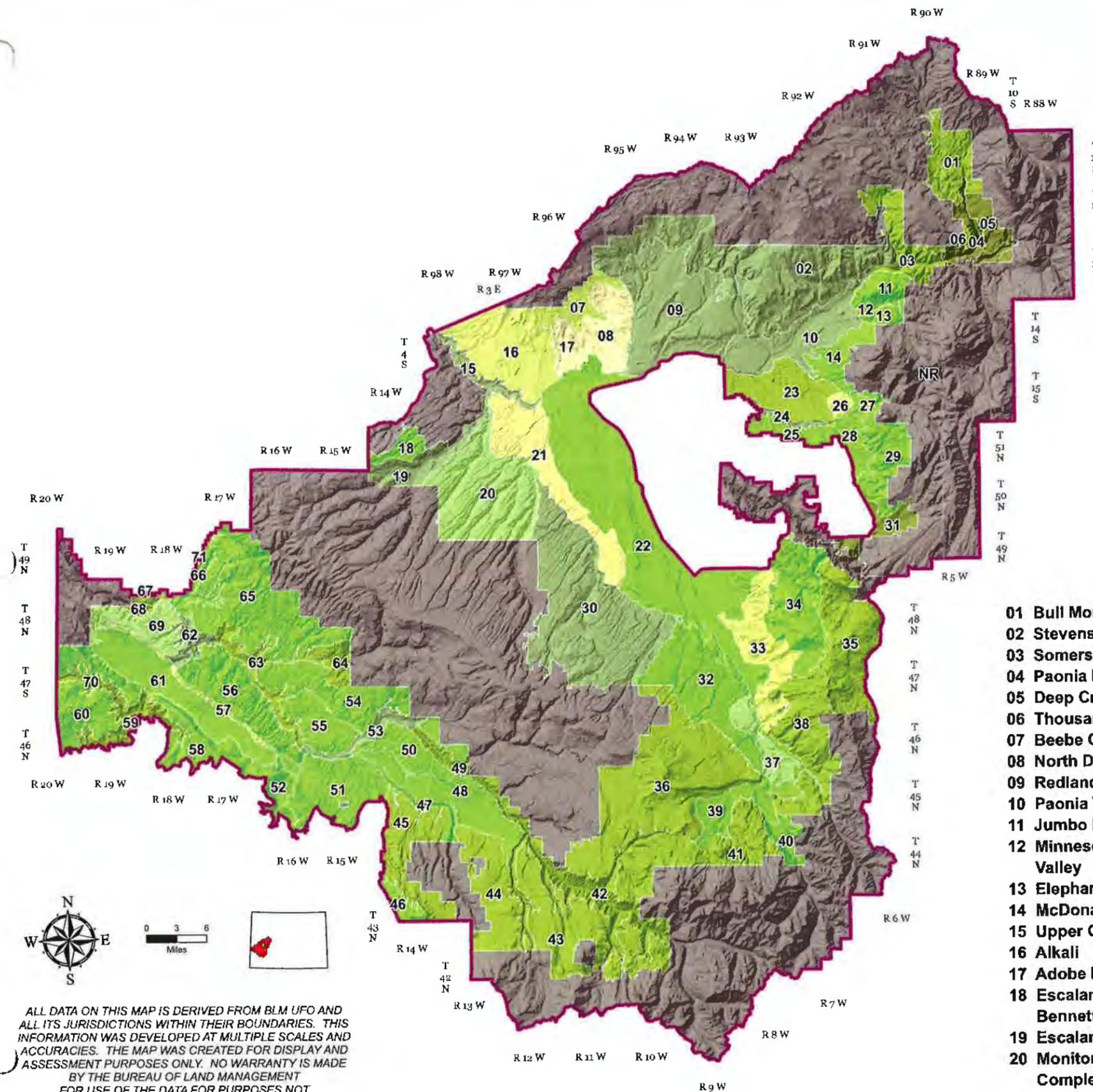
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| 15 Upper Gunnison River | 35 Cimarron Valley | 53 San Miguel – Vancorum to Piñon | NR Not Rated (all dark-gray areas) |
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| 17 Adobe Badlands WSA | 37 Ridgway Reservoir | 55 First Park/Second Park | |
| 18 Escalante Canyon – Bennett's Basin | 38 Cimarron Ridge Foothills | 56 Sawtooth Ridge | |
| 19 Escalante Canyon Complex | | 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face | |

Map 2-3 Scenic Quality Rating—Vegetation



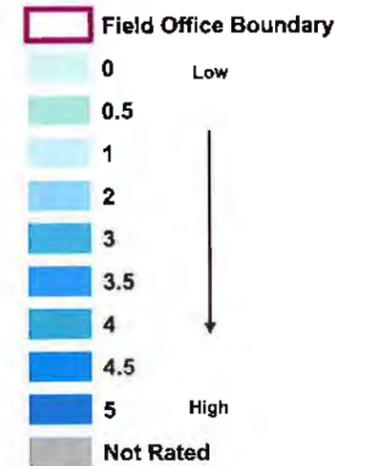
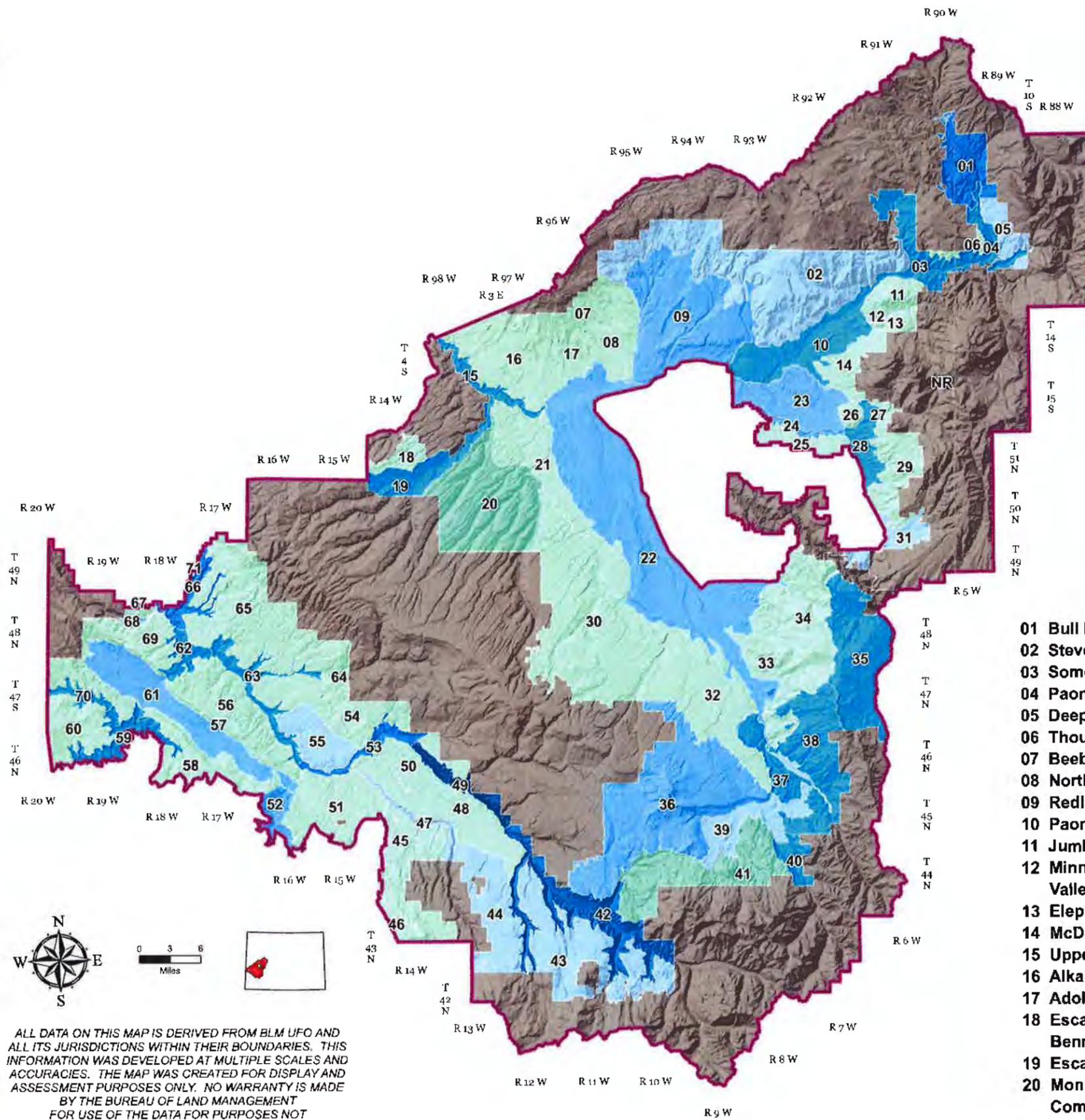
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| 19 Escalante Canyon Complex | | 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face | |

Map 2-4 Scenic Quality Rating—Water

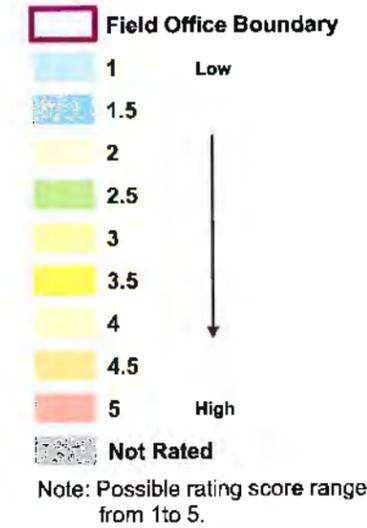
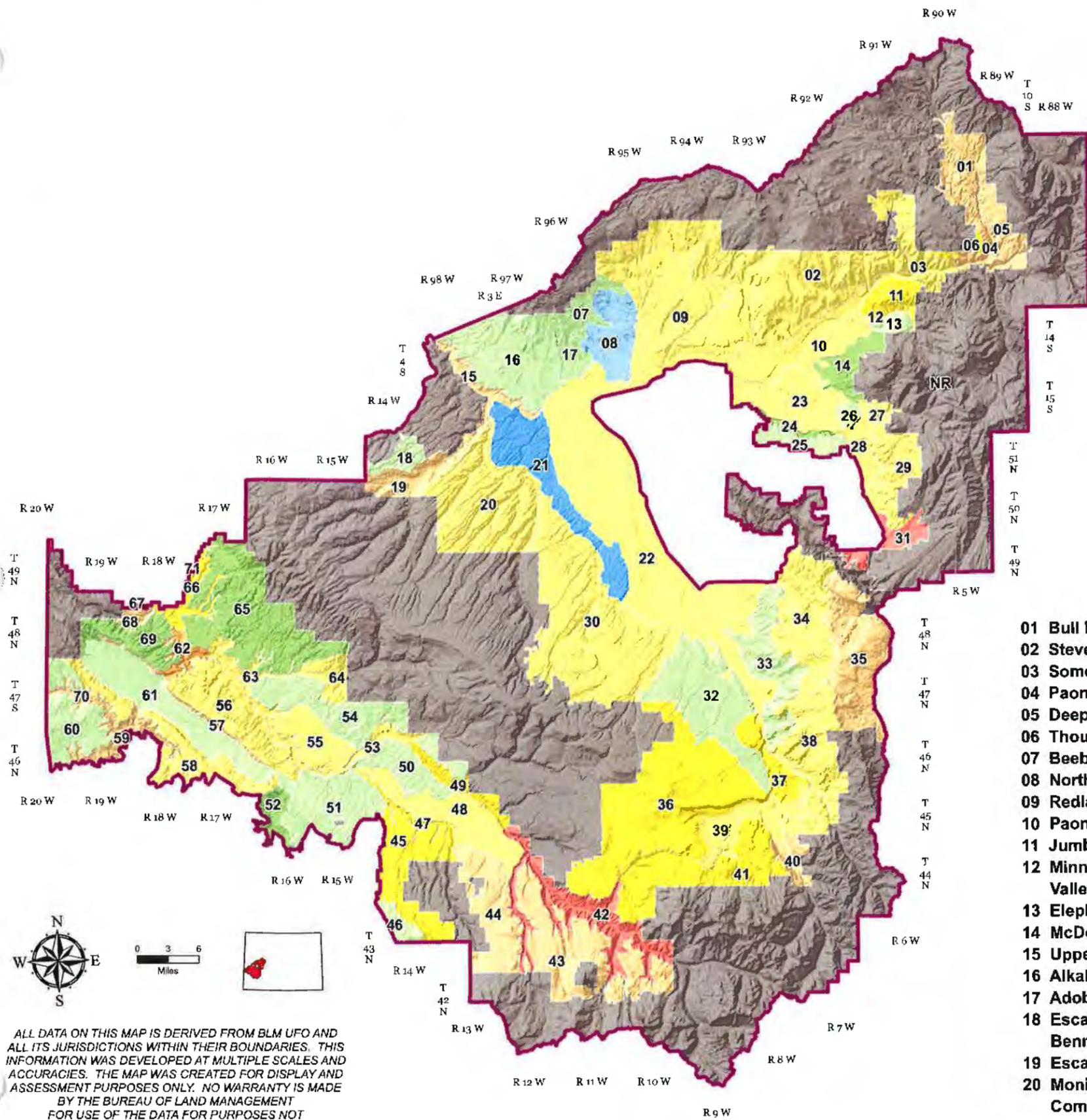


Note: Possible rating score ranges from 0 to 5.

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| 19 Escalante Canyon | | 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face | |
| 20 Monitor Mesa Complex | | | |

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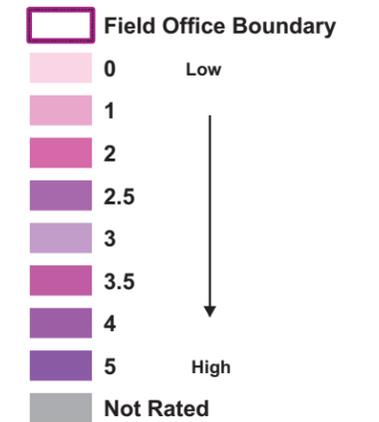
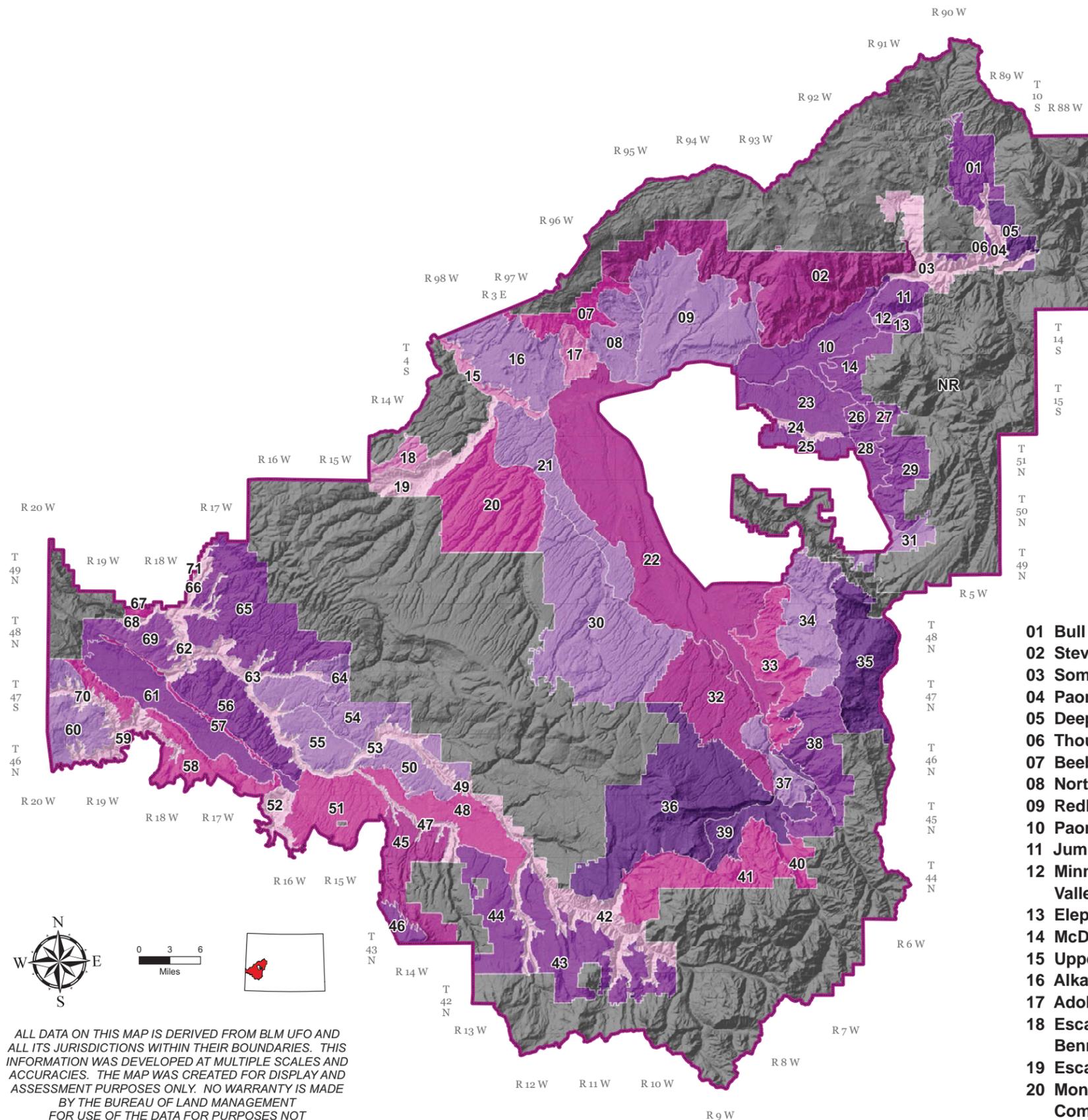
Map 2-5 Scenic Quality Rating—Color



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| 19 Escalante Canyon | | 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face | |
| 20 Monitor Mesa Complex | | | |

Map 2-6 Scenic Quality Rating— Adjacent Scenery



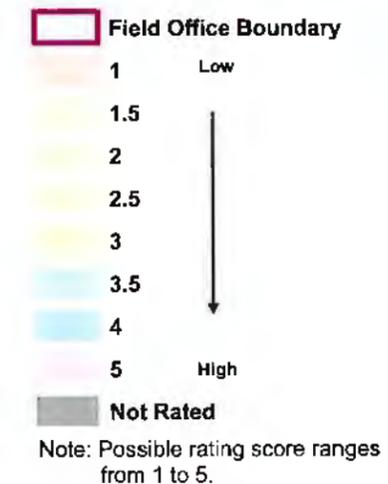
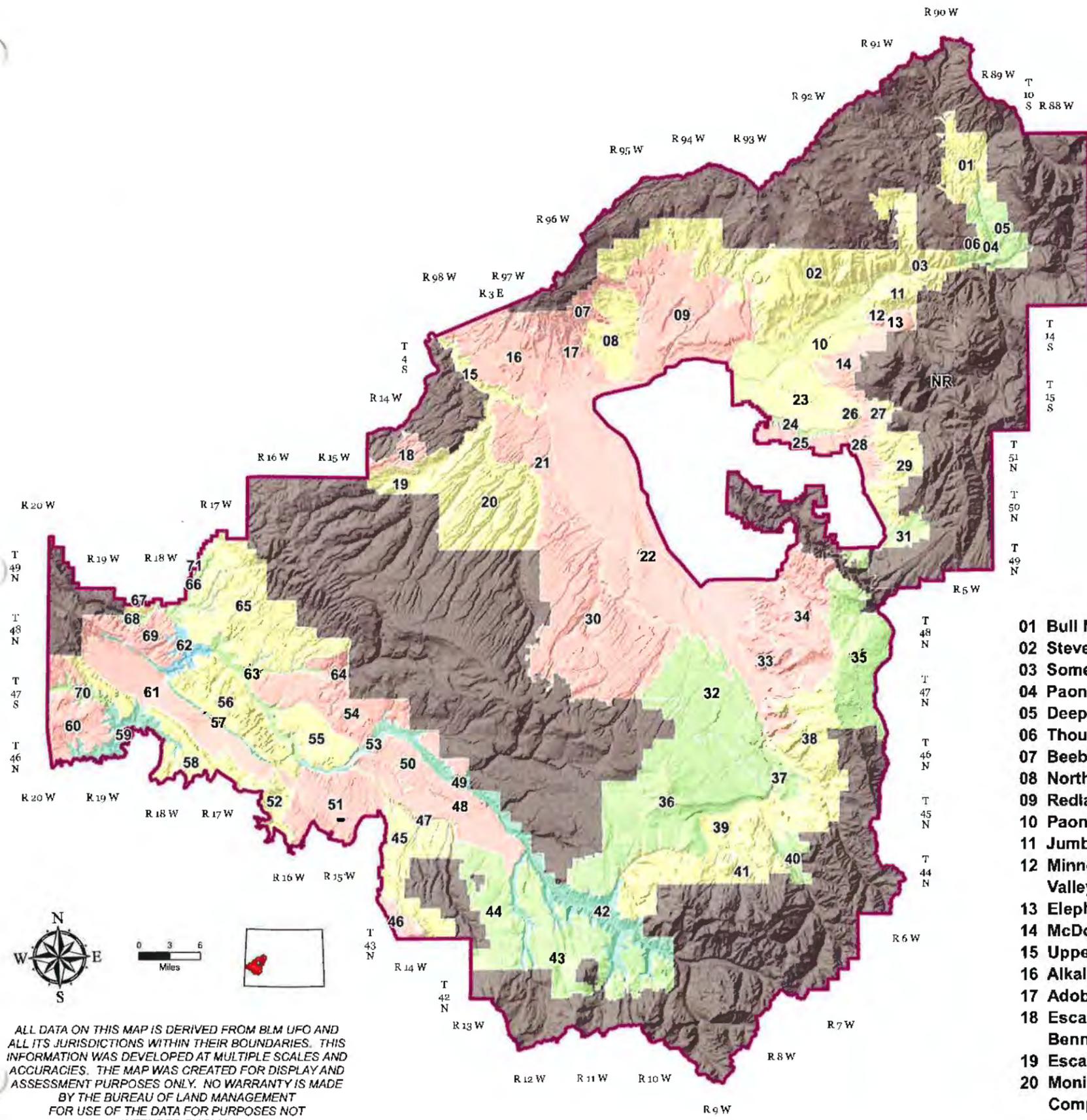
Note: Possible rating score ranges from 0 to 5.



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| 12 Minnesota Creek Valley | 32 Uncompahgre Plateau Hills | 50 Mailbox Park | 69 Carpenter Ridge |
| 13 Elephant Hill | 33 Southeast Montrose Hills | 51 Naturita Ridge | 70 La Sal Creek |
| 14 McDonald Mesa | 34 Waterdog Foothills | 52 Dry Creek Canyon | 71 Maverick Mesa Complex |
| 15 Upper Gunnison River | 35 Cimarron Valley | 53 San Miguel – Vancorum to Piñon | NR Not Rated (all dark-gray areas) |
| 16 Alkali | 36 Spruce Mountain | 54 Third Park | |
| 17 Adobe Badlands WSA | 37 Ridgway Reservoir | 55 First Park/Second Park | |
| 18 Escalante Canyon – Bennett's Basin | 38 Cimarron Ridge Foothills | 56 Sawtooth Ridge | |
| 19 Escalante Canyon | | 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face | |
| 20 Monitor Mesa Complex | | | |

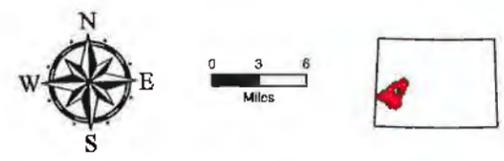
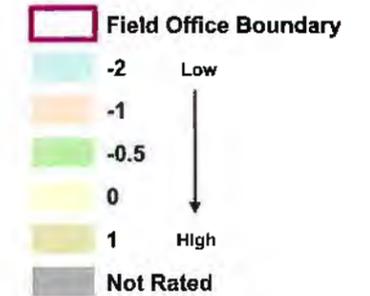
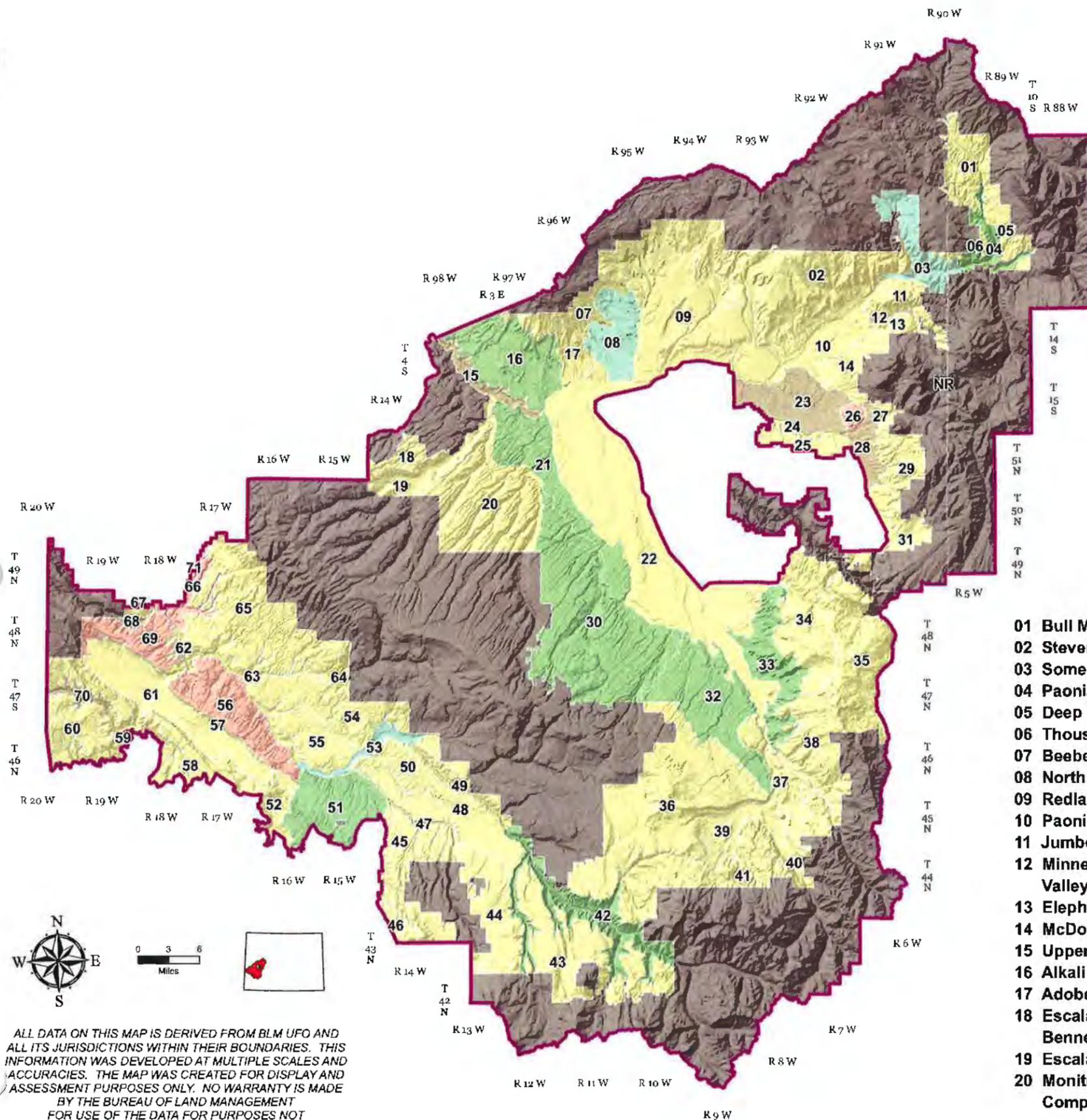
Map 2-7 Scenic Quality Rating—Scarcity



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- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 01 Bull Mountain | 21 Cactus Park (Drylands) | 39 Pleasant Valley | 58 Davis Mesa |
| 02 Stevens Gulch | 22 Greater Delta/Montrose Valley | 40 Uncompahgre Canyon | 59 Dolores River Canyon WSA |
| 03 Somerset | 23 Grand View Mesa | 41 Mount Sneffels Foothills | 60 Wray Mesa |
| 04 Paonia Reservoir | 24 Smith Fork | 42 Upper San Miguel River | 61 Paradox Valley |
| 05 Deep Creek | 25 Fruitland Mesa | 43 Beaver Mesa Complex | 62 Middle Dolores Canyon |
| 06 Thousand Acre Flats | 26 Youngs Peak | 44 Oak Hill | 63 San Miguel/Tabeguache |
| 07 Beebe Gulch | 27 Needle Rock | 45 Hamilton Creek | 64 Tabeguache SMA |
| 08 North Delta OHV | 28 Crawford Reservoir Valley | 46 Hamilton Mesa | 65 Atkinson Mesa |
| 09 Redlands Mesa | 29 Castle Rock Foreground | 47 Naturita Canyon | 66 Lower Dolores River |
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| 11 Jumbo Mountain | 31 Crystal Valley | 49 San Miguel - Piñon to Beaver Creek | 68 Roc Creek |
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| 13 Elephant Hill | 33 Southeast Montrose Hills | 51 Naturita Ridge | 70 La Sal Creek |
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| 15 Upper Gunnison River | 35 Cimarron Valley | 53 San Miguel - Vancorum to Piñon | NR Not Rated (all dark-gray areas) |
| 16 Alkali | 36 Spruce Mountain | 54 Third Park | |
| 17 Adobe Badlands WSA | 37 Ridgway Reservoir | 55 First Park/Second Park | |
| 18 Escalante Canyon - Bennett's Basin | 38 Cimarron Ridge Foothills | 56 Sawtooth Ridge | |
| 19 Escalante Canyon | | 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face | |
| 20 Monitor Mesa Complex | | | |

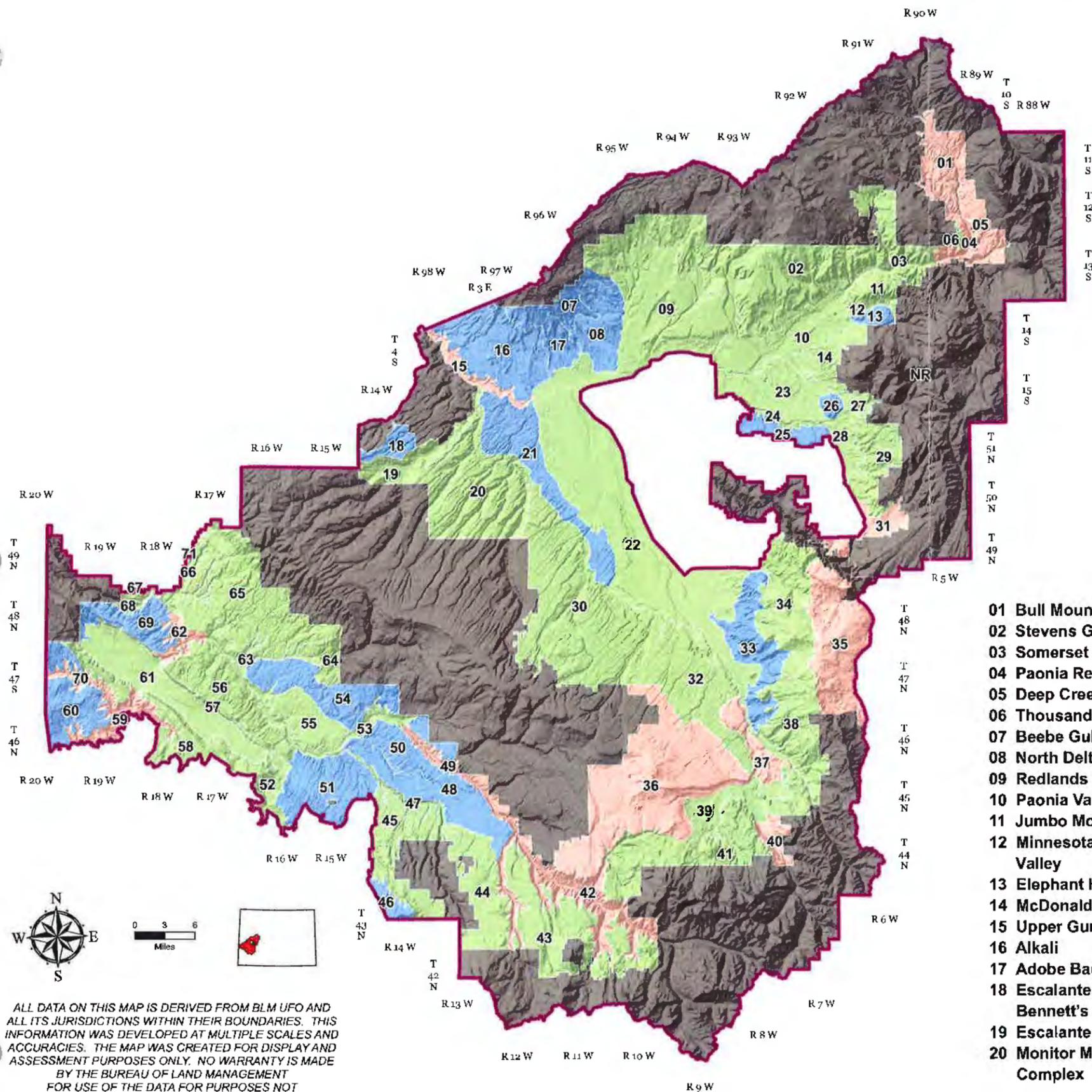
Map 2-8 Scenic Quality Rating— Cultural Modification



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- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 01 Bull Mountain | 21 Cactus Park (Drylands) | 39 Pleasant Valley | 58 Davis Mesa |
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| 14 McDonald Mesa | 34 Waterdog Foothills | 52 Dry Creek Canyon | 71 Maverick Mesa Complex |
| 15 Upper Gunnison River | 35 Cimarron Valley | 53 San Miguel – Vancorum to Piñon | NR Not Rated (all dark-gray areas) |
| 16 Alkali | 36 Spruce Mountain | 54 Third Park | |
| 17 Adobe Badlands WSA | 37 Ridgway Reservoir | 55 First Park/Second Park | |
| 18 Escalante Canyon – Bennett's Basin | 38 Cimarron Ridge Foothills | 56 Sawtooth Ridge | |
| 19 Escalante Canyon Complex | | 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face | |

Map 2-9 Scenic Quality Classifications



- Field Office Boundary
- A (292,095 Acres*)
- B (1,172,498 Acres*)
- C (340,374 Acres*)
- Not Rated

* Note: Acreage includes all BLM and non-BLM administered lands

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 01 Bull Mountain | 21 Cactus Park (Drylands) | 39 Pleasant Valley | 58 Davis Mesa |
| 02 Stevens Gulch | 22 Greater Delta/ Montrose Valley | 40 Uncompahgre Canyon | 59 Dolores River Canyon WSA |
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| 18 Escalante Canyon – Bennett's Basin | 38 Cimarron Ridge Foothills | 56 Sawtooth Ridge | |
| 19 Escalante Canyon | | 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face | |
| 20 Monitor Mesa Complex | | | |

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3. Sensitivity Level Analysis

Sensitivity Levels (Map 3-1) are a measure of public concern for scenic quality. Public land areas are assigned high, medium, or low sensitivity levels based on consideration of the following factors:

- **Types of Users**—Visual sensitivity will vary with the type of users. Recreation sightseers may be highly sensitive to any changes in visual quality, whereas workers who pass through the area on a regular basis may not be as sensitive to change.
- **Amount of Use**—Areas seen and used by large numbers of people are potentially more sensitive. Protection of visual values usually becomes more important as the number of viewers increases.
- **Public Interest**—The visual quality of an area may be of concern to local, state, or national groups. Indicators of this concern are usually expressed in public meetings, letters, newspaper or magazine articles, newsletters, land-use plans, etc. Public controversy created in response to proposed activities that would change the landscape character should also be considered.
- **Adjacent Land Uses**—The interrelationship with land uses in adjacent lands can affect the visual sensitivity of an area. For example, an area within the viewshed of a residential area may be very sensitive, whereas an area surrounded by commercially developed lands may not be visually sensitive.
- **Special Areas**—Management objectives for special areas such as Natural Areas, Wilderness Areas or Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Scenic Areas, Scenic Roads or Trails, and Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), frequently require special consideration for the protection of visual values. This does not necessarily mean that these areas are scenic, but rather that one of the management objectives may be to preserve the natural landscape setting. The management objectives for these areas may be used as a basis for assigning sensitivity levels.
- **Other Factors**—Consider any other information such as research or studies that includes indicators for visual sensitivity.



Sensitivity Level Rating Units (SLRUs) often have the same boundaries as Scenic Quality Rating Units (SQRUs). However, the boundaries may be different as they are subject to the factor(s) that determine visual sensitivity, which differ from the factors that determine scenic quality. For example, a special management area and surrounding lands of similar character may be located within one SQRU. However, the unit may be broken into two separate SLRUs: one unit for the special management area which would have a higher sensitivity level, and a second unit for the surrounding lands which have a lower sensitivity level.

SLRUs may also be delineated by using viewshed analyses from designated IOPs, including overlooks, travel corridors, or viewpoints identified in the field. The area that is visible from the viewshed analyses helps to delineate the boundary for the SLRU.

Examples in the UFO where an SQRU has been split, or SLRU boundaries differ from SQRU boundaries include:

- Monitor Mesa SQRU, which is divided into three SLRUs, including Dominguez-Escalante NCA which is within the Dominguez-Escalante NCA, and Monitor Mesa Complex and Camel Back WSA, which are not.
- Paradox Valley SLRU, where the boundaries were expanded to include the cliff face up to the rim of Davis Mesa because the viewer experience of the area includes the walls that surround the valley floor.

Sensitivity ratings are also completed as a team and reflect the overall impression of a unit. It is especially important to get input from BLM staff familiar with the area being evaluated. User groups and special interest groups are also valuable resources for understanding the sensitivity rating of a unit.

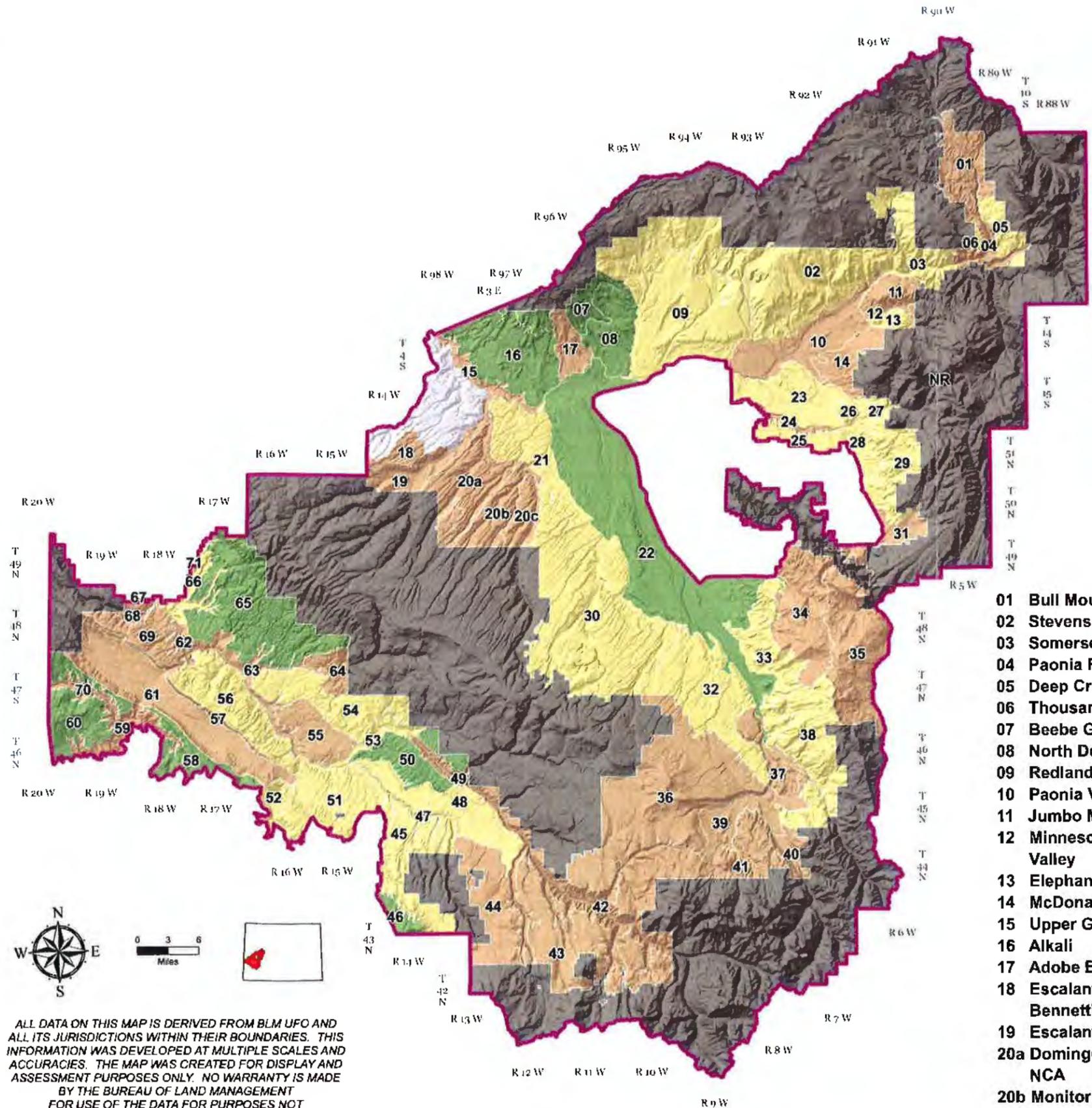
Each SLRU was documented in the field using the standardized Sensitivity Level Rating Sheet. Rating sheets are included in Appendix B.

Rating Sheet Instructions Chart

1. Divide the inventory area into logical sensitivity rating units.
2. Analyze the factors which indicate visual sensitivity.
3. For each rating, rate each factor as high, moderate, or low using the following outline as a general guide:
 - a. *Type of Users.* Maintenance of visual quality is:
 - a major concern for most users High
 - a moderate concern for most users Moderate
 - a low concern for most users Low
 - b. *Amount of use.* Maintenance of visual quality becomes more important as the level of use increases (see table below):
 - high level of use High
 - moderate level of use Moderate
 - low level of use Low
 - c. *Public Interest.* Maintenance of visual quality is:
 - a major public issue High
 - a moderate public issue Moderate
 - a minor public issue Low
 - d. *Adjacent Land Uses.* Maintenance of visual quality to sustain adjacent land use objectives is:
 - very important High
 - moderately important Moderate
 - slightly important Low
 - e. *Special Area.* Maintenance of visual quality to sustain Special Area management objectives is:
 - very important High
 - moderately important Moderate
 - slightly important Low

Source: BLM Form 8400-6 Instructions

Map 3-1 Sensitivity Levels



- Field Office Boundary
- Low (343,231 Acres)
- Medium (721,202 Acres)
- High (740,546 Acres)
- Wilderness Area
- Not Rated

Note: Acreages include all BLM and non-BLM administered lands.



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- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 01 Bull Mountain | 20c Camel Back WSA | 38 Cimarron Ridge Foothills | 56 Sawtooth Ridge |
| 02 Stevens Gulch | 21 Cactus Park | 39 Pleasant Valley | 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face |
| 03 Somerset | 22 Greater Delta/ Montrose Valley | 40 Uncompahgre Canyon | 58 Davis Mesa |
| 04 Paonia Reservoir | 23 Grand View Mesa | 41 Mount Sneffels Foothills | 59 Dolores River Canyon WSA |
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| 17 Adobe Badlands WSA | 36 Spruce Mountain | 54 Third Park | NR Not Rated (all dark-gray areas) |
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| 19 Escalante Canyon | | | |
| 20a Dominguez-Escalante NCA | | | |
| 20b Monitor Mesa Complex | | | |

4. Distance Zones

The third component of the Visual Resource Inventory process is the delineation of Distance Zones (Map 4-1). Landscapes are subdivided into three distance zones based on relative visibility from travel routes or from IOPs. The three distance zones are defined as follows:

- **Foreground-Middleground**—The area visible from a travel route, use area, or other observation to a distance of 3 to 5 miles. The outer boundary of this zone is defined as the point where the texture and form of individual plants are no longer apparent in the landscape. Vegetation is apparent only in patterns or outline.
- **Background**—The visible area of a landscape which lies beyond the foreground-middleground. Usually from a minimum of 3 to 5 miles to a maximum of about 15 miles from a travel route, use area, or other observer point. Atmospheric conditions in some areas may limit the maximum to about 8 miles or less.
- **Seldom Seen**—Portions of the landscape which are generally not visible from key observation points, or portions which are visible but more than 15 miles distance.



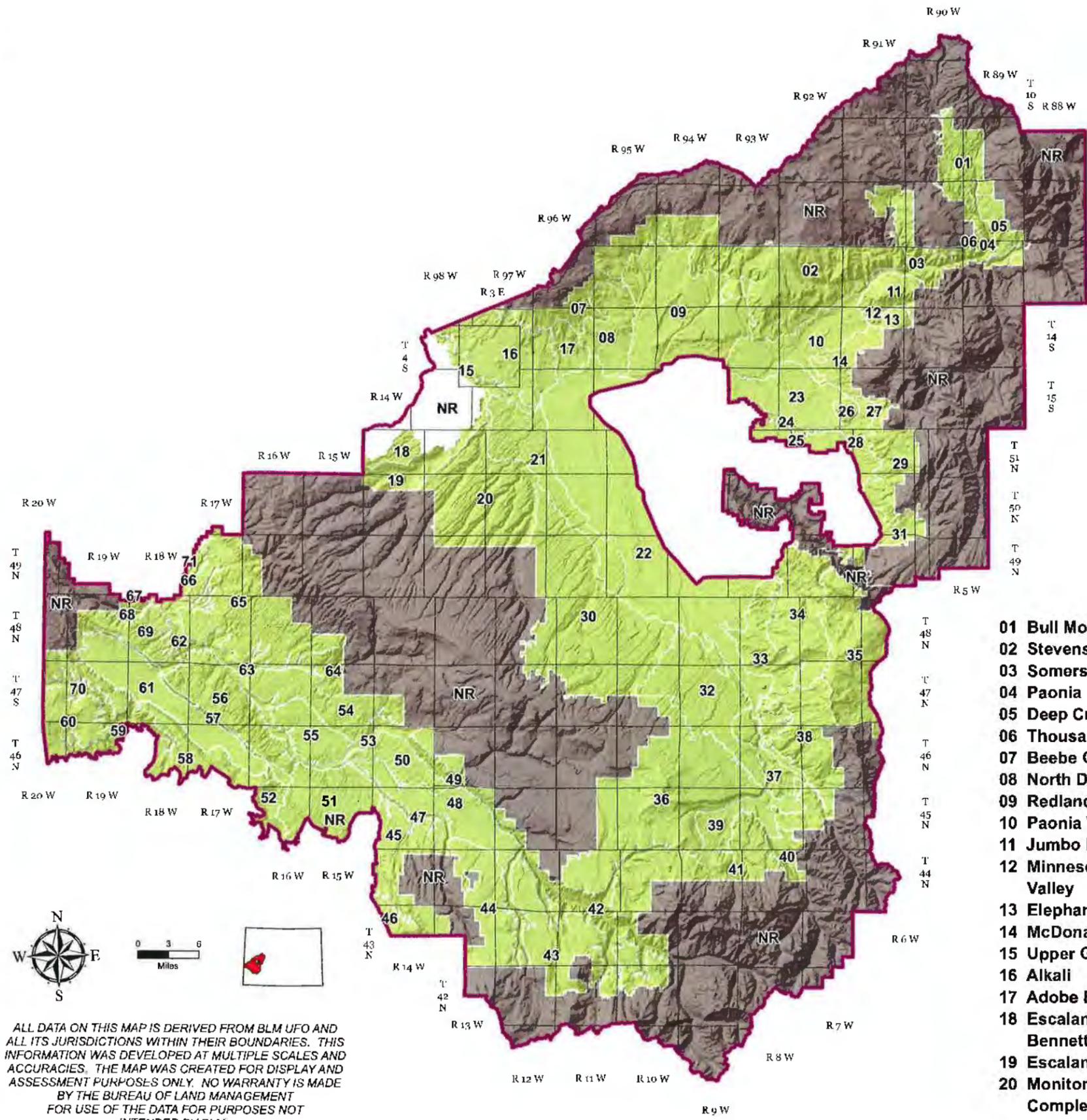
Road and travel networks in the UFO include highways, paved and gravel county roads, dirt roads (two-tracks), foot and equestrian trails, mountain bike trails, OHV trails, railroads, and river corridors (Map 4-2). Analysis points were selected from the IOPs that were defined in the field and new ones were created to represent other potential observation points including roads, trailheads, and adjacent areas within the foreground/middleground zone.

Mineral exploration, mining activities, ranching, and recreational use have been ongoing in the UFO for several decades. Consequently, the Field Office has an extensive road and travel-route network. The result is that very few areas are not within three to five miles of travel routes, and no lands are more than five miles from an established road or trail. Even in the roughest and most topographically diverse parts of the UFO, roads and trails penetrate virtually all areas. In addition, areas that are not easily accessed are still visible.

Therefore, for the purpose of determining final Visual Resource Inventory Classes, only the Foreground-Middleground distance zone was used for the entire UFO. In some cases, in areas where the distance zone was not as straightforward, viewshed analyses were run from multiple locations representing travel routes used by recreational users and other visitors to determine the distance zone. These locations include trails, roads, and IOPs identified in the field. These areas include Escalante Canyon, Dry Creek Canyon, and the Tabeguache Special Management Area. An additional area was selected to show the distance zones from Highway 50 running east from Montrose to the Field Office Boundary. These examples (Maps 4-3 through 4-6) illustrate the dense road/trail network within the UFO and the visibility from each of the Inventory Observation Points (IOPs) used in the analyses.

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Map 4-1 Distance Zones



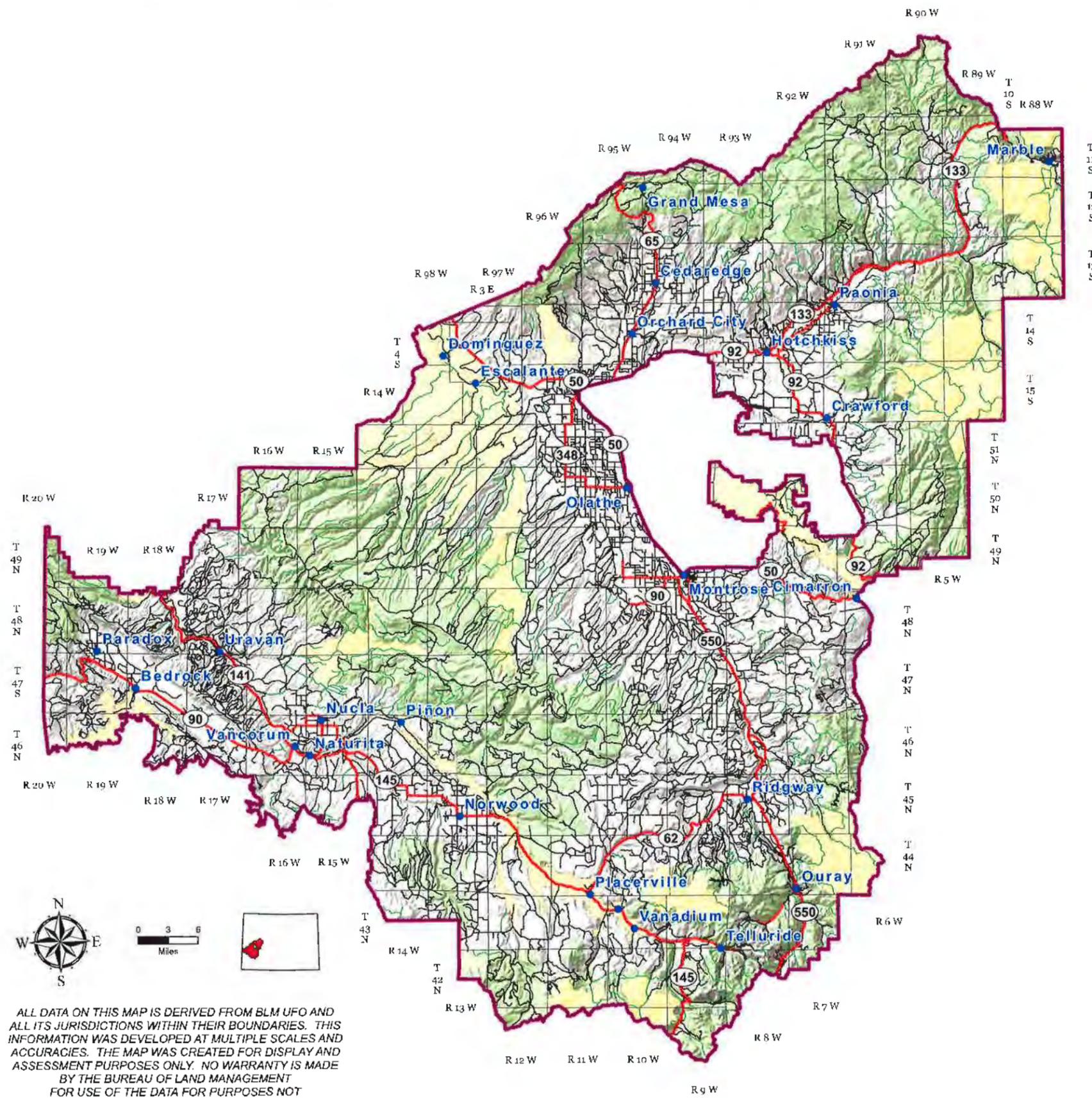
- Field Office Boundary
- Township
- Foreground/Middle Ground
- Not Rated
- Wilderness Area



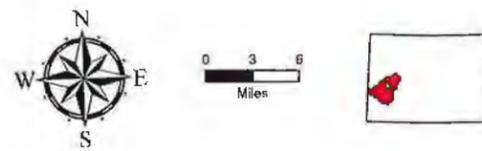
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- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
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| 19 Escalante Canyon | | 57 Sawtooth Ridge Face | |
| 20 Monitor Mesa Complex | | | |

Map 4-2 Travel Network

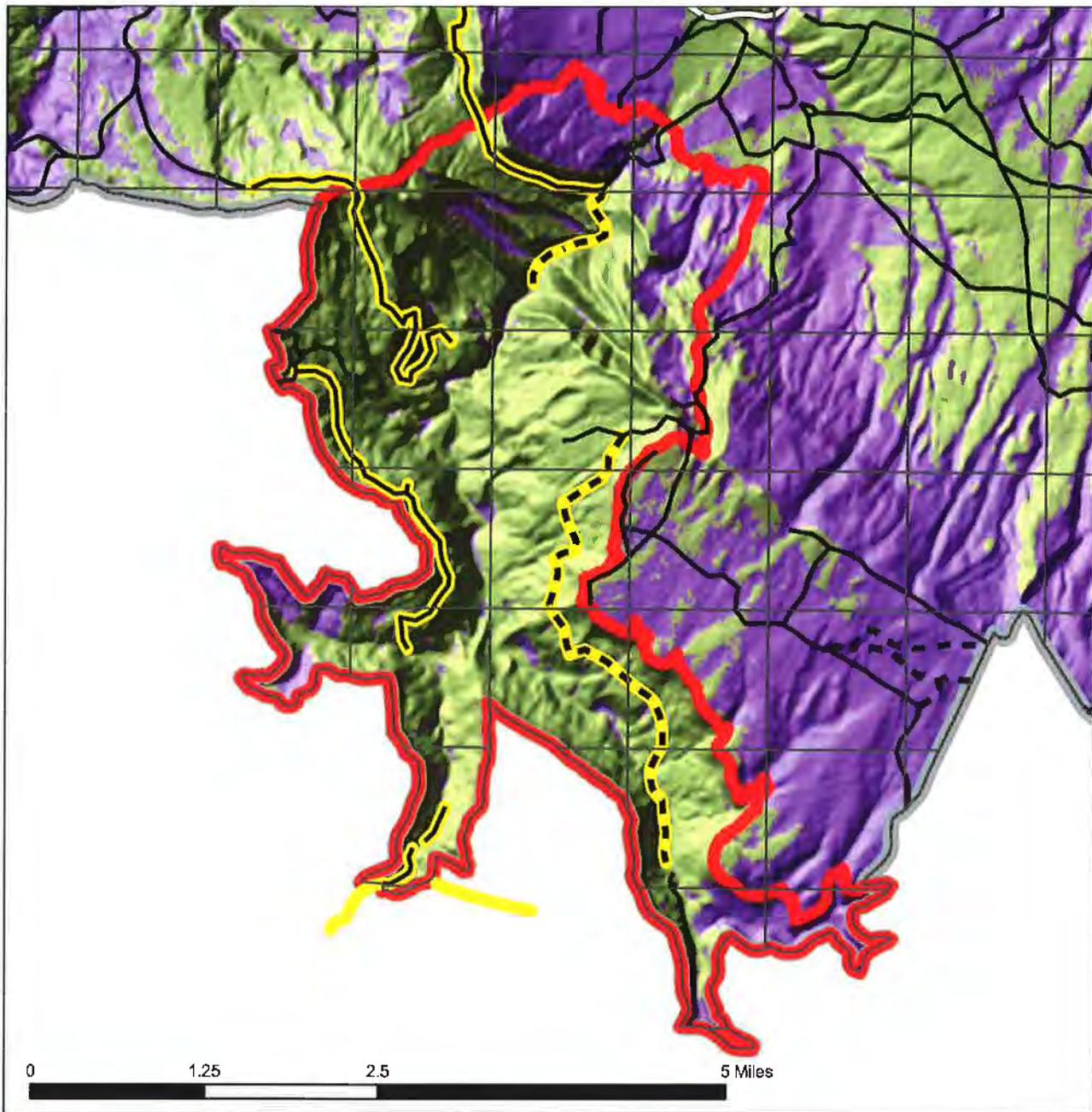


- Field Office Boundary
- Special Management Area
- US Forest Service
- Township
- Highway
- Road
- Trail



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Map 4-3. Distance Zones—Dry Creek Canyon

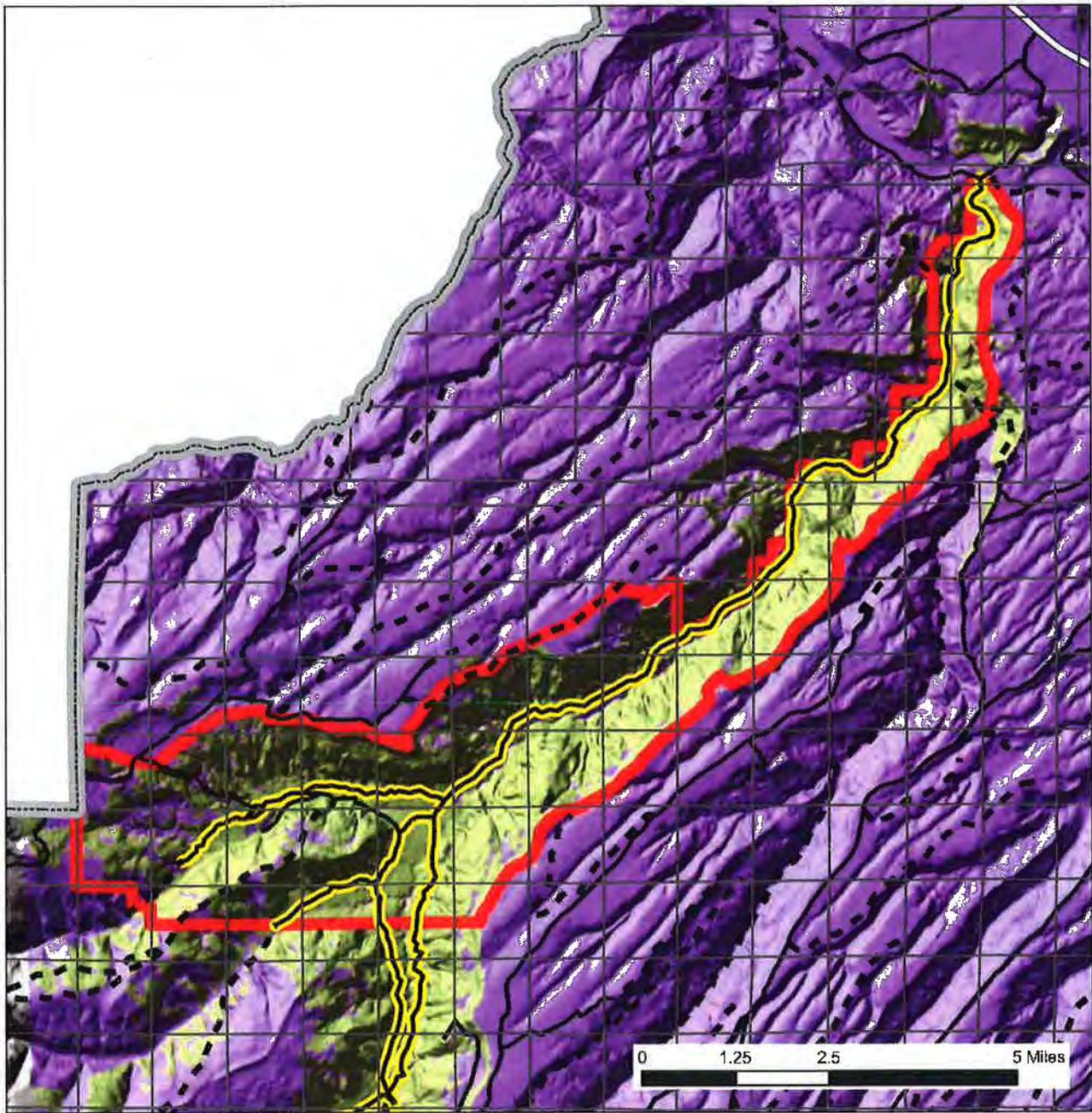


-  IOP
-  SQRU Boundary
-  Not Visible
-  Visible
-  Section
-  Road
-  Trail

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Map 4-4. Distance Zones—Escalante Canyon

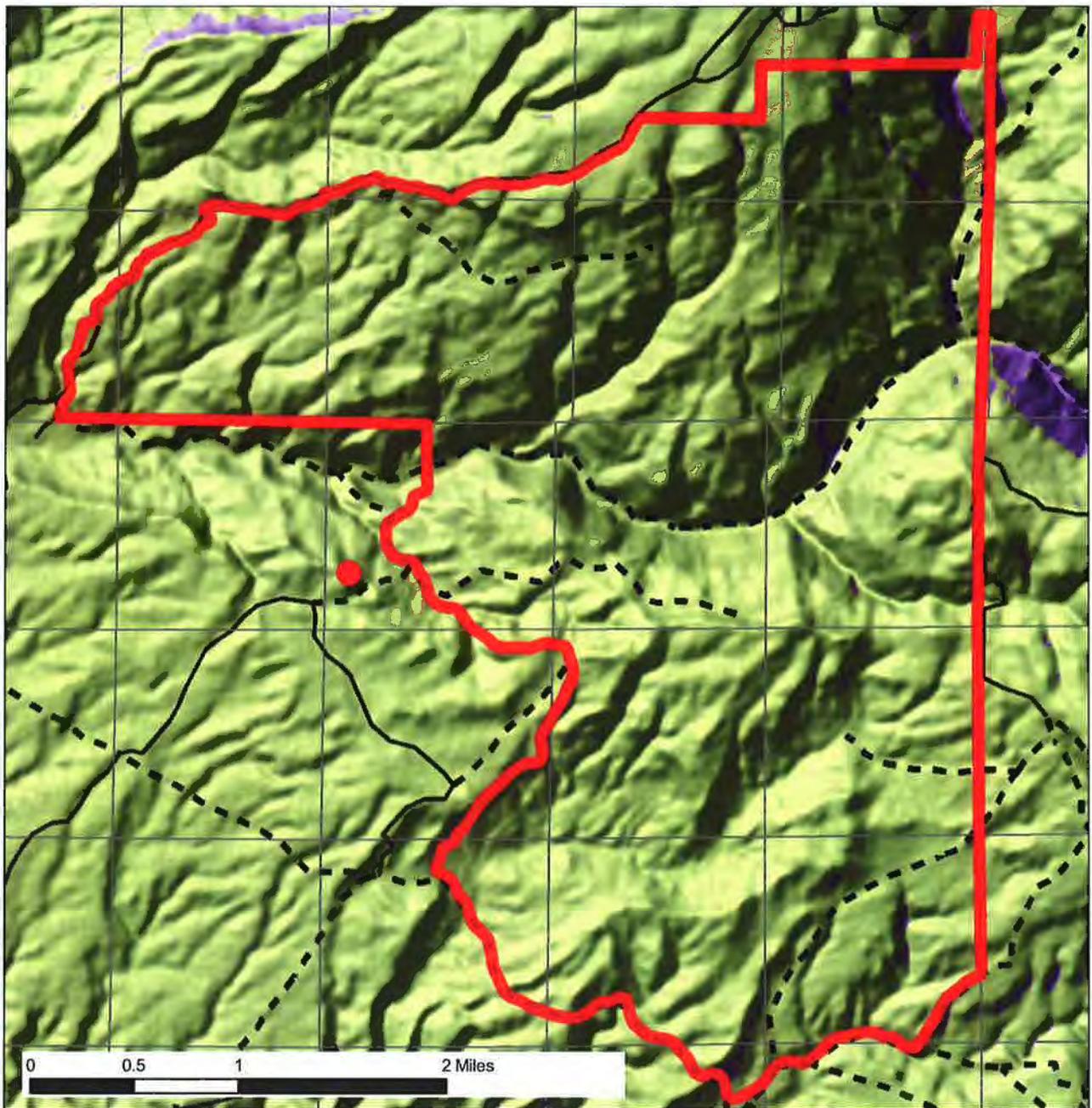


- IOP
- SQRU Boundary
- Not Visible
- Visible
- Section
- Road
- Trail

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Map 4-5. Distance Zones—Tabeguache Special Management Area

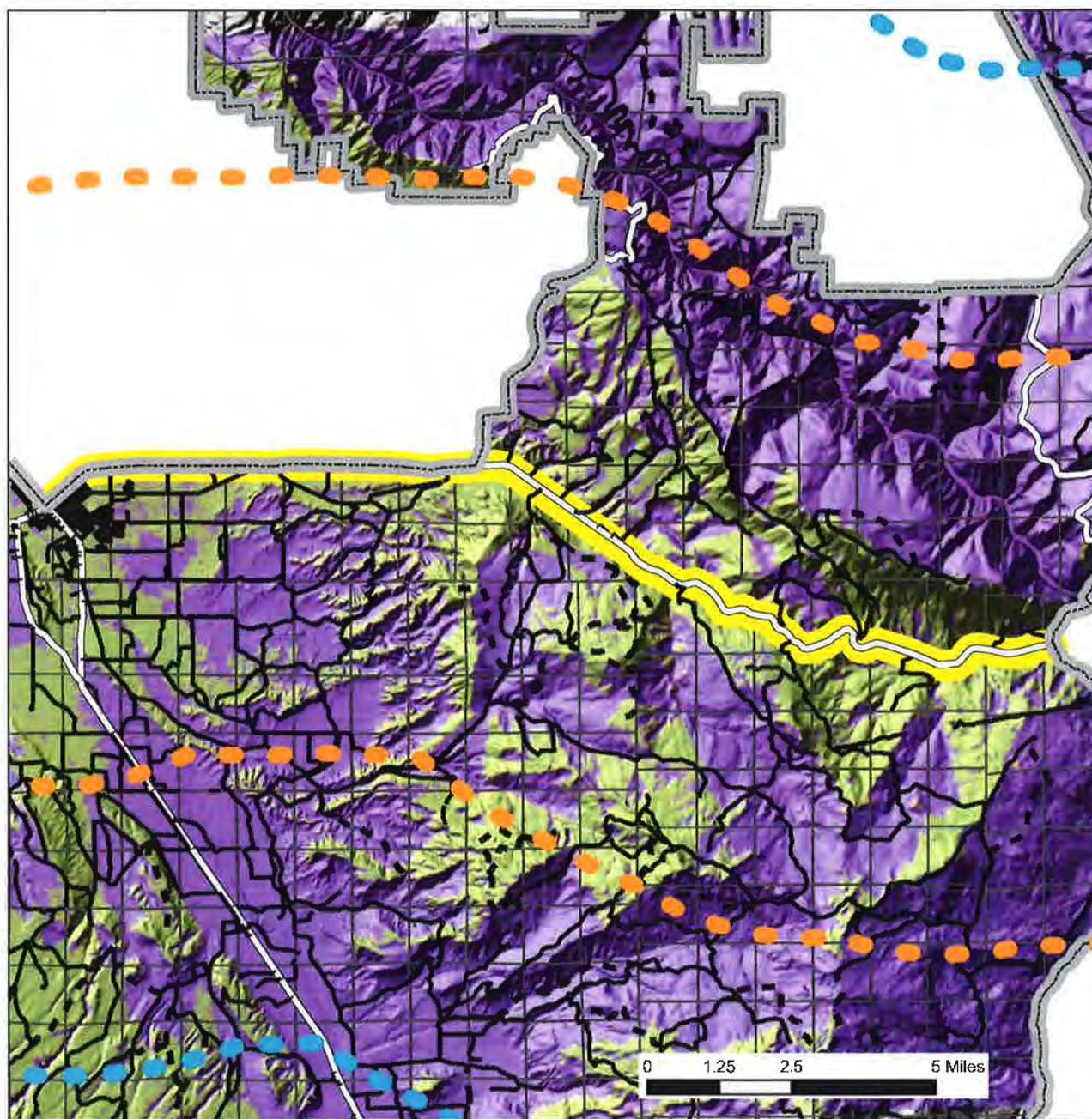


- IOP
- SQRU Boundary
- Not Visible
- Visible
- Section
- Road
- Trail

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Map 4-6. Distance Zones—Highway 50



- IOP
- Trail
- Field Office Boundary
- Foreground/Middle Ground
- Not Visible
- Visible
- Section
- Background
- Highway
- Road

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5. Visual Resource Inventory Classes

The following matrix shows how Scenic Quality Evaluation, Sensitivity Level Determination, and Delineation of Distance Zones are combined to develop VRM Inventory Classes (Map 5-1).

As a general rule, lands with high scenic quality, where scenic quality is of concern to the public and are visible from less than five miles, are rated higher than lands with low scenic quality and for which there is little public concern for maintenance of scenic quality.

The final Visual Resource Inventory Class distribution (by acreage) for the UFO is as follows:

	Total Acres
Class I	44,918
Class II	703,766
Class III	784,741
Class IV	305,524
Not Rated	1,377,653
Total	3,216,604

**Basis for Determining
Visual Resource Inventory Classes**

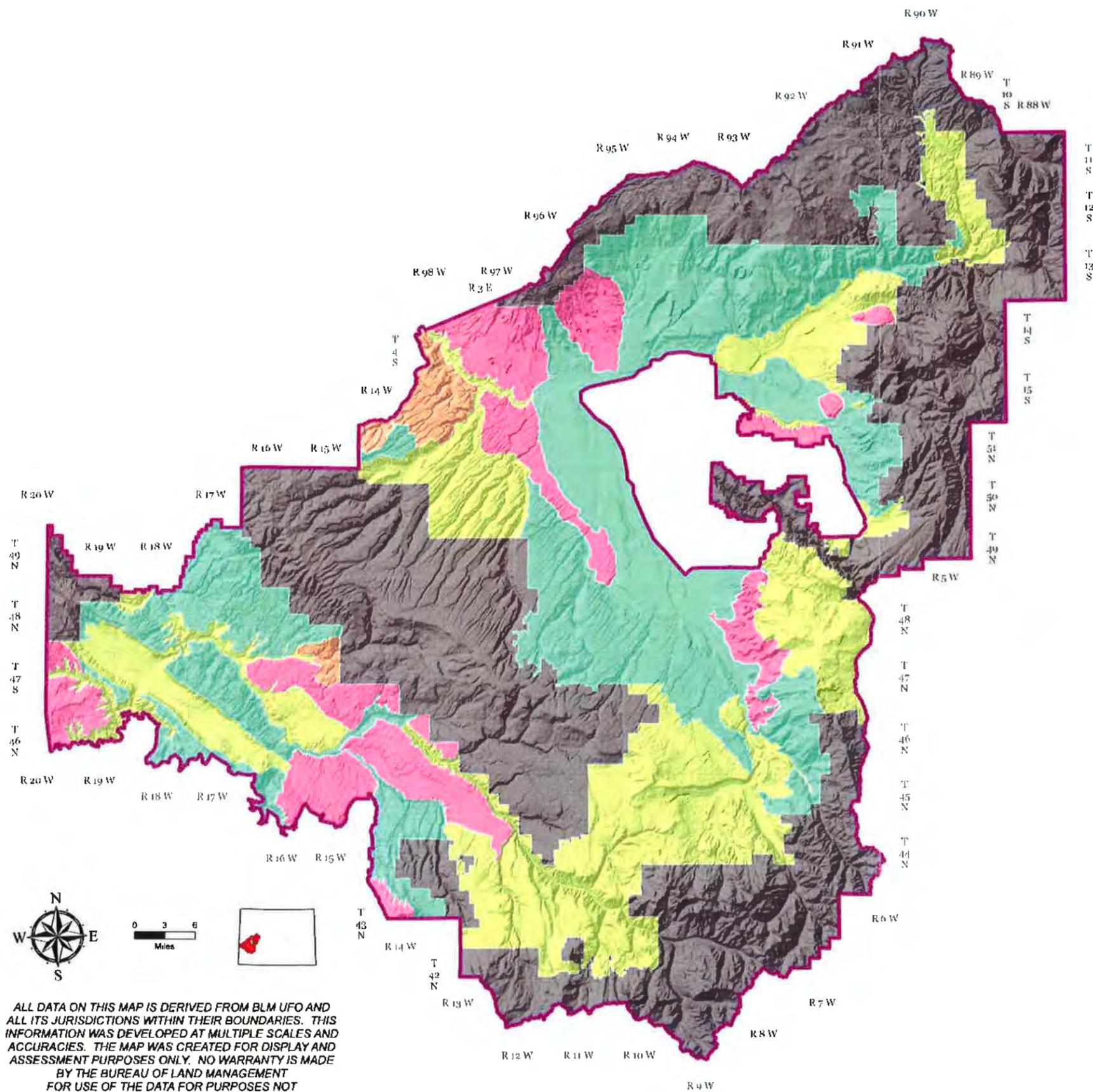
		Visual Sensitivity Levels						
		High			Medium			Low
Scenic Quality	Special Areas	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
	A	II	II	II	II	II	II	II
	B	II	III	III IV*	III	IV	IV	IV
	C	III	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV
		f/m	b	s/s	f/m	b	s/s	s/s
		Distance Zones						

* If adjacent area is Class I, II, or III, assign Class III; if Class IV, assign Class IV.

Source: Visual Resource Inventory – BLM Manual Handbook 8410-1

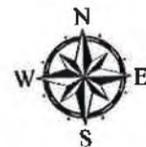
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Map 5-1 Visual Resource Inventory Classes



- Field Office Boundary
- Class I (44,918 Acres)
- Class II (703,766 Acres)
- Class III (784,741 Acres)
- Class IV (305,524 Acres)
- Not Rated

Note: Acreage includes all BLM and non-BLM administered lands.



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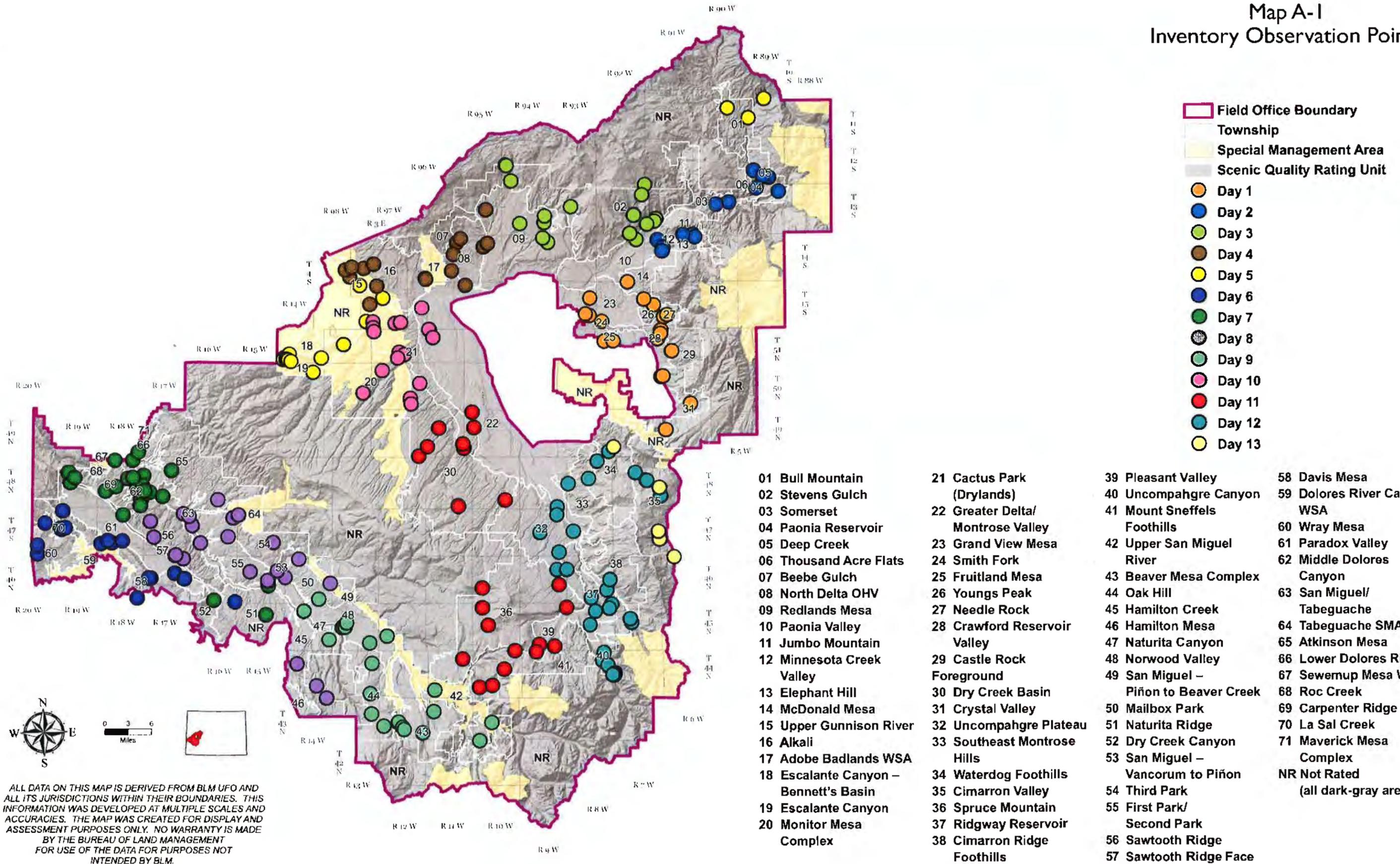
Scenic Quality Rating Units

No.	SLRU Name	Page	No.	SLRU Name	Page
1	Bull Mountain	A-4	42	Upper San Miguel River	A-146
2	Stevens Gulch	A-7	43	Beaver Mesa Complex	A-149
3	Somerset	A-11	44	Oak Hill	A-152
4	Paonia Reservoir	A-14	45	Hamilton Creek	A-156
5	Deep Creek	A-17	46	Hamilton Mesa	A-159
6	Thousand Acre Flats	A-20	47	Naturita Canyon	A-162
7	Beebe Gulch	A-23	48	Norwood Valley	A-165
8	North Delta OHV	A-26	49	San Miguel – Piñon to Beaver Creek	A-168
9	Redlands Mesa	A-29	50	Mailbox Park	A-171
10	Paonia Valley	A-33	51	Naturita Ridge	A-174
11	Jumbo Mountain	A-37	52	Dry Creek Canyon	A-177
12	Minnesota Creek Valley	A-40	53	San Miguel – Vancorum to Piñon	A-180
13	Elephant Hill	A-43	54	Third Park	A-183
14	McDonald Mesa	A-46	55	First Park/Second Park	A-186
15	Upper Gunnison River	A-49	56	Sawtooth Ridge	A-189
16	Alkali	A-53	57	Sawtooth Ridge Face	A-193
17	Adobe Badlands WSA	A-56	58	Davis Mesa	A-196
18	Escalante Canyon – Bennett's Basin	A-59	59	Dolores River Canyon WSA	A-200
19	Escalante Canyon	A-62	60	Wray Mesa	A-203
20*	Monitor Mesa Complex	A-66	61	Paradox Valley	A-206
21	Cactus Park (Drylands)	A-71	62	Middle Dolores Canyon	A-211
22	Greater Delta/Montrose Valley	A-75	63	San Miguel/Tabeguache	A-215
23	Grand View Mesa	A-79	64	Tabeguache Special Management Area	A-218
24	Smith Fork	A-82	65	Atkinson Mesa	A-221
25	Fruitland Mesa	A-85	66	Lower Dolores River	A-225
26	Youngs Peak	A-88	67	Sewemup Mesa	A-229
27	Needle Rock	A-91	68	Roc Creek	A-232
28	Crawford Reservoir Valley	A-94	69	Carpenter Ridge	A-235
29	Castle Rock Foreground	A-97	70	La Sal Creek	A-238
30	Dry Creek Basin	A-100	71	Maverick Mesa Complex	A-242
31	Crystal Valley	A-104			
32	Uncompahgre Plateau	A-107			
33	Southeast Montrose Hills	A-110			
34	Waterdog Foothills	A-113			
35	Cimarron Valley	A-117			
36	Spruce Mountain	A-122			
37	Ridgway Reservoir	A-126			
38	Cimarron Ridge Foothills	A-129			
39	Pleasant Valley	A-133			
40	Uncompahgre Canyon	A-138			
41	Mount Sneffels Foothills	A-142			

*Includes 3 Sensitivity Level Units

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Map A-1 Inventory Observation Points



UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 01 – Bull Mountain

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat valley bottoms with rolling foothills rising up; gentle, rolling wider/open valleys	Low, rounded, diverse patches; agricultural fields have a long, linear form dictated by valley bottom	Geometrical, vertical
Line	Horizontal, diagonal drainage and slopes; undulating, simple lines	Curvilinear riparian zone, undulating/organic ridge between vegetation types	Vertical/horizontal, linear fence and roads
Color	Browns, grays, reds	Bright green, dark green, sage green; variety of greens harmonious; grays. Fall colors: yellows, reds, oranges	Red, whites, browns, green; agricultural structures
Texture	Medium	Patchy; smooth to medium	Smooth surfaces, but coarse in the landscape

3. Narrative

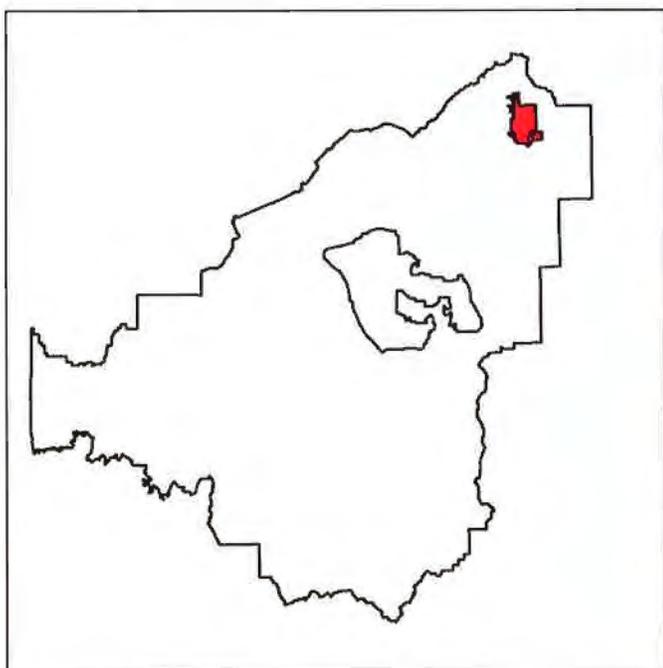
Riparian valleys with agricultural fields. Very diverse, vibrant vegetative community: hillsides of sage meadow, scrub oak, aspens, and conifers following drainages. Unit also exhibits considerable visual variety in terms of color.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Bull Mountain

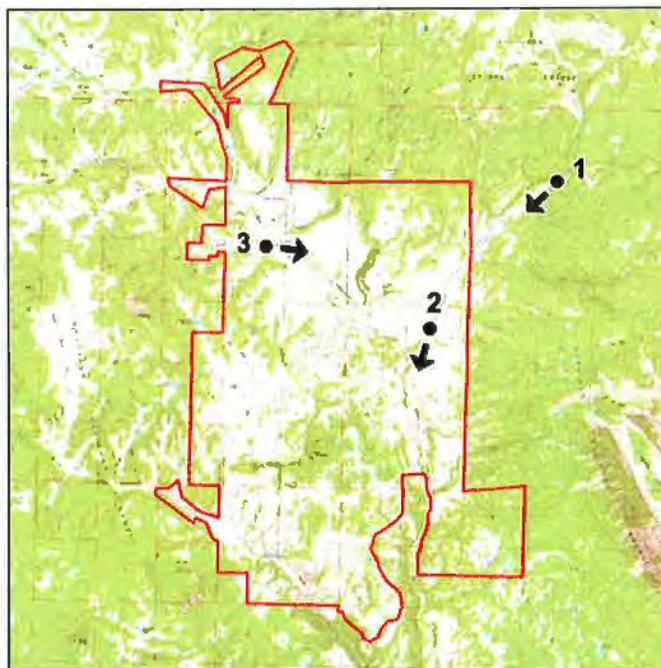
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Rolling landscape	
b. Vegetation	4			Great variety	
c. Water		3.5		Flowing, visible	
d. Color	4			Vegetation would have great seasonal variations	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Raggeds add wonderful backdrop	
f. Scarcity			2	Other similar features in region	
g. Cultural Modification		0		Agriculture does not detract or make better than natural	
TOTALS	12	3.5	4	19.5	

Comments:

Very scenic landscape with great visual variety. Adjacent scenery adds great interest.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Location



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 02 – Stevens Gulch

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)			
	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Undulating landform, prominent/large-scale hills with moderate to steep slopes	Rough, dense form with some irregular meadow openings	Geometrical forms, curvilinear
Line	Weak, overlapping diagonals; lines of drainages rounded, irregular	Complex, weak, overlapping; diagonals as vegetation follows drainages, curving	Straight, curvilinear
Color	Grays, tans, browns, few tannish outcrops, generally lighter tones	Dark green, Yuma and Juniper Green, warm colors; autumn would include gray, brown	Gray, white, brown
Texture	Medium	Patchiness, smooth meadows to medium-dense vegetation	Smooth surface, although rough in landscape

3. Narrative

Foothills above the Paonia Valley are covered in dense vegetation with meadow breaks. The landform is rolling and varied with a few rock formations poking out, and drainages leading through and down to the valley below. Vegetation is dense with meadow opening: aspens, pinyon/juniper, conifers, and sage. A reservoir, canal, and creeks are occasionally visible. Adjacent scenery is not always in view, but is usually quite eye-catching when visible. A large burn area from a few years back is starting to revegetate. There are also portions of a mine with revegetation occurring. The far west edge of the unit has prominent rock banding. Foothills above the Paonia Valley covered in dense vegetation with meadow breaks. There is a large mine with portions currently under reclamation, and a large burn area.

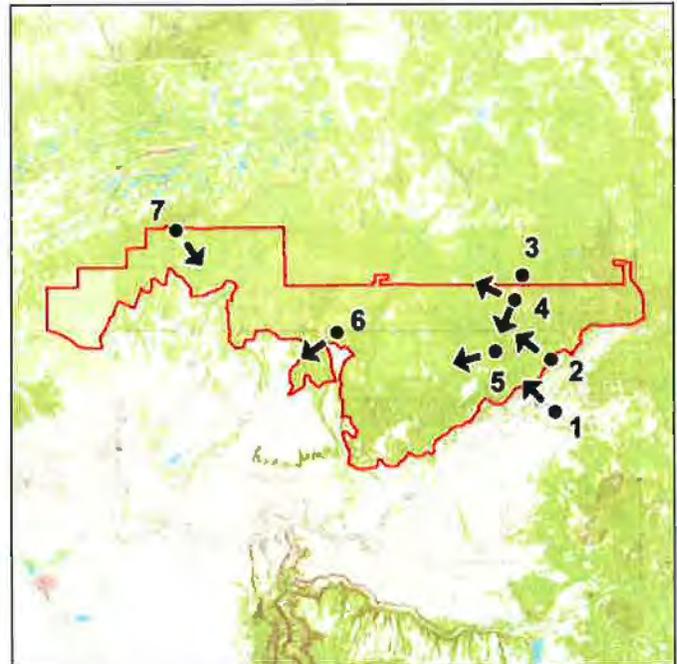
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Rolling landform with a few outcrops	
b. Vegetation		3.5		Aspens, conifers, pinyon/juniper, meadows	
c. Water			1	Canal, some drainages	
d. Color		3		Seasonal variation	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3.5		Some views across valley	
f. Scarcity			2	Common, but notable	
g. Cultural Modification		0		Mine, but other positives with meadows	
TOTALS		13	3	16	

Comments:

Medium ratings for landform, vegetation, and color, coupled with a medium rating for adjacent scenery, place this unit in the Class B category.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Location



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6



IOP 7

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 03 – Somersct

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Barney Buria

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Canyon and river; steep canyon walls, some rock outcrops, big river	Heavy vegetative cover, mixed conifer and oak; continuous and patchy	Two highways, houses, mines, town power lines, railroads, poles; rectangular, cylindrical
Line	Diagonal canyon walls	Vertical conifers; indistinct line otherwise	Geometric lines, vertical silos, sinuous railroads and roads
Color	Brown, gray, beige	Yuma Green to Juniper Green	Gray, white, brown, various
Texture	Medium, with some coarse	Medium to coarse	Smooth surfaces

3. Narrative

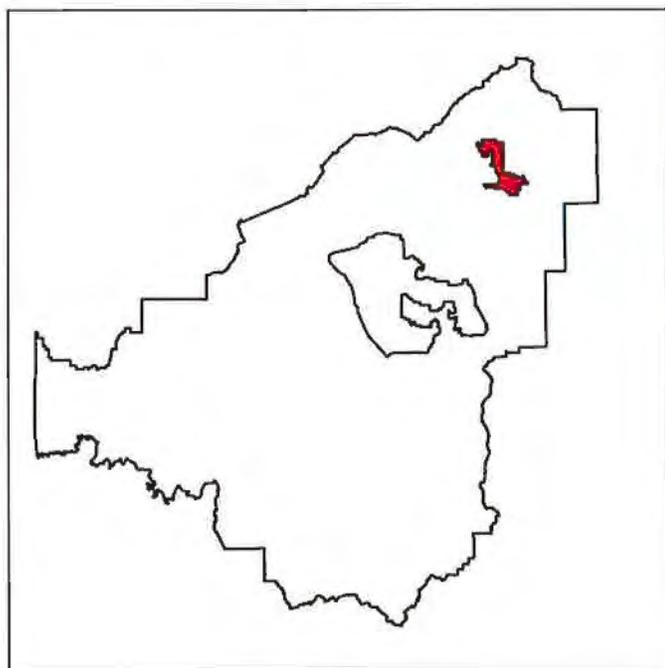
Canyon broadens, human activity more intensive. Heavy vegetative cover on canyon walls.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Somerset

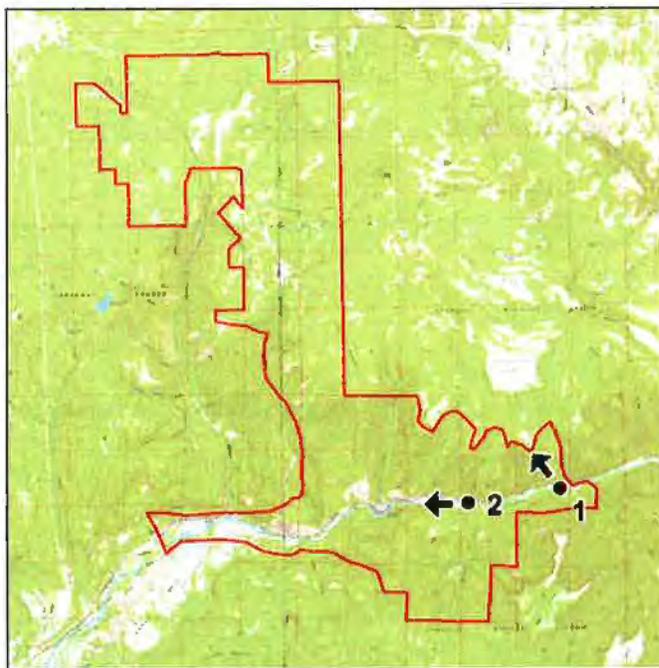
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Steep canyon walls	
b. Vegetation	4			Variety in vegetation	
c. Water	4			Nice river, white water	
d. Color		3		Some vibrant color	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	None of significance visible	
f. Scarcity			2	Interesting and verging on distinctive	
g. Cultural Modification			-2	Negative influence, mining and roads	
TOTALS	8	6	0	14	

Comments:

A diverse landscape with more human activity such as mining and transportation. These activities are only locally dominant from a visual viewpoint. Vegetation and water are dominant visual features of the area.



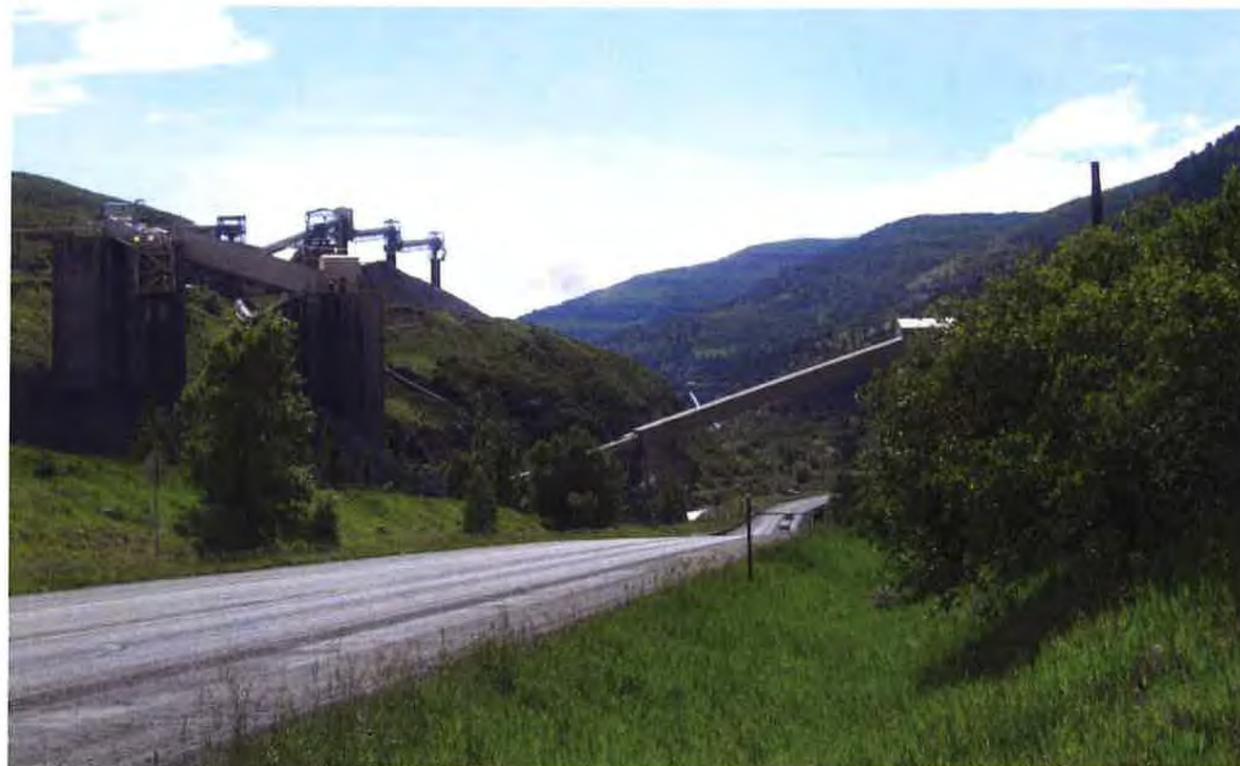
SQRU Locator



• IOP Location



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 04 – Paonia Reservoir

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Barney Buria

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)			
	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Narrow canyon with steep slopes; banded rock outcrops, rough river and broad, muddy reservoir	Conical, clumpy, patchy, scattered conifers; very diverse species	Dam, road, houses
Line	Strongly diagonal canyon walls	Vertical trees, indistinct	Geometric
Color	Brown, beige, gray	Yuma and Juniper Green, white	Various
Texture	Medium to coarse	Medium to coarse	Smooth

3. Narrative

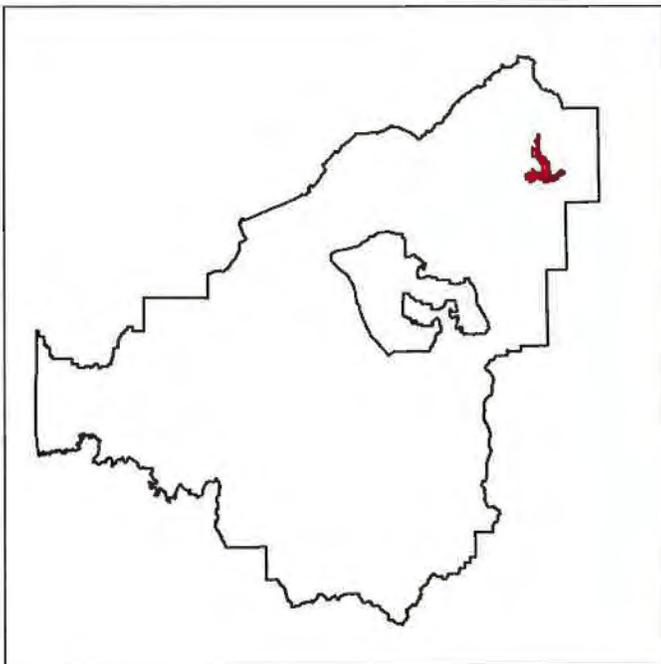
An enclosed landscape. Narrow canyon, very diverse vegetation. The combination of vegetation, water, and color add significantly to visual interest and variety.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Paonia Reservoir

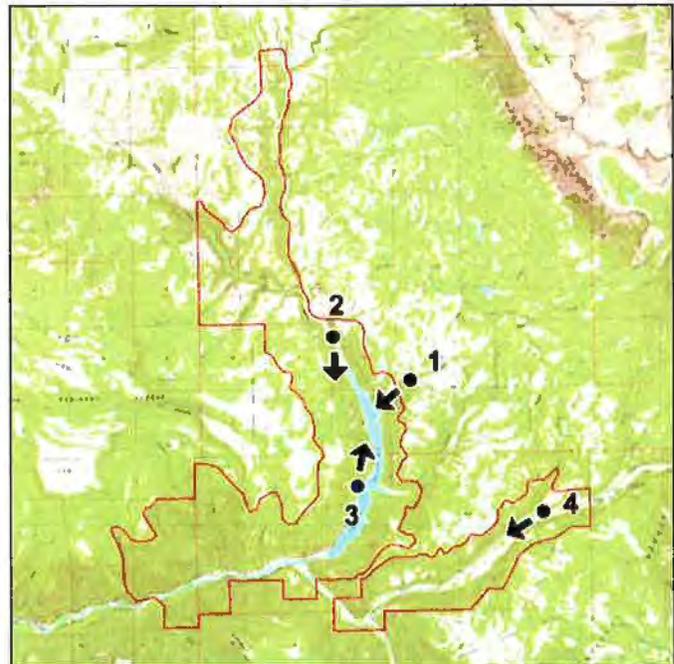
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3.5		Deep canyon	
b. Vegetation	5			High visual (species) variety	
c. Water	4			Reservoir river	
d. Color	4			Distinctive	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0		
f. Scarcity		3		Distinctive but similar to others in region	
g. Cultural Modification			-0.5		
TOTALS	13	6.5	-0.5	19	

Comments:

A river canyon with a reservoir and modest whitewater river. The Anthracite Canyon portion of this unit has a great view of spectacular snow-capped mountain scenery. The visual variety of the area is one of the reasons it rated as class A.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 05 – Deep Creck

1. **Evaluators:** Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Barney Buria

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)			
	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	High, rounded ridges incised by deep drainages; rounded, open, rolling hill tops; open meadows	Indistinct form somewhat defined by topographic features; some rounded, patchy, continuous vegetation cover	Ranch houses, road, buildings
Line	Overlapping, rounded, irregular; horizontal, elongated; broad ridges	Accentuated by rounded topographic features, undulating	Geometric
Color	Brown, soil, no rock overcrops of note, some grays, beiges	Vibrant, Yuma Green to light green, seasonal variation	Beiges, browns, red, white, various
Texture	Smooth to medium	Smooth to coarse	Smooth

3. Narrative

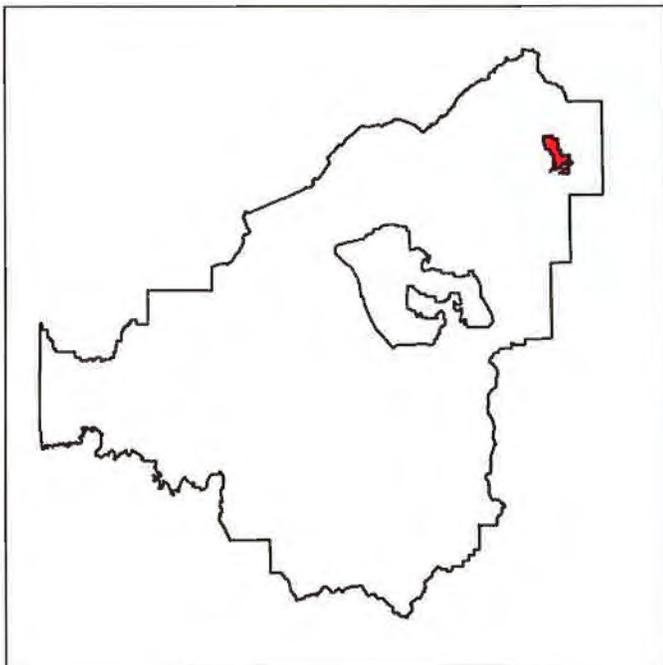
A diverse landscape with a great deal of visual variety. Vegetation and adjacent scenery are dominant features. A high complex ridge/mesa system between two major drainages. Ranch buildings and structures are in harmony with the setting of the area.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Deep Creek

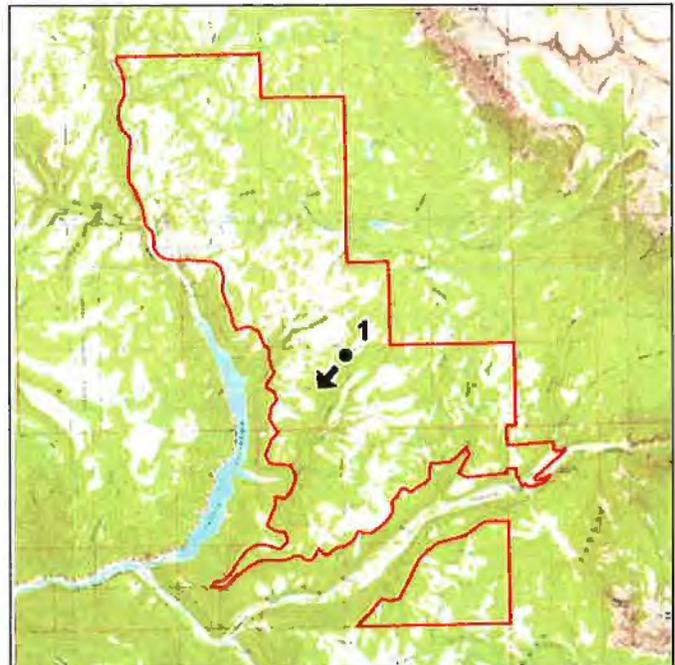
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2.5	Rounded ridges, hills, deep drainages	
b. Vegetation	5			Wildly diverse, great variety	
c. Water			1	Some visible, Deep Creek	
d. Color	4			Significant variety and seasonal variation	
e. Adjacent Scenery	5			Spectacular high-mountain scenery	
f. Scarcity		3		Somewhat	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None of major importance	
TOTALS	14	3	3.5	20.5	

Comments:

A beautiful, high-elevation area of oak/aspens/conifer/meadow surrounded by spectacular high-mountain scenery. Adjacent scenery adds significantly to the scenic quality of the area.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 06 – Thousand Acre Flats

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Barney Buria

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Large-scale, rounded, broad ridge-tops; open, rolling	Patchy, irregular pattern, non-directional	Roads and trails, very indistinct
Line	Rounded, undulating	Irregular, complex without distinct pattern	n/a
Color	Brown, light brown, beige to gray soils	Variable, vibrant, Yuma Green to Juniper Green, some sage	n/a
Texture	Smooth to medium	Smooth, medium, coarse, depends on species	n/a

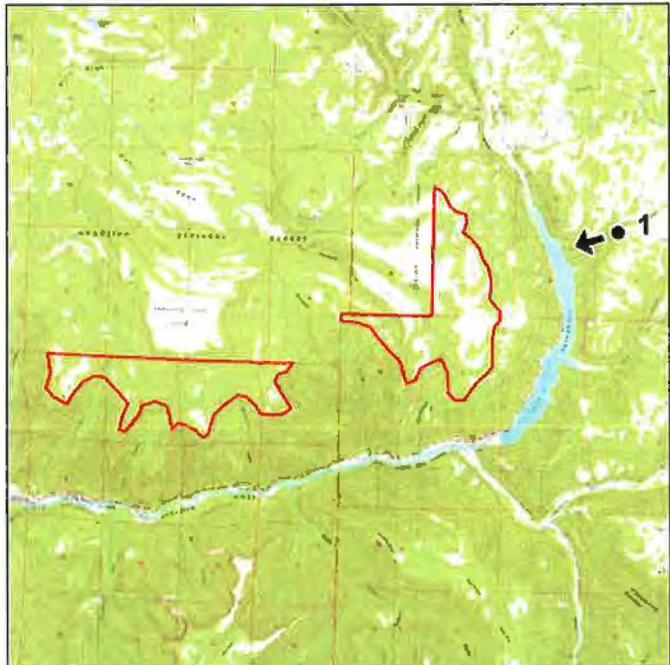
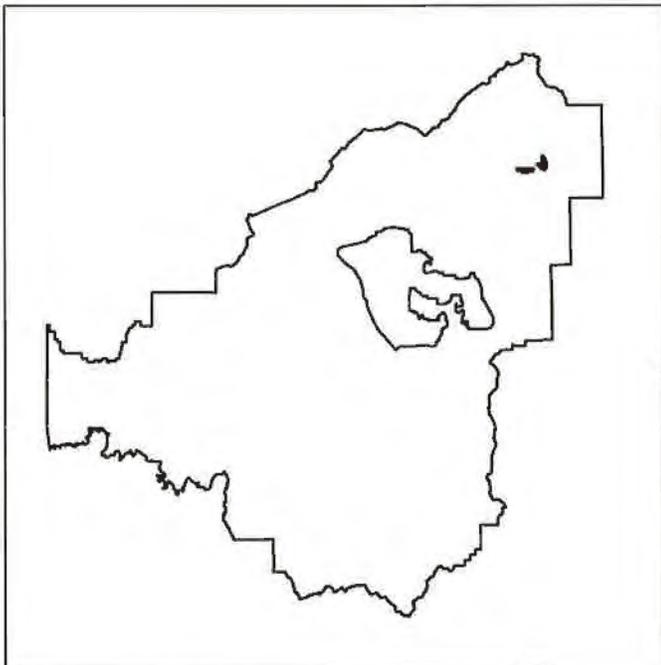
3. Narrative

A broad ridge with open, gently sloping areas and diverse, heavy vegetative cover. This small rating unit lies between the canyon complex (Paonia Reservoir) and the national forest. It was designated as a separate rating unit because the visual character is different from Paonia Reservoir.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Thousand Acre Flats

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	No major noticeable features	
b. Vegetation	4			Diverse; great visual variety	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color		3.5		Seasonal variation	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Spectacular surrounding mountain scenery	
f. Scarcity			2	Fairly common	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None noted	
TOTALS	8	3.5	4	15.5	

Comments:
 Very scenic. A natural-appearing landscape adjacent to the national forest.

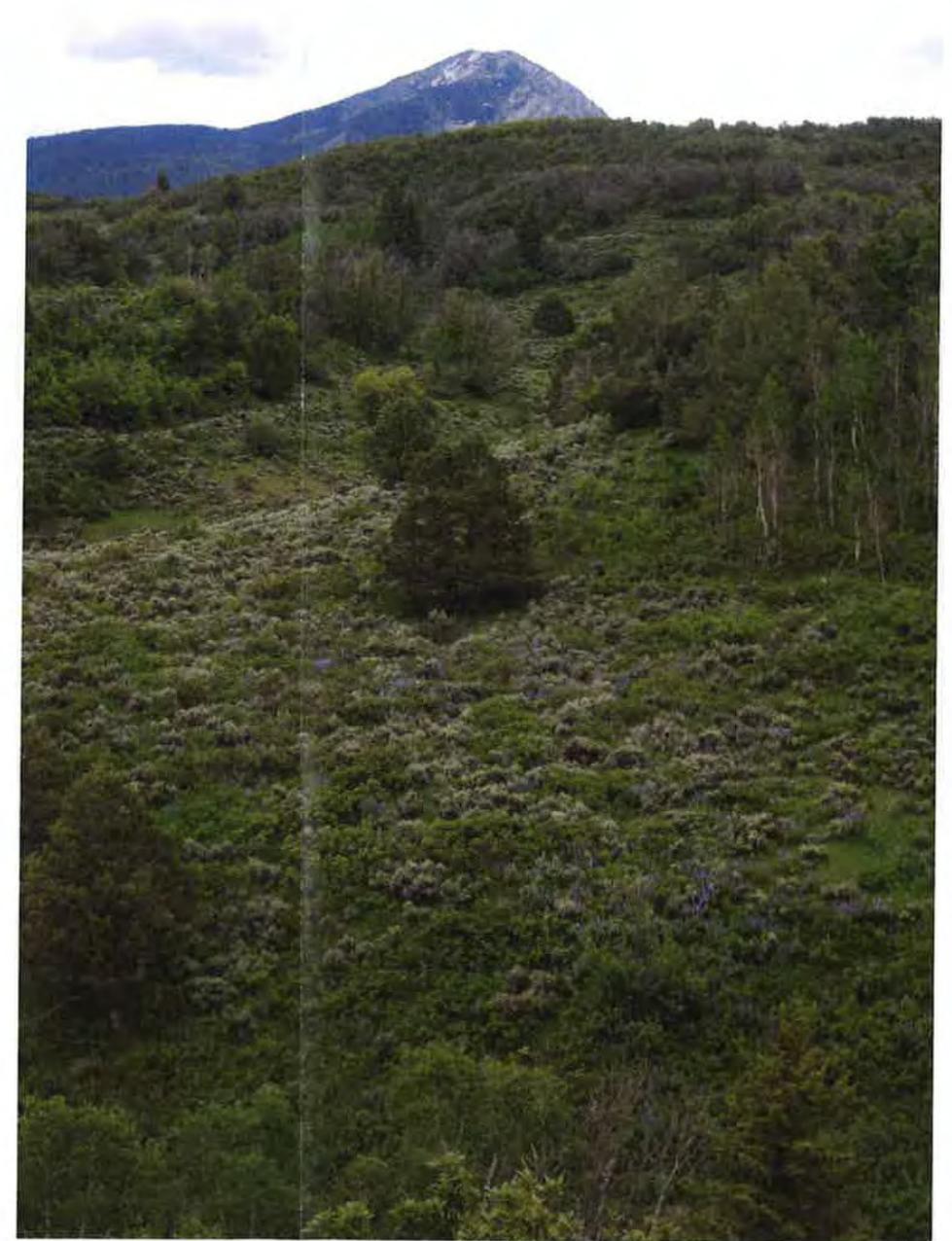


SQRU Locator

• IOP Locations



IOP 1



Detail

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 07 – Beebe Gulch

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Mesas, pyramid-shaped hills, rounded forms	Low, small, sparse; also juniper	Roads pipelines
Line	Horizontal, diagonal, rounded	Horizontal; complements landforms	Vertical, horizontal
Color	Gray with buff/tan accents	Gray, Yuma Green	White, silver
Texture	Medium to coarse and smooth surfaces	Stippled	Smooth

3. Narrative

The Beebe Gulch Unit is defined by Forest Service lands to the north, OHV area to the south, a Wilderness Study Area to the west, and the Cedaredge Valley to the east. It is characterized by distinctive landforms but otherwise lacks notable visual features.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Beebe Gulch

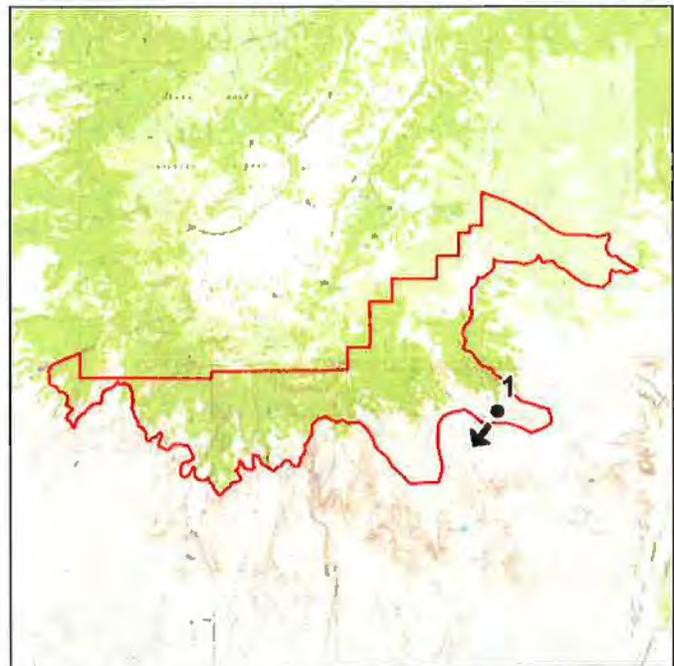
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Interesting	
b. Vegetation			2	Mute tones	
c. Water			0	None present	
d. Color			2	Mute tones	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	Grand Mesa minor influence	
f. Scarcity			1	Fairly common landscape	
g. Cultural Modification			0		
TOTALS		3	7	10	

Comments:

A broken, eroded landscape with mesas, pyramid-shaped hills, and characterized by sparse but mixed vegetation.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Location



IOP 1

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 08 – North Delta OHV

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat landscape with numerous rounded, pyramid-shaped buttes; low, flat mesas, valleys, and drainages	Rounded clumps, linear alignments along drainages; low, scattered ground cover	Roads and OHV trails create the impression of a substantial human imprint on the landscape
Line	Horizontal landscape with many rounded, diagonal, curvilinear lines	Horizontal, irregular	Diverse, curvilinear
Color	Gray, buff, light brown, yellow	Gray to Juniper Green, tamarisk and cottonwood are most dominant visually	Same as landform colors
Texture	Smooth surfaces with medium to coarse features	Coarse in drainages, stippled elsewhere	Smooth

3. Narrative

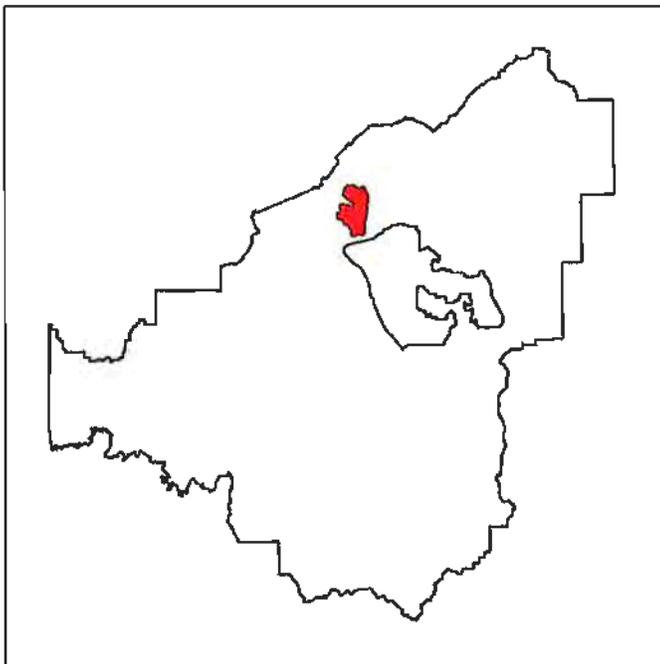
A dry, highly eroded landscape, mostly devoid of vegetative cover. Heavy impacts from OHV activity.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: North Delta OHV

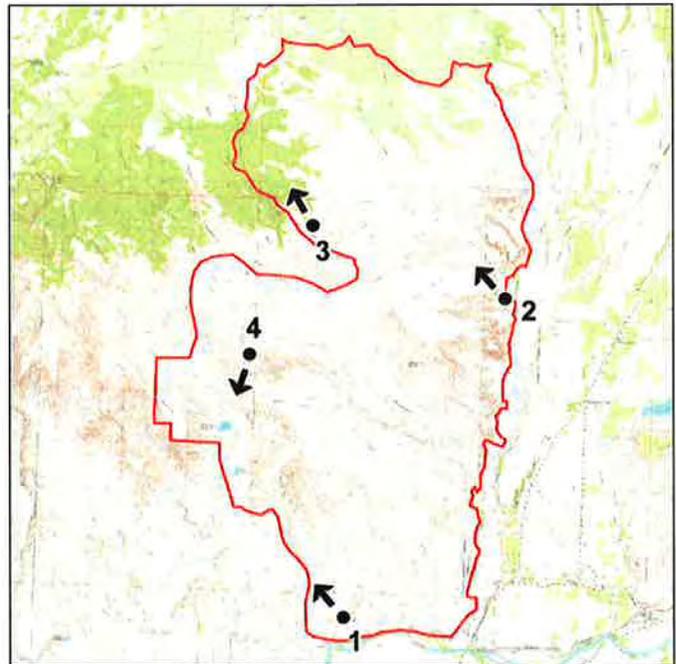
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Interesting landforms, buttes, mesas	
b. Vegetation			1	Little or no variety, not a dominant element	
c. Water			0	None of consequence (canal, reservoir on boundary)	
d. Color			1	Subtle color, generally muted tones	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		Grand Mesa National Forest	
f. Scarcity			2	Distinctive but not an unusual landscape	
g. Cultural Modification			-2	Noticeable OHV impacts	
TOTALS		6	2	8	

Comments:

A landscape that, with the exception of interesting landforms, lacks any significant visual interest in terms of vegetation, water, and color. Human impacts in part of the unit are dominant.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 09 – Redlands Mesa

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)			
	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rolling valley floor with few, more prominent features; edges of unit start to rise up with benches	Low fields, stands of native upright ornamental and wind-break trees	Geometric
Line	Horizontal	Distinct edge of cultivated fields	Geometric
Color	Grays, tans, browns	Greens, dark greens, grays, browns	Whites, reds, grays, many structure colors
Texture	Smooth to medium	Smooth to medium; patches of rough	Smooth sides, medium to rough in the landscape

3. Narrative

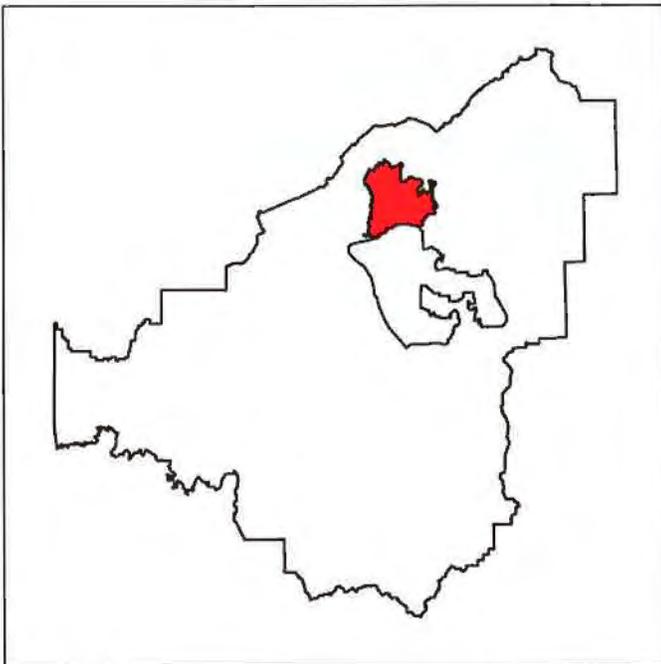
This unit represents the valley and a mixture of agricultural lands around Cedaredge, south to Highway 82 and east to Hotchkiss. The northern edges of the unit are bounded by the lands rising to the Grand Mesa.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Redlands Mesa

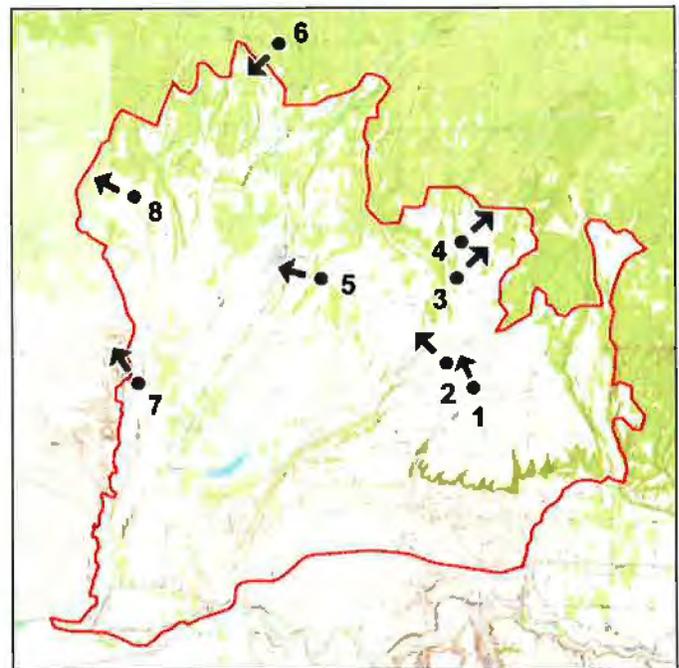
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			1.5	Low, rolling	
b. Vegetation		3.5		Native as well as agricultural	
c. Water			2	Ditches, stream, reservoir	
d. Color		3		Seasonal change	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		Grand Mesa, Black Canyon area	
f. Scarcity			1	Common	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None	
TOTALS		9.5	4.5	14	

Comments:

The adjacent scenery encompasses the agricultural valley setting.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



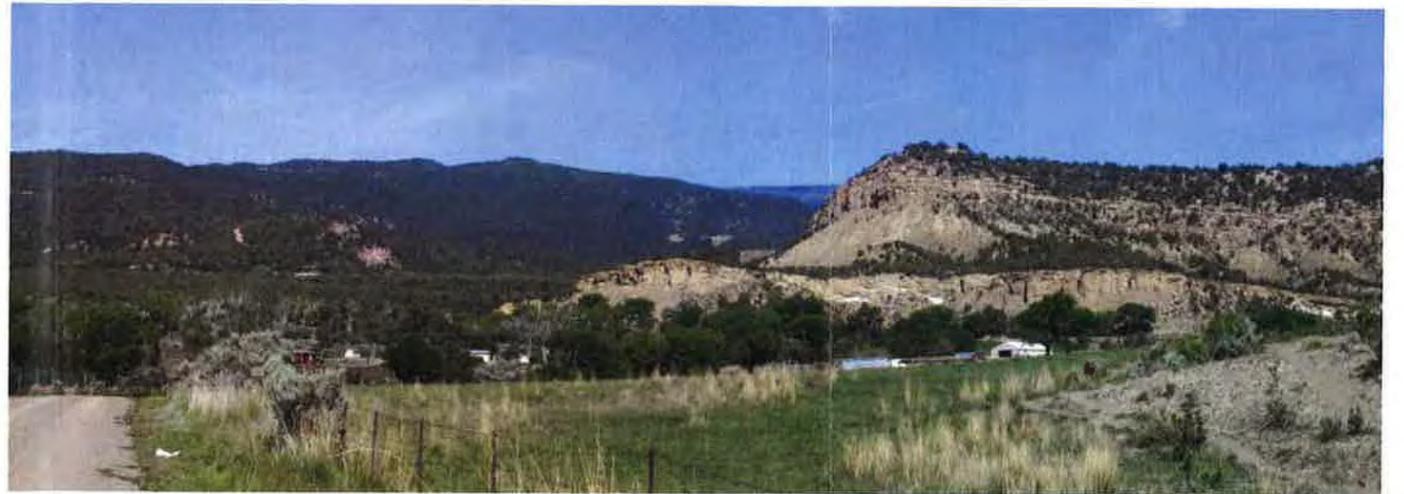
IOP 4



IOP 7



IOP 5



IOP 8



IOP 6

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 10 – Paonia Valley

1. **Evaluators:** Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Horizontal/flat valley with hills rising up in a few locations	Geometrical fields; rounded trees following field edges and drainages	Geometric, linear
Line	Horizontal, diagonal drainages, rounded	Regular lines of field edges; straight, patchy in native areas; clusters around residential	Geometrical, straight, hard
Color	Gray, tan, yellowish-orange, brown	Bright green, gray, dark green, yellowish	White, gray, black; residential and related areas come in a variety of colors
Texture	Smooth to medium	Smooth to medium striped	Smooth surfaces but coarse in the landscape

3. Narrative

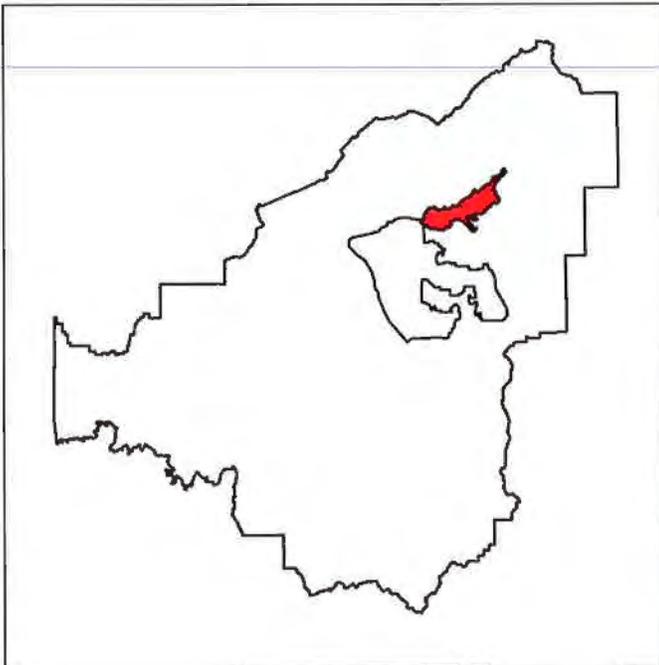
Agricultural, residential, community and other development occurs around hills with mostly native appearance. Vegetation is generally agriculture-related with riparian down the center. Residential plantings occur in town and around homes in rural areas. Native vegetation blankets the rolling hills. The north fork of the Gunnison River runs through the unit but generally is not visible.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Paonia Valley

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Some variety but mostly flat to rolling	
b. Vegetation		3.5		Crops add some variety	
c. Water		3		North fork of the Gunnison River, canals	
d. Color		3		Variety with vegetation	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Mountain backdrop	
f. Scarcity			2.5	Occurs elsewhere but this valley is more beautiful	
g. Cultural Modification		0		Balance between farms a plus; gravel pits and industrial a negative	
TOTALS	4	9.5	4.5	18	

Comments:

The valley is flat with some rolling hills rising up in some locations. The area retains scenic quality and



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 11 – Jumbo Mountain

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Overlapping pyramids; rounded, steep hills; exposed rock outcrops; long ridges trailing out from main ridge complex	Irregular, patchy, broken space to continuous cover	Power line, communications site
Line	Complex, diagonal; banded/horizontal cliffs	Curving; follows landforms, diagonals	Vertical
Color	Gray, browns, beige, faded reds; salmon to yellow	Yuma Green, gray, bright green, Covert Green	Light brown, silver
Texture	Coarse	Smooth, medium, coarse in foreground	Smooth

3. Narrative

A massive landform that defines the eastern edge of the Minnesota Creek and the north fork of the Gunnison River. A dominant visual feature from Paonia.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Jumbo Mountain

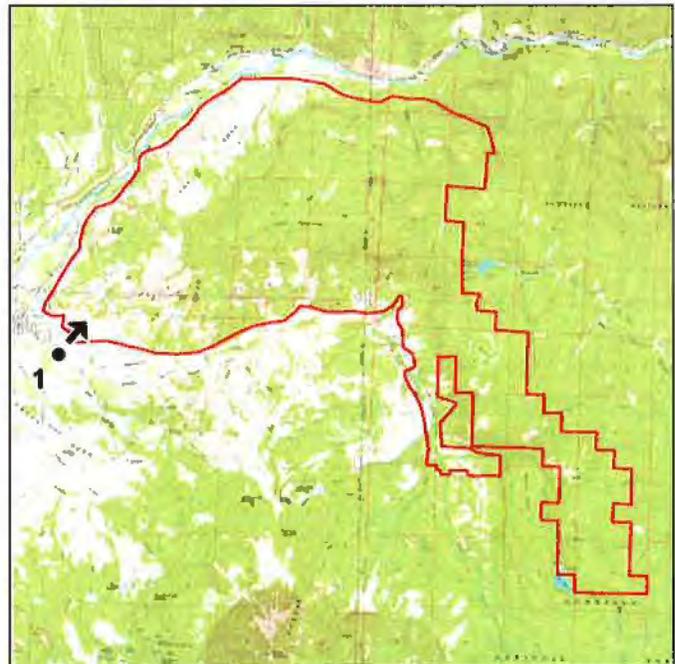
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3.5		Dominant visual feature	
b. Vegetation		3		Some diversity	
c. Water			0	None present	
d. Color		3.5		Some variety and intensity	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Surrounded by spectacular scenery	
f. Scarcity			2	Nice but not unusual	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Communications site and power lines	
TOTALS	4	10	2	16	

Comments:

Prominent landscape feature surrounded by spectacular, highly variable landscapes.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1

UNITED STATES
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SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 12 -- Minnesota Creek Valley

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Barney Buria

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Narrow valley bottom, sloping sides, undulating, rolling	Continuous, clumpy, patchy, smooth, mixed	Fences, roads, buildings, residences; scattered geometric shapes and forms
Line	Undulating, rounded, rolling	Indistinct	Geometric
Color	Light-brown soils	Vibrant shades of green, seasonal variation	Various; white, brown
Texture	Smooth	Smooth to coarse	Smooth

3. Narrative

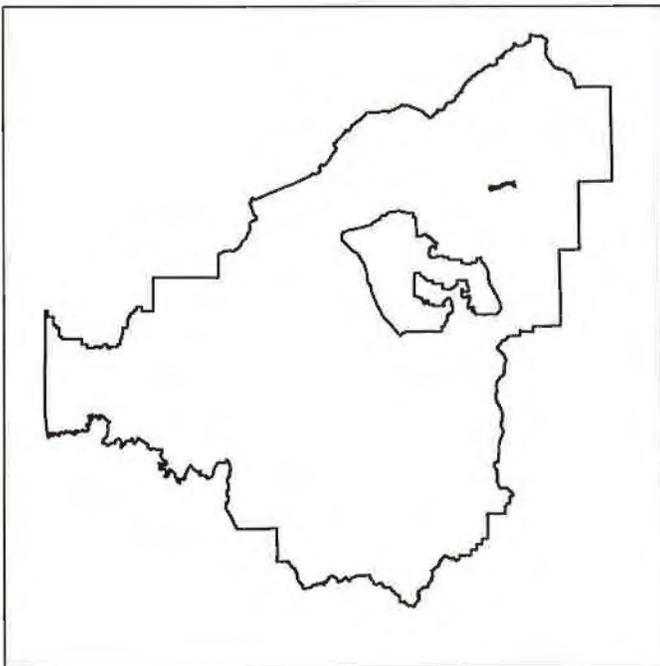
A narrow valley with scattered farmsteads and residences. Vibrant vegetation; surrounded by spectacular scenery.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Minnesota Creek Valley

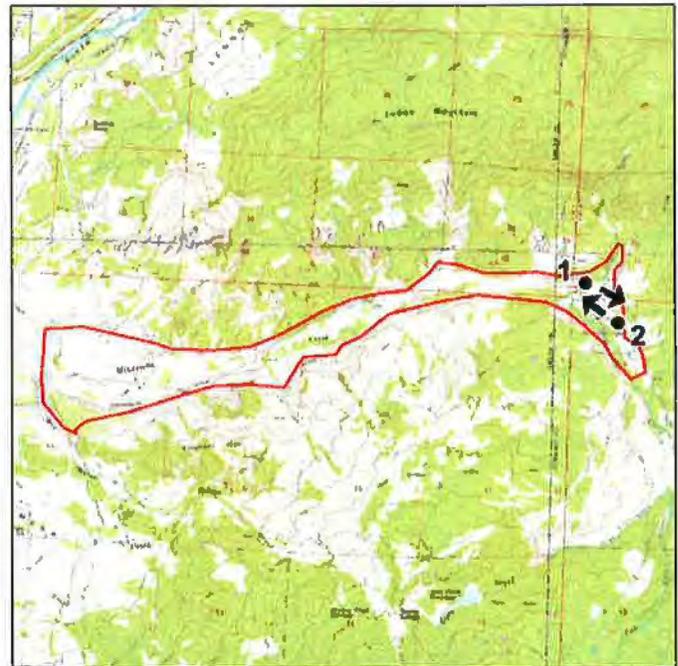
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Valley bottom, rolling slopes	
h. Vegetation	4			Vibrant vegetation and visual variety	
c. Water			1	None very visible	
d. Color		3		Vegetation	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		National forest, Jumbo Mountain	
f. Scarcity			1	Not unusual or scarce	
g. Cultural Modification			1	Hay meadows	
TOTALS	4	6	5	15	

Comments:

A beautiful, narrow valley with mature hay meadows and a variety of vegetation. A very attractive, pastoral setting.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
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SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 13 – Elephant Hill

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rounded, low pyramids; rounded, prominent hills with moderately steep slopes; some rock outcrops due to landslides	Pinyon/juniper and scrub oak	None noted
Line	Rounded, curved lines, diagonals	Vegetation breaks on topographic features; overall indistinct, continuous vegetation cover	n/a
Color	Light salmon/red	Yuma Green to Juniper Green	n/a
Texture	Medium	Smooth to medium	n/a

3. Narrative

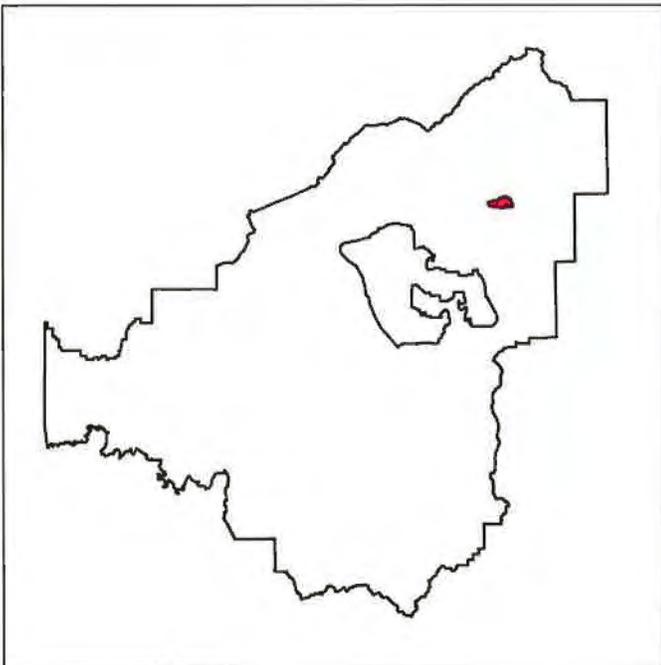
The Elephant Hill Unit is defined by the Minnesota Creek Valley and Forest Service lands. It is a fairly low hill complex with pinyon/juniper and scrub oak vegetative cover.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Elephant Hill

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Low but noticeable hill complex	
b. Vegetation		3		Pinyon/juniper	
c. Water			0	None seen	
d. Color			2	Mostly Yuma Green	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Spectacular	
f. Scarcity			1	Common landform and vegetation	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None of any consequence	
TOTALS	4	3	5	12	

Comments:

A prominent hill/low mountain complex with mixed oak/juniper vegetation; devoid of visible human impact. A very subordinate landscape relative to surroundings.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Location



IOP 1

UNITED STATES
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SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 14 – McDonald Mesa

1. **Evaluators:** Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Barney Buria

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Mountain slopes; long, gently sloping ridge, rolling; overlapping pyramids; eroded ridges	Heavy landscape cover (pinyon/juniper, oak) at higher elevations, some irregular openings; patchy, spotty, scattered, dispersed at lower elevations	Power lines, roads
Line	Horizontal landscape with diagonal, irregular lines	Indistinct; some diagonal, overall horizontal distribution; vegetation accentuates drainages (diagonal and horizontal)	Sinuous roads, vertical power lines
Color	Buff to gray, brown, beige	Juniper and Yuma Green, gray-green (Covert Green to Shadow Gray)	Brown and assorted light colors
Texture	Smooth to medium to coarse	Smooth to medium	Smooth

3. Narrative

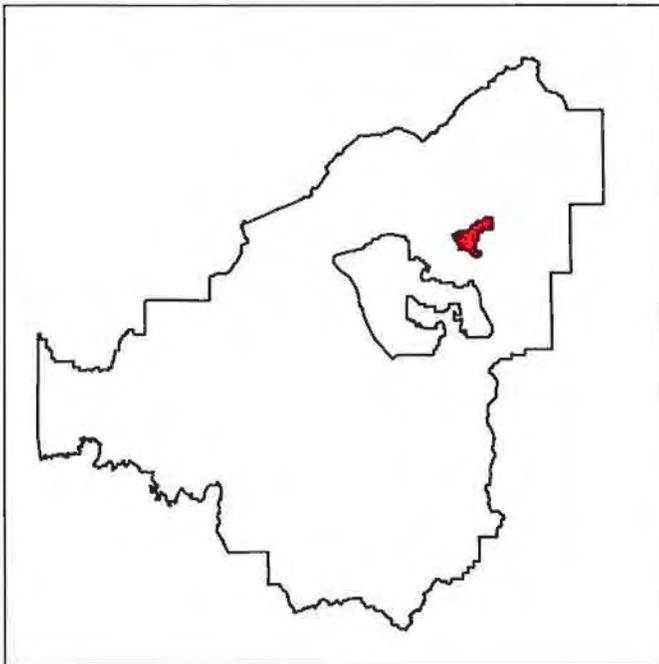
Lower portion of a major feature landscape. Bounded by Forest Service land to the east and southeast, irrigated Paonia Valley to the west and northwest, and Grand View Mesa to the southwest. A dramatic part of the Paonia viewshed.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: McDonald Mesa

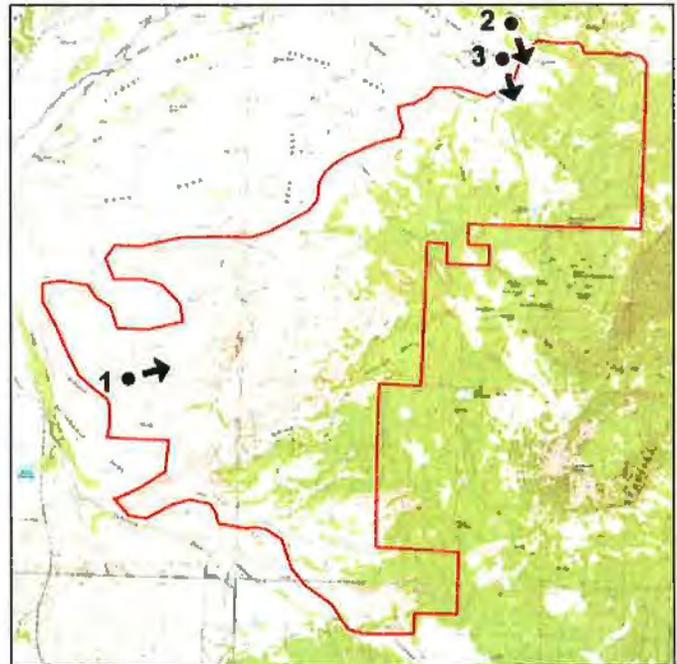
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Few interesting landscape features/ some ruggedness	
b. Vegetation		3		Pinyon/juiner, oak; sparse low vegetation	
c. Water			0	None visible	
d. Color			2.5	Greens, grays, subtle fall color	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Notable adjacent scenery	
f. Scarcity			1	Fairly common	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Neutral	
TOTALS	4	3	5.5	12.5	

Comments:

Provides nice foreground for bold adjacent scenery, which dramatically changes how the landscape is perceived.



SQRU Locator



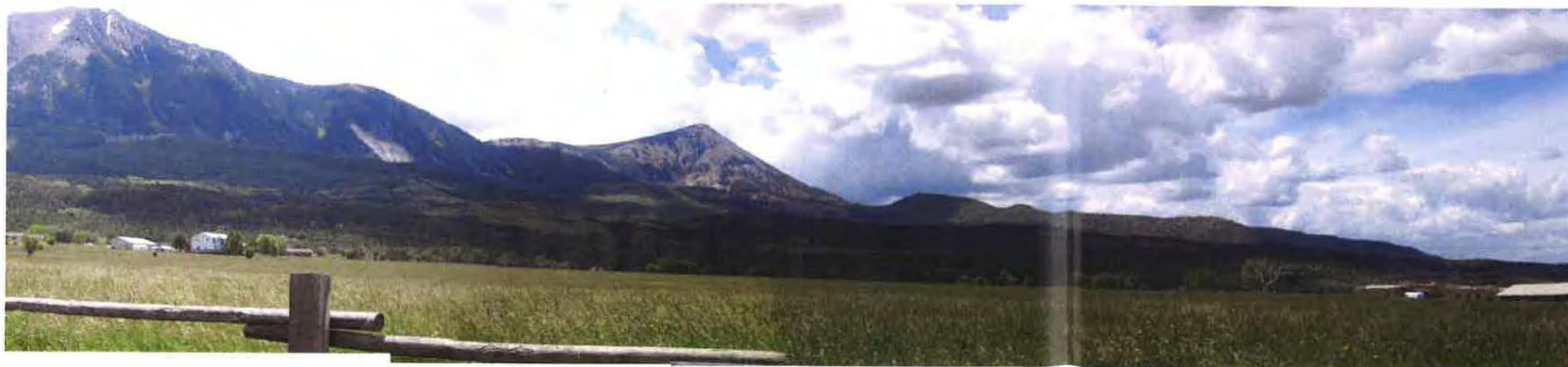
• IOP Location



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
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SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 15 – Upper Gunnison River

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Steep, rugged canyon walls; flat river bottom; rounded	Linear agricultural plantings, sinuous riparian area, dispersed native vegetation on steep slopes	Geometric agricultural facilities
Line	Sinuous valley, horizontal banding, vertical rock faces	Bold edge to irrigated fields; serpentine edge of riparian vegetation; diagonal line of vegetation following drainages	Geometric
Color	Reds, tans, purples, gray (badlands colors); white, orange/yellows	Dark green, light green, grays, brown	White, reds, browns, grays
Texture	Smooth valley floors, coarse walls	Smooth to medium	Smooth sides, coarse in landscape

3. Narrative

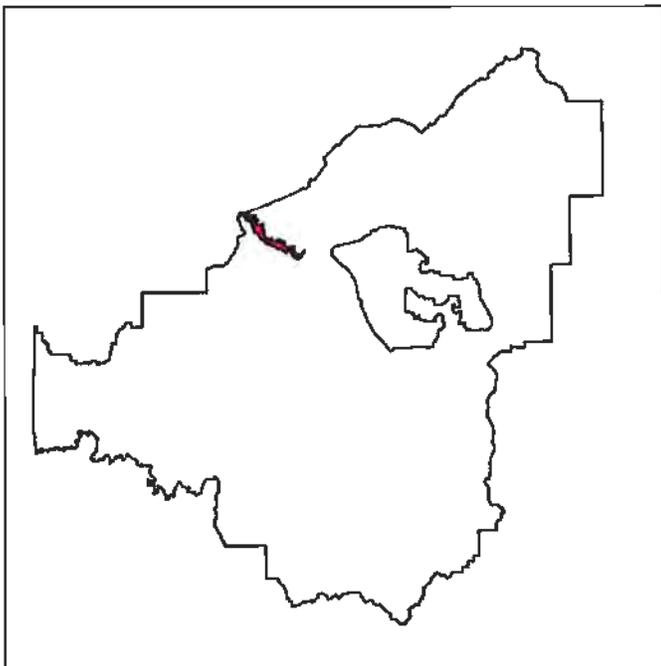
Part of the Dominguez-Escalante NCA; does not include Domigucz Canyon. Gunnison River Valley as it goes north out of Delta edged by Dominguez Canyon Wilderness Area to the west.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Upper Gunnison River

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	4			Dramatic valley	
b. Vegetation		3.5		Orchards and vineyards add to diversity	
c. Water	4			River very noticeable	
d. Color	4			Valley walls have a variety of colors: reds, tans, yellows; contrast nicely with green vegetation	
e. Adjacent Scenery			1	Wilderness area frames west edge intermittently	
f. Scarcity			2	Others like it are not as large	
g. Cultural Modification			1	Irrigated landscape adds nice color variety	
TOTALS	12	3.5	4	19.5	

Comments:

The river combined with canyon walls creates a very scenic valley.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2a



IOP 2b



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 16 – Alkali

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Broad, gently sloping plain with low mesas that have exposed, eroded faces	Low, continuous grass/shrub cover; even; juniper in some drainages; rounded, patchy	Power lines, lattice towers, poles, roads
Line	Horizontal with diagonal lines on exposed mesa faces	Low, horizontal	Vertical
Color	Gray, beige to tan/yellow, black rock (scattered)	Gray to Covert Green, some Yuma Green (juniper)	Silver/gray, brown poles
Texture	Smooth with some medium textured surfaces	Smooth except for juniper, which is medium to coarse	Smooth

3. Narrative

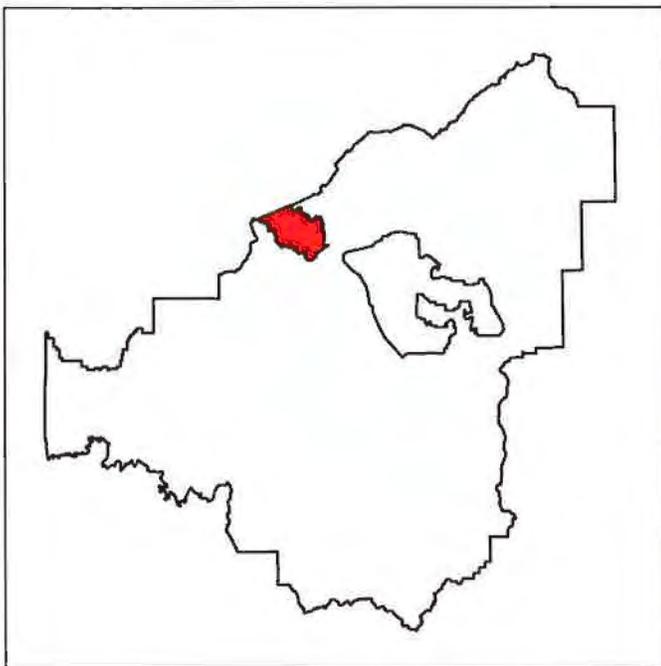
The unit is edged by the rising vegetated hillsides of the Grand Mesa to the North, Upper Gunnison River Valley and the community of Delta to the south, and the Adobe Badlands to the east. The west side of the unit is defined by the Field Office boundary.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Alkali

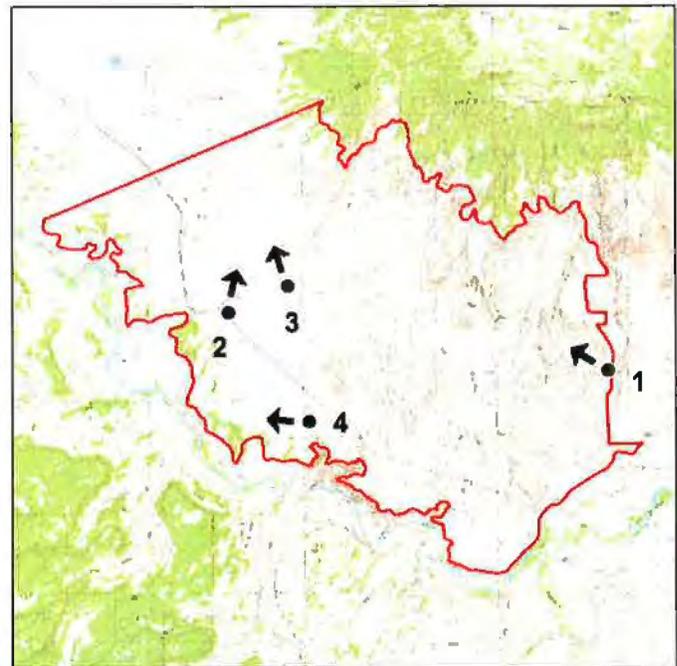
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Few interesting features	
b. Vegetation			2	Very minimal visual variety	
c. Water			0	No water	
d. Color			2	Some variety	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		Grand Mesa	
f. Scarcity			1	Common landscape in western Colorado	
g. Cultural Modification			-0.5	Power lines, communications site	
TOTALS		3	6.5	9.5	

Comments:

An open, panoramic landscape with some interesting erosional features.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
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 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 17 – Adobe Badlands Wilderness Study Area

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Mesas, pyramid-shaped hills, low ridges, flats	Sparse, low, scattered, irregular juniper at higher elevations near national forest	n/a
Line	Horizontal, diagonal lines	Indistinct	n/a
Color	Gray, yellow	Gray, Covert Green, juniper	n/a
Texture	Medium, some coarse; smooth surfaces, stippled with volcanic rock	Smooth to coarse	n/a

3. Narrative

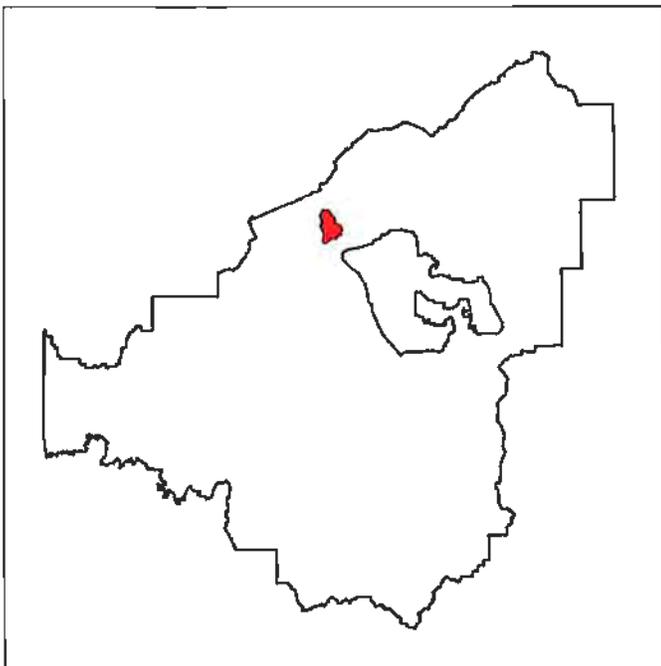
A nondescript landscape with eroded faces. Mostly muted tones (color); very interesting erosional features. The rating unit boundary follows the WSA boundary.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Adobe Badlands WSA

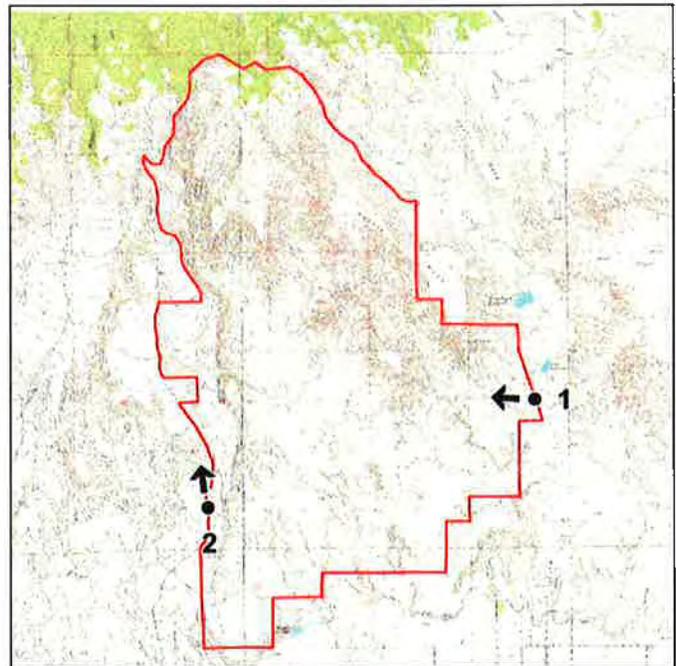
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Some interesting features	
b. Vegetation			1	Low, sparse, very minimal juniper	
c. Water			0	None present	
d. Color			2	Mostly muted tones	
e. Adjacent Scenery			1	Grand Mesa	
f. Scarcity			1	Fairly common landscape	
g. Cultural Modification			0	No human influence	
TOTALS			7		

Comments:

A natural landscape, part of a mostly panoramic landscape; open, horizontal for the most part with some interesting eroded landform features.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
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SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 18 – Escalante Canyon – Bennett's Basin

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat with sharp slopes; steep valley	Dense pinyon/juniper with sage meadow; uniform	n/a
Line	Horizontal rock banding, horizontal plateau	Indistinct	Horizontal and vertical fences
Color	Reds, oranges, desert varnish, tans	Greens, grays	Grays, browns
Texture	Smooth	Smooth to medium	Smooth

3. Narrative

Mesa top, bounded by wilderness area and national forest, and is part of the Dominguez-Escalante NCA. Delineated as a unit because of distinctive visual characteristics relative to the adjacent unit.

UNITED STATES
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SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

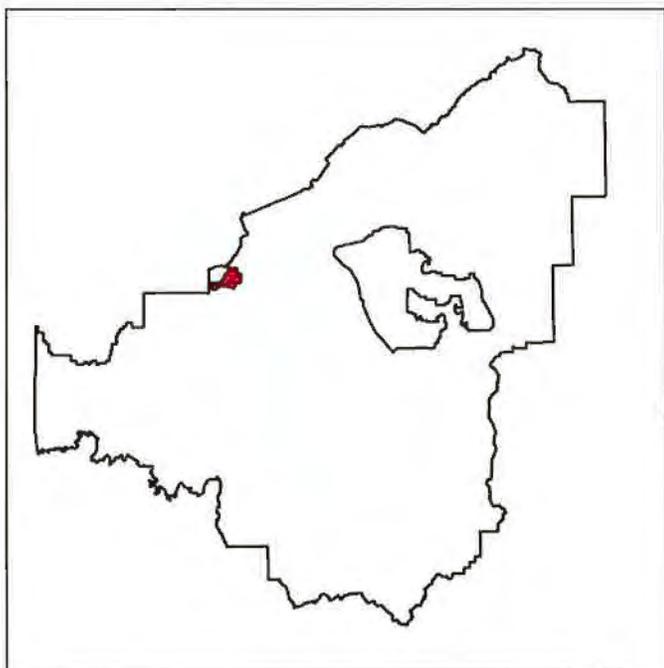
Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 18 – Escalante Canyon – Bennett's Basin

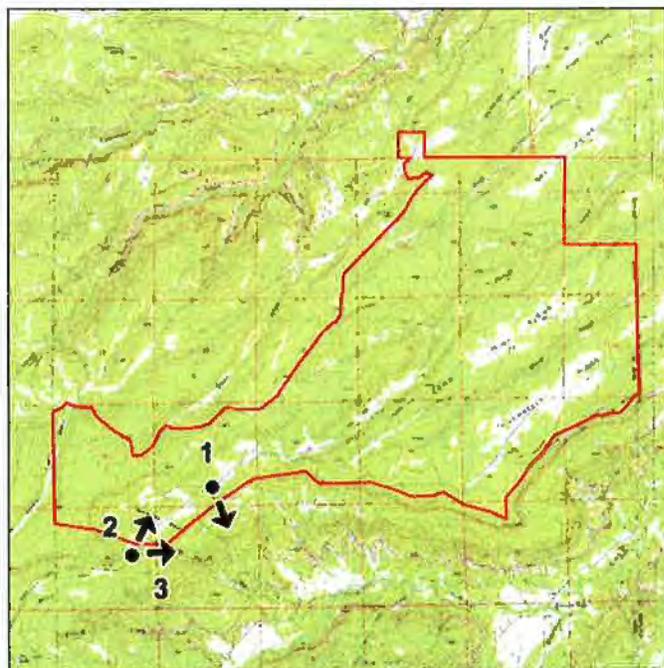
1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat with sharp slopes; steep valley	Dense pinyon/juniper with sage meadow; uniform	n/a
Line	Horizontal rock banding, horizontal plateau	Indistinct	Horizontal and vertical fences



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 3



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 19 – Escalante Canyon

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Bold/prominent canyon walls; steep and deep canyon; long, sinuous canyon	Asymmetrical native vegetation, defined agricultural fields	Geometrical agricultural structures, BLM kiosks, day-use facilities
Line	Continuous horizontal banding on rock formation along canyon walls; vertical desert varnish and fracture lines along bands	Horizontal along rock band edges, diagonal following drainages; simple, bold field edges	Horizontal, vertical, angular
Color	Rcd, salmon, gray, desert varnish, tan, beige	Greens, grays, sage green, browns	Red, brown, yellow, black
Texture	Coarse, rough	Dense pinyon/juniper stands higher in the canyon, transition to a more sparse distribution; ordered agricultural fields	Coarse with smooth surfaces

3. Narrative

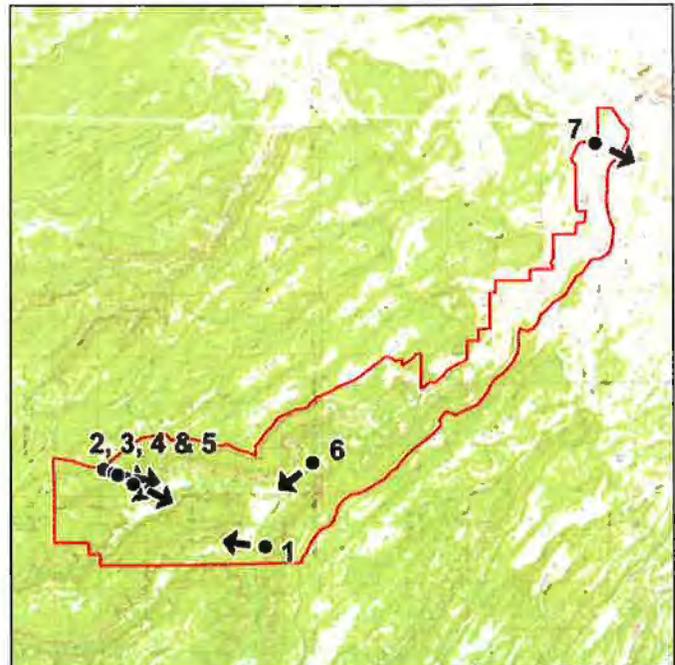
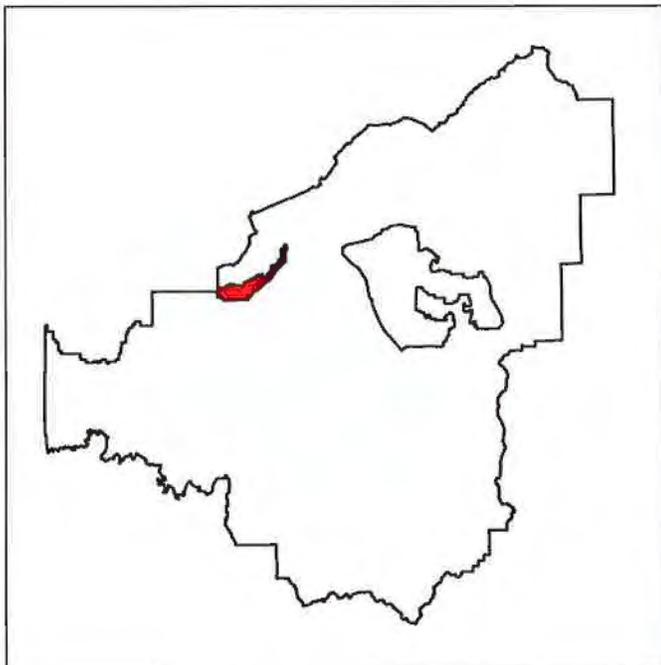
Enclosed landscape bounded by the canyon walls. Dramatic canyon with steep walls. Colorful rock formations, pinyon/junipers, sage, and other shrubs with irrigated fields on private lands.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Escalante Canyon

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	4			Steep canyon, cliffs	
b. Vegetation		3.5		Native and agricultural	
c. Water	4			Flowing, visible	
d. Color	4			Rock and vegetation provide bold contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	Enclosed landscape	
f. Scarcity			2	Others in region	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Agriculture does not add or detract	
TOTALS	12	3.5	2	17.5	

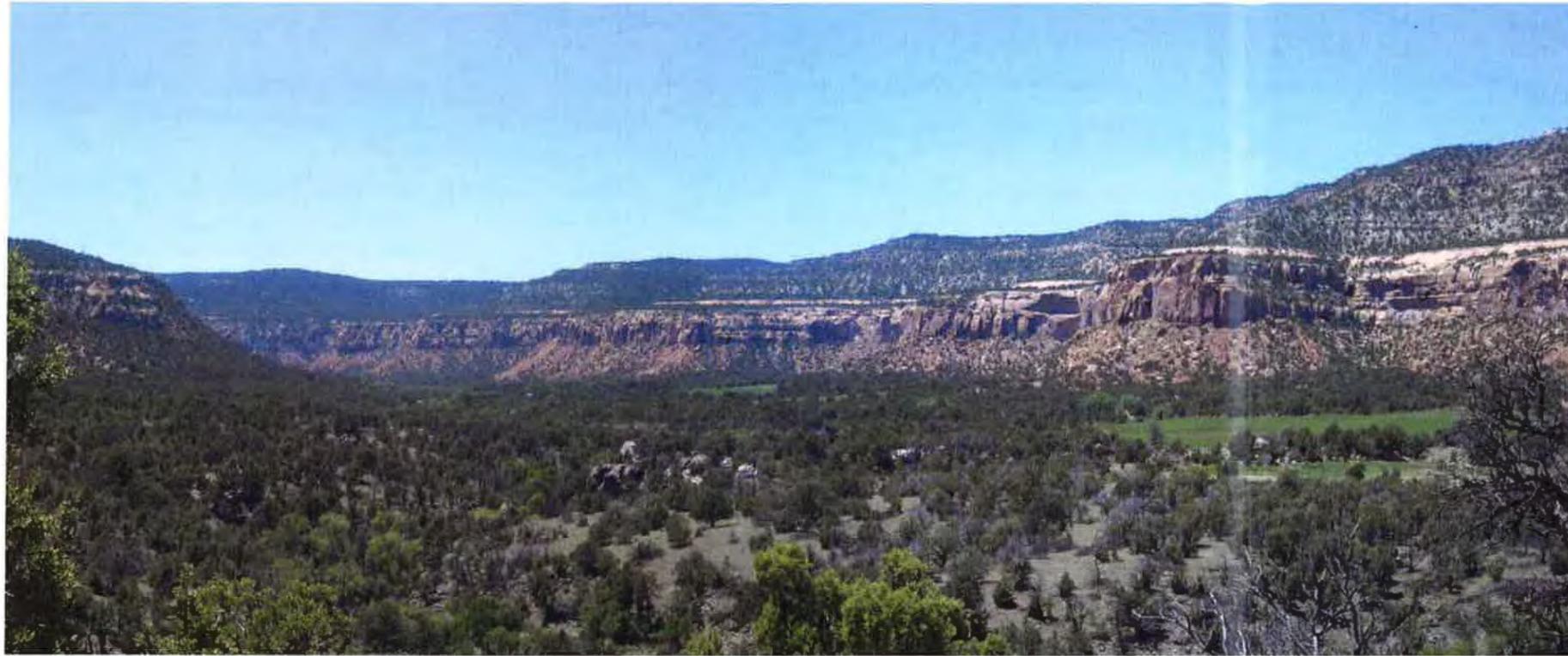
Comments:

Valleys very pronounced, with bold red rock banding and creek below.



SQRU Locator

• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6



IOP 7

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 20 – Monitor Mesa Complex

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat mesa top incised by deep, rugged canyons	Clumps of sage and grass understory interrupted by rock banding; rounded juniper in sparse to slightly more dense stands; canyon bottoms have sinuous riparian vegetation form	n/a
Line	Horizontal, steep, diagonal, vertical rock faces	Simple; sinuous riparian edge, indistinct	n/a
Color	Reds, browns, tans, grays	Dark green, Covert Green, grays, golds	n/a
Texture	Smooth tops, rough canyons	Medium, patchy, scattered	n/a

3. Narrative

Rugged canyons incise the mesa top. Bounded by Forest Service lands to the south and west and Escalante Canyon to the north with drier, more barren rolling hills to the east.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Monitor Mesa Complex

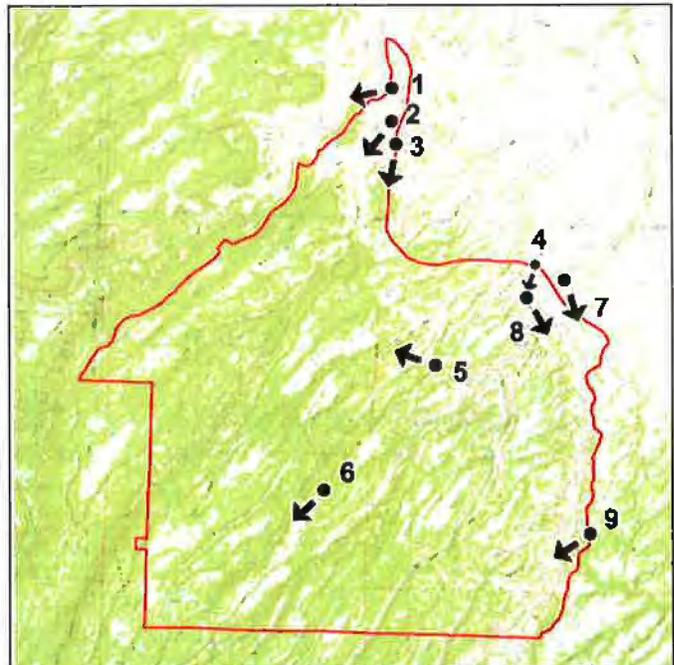
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	4			Numerous highly eroded canyons	
b. Vegetation			2.5	Sparse pinyon/juniper and grass, simple riparian vegetation	
c. Water			0.5	Roubideau	
d. Color		3		Subtle contrast between soil and land	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	Grand Mesa, Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area, faint San Juans	
f. Scarcity			2	Deep canyons are found in region	
g. Cultural Modification			0	n/a	
TOTALS	4	3	7	14	

Comments:

Landform is the visually dominant characteristic. Cultural modifications are minimal. The density of dramatic canyons located in close proximity is unusual.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6



IOP 7



IOP 8



IOP 9

UNITED STATES
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 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 21 – Cactus Park (Drylands)

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rolling, rounded, flat	Low, continuous, with occasional interruptions by rocks and rock ledges	Geometric: lattice, power line, correctional facility, pipeline
Line	Some occasional horizontal rock banding; undulating; mostly horizontal	Indistinct, horizontal (same)	Geometric
Color	Muted reds, tans, browns, gray	Golden, dark green, tan, brown, bright green in spring	Grays, tans
Texture	Medium	Sparse, scattered, smooth	Medium

3. Narrative

Defined by canyon complex to west and south, Gunnison to north, and Delta/Montrose valley to the east. A strongly horizontal landscape.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Cactus Park (Drylands)

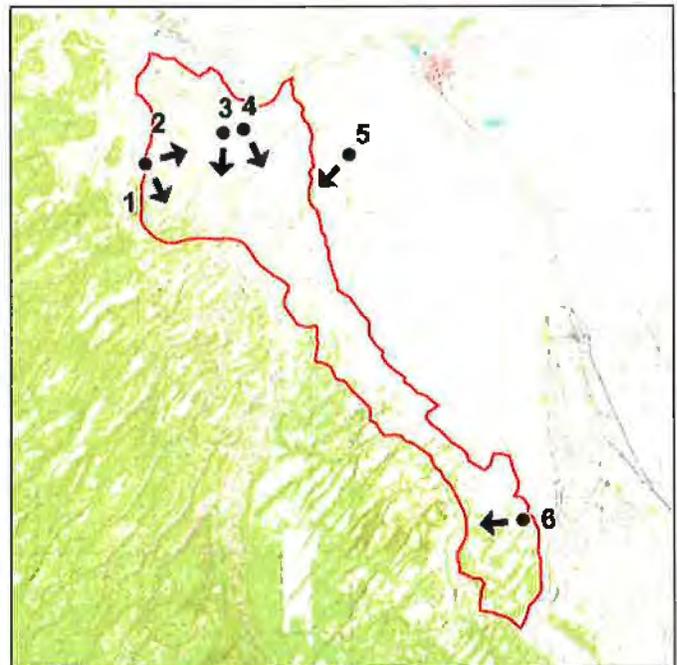
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			1	Rolling hills with gentle drainages	
b. Vegetation			1.5	Minimal irrigated valley bottoms add contrast	
c. Water			0	Not present	
d. Color			1.5	Occasional bright vegetation in valley bottom	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		Adjacent scenery creates setting	
f. Scarcity			1	Common	
g. Cultural Modification			-0.5	Correctional facility, power lines, pipeline	
TOTALS		3	4.5	7.5	

Comments:

Adjacent scenery is the dominant visual element. Views of Grand Mesa, Delta Valley, Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area, and tips of San Juans create backdrop. Unit itself lacks contrast and variety.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 22 – Greater Delta/Montrose Valley

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat with minimal, gentle hills	Horizontal patchwork of fields, vertical shelter, and shade trees	Geometric
Line	Horizontal	Horizontal rows of agricultural and cultivated versus native; vertical individual trees	Geometric
Color	Browns, tans, grays	Greens, browns, grays, gold, seasonal change	Wide variety
Texture	Smooth	Smooth to medium	Medium to coarse

3. Narrative

Unit encompasses the greater valley floor surrounding the communities of Delta and Montrose. East edge of unit is defined by the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area. Much of unit is developed for urban, industrial, and agricultural uses. A broad, vast-appearing landscape.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Greater Delta/Montrose Valley

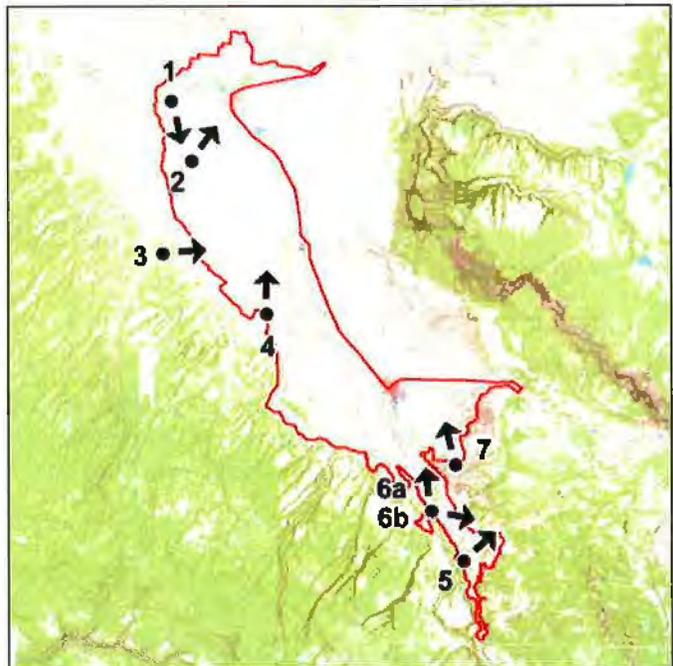
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			1	Flat valley bottom	
b. Vegetation		3		Agriculture, domestic trees, few natives	
c. Water			2	Rivers are present	
d. Color		3		Seasonal variation in vegetation	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3.5		Valley is edged by bold features	
f. Scarcity			1	Common	
g. Cultural Modification		0		Unit defined by modification, although modifications seem compatible with setting	
TOTALS		9.5	4	13.5	

Comments:

Without adjacent scenery the unit would be ordinary and would be rated lower.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



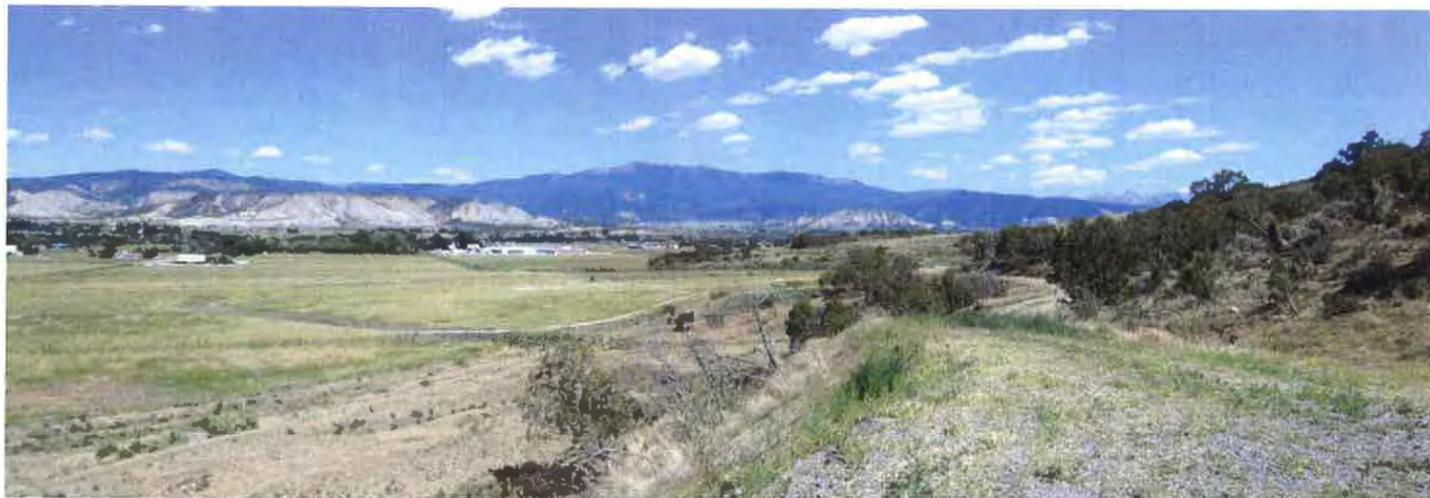
IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6a



IOP 6b



IOP 7

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 23 – Grand View Mesa

1. **Evaluators:** Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Gently sloping to gently rolling; broadly sloping; some knobby, eroded landforms	Dotted, patchy, discontinuous, rounded, clumpy, low	Residential, agricultural; barns, roads, power lines, pastoral setting
Line	Horizontal landscape dissected by sinuous drainages	Horizontal; vertical trees	Geometric
Color	Tan/brown/gray soils and rock	Dark greens, beiges, yellows, grays, light brown	Generally light-colored
Texture	Smooth, knobby	Very smooth to coarse	Coarse with smooth surfaces

3. Narrative

A pastoral setting with cultivated fields; introduced non-native vegetation. Rural residences dominate the landscape.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Grand View Mesa

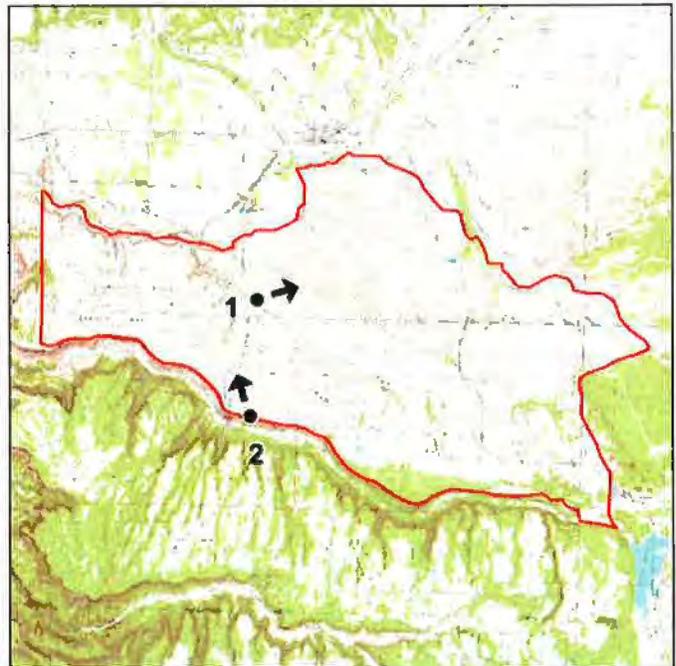
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Low, rolling hills	
b. Vegetation	4			High variety	
c. Water			2	North fork of the Gunnison River	
d. Color		3		Seasonal variety	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Spectacular adjacent scenery	
f. Scarcity			2	Typical; area surrounded by mountains	
g. Cultural Modification			1	Agricultural valley adds visual variety	
TOTALS	8	3	7	18	

Comments:

A scenic agricultural area surrounded by spectacular mountain landscapes. Vegetative diversity and adjacent scenery add to rating.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 24 – Smith Fork

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Narrow canyon; steep slopes; sinuous valley bottom; some bold rock outcrops	Clumpy, rounded; some regular pattern due to orchards	Houses, roads, barn, poles
Line	Diagonal, horizontal banding	Diagonal alignment with landforms; flat, level bottoms	Various
Color	Grays, brown and tan with salmon accents; reds, purple, green	Yuma Green juniper, bright green riparian/field, gray sage	Beige/white
Texture	Medium to coarse with smooth areas	Coarse on slopes, smooth on bottom; riparian coarse to smooth	Coarse with smooth surfaces

3. Narrative

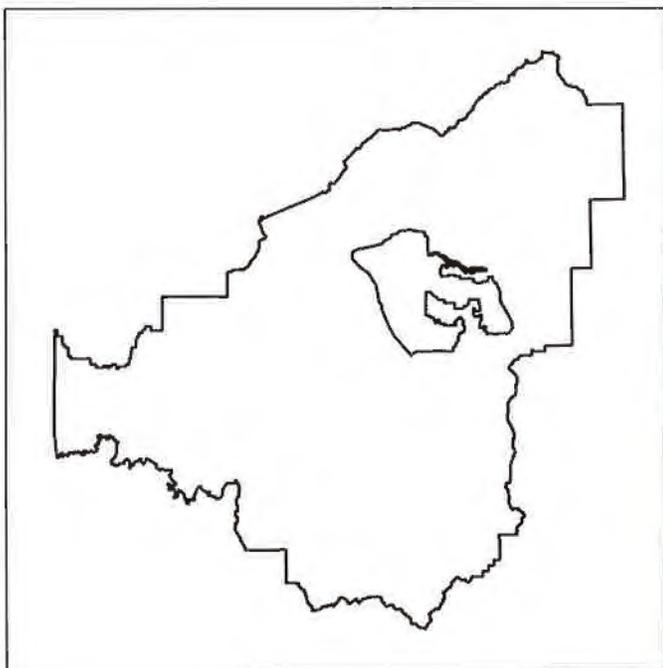
A fairly dramatic canyon with steep slopes, banded walls, and some rock outcrops; developed for hobby farms, rural residences, cultivated fields, and access roads.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Smith Fork

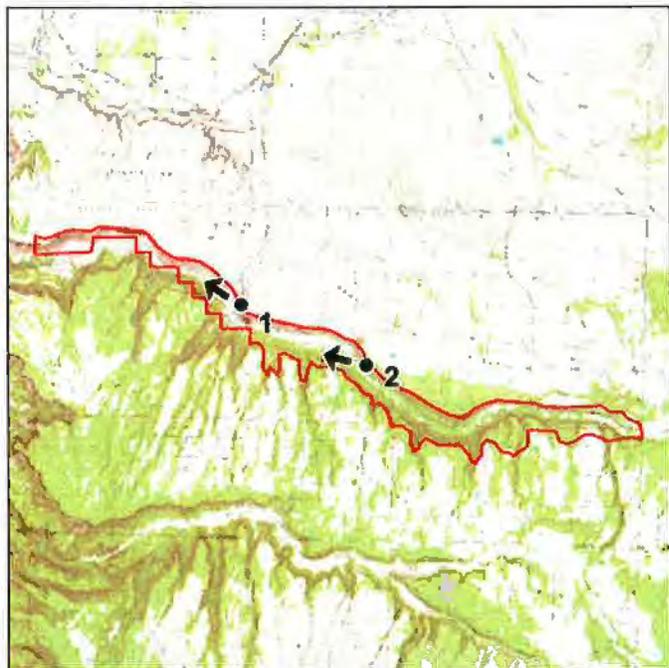
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Steep canyon walls	
b. Vegetation		3.5		Additional variety	
c. Water			2	Visible but not dominant	
d. Color			2.5	Some color variety but not dominant	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	None generally visible	
f. Scarcity		3		Distinctive canyon	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Neutral	
TOTALS		9.5	4.5	14	

Comments:

The deep canyon landform and irrigated valley bottom create a visually pleasing contrast.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 25 – Fruitland Mesa

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rolling hills sloping to the north	Pinyon/juniper woodlands interspersed with clear, irrigated meadows; clumpy and flat/level	Rural buildings, roads, fences, power lines, rectangular
Line	Generally a horizontal landscape	Horizontal	Vertical/horizontal
Color	Light-brown soil	Yuma Green (juniper) and vibrant green to beige-colored meadows	Various: white, green, brown, beige
Texture	Smooth	Medium (pinyon/juniper) and smooth meadows	Coarse with smooth surfaces

3. Narrative

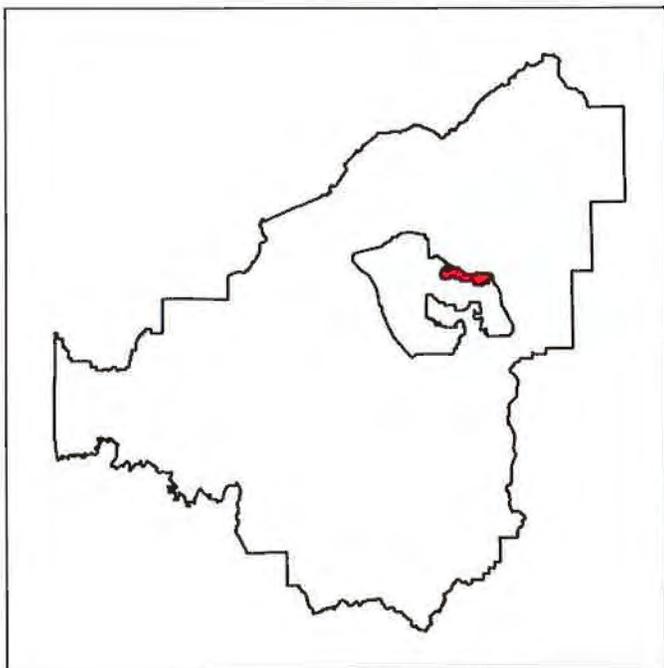
A partially cleared pinyon/juniper woodland; rural farms, buildings, roads, etc. A pastoral setting.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Fruitland Mesa

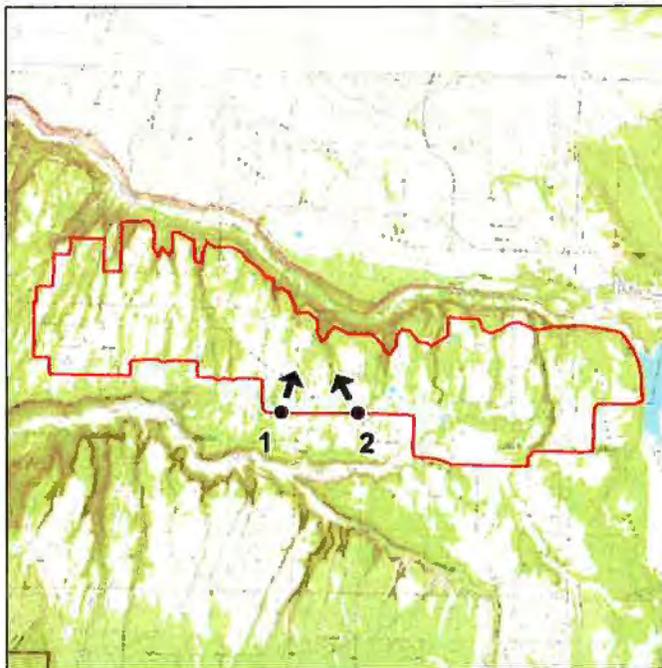
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			1	Low, rolling hills	
b. Vegetation		3		Some variety but only two types	
c. Water			0	Not noticeable	
d. Color			2	Some variety	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Spectacular adjacent scenery	
f. Scarcity			1	Not scarce	
g. Cultural Modification			0		
TOTALS	4	3	4	11	

Comments:

Common features; lacking notable features and characteristics.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 26 – Youngs Peak

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Low peak with long, trailing drainages	Pinyon/juniper woodland; rounded, clumpy	Power lines
Line	Horizontal overall with rounded forms overlapping	Indistinct	Vertical
Color	Gray, light brown	Yuma and Shale Green	Gray, silver
Texture	Medium	Medium	Medium

3. Narrative

A low mountain with rounded forms, fairly rough terrain. Continuous pinyon/juniper vegetative cover.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Youngs Peak

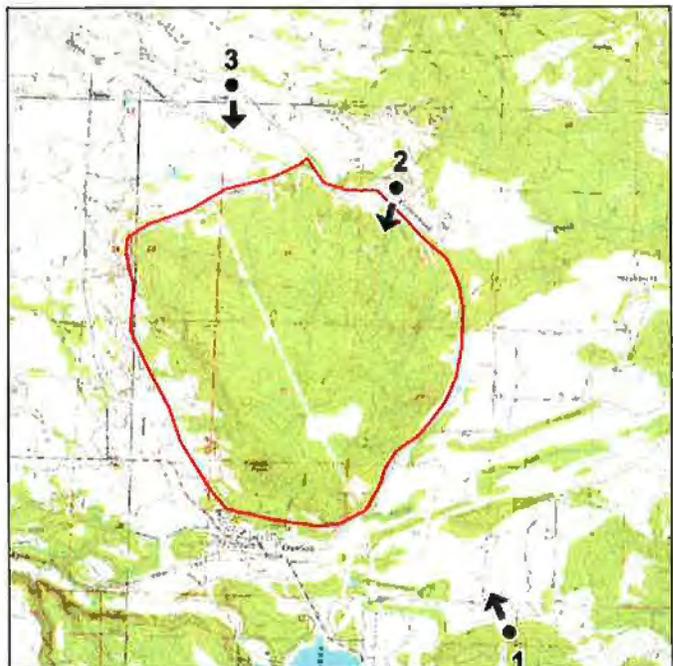
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2		
b. Vegetation			2		
c. Water			0		
d. Color			2		
e. Adjacent Scenery	4				
f. Scarcity			2		
g. Cultural Modification			-1		
TOTALS	4		7	11	

Comments:

A typical pinyon/juniper woodland. Overall, the unit lacks notable visual features and variety.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 27 – Needle Rock

1. **Evaluators:** Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Massive volcanic tower, vertical cliffs (outcrops) sitting on a pyramid-shaped base; bold landform	Rounded, clumpy, continuous (except for tower)	Power lines, road, house; blocky, slender
Line	Vertical, steeply diagonal, lines at base	Irregular, indistinct	Geometric, vertical
Color	Grays, light browns, orange (rusty)	Shale and Yuma Green	Brown with silver (light-colored) roof
Texture	Coarse to medium (the base)	Medium to coarse	Smooth

3. Narrative

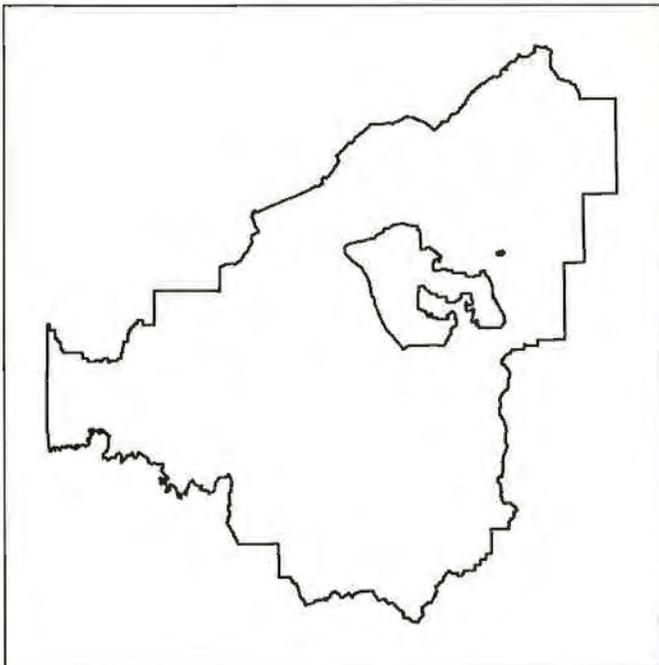
A very prominent, narrow volcanic neck (tower) sitting on an elongated pyramid-shaped base. A feature landscape.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Needle Rock

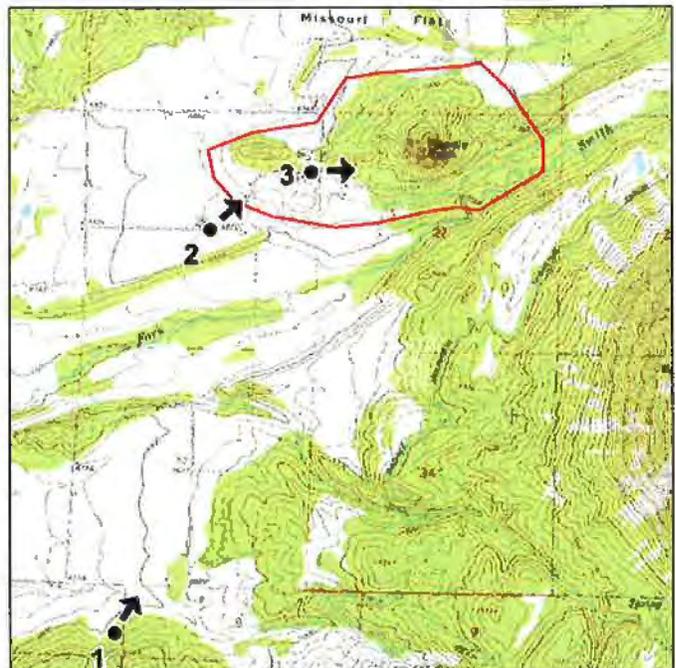
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	5			Prominent spire	
b. Vegetation			2	Minimal species variety	
c. Water			0	None present	
d. Color		3		Some variety and intensity	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	National forests, valleys	
f. Scarcity	5			Unusual visually and geologically	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None of note	
TOTALS	10	3	4	17	

Comments:

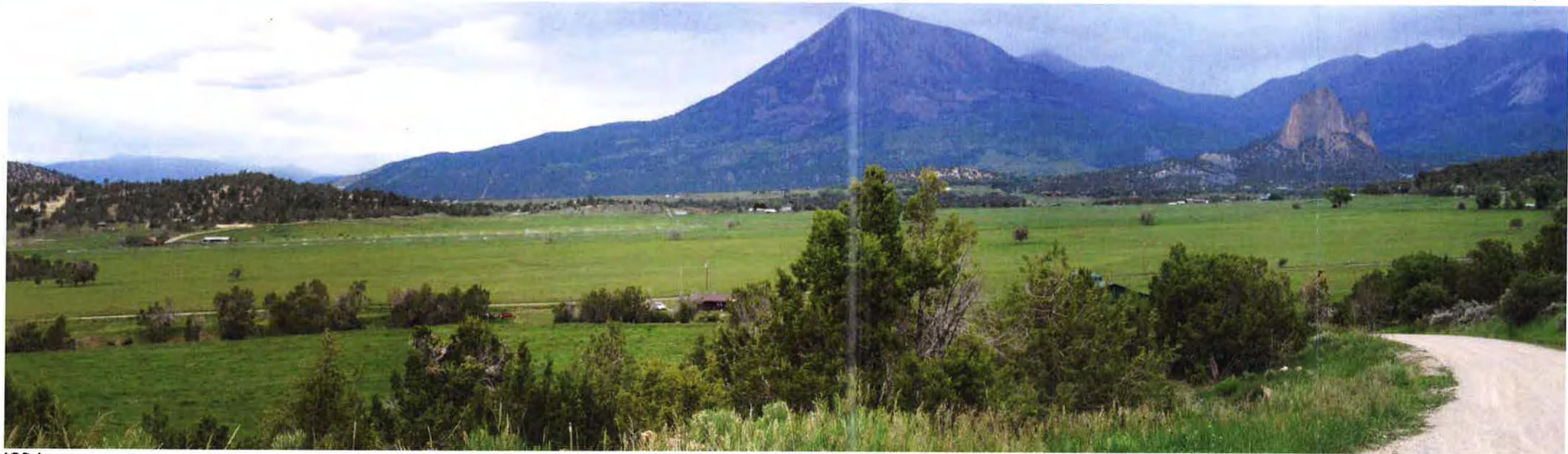
Prominent spire; somewhat a "little brother" of Devil's Tower. A dominant visual presence that attracts attention; unusual in the region.



SQRU Locator



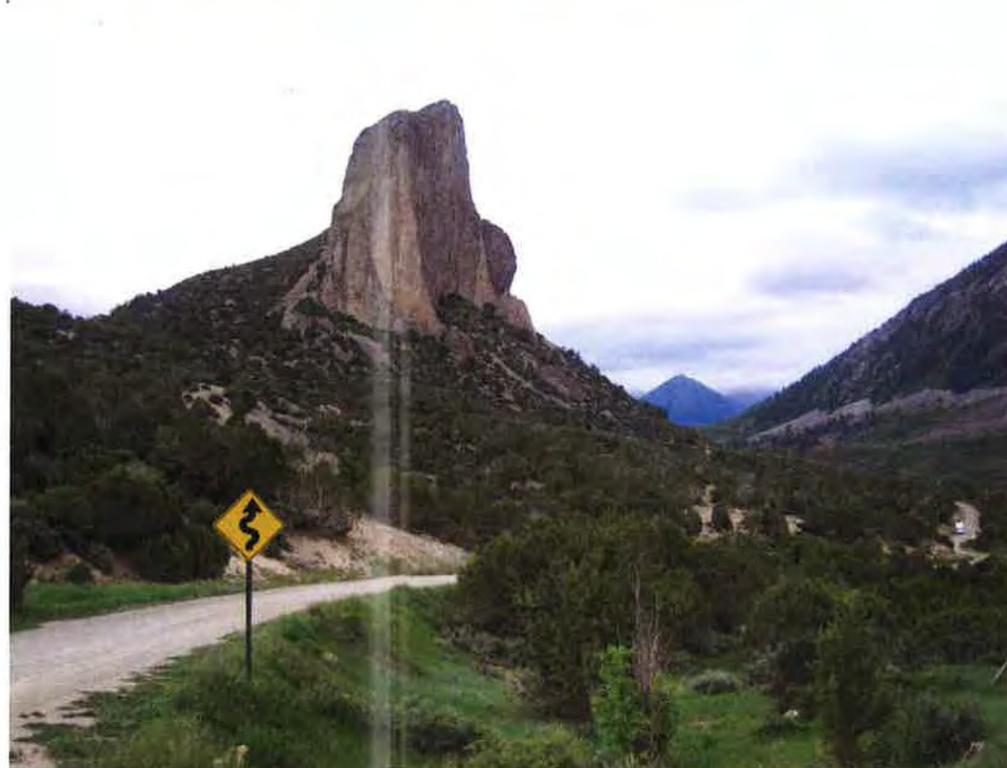
• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 28 – Crawford Reservoir Valley

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Low, rolling hills; valleys, gentle slopes	Low, continuous; some patchy pinyon/juniper woodland	Roads, fences, buildings, power lines, corrals
Line	Horizontal with weakly rounded forms	Horizontal, undulating; some weak diagonals	Vertical, geometric
Color	Gray, beige, light brown	Vibrant green, gray-green, high degree of seasonal variation	Beige, silver, red, brown, not very dominant
Texture	Smooth	Smooth to medium	Coarse feature with smooth surfaces

3. Narrative

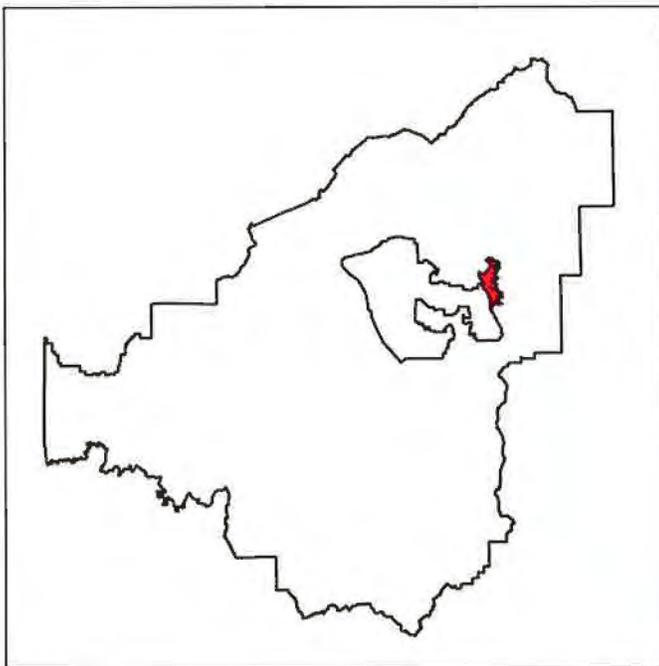
Unit is picturesque valley, defined by rising foothills to the east and Fruitland Mesa to the west.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Crawford Reservoir Valley

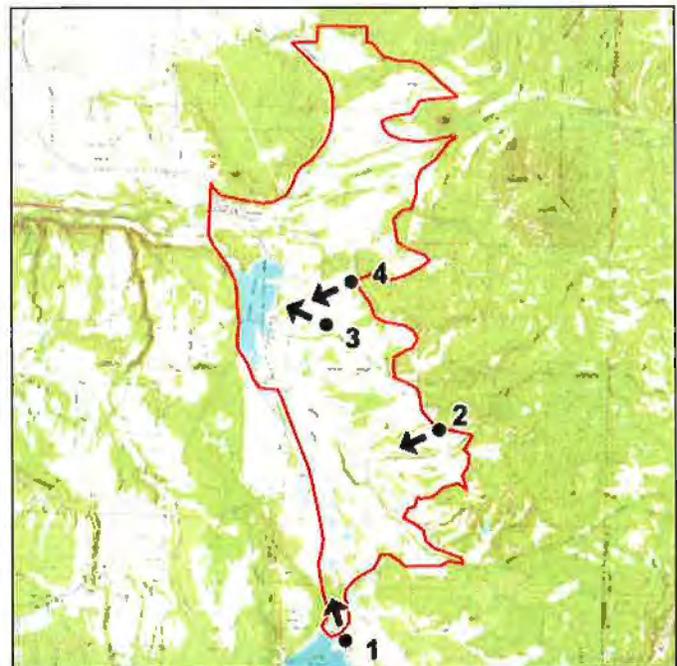
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			1	Low valleys and low hills/reservoir	
b. Vegetation		3		Several types of vegetation	
c. Water		3		Overall rating Crawford Reservoir	
d. Color		3		Some variety; "middle of the road"	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Adjacent scenery national forest	
f. Scarcity			1	Not unusual or uncommon	
g. Cultural Modification			1		
TOTALS	4	9	3	16	

Comments:

A lovely manicured valley with small farms, cultivated fields, surrounded by rugged landscapes.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 29 – Castle Rock Foreground

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rugged foothills; ridges extending from national forest	Mostly pinyon/juniper woodland	Tanks, fences, roads
Line	Diagonals of hills	Irregular, some diagonals when vegetation patterns follow landforms	Few noted
Color	Light brown to beige and gray	Yuma Green, shale green, juniper green; autumn colors yellow/gold, red, orange	Few noted
Texture	Medium	Medium, smooth, coarse	Smooth

3. Narrative

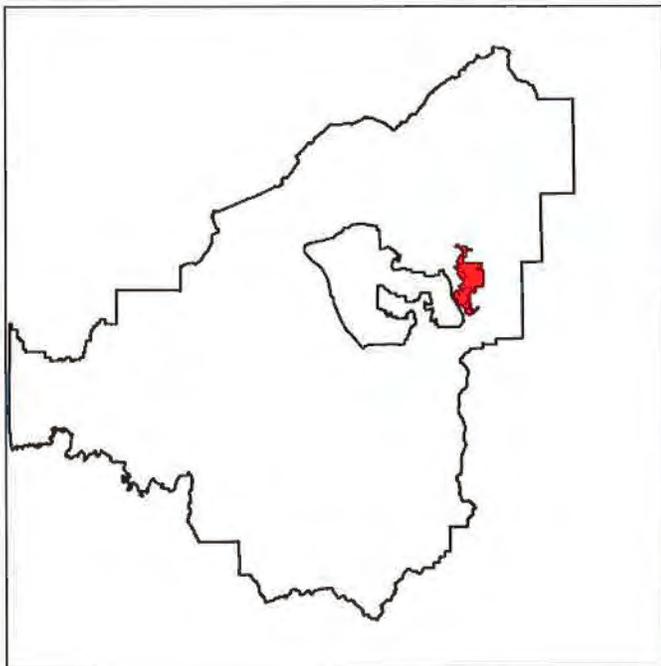
A foothill area for Gunnison National Forest; a pinyon/juniper woodland with some scrub oak and aspen. Landscape has fairly strong horizontal character with weak diagonal lines and fairly notable hills and ridges.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Castle Rock Foreground

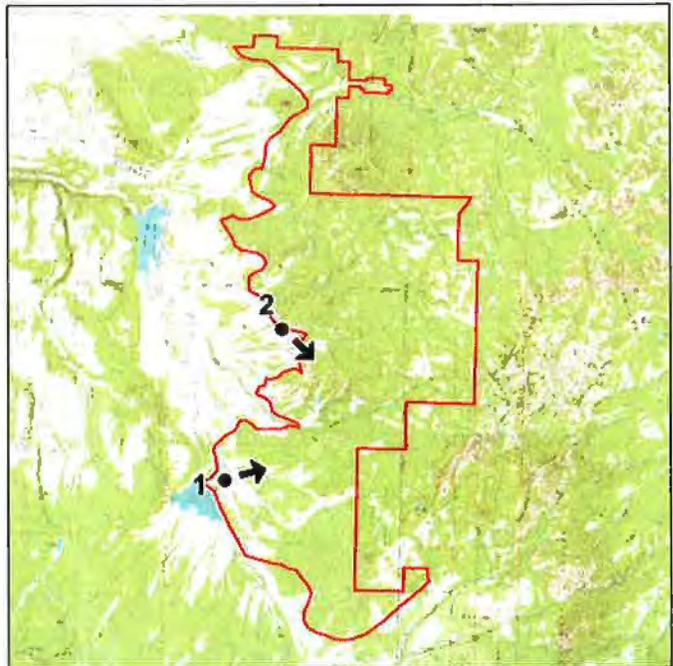
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Steep slopes, rugged topography	
b. Vegetation		3		Some variety	
c. Water			0		
d. Color		3		Seasonal variation	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Spectacular surroundings	
f. Scarcity			2	Not a very unusual landscape	
g. Cultural Modification			0		
TOTALS	4	9	2	15	

Comments:

Scenic backdrop for adjacent valleys. Adjacent scenery contributes to the scenic quality of the unit.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 30 – Dry Creek Basin

1. Evaluators: Julic McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rolling, rounded, continuous slope to the east; wide	Continuous; diversity of rounded forms and sizes	Geometric: power lines, pipelines, houses
Line	Horizontal, gradual diagonal drainages; regular pattern of drainages running east to west	Indistinct	Geometric
Color	Brown, gray, tans	Greens (light and dark), grays, browns, seasonal diversity	Browns, gray
Texture	Smooth to medium	Medium	Coarse

3. Narrative

Vegetation becomes more dense heading west and with the gain in elevation; more scrub oak and serviceberry. Conifers become more prominent in the upper drainages. Two major drainages contained within this unit: Dry Creek and Spring Creek. A mostly panoramic landscape.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Dry Creek Basin

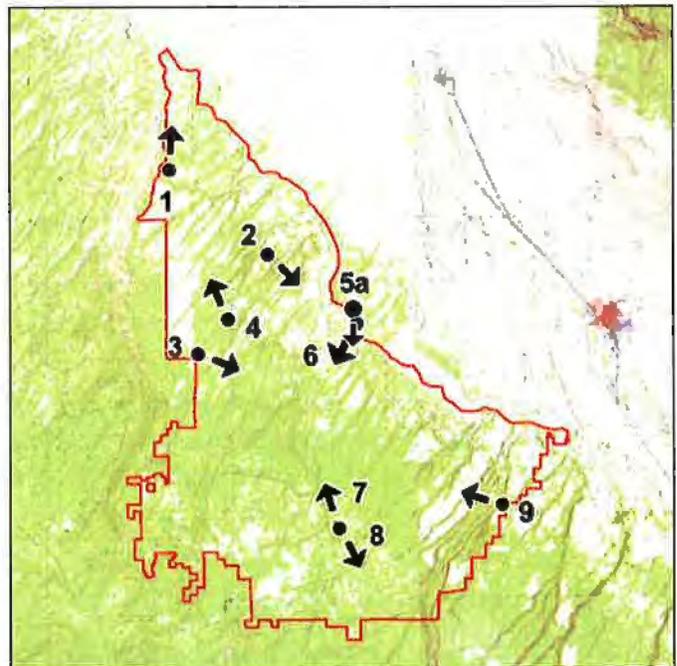
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2.5	Dry Creek adds interest	
b. Vegetation		3.5		Conifers, mountain scrub community, sage, juniper	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color		3		Seasonal variation; vegetation is dominant color/contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		San Juans, Grand Mesa views	
f. Scarcity			1	Common	
g. Cultural Modification			-0.5	Pipelines, powerlines	
TOTALS		9.5	3	12.5	

Comments:

More vegetative diversity than mesas to the north.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



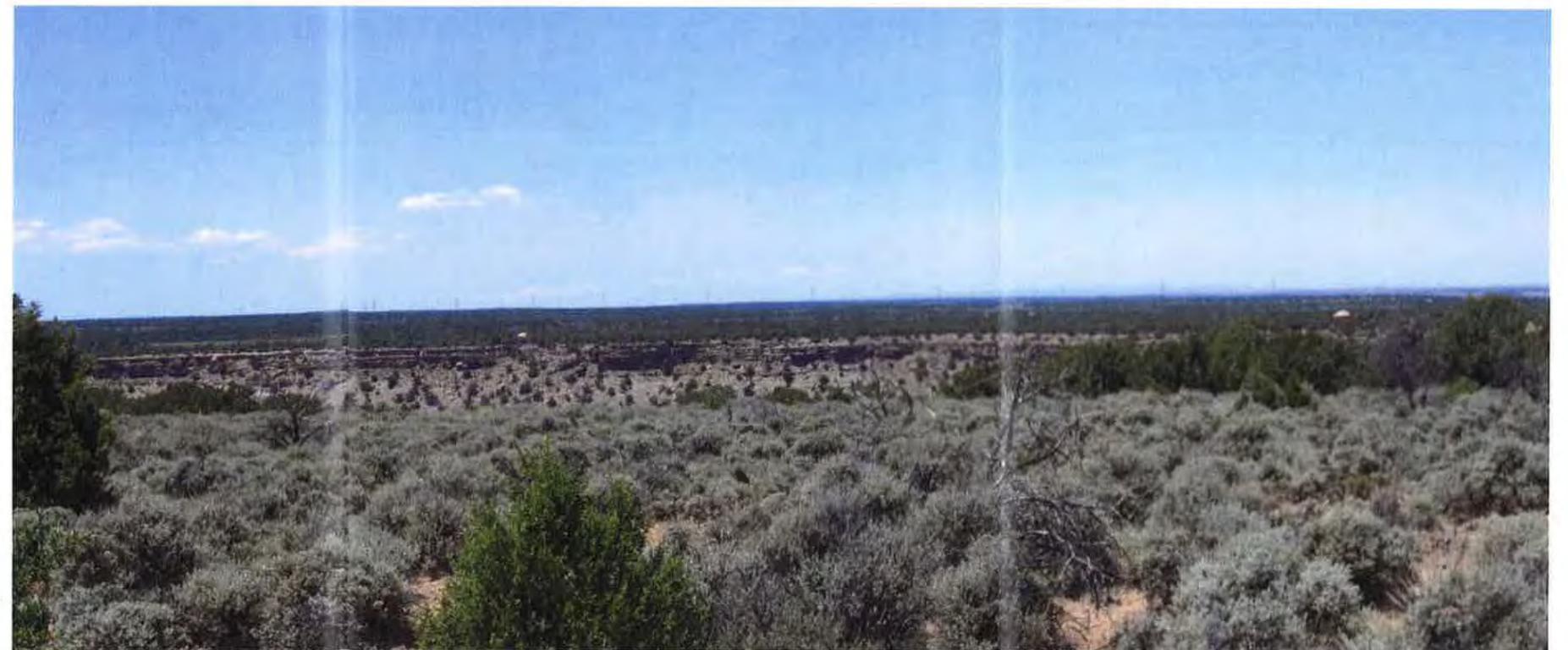
IOP 6



IOP 7



IOP 8



IOP 9

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 31 – Crystal Valley

1. **Evaluators:** Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Broad valley with rolling hills, gentle slopes; major stream bisects valley	Patchy, discontinuous, irregular, clumpy complex; low, intermingled	Few houses, corrals, roads
Line	Horizontal landscape with gently rounded hills and weak diagonal lines	Irregular, organic horizontal alignment; vertical and diagonal breaks between species	Horizontal and vertical lines
Color	Grayish, light brown; very little visible due to heavy vegetative cover	Orange, vibrant green, Yuma Green, many shades of green and gray; aspen spectacular in fall	Brown, red, and white
Texture	Smooth	Very smooth to coarse; complex, intermingled	Smooth surfaces

3. Narrative

An open, panoramic landscape dominated by diverse vegetation, surrounded by notable scenery.

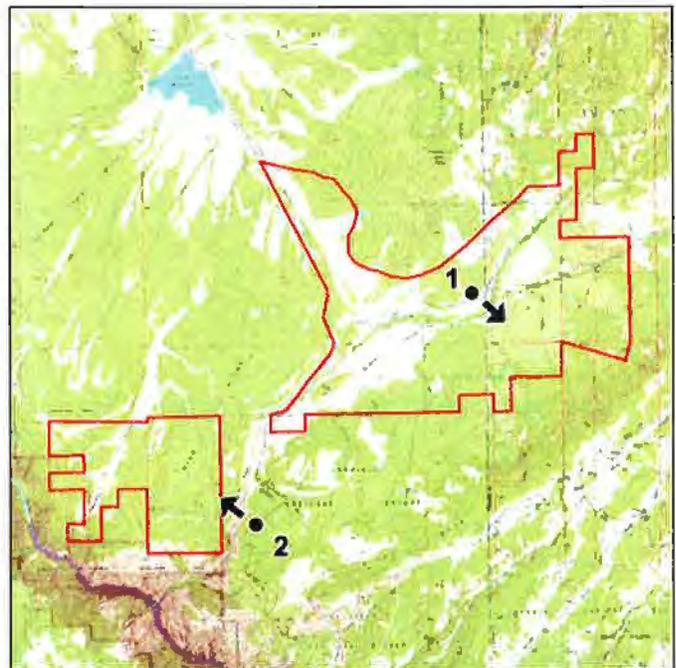
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Pleasant landform features	
b. Vegetation	5			Very diverse	
c. Water			1	Not readily noticeable	
d. Color	5			Seasonal change	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		National forests	
f. Scarcity		3		Natural landscape	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None of note	
TOTALS	10	6	3	19	

Comments:

A notable landscape with highly diverse vegetation and spectacular adjacent scenery.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 32 – Uncompahgre Plateau

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat, gently sloping to the northeast; a few scattered hills rising up	Continuous, dense understory of grass and low shrubs with pinyon/juniper stands, occasionally interrupted by vegetation removed for construction	Geometric: homes, power lines, agricultural structures, roads
Line	Horizontal	Horizontal, vertical pinyon/juniper, organic edge between flats and pinyon/juniper stands	Geometric
Color	Tans, browns, grays	Shadow Gray, Shale and Yuma Green, grays, dark green	Whites, grays, browns
Texture	Smooth	Smooth to medium	Scattered

3. Narrative

National forest, the higher Spruce Mountain area, and the Montrose Valley delineate the lower Uncompahgre Plateau unit. Surface area is equally divided between public lands and private property. A mostly horizontal landscape with panoramic views. Mountain landscapes seen at a distance.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Uncompahgre Plateau

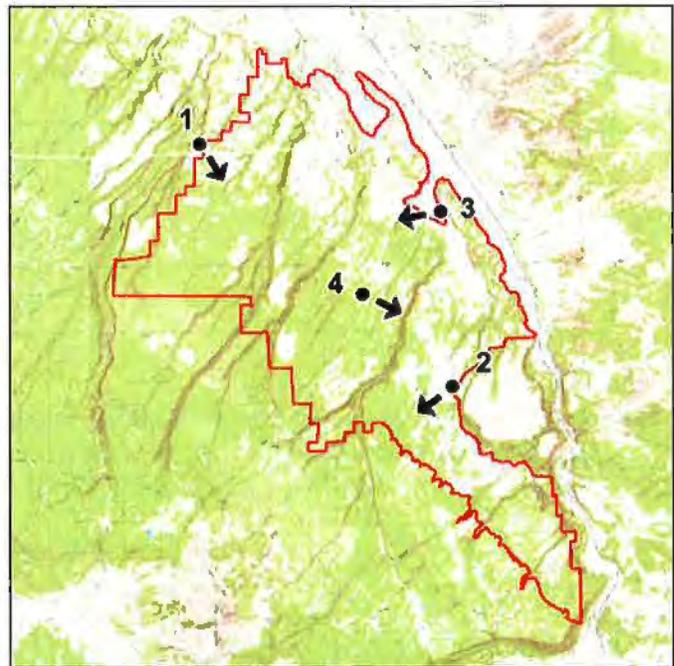
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			1	High, flat plateau top	
b. Vegetation		3		Sage flats, pinyon/junipers, agricultural lands	
c. Water			0	Not present	
d. Color			2	No noticeable variety	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3.5		San Juans, national forest	
f. Scarcity		3		Large-scale landform	
g. Cultural Modification			-0.5	Home development is not always harmonious	
TOTALS		9.5	2.5	12	

Comments:

Adjacent scenery and large scale of the unit creates a moderately interesting landscape; private development interrupts viewsheds.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 33 – Southeast Montrose Hills

1. Evaluators: Lindsey Utter, Julie McGrew

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rolling, smaller pyramidal forms; lumpy	Sparse, rounded, woody vegetation on hillsides; dense greasewood and sage on flats	Geometric, linear; power lines
Line	Horizontal, gradual diagonals	Weak, broken line between greasewood and drier hillsides	Geometric
Color	Beige, muted tones, tans, grays	Goldens, dark greens, grays, browns, Shadow Gray	Browns, grays
Texture	Medium	Smooth to medium	Medium in landscape

3. Narrative

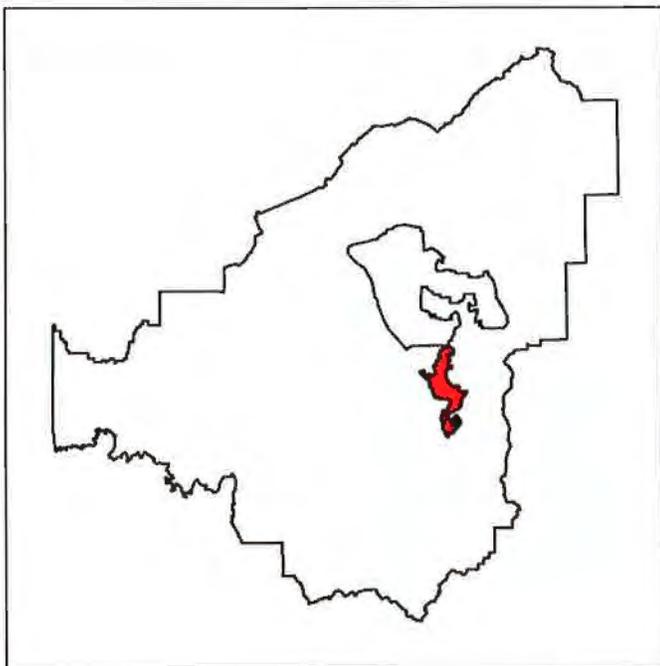
Unit encompasses drier, adobe-like hills to the southeast of Montrose. The irrigated valley floor to the west and the foothills to the east create the unit boundaries.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Southeast Montrose Hills

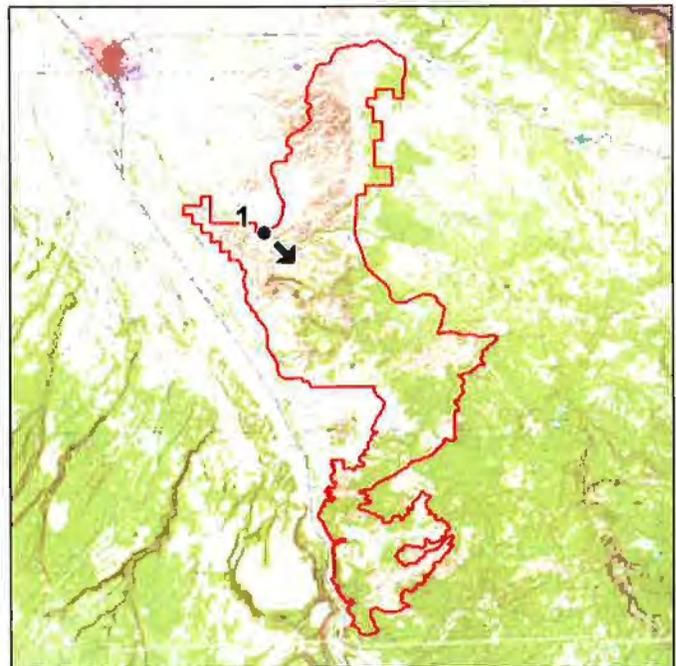
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Intersecting, erosional patterns, rolling hills	
b. Vegetation			2	Low shrubs and sparse, woody vegetation	
c. Water			0	n/a	
d. Color			2	Juniper and exposed earth contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	Green of valley floor; Uncompahgre Plateau and Cimarron Ridge peaks	
f. Scarcity			1	East side of valley and north of Delta	
g. Cultural Modification			-0.5	Power lines draw attention	
TOTALS		3	6.5	9.5	

Comments:

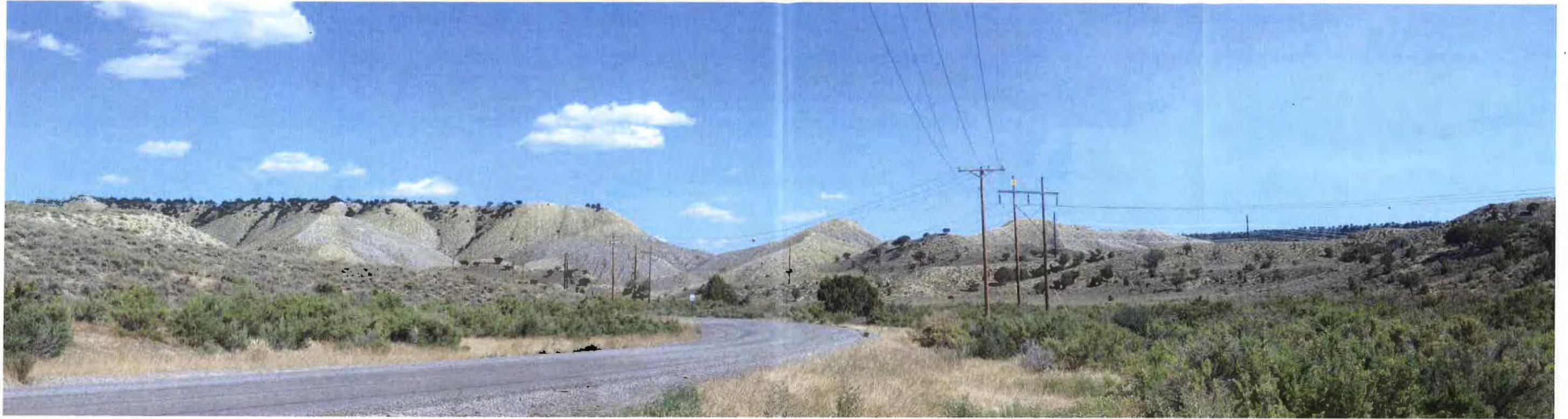
Landform is interesting but lack of vegetation and visual variety creates a lower overall rating for the unit. Landscape exhibits muted tones and subtle visual variety but lacks dominant features.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 34 – Waterdog Foothills

1. **Evaluators:** Lindsey Utter, Julie McGrew

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Prominent, rolling hills and foothills rising from the valley bottom; horizontal form	Continuous, upright vegetation interrupted by low agricultural fields	Geometric; agricultural facilities, few homes
Line	Moderate diagonals of drainages; horizontal benches	Bold edge between fields and native vegetation	Geometric
Color	Faint reds, grays, tans, browns	Yuma and Shale Green, Shadow Gray, greens, grays, browns	Browns, whites, tans, grays
Texture	Medium	Smooth to medium	Rough in landscape

3. Narrative

The unit is the foothills between Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, and the northwest side of Cimarron Ridge. A mostly panoramic landscape.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Waterdog Foothills

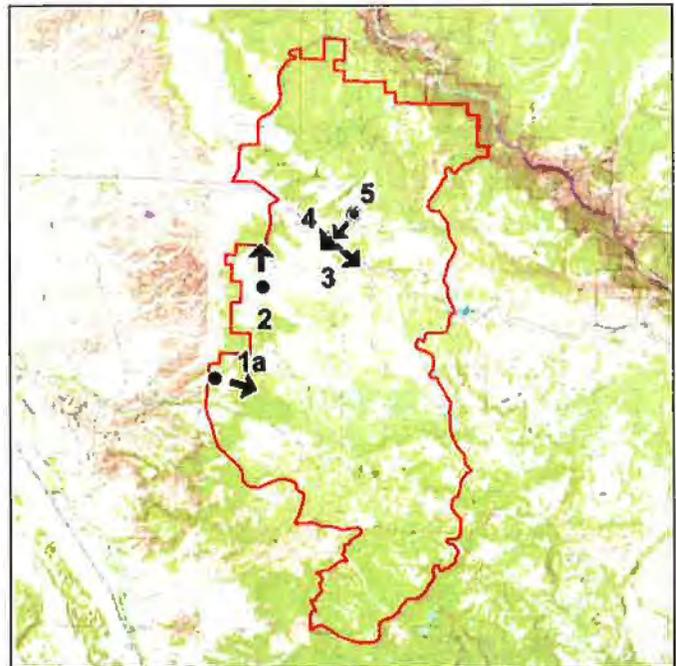
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2.5	Large feature, rolling, gentle forms	
b. Vegetation		3		Agricultural fields mixed with juniper/sage woods	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color		3		Some contrast and diversity	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		Some influence from from Uncompahgre Plateau and Cimarron Ridge	
f. Scarcity			1	Similar to other areas in region	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Agricultural, power lines; do not detract	
TOTALS		9	3.5	12.5	

Comments:

A drier area compared to Cimarron Ridge Foothills, more juniper and agricultural fields intermingled in unit.



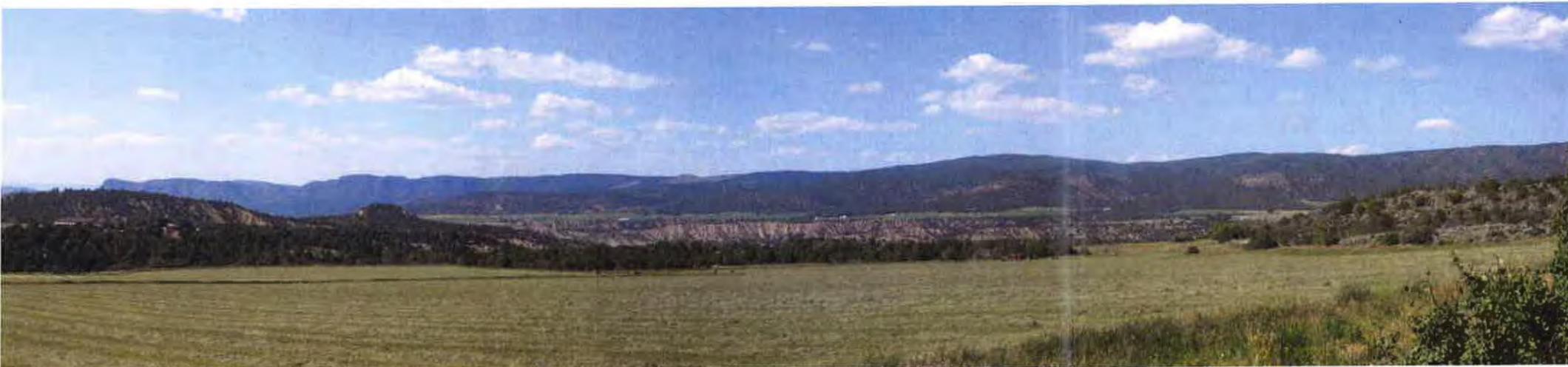
SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6a



IOP 6b

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 35 – Cimarron Valley

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rolling to steep foothills that rise to the Cimarron Ridge as the high point; and Cimarron River as the base	Patchy stands of scrub oak with low shrub/grass understory	Geometric: campgrounds, cabins, fences
Line	Prominent diagonals, some horizontal	Organic edge between shrub/grass meadows and upright vegetation	Geometric
Color	Exposed gray rock, tans, beiges	Greens, gray, Yuma and Shale Green, seasonal variation	Browns, harmonious
Texture	Medium to coarse	Smooth to medium	Medium

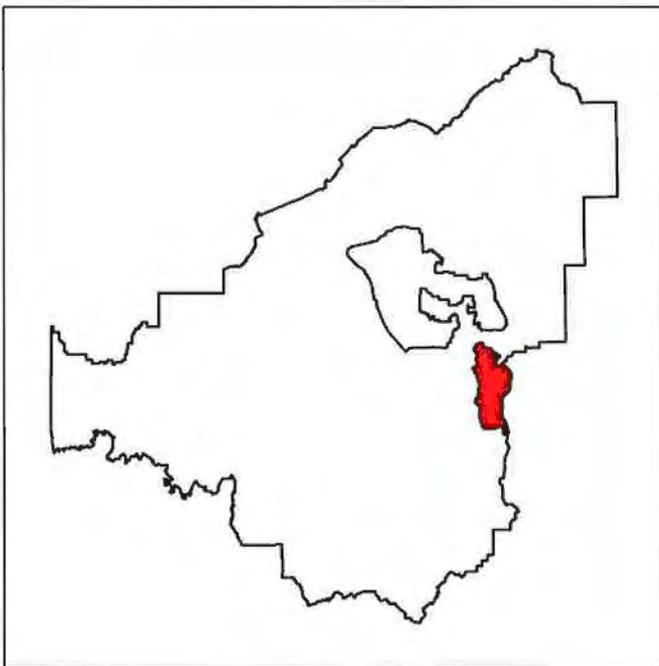
3. Narrative

Defined by the Cimarron River to the east, Cimarron Ridge to the west, and Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park to the North.

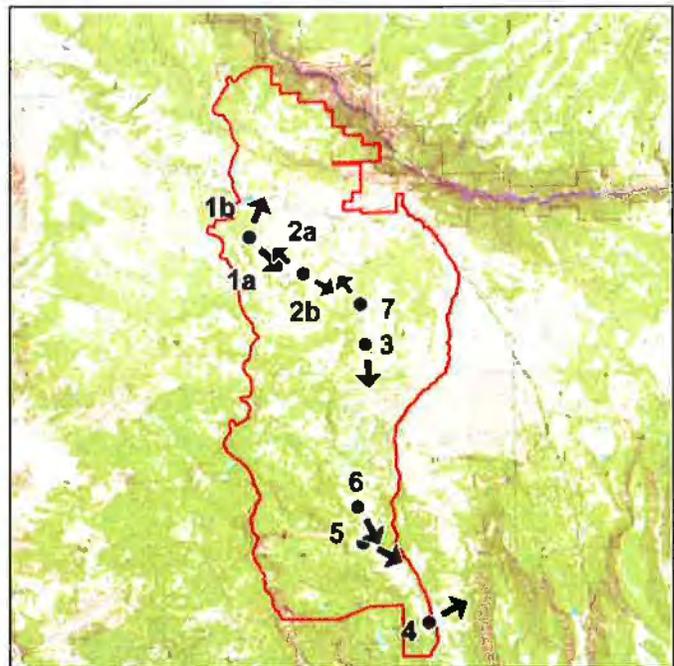
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3.5		Steep foothills from the river valley to the ridge	
b. Vegetation	4			Scrub oak, sage flats, conifers; visual variety	
c. Water		3		Ponds, river, irrigation ditch	
d. Color	4			Seasonal variation; rock outcrops, water	
e. Adjacent Scenery	5			Cimarron Ridge, Uncompahgre wilderness	
f. Scarcity		3		Wide valley with river in bottom, without a highway running next to it	
g. Cultural Modification			0	No influence	
TOTALS	13	9.5	22.5		

Comments:

A mountain valley/foothills area that appeared more intact than some of the other mountains/valleys in the Field Office. Adjacent scenery (Cimarron Ridge and wilderness areas) are major influences in creating the setting of this unit. A great deal of visual variety and interest is represented, and is consistently spread across the seven landscape characteristics.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1a



IOP 1b



IOP 2a



IOP 2b



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6



IOP 7

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 36 – Spruce Mountain

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rolling hills; open, wide; gentle slopes	Taller, dense stands of deciduous, conifer trees	Hobby ranches, power lines, fences; geometric
Line	Horizontal; some diagonal slopes	Line between meadow and deciduous/conifer stands; vertical, deciduous trunks	Geometric
Color	Brown, grays, tan	Sage green, dark green, white bark, seasonal variation	Browns, red
Texture	Smooth	Smooth to medium	Medium

3. Narrative

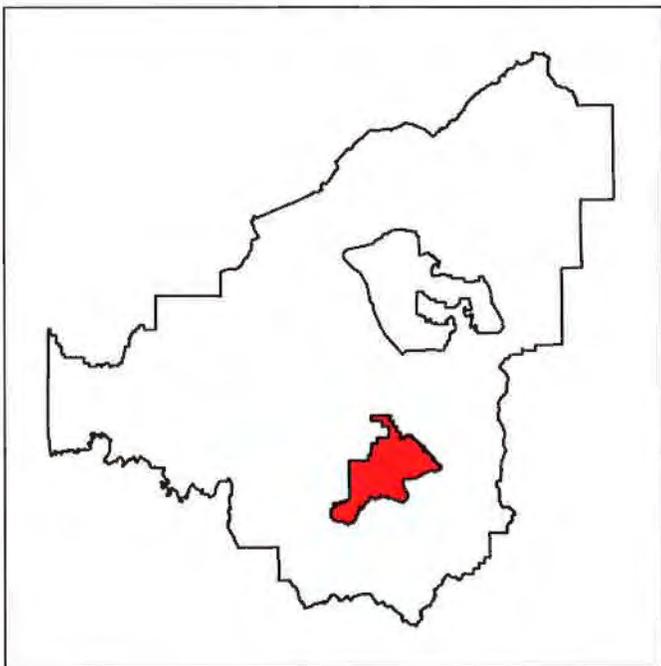
Rolling, open meadows surrounded by aspen and scrub (mountain shrub community). A lot of private land and hobby ranches.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Spruce Mountain

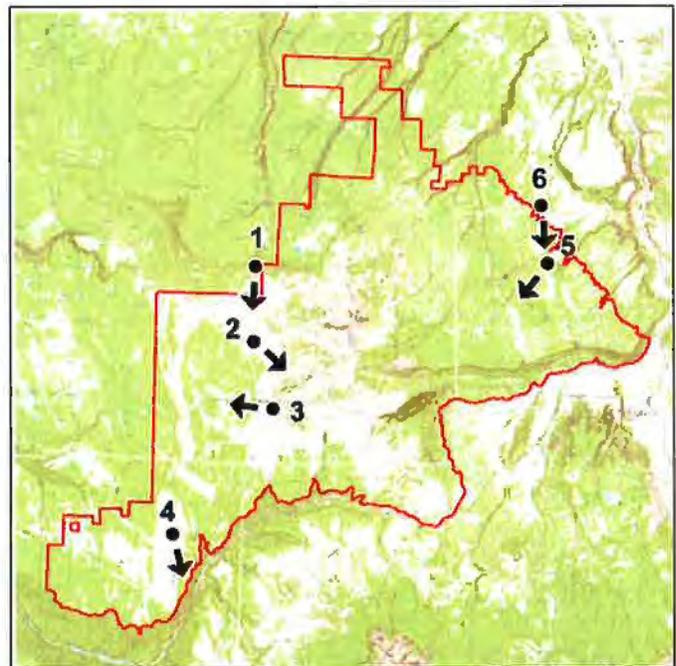
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Rolling hills, mesa top	
b. Vegetation	4			Meadows, aspen, conifers, scrub oak, pleasing patterns	
c. Water			2	Ponds, small streams	
d. Color		3.5		Vegetation is the main source of color	
e. Adjacent Scenery	5			San Juans are dominant	
f. Scarcity		3		Distinct but similar to others in the region	
g. Cultural Modification		0		Modifications are harmonious	
TOTALS	9	6.5	4	19.5	

Comments:

All characteristics work together to create a beautiful setting. San Juan views and vegetative diversity are key components.



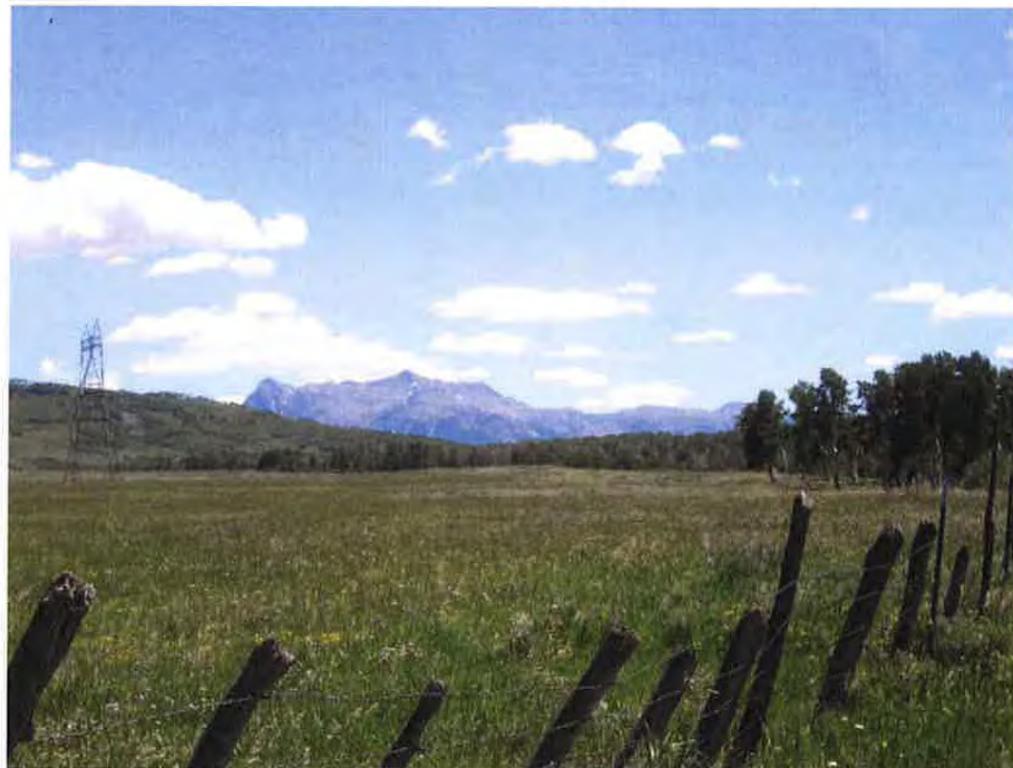
SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 37 – Ridgway Reservoir

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rolling to rugged hillsides and canyons, leading down to flat reservoir	Rounded, clumpy juniper stands; sparse, low vegetation	Geometric State Park facilities, trail, roads
Line	Steep, diagonal, horizontal hilltops, horizontal lake	Horizontal line where water meets edge, and from trail horizontal due to landform	Geometric
Color	Tans, browns, grays, blue water	Dark green, grays, gold, browns, sages	Harmonious browns
Texture	Smooth to coarse	Smooth to medium; dotted juniper	Medium

3. Narrative

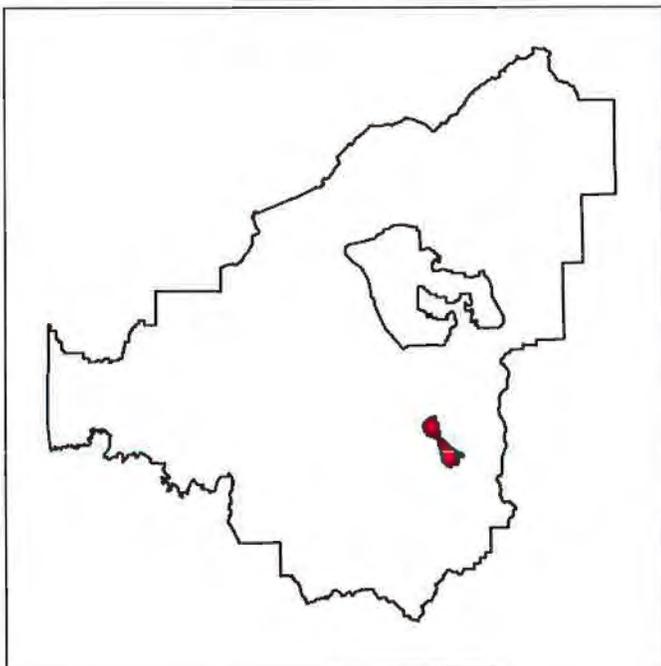
Ridgway State Park and Reservoir are located on leased BLM land. The unit is defined by the Uncompahgre Plateau to the west, and Pleasant Valley and foothills to the east.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Ridgway Reservoir

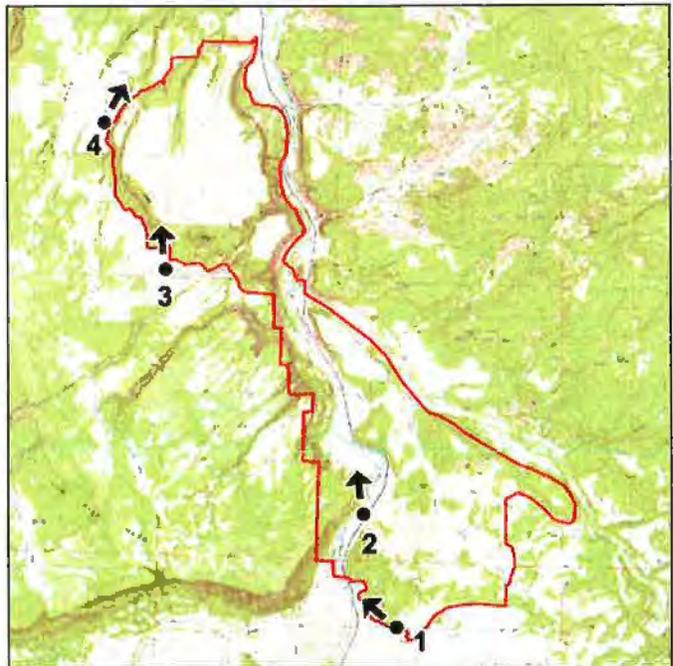
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Reservoir canyon is prominent	
b. Vegetation			2.5	Mainly pinyon/juniper; minimal understory	
c. Water		4		Dominant, though not visible on top of unit	
d. Color		3.5		Rock, vegetation, and water contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		San Juans	
f. Scarcity		3		Larger bodies of water are more rare	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Harmonious	
TOTALS		16.5	2.5	19	

Comments:

Presence of water elevates unit and makes the area distinct. Adjacent scenery provides a nice setting. Scale and presence of water also creates a strong contrast in color.



SQRU Locator



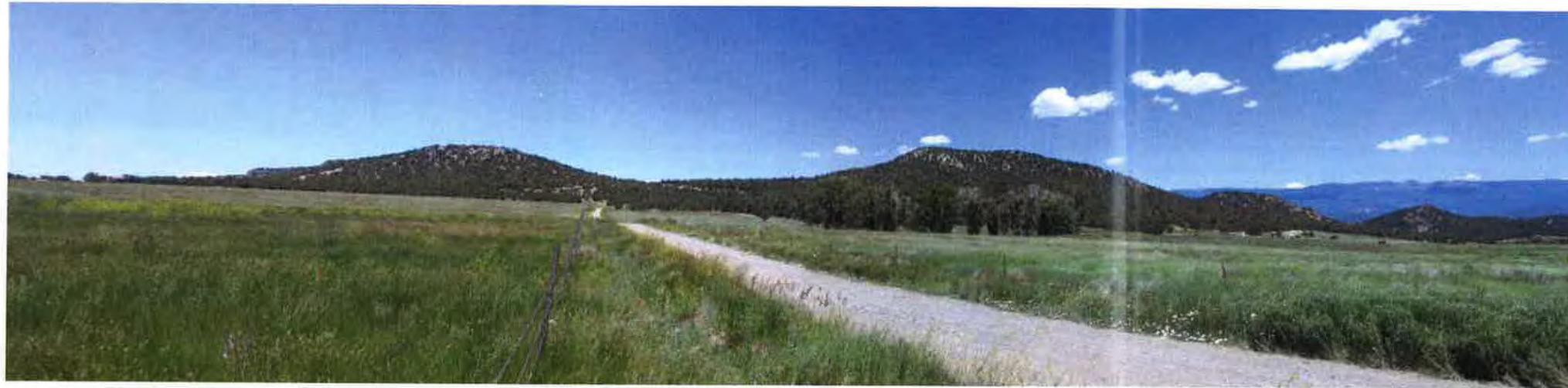
• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 38 – Cimarron Ridge Foothills

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rising, moderate rolling hills with gradual drainages	Dense, continuous, upright forms	Narrow, linear: power lines, roads
Line	Horizontal, gradual diagonal drainages and slopes	Indistinct	Horizontal, vertical
Color	Tans, beige, gray	Yuma Green, Shadow Gray, dark green, sage greens	Brown, gray
Texture	Medium	Medium, dense	Smooth

3. Narrative

The unit is delineated by the Pleasant Valley, National Forest (Cimarron Ridge), and the southeast Montrose hills. Change in vegetation and topography sets the unit apart.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Cimarron Ridge Foothills

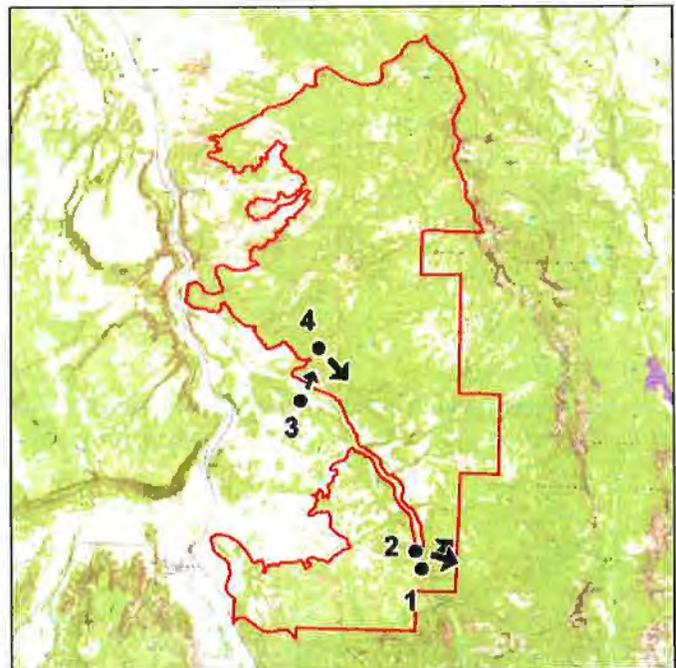
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A - 19 or more X B - 12 - 18 C - 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Larger, rolling foothills	
b. Vegetation	4			Aspen, scrub oak, conifers, riparian	
c. Water		3		Mountain streams	
d. Color		3		Vegetation, rock, seasonal variety	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Cimarron Ridge, views of San Juans	
f. Scarcity			2	Common, views are noteworthy	
g. Cultural Modification		0		None of note	
TOTALS	8	6	4	18	

Comments:

Diverse vegetation and bold adjacent scenery provide a beautiful setting. Viewshed foreground for unique Cimarron Ridge.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 39 – Pleasant Valley

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flatter, slightly rolling valley bottom; a few isolated, prominent rolling hills	Low, continuous agricultural fields; occasional rounded, upright vegetation	Geometric
Line	Gentle, undulating	Horizontal, defined edge of fields; vertical trees	Geometric
Color	Browns and grays	Light green, sage green, gold, grays, browns	Wide variety of harmonious colors
Texture	Smooth	Smooth	Smooth sides, medium in landscape

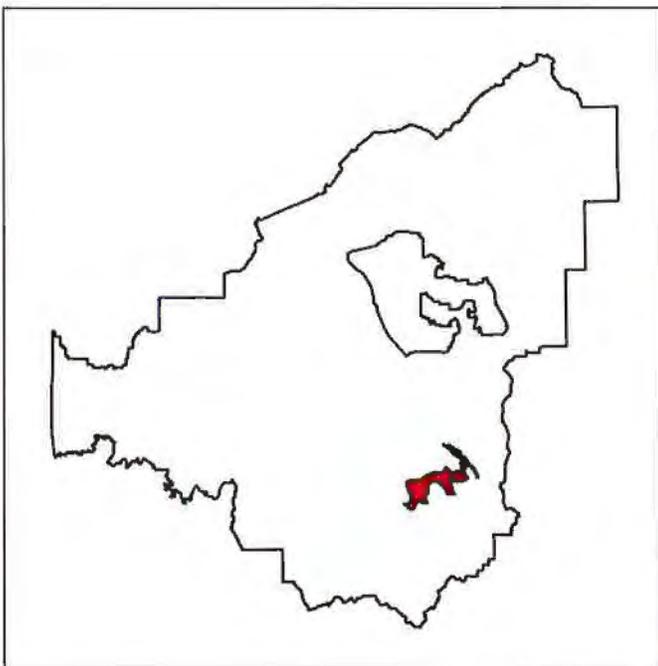
3. Narrative

Bound by the Mount Sneffels Foothills to the south, Hill Mesa/Dallas to the north, and Baldy Peak to the east. An overall flat to gently rounding valley surrounded by rounding to steep vertical relief.

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			1.5	Flat valley bottom with a few prominent hills	
b. Vegetation		3		Agricultural fields; riparian and native, shelter/shade trees	
c. Water			1	Few rivers and ponds	
d. Color		3		Fields, ponds, riparian, native vegetation create pleasing contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery	5			San Juans, Cimarron Ridge, Uncompahgre Plateau provide beautiful backdrop	
f. Scarcity			2	Common, although adjacent scenery creates a unique setting	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Harmonious development	
TOTALS	5	6	4.5	15.5	

Comments:

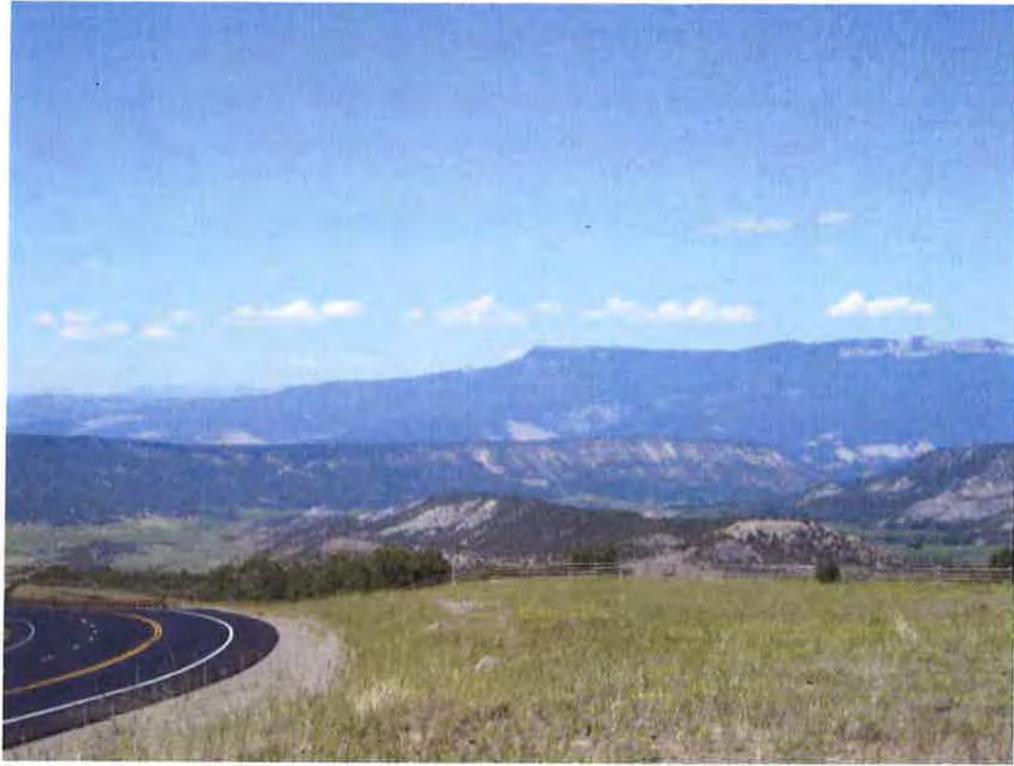
Agriculturally developed valley, with a pleasing setting created by the San Juans and Cimarron Ridge.



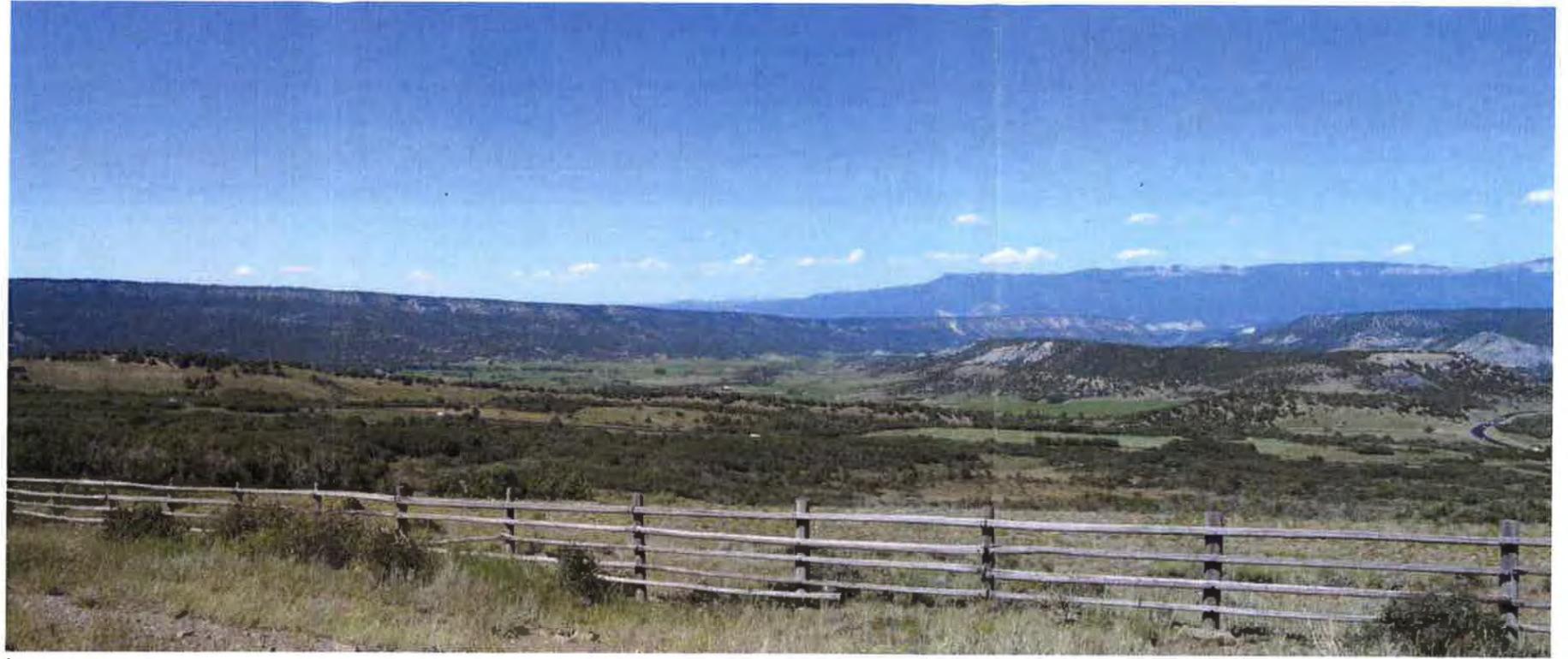
SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



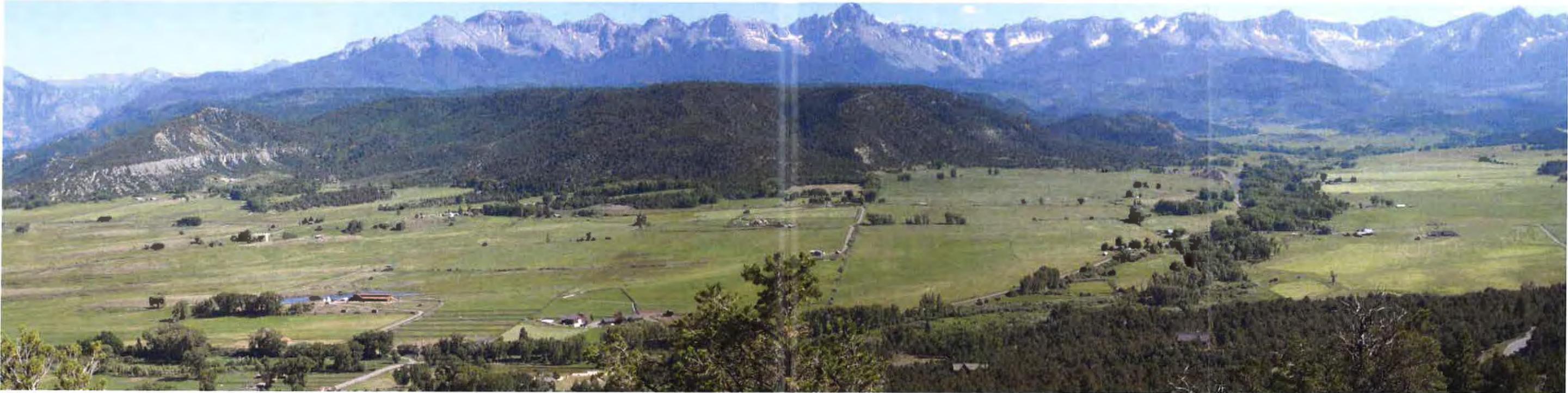
IOP 1



IOP 2



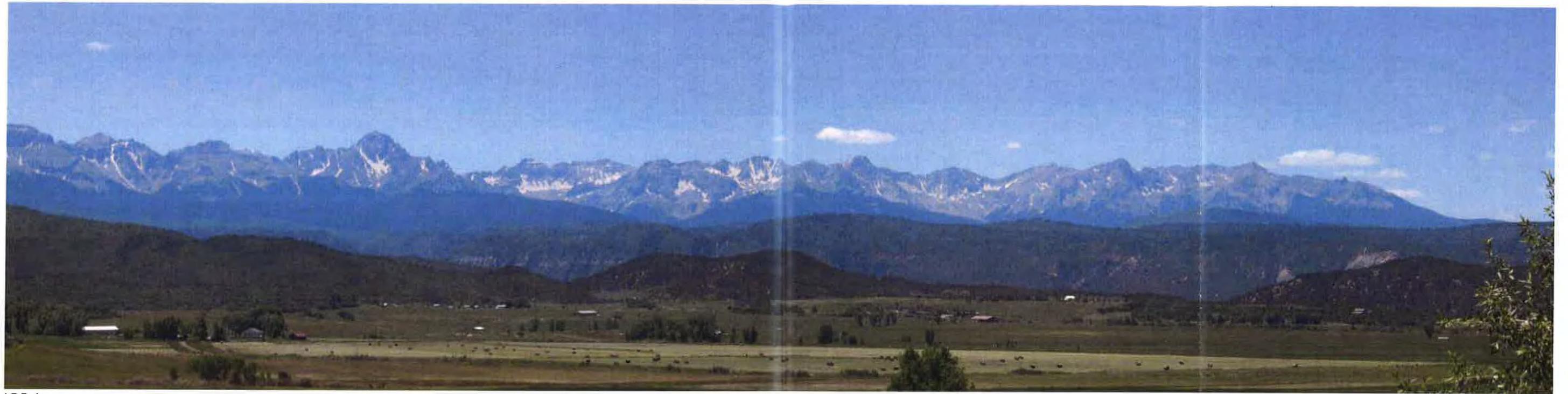
IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 40 – Uncompahgre Canyon

1. Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Narrow, steep canyon with vertical, terracing rock faces; flat floodplain	Continuous, interrupted by rock banding; low, dense understory with dense stands of conifer and aspen	Geometric: homes
Line	Horizontal banding, vertical faces, steep diagonals	Irregular, horizontal line created by interrupting rock ledges	Geometric
Color	Red, gray, dark browns	Dark green, white trunks, seasonal variation, dark browns and greens	Browns, greens
Texture	Rough	Medium to rough	Fit within landscape texture and character

3. Narrative

Boundary defined by steep canyon walls, Forest Service lands, and wider Pleasant Valley.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Uncompahgre Canyon

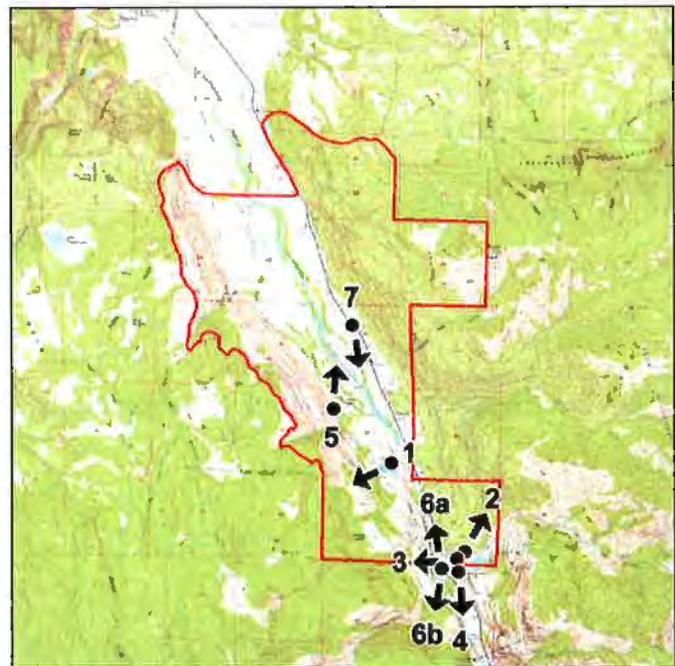
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	4			Very steep canyon	
b. Vegetation		3		Aspen, conifer, mountain shrub	
c. Water		3		Uncompahgre River flows through bottom	
d. Color	4			Bold red cliffs set off by vegetation	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	San Juans	
f. Scarcity		3		Steep, deep, reds, heavy vegetation	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Construction is mostly harmonious	
TOTALS	8	9	2	19	

Comments:

River flows through dramatic canyon with bold red-rock banding, dense vegetation, harmonious modifications, and striking adjacent peaks.



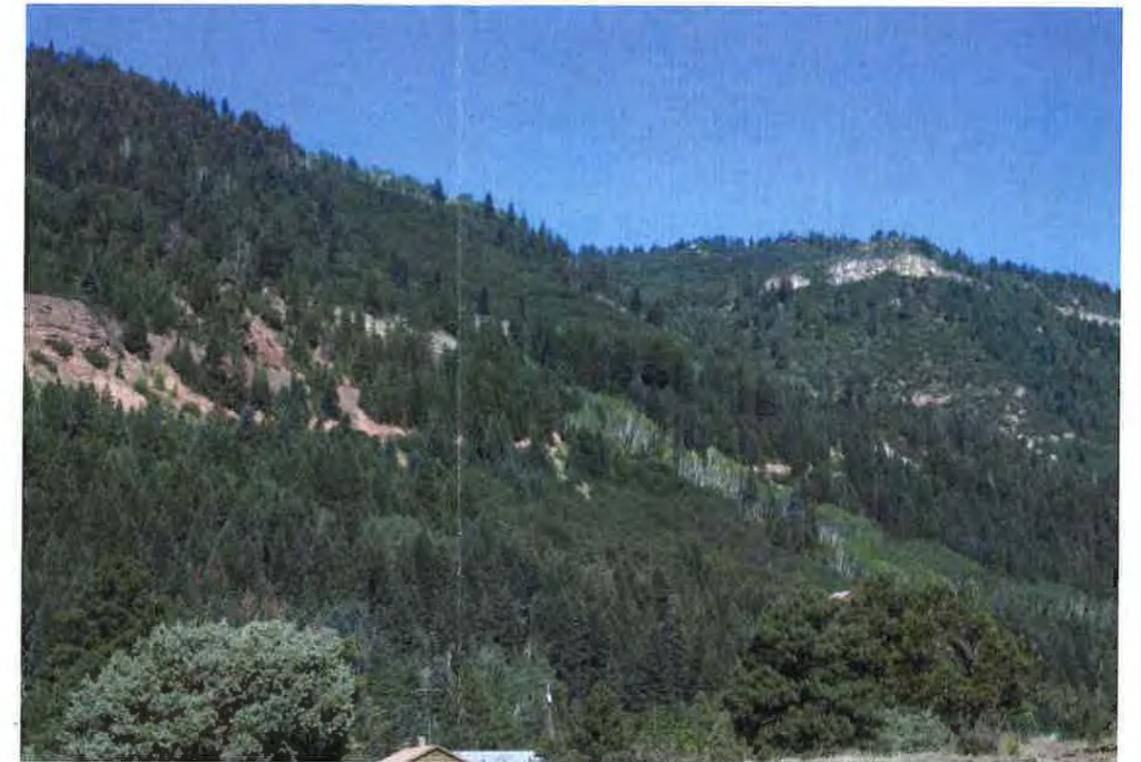
SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



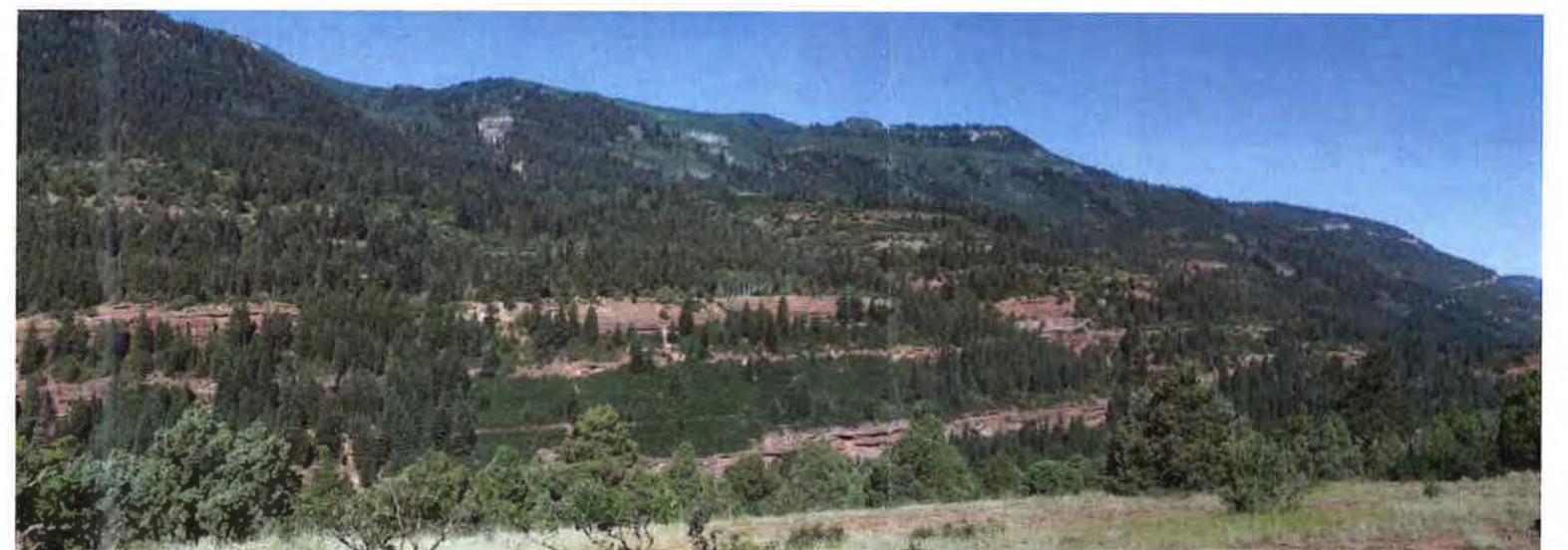
IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



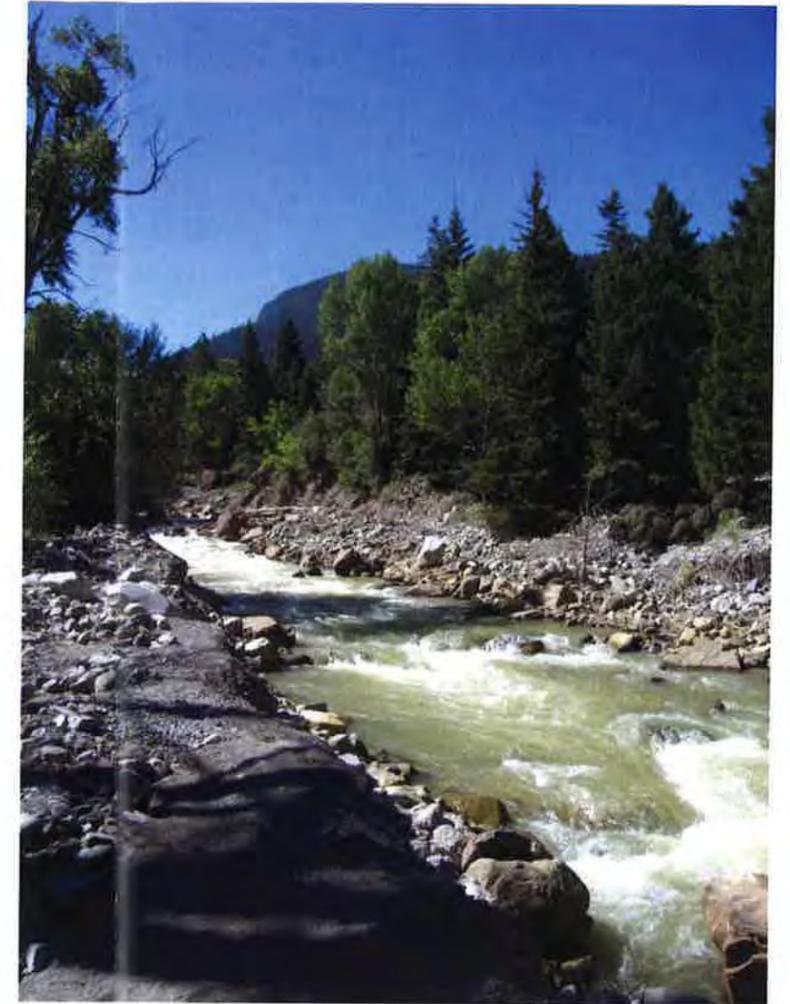
IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6a



IOP 6b



IOP 7

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 41 – Mount Sneffels Foothills

1. Evaluators: Lindsey Utter, Julie McGrew

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Gradually rolling to steeper foothills; deep canyon	Low meadows interrupting tall, upright vegetation	Agricultural structures, fences, roads, houses, yurts; geometric
Line	Undulating, steep diagonals	Curvilinear edge between meadows and stands	Geometric
Color	Grays, red, brown	Dark green, light green, sage green, white, gray, brown	Browns, reds, whites, greens
Texture	Medium to rough	Smooth to medium	Medium

3. Narrative

Bound on the north by Leopard Creek Canyon rim and Ridgway Valley, and to the south by the Field Office boundary. Predominantly private lands with the San Juans as the backdrop to the south.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Mount Sneffels Foothills

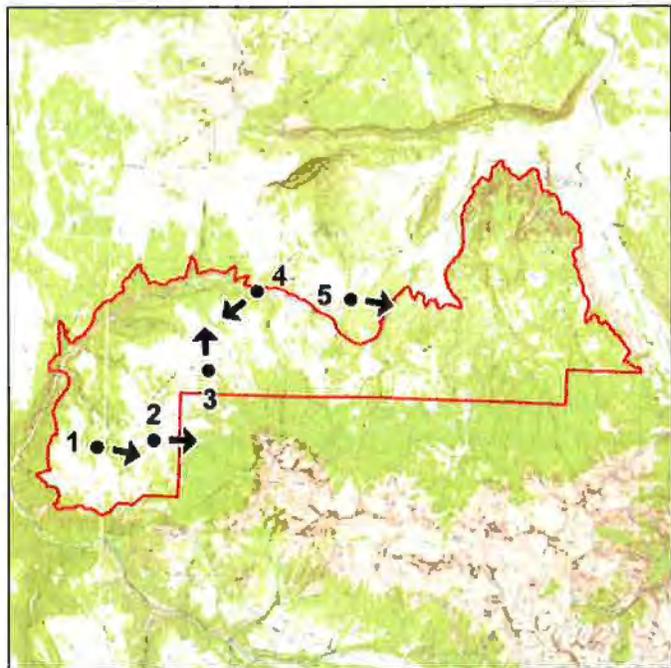
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Canyon to rolling hills	
b. Vegetation	4			Aspens, ponderosa, mountain shrub, oaks, wetlands, meadows, sage	
c. Water			0.5	Ponds, small streams	
d. Color		3.5		Diverse vegetation with strong seasonal variation	
e. Adjacent Scenery	5			San Juans immediately rising	
f. Scarcity			2	Rolling hills and meadows are common	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Do not detract from setting	
TOTALS	9	6.5	2.5	18	

Comments:

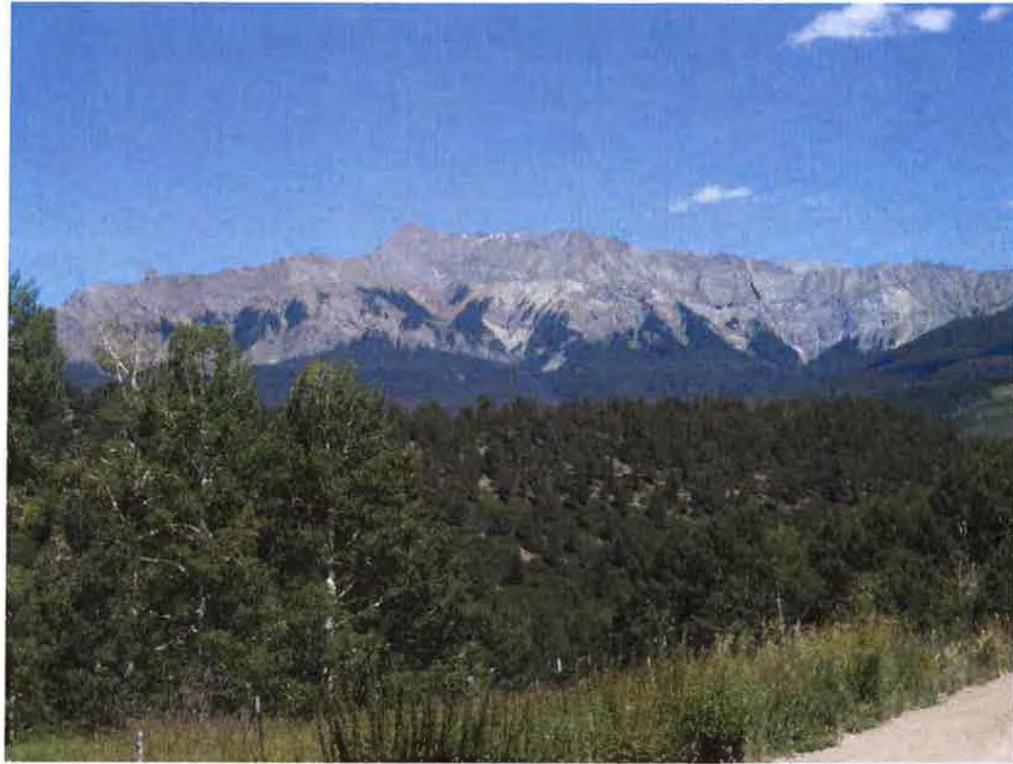
Very diverse vegetation and landform, set off by amazing adjacent scenery.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



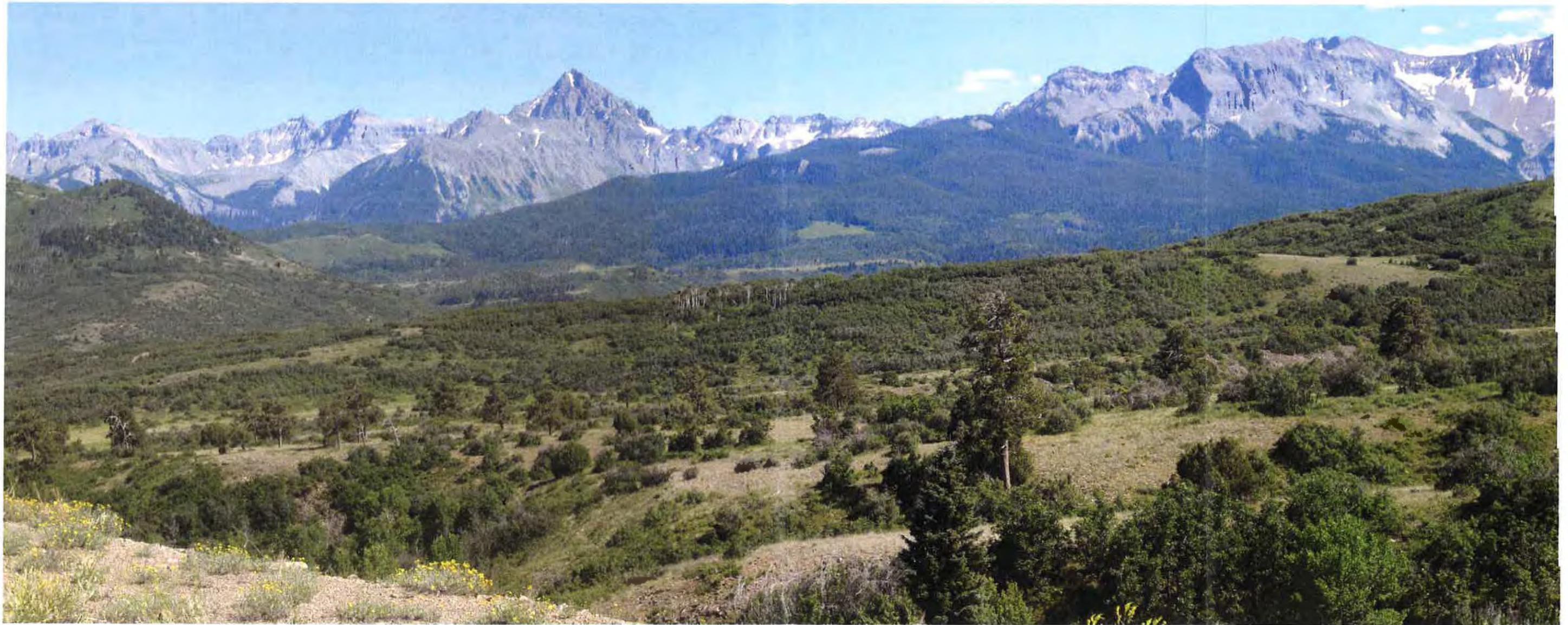
IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 42 – Upper San Miguel River

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Steep canyon walls with rugged outcrops; complex	Dense, continuous, conical/rounded, diverse, lush	Geometric
Line	Vertical, horizontal banding; diagonal drainages	Sinuuous riparian in bottom, otherwise indistinct	Geometric
Color	Deep red, brown and gray down below	All values of greens, browns; nice fall colors	Brown, white, yellow, blue, green
Texture	Coarse	Smooth to coarse	Coarse

3. Narrative

Upper San Miguel River extends from the national forest boundary, Mailbox Park, and private lands to the north and from the national forest boundary, Field Office boundary, and private lands to the south. This section of the Gunnison River and its tributaries encompasses the river and its canyon walls to the rim of Beaver Canyon, Saltado Creek, Specie Creek, Fall Creek, Big Bear Creek, and Muddy Creek.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Upper San Miguel River

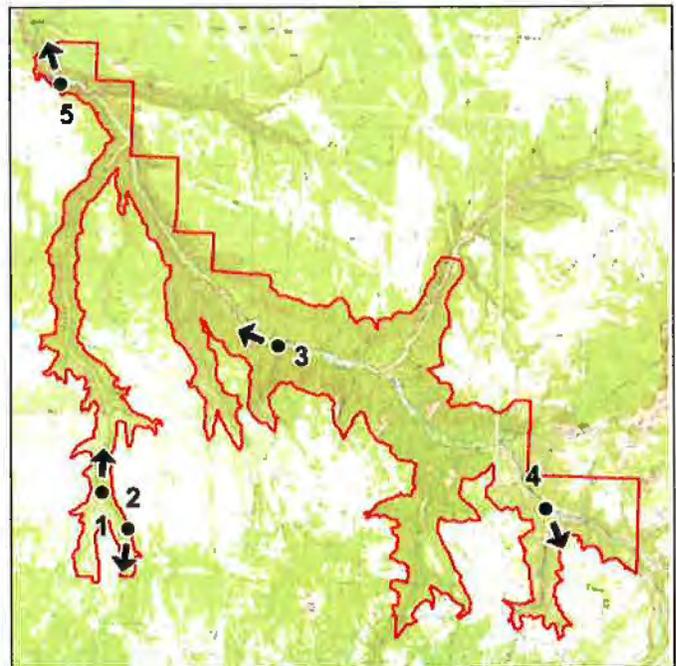
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	4			Rugged, steep rock outcrops	
b. Vegetation	4			Diverse/dense, lush	
c. Water	4.5			Dominates; white, cascading	
d. Color	5			Diversity and contrast in soil and vegetation	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	No influence, enclosed landscape	
f. Scarcity		3.5		Distinctive	
g. Cultural Modification			-0.5	Construction yards (localized)	
TOTALS	17.5	3.5	-0.5	20.5	

Comments:

The San Miguel River is a dominant element with the colorful, rugged landform and diverse vegetation contributing strongly to the unit's overall scenic quality.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



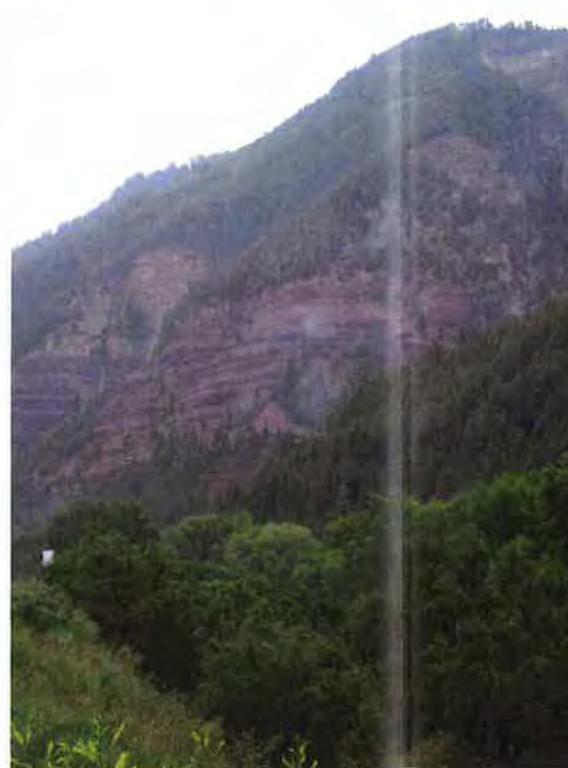
IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 43 – Beaver Mesa Complex

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Gently rolling mesas incised by canyons/crecks flowing into the San Miguel River	Patchwork of open meadows, interspersed with aspens; scrub oak community	Geometric
Line	Horizontal, undulating	Horizontal line created by meadow/aspen forest edge; vertical element created by aspen	Geometric
Color	Beiges, grays	Values of greens, white (aspen trunks)	Browns
Texture	Smooth to medium	Medium	Coarse

3. Narrative

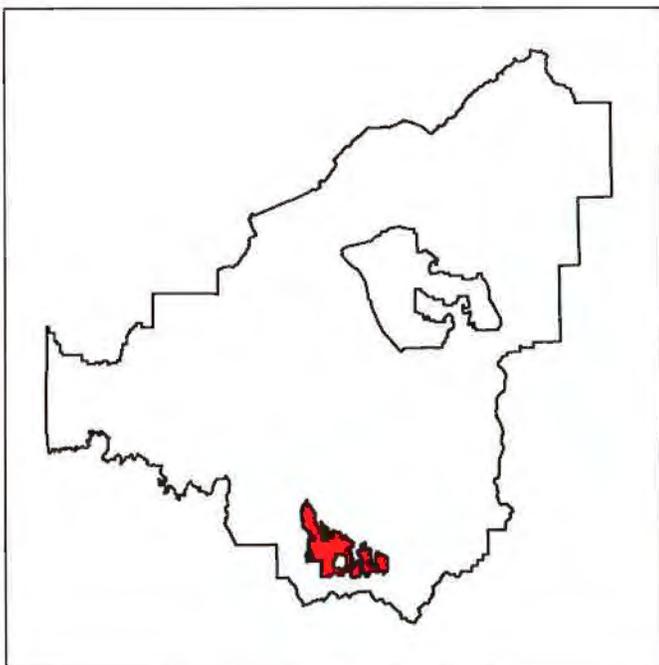
Gently rolling mesas incised by Beaver Canyon, Specie Creek, and Big Bear Creek. Adjacent scenery is striking with all the mountains surrounding the unit.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Beaver Mesa Complex

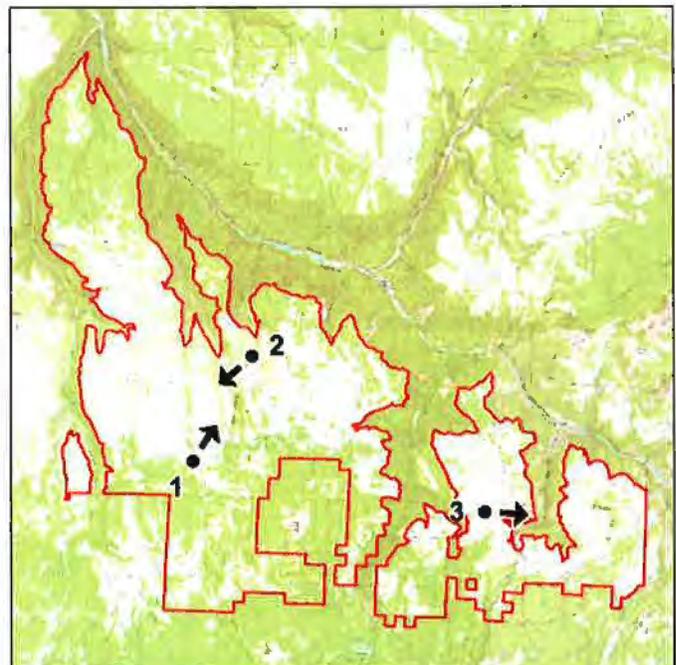
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Rolling hills	
b. Vegetation	4			Aspen, scrub oak; open, rolling meadows	
c. Water			1	Small creeks but not a dominant element	
d. Color	4			Seasonal variation; vibrant, dominant	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Mountain ranges add value	
f. Scarcity		3		Distinctive but similar to others in the region	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Presence of development	
TOTALS	12	3	3	18	

Comments:

Outstanding adjacent scenery, seasonal color variation in vegetation and diversity in vegetation.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 44 – Oak Hill

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Low, rolling, gentle with prominent hills rising up and flat, open fields	Pinyon/juniper, ponderosa; mosaic, patchy, clumpy, mottled	Geometric
Line	Horizontal landscape	Horizontally distributed with vertical element of conifers	Geometric
Color	Light brown to beige, grays	Different values of greens; good fall colors	Browns, earth tones
Texture	Smooth to medium (Baldys)	Smooth to coarse	Coarse

3. Narrative

Area with high-end homes, fencing, and a 40-acre subdivision. Segregated by a drainage on the east, national forest on the west, and the Norwood Valley to the north. A mostly panoramic, scenic landscape.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Oak Hill

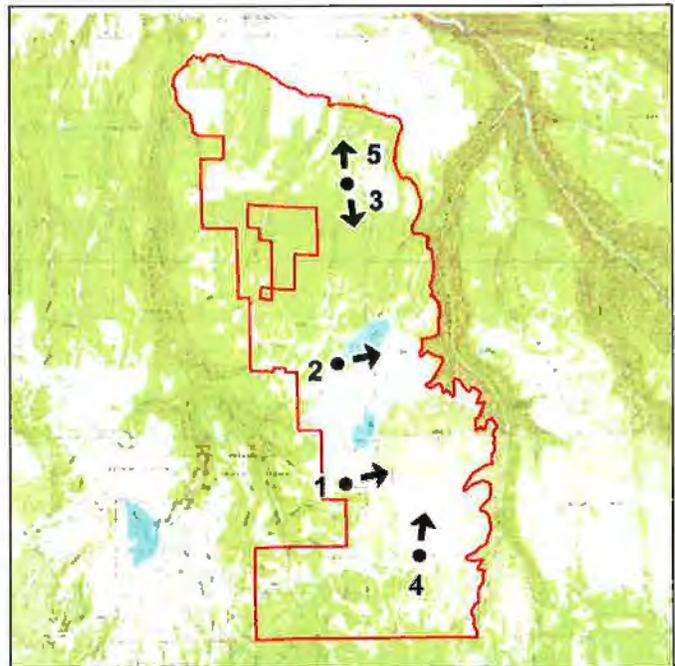
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Rolling foothills	
b. Vegetation	4			Very diverse plant material	
c. Water			1	Reservoirs	
d. Color	4			Vegetation holds many shades of green; fall color	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Cone mountain is very visible	
f. Scarcity		3		Other areas like it, but beautiful	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Neither adds or detracts	
TOTALS	12	3	3	18	

Comments:

A beautiful setting with Cone Mountain as an amazing backdrop. The reservoirs, Baldys, and vegetation also add visual interest and variety to this unit. Only one reservoir is visible from the highway and is a small part of the whole visual experience.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 3



IOP 2



IOP 4



IOP 5

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 45 – Hamilton Creek

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Lindsey Utter, Julie McGrew, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Sloping hillside to the north and west; flat to rolling	Burnt vertical trunks, low shrub/grass understory	Geometric
Line	Undulating diagonals; mostly horizontal	Vertical, undulating edge between scrub oak and sage	Geometric
Color	Browns, tans, reds	Black, green, gray, brown	Light cream
Texture	Smooth to medium	Fine to medium	Smooth sides, rough in landscape

3. Narrative

A large wildfire in 2002 left black skeletons of trees, and bright-green and sage-green undergrowth now cover the hillsides. Ponderosas survived at higher elevations. Very diverse vegetation includes ponderosa, scrub oak, aspen, sage, and pinyon/juniper. An open, mostly panoramic landscape.

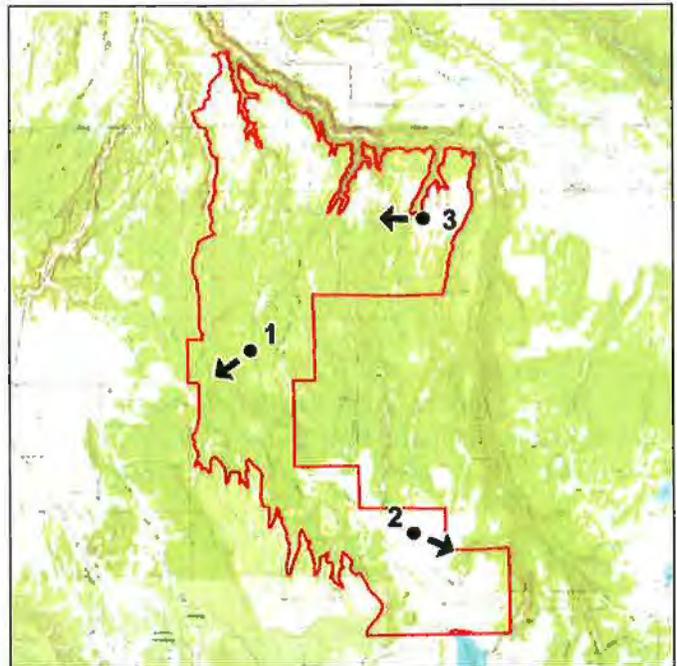
Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Hamilton Creek

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Low, rolling; minimal rock	
b. Vegetation	4			Wide variety	
c. Water			0	Not noticeable	
d. Color		3.5		Vegetation holds great color	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3.5		Cone Mountain, La Sals	
f. Scarcity			2	Beautiful, typical western Colorado	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Cultural modifications fit in with landscape	
TOTALS	4	7	4	15	

Comments:
Nice, rolling.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 46 – Hamilton Mesa

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat mesa top	Patchy scrub oak; flat, open sage parks; modeled form	Simple geometric
Line	Horizontal	Horizontal, organic edge between sage and scrub oak	Geometric
Color	Light brown, beige, buff	Juniper Green	Brown, gray
Texture	Smooth	Medium	Smooth sides

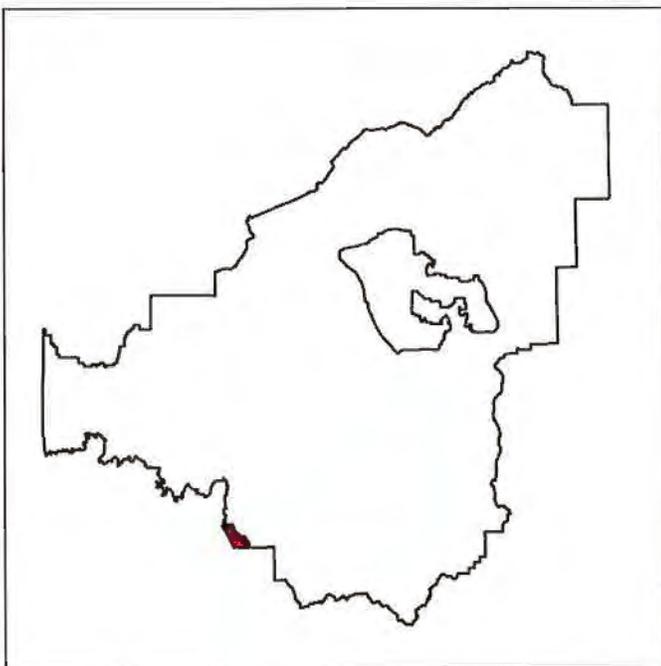
3. Narrative

Mesa top which lacks distinctive topographic features. Due to limited access, the unit was rated by interviewing BLM staff and no photos were taken.

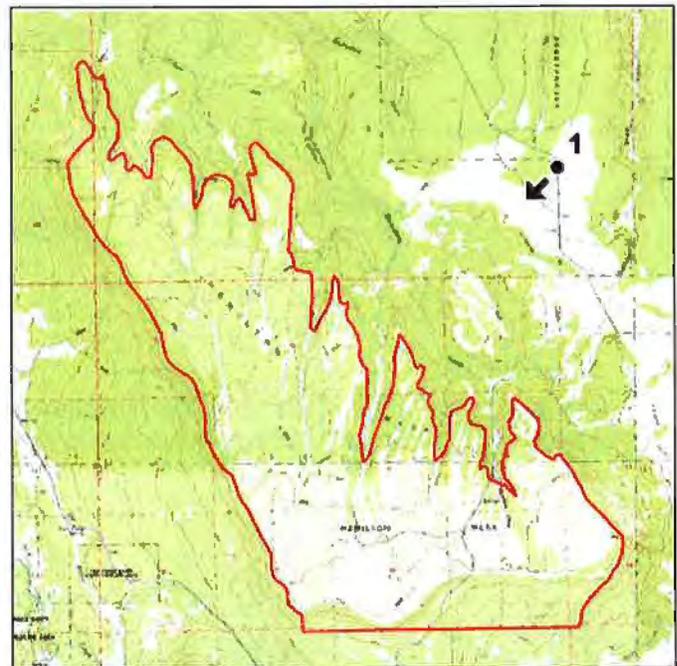
Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Hamilton Mesa

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			1	Flat mesa top	
b. Vegetation		3		Oaks and sage	
c. Water			0	n/a	
d. Color			2	Soil subtle, vegetation understated	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Cone Mountain, San Juans, Dry Creek Basin	
f. Scarcity			1	Common in Colorado	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Does not detract	
TOTALS	4	3	4	11	

Comments:
Flat landscape with amazing adjacent scenery.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 47 – Naturita Canyon

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Deeper Canyon	Continuous, rounded, dense	Geometric
Line	Diagonal drainages, sinuous stream	Sinuous riparian vegetation	Geometric
Color	Muted browns, grays, tans	Bright greens, dark greens	White, brown
Texture	Coarse	Stippled canyon side, leading down to dense valley floor vegetation	Smooth to medium

3. Narrative

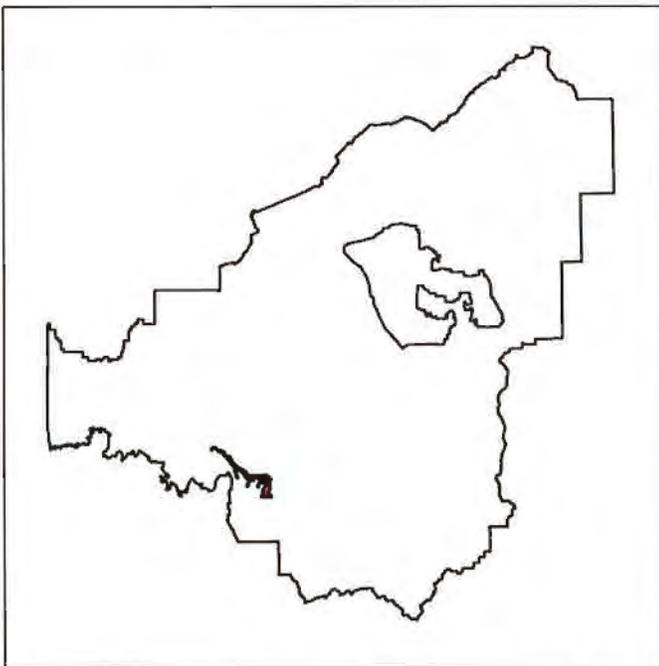
Smaller, narrow, valley relative to others in region. Diverse vegetation with nice riparian bottom. SQRU boundaries defined by canyon rims; an enclosed landscape.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Naturita Canyon

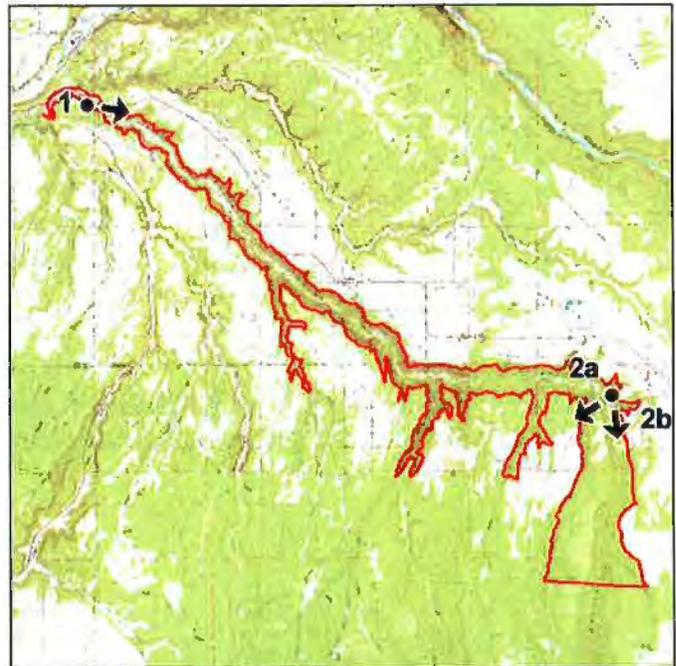
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Canyon	
b. Vegetation		3		Pinyon/juniper, riparian, sage	
c. Water			1	Visible occasionally	
d. Color		3.5		Vibrant, riparian, vegetation, rocks	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	n/a	
f. Scarcity			1.5	Many canyons like this	
g. Cultural Modification		0		Road, pipeline	
TOTALS		9.5	2.5	12	

Comments:

Vegetation in valley draws attention; minimal access. Valley floor is relatively free from human impact.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2a



IOP 2b

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 48 – Norwood Valley

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Amanda Rainey, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat to gently rolling	Low, continuous, horizontal, regular	Geometric
Line	Horizontal, simple	Distinct edge of fields; horizontal	Geometric
Color	Light brown	Deep green to light green, seasonal variation	Red, white, browns, grays, blacks
Texture	Smooth	Smooth to medium, patchy native vegetation stands	Smooth sides, rough in landscape

3. Narrative

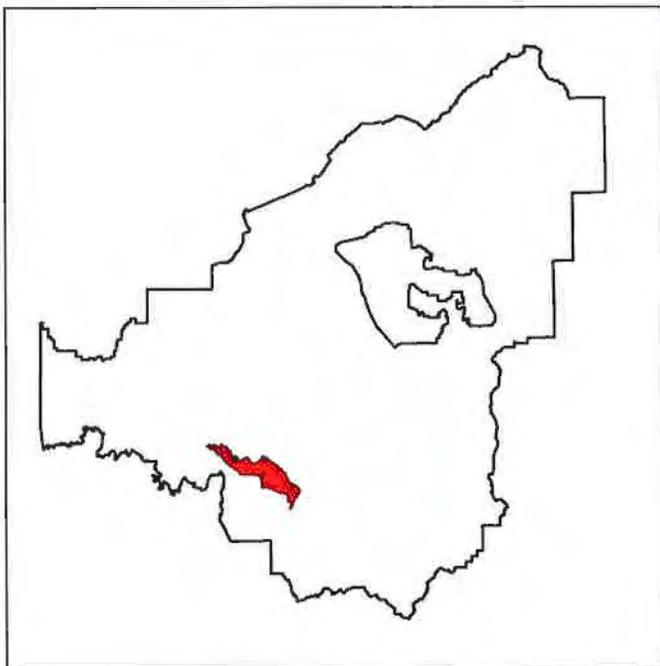
Typical agricultural, rural town setting. The unit is defined by adjacent canyons and changes in land use/vegetation in the adjacent unit.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Norwood Valley

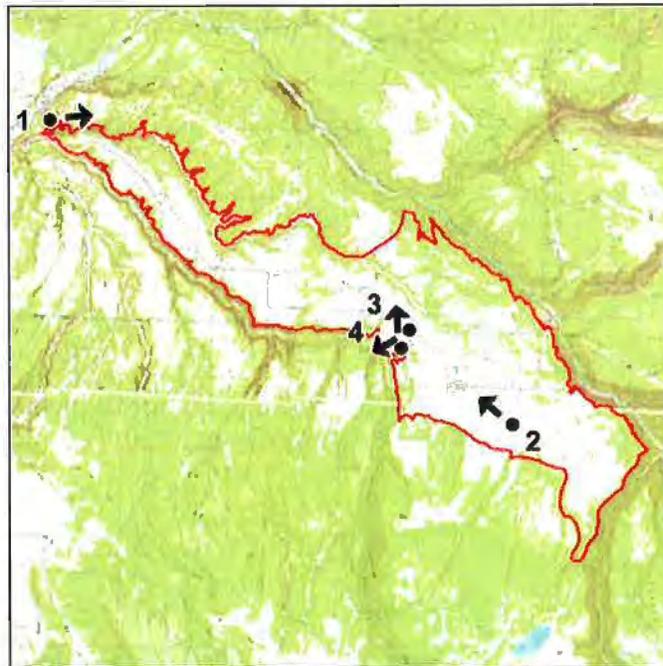
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			1	Low, rolling fields	
b. Vegetation		3		Agriculture-related and trees	
c. Water			0	n/a	
d. Color		3		Greens of vegetation	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	The landscape is what draws the eye	
f. Scarcity			1	Many like it	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Modifications fit the landscape	
TOTALS		6	4	10	

Comments:

Irrigated farmlands; cultural modifications are harmonious. An attractive, pastoral landscape.



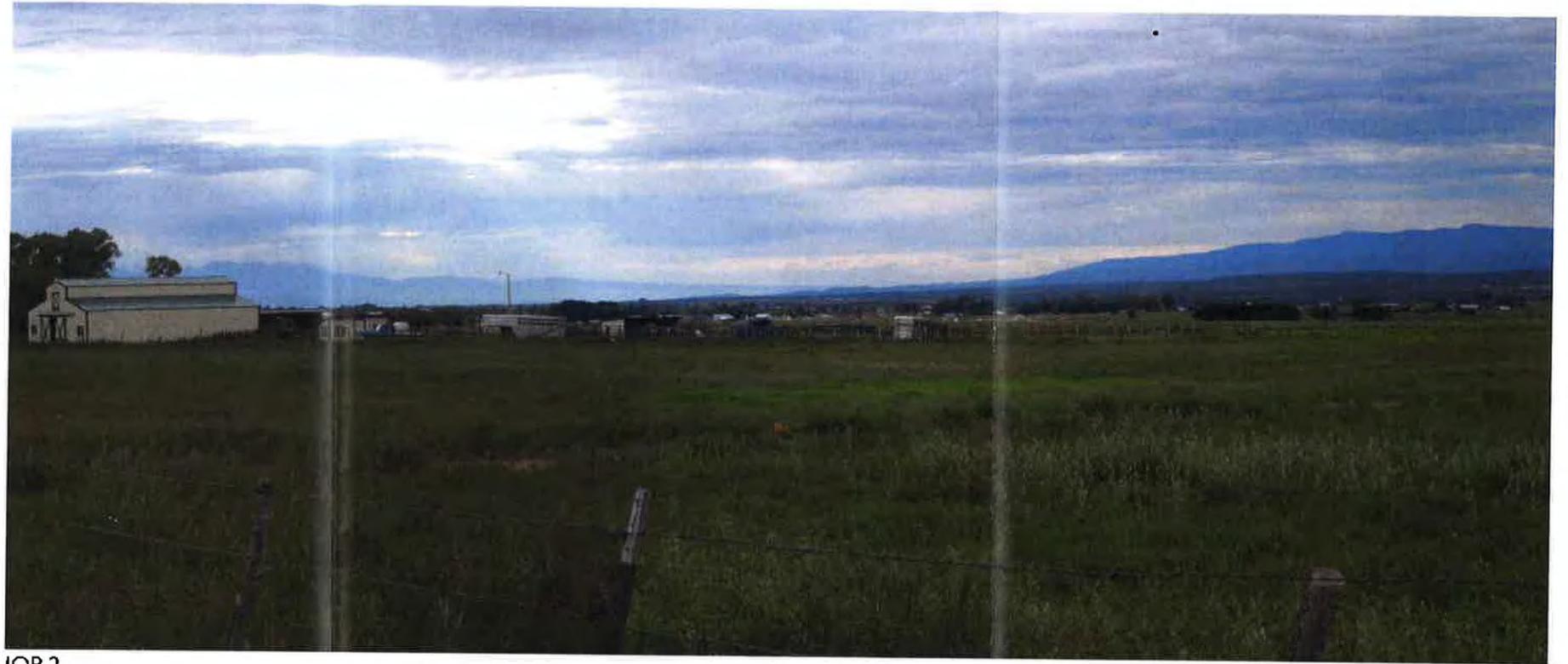
SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 49 – San Miguel – Piñon to Beaver Creek

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Bold rock outcrops, horizontal banding, tight river valley; rough water	Dense, continuous	Geometric
Line	Horizontal bands, diagonal drainages, sinuous river	Sinuous along the water	Geometric
Color	Tans, grays, white; occasional whitewater	Dark, light, and sage greens; strong fall colors including yellows, orange	Earth tones
Texture	Coarse landform, medium water	Medium to coarse	Smooth

3. Narrative

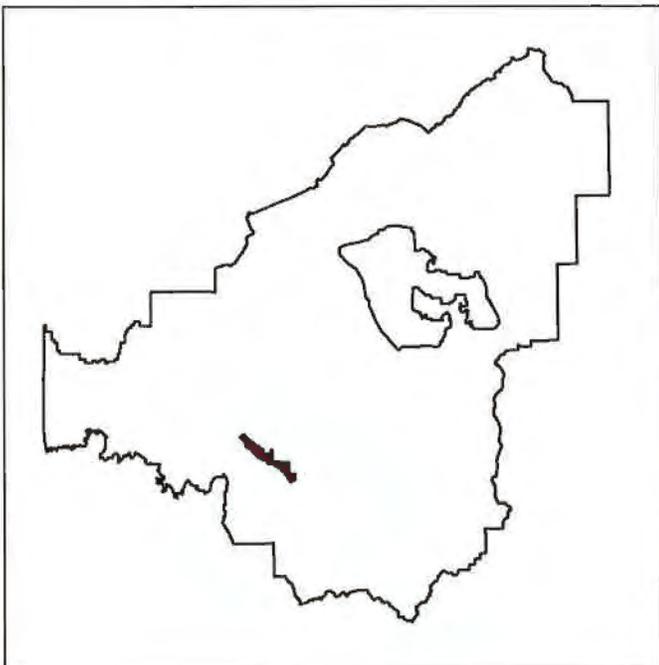
Enclosed landscape; there is a pipeline cutting across the valley. There are a few campgrounds and historical structures. The area is mostly natural in appearance, with diverse riparian vegetation. Rapid current of river with occasional whitewater.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: San Miguel – Piñon to Beaver Creek

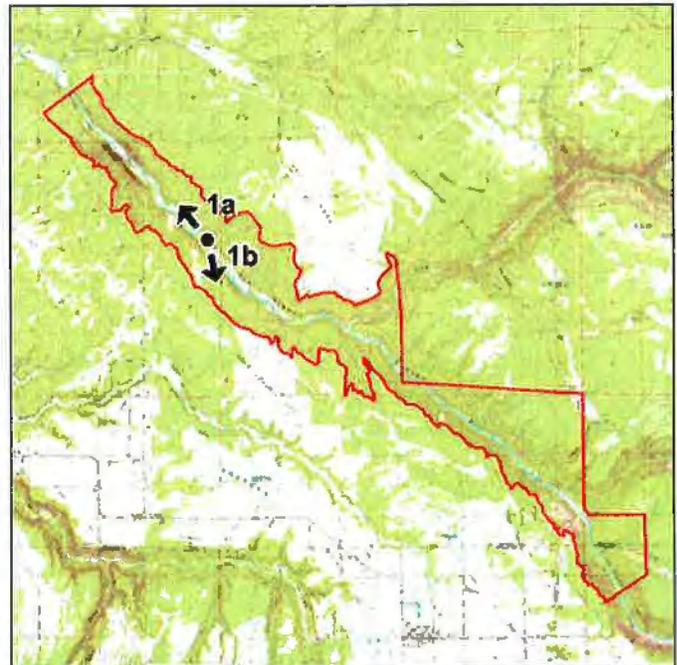
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Steep canyon, narrow	
b. Vegetation	4			Dense riparian, mountain shrub	
c. Water	5			Dominant feature	
d. Color		3.5		Good fall colors	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	No influence; enclosed landscape	
f. Scarcity		3.5		Narrow; water is close to road and is dominant	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None noted	
TOTALS	9	10	0	19	

Comments:

Dense riparian community, mountain shrub community, pinyon/juniper, occasional spruce. Water and vegetation are the dominant features in this unit.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1a



IOP 1b

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 50 – Mailbox Park

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat mesas sloping to the south, with gradual diagonal drainages leading down to deeper maverick drainages	Patchy, rolling pinyon/juniper stands; low, uniform sage meadows	Vertical poles, horizontal wires
Line	Horizontal, diagonal	Undulating edge between sage meadow and pinyon/juniper	Vertical, horizontal
Color	Browns, grays, tans, orangish	Sage Green, dark greens, grays, browns	Brown
Texture	Smooth tops to medium to rough valley walls	Smooth to medium	Features are smooth, coarse in the landscape

3. Narrative

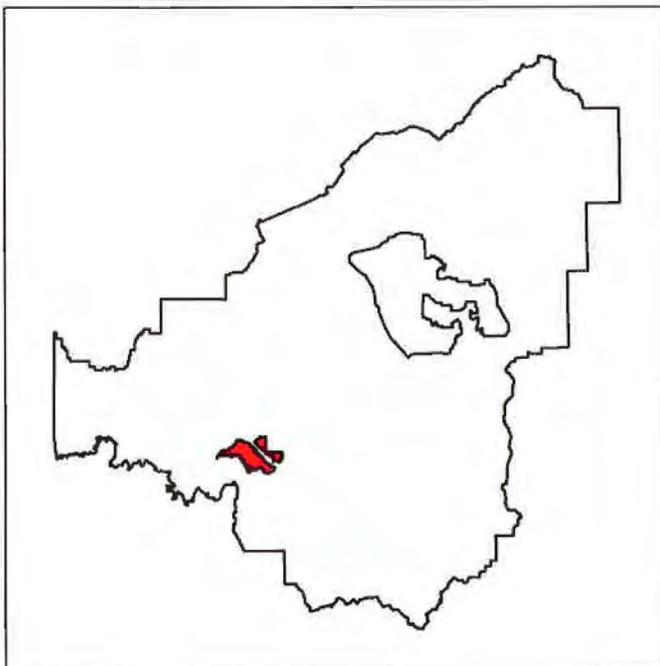
Pinyon/juniper woodland in sage meadows; power lines are not terribly noticeable; adjacent scenery creates the setting focal point. An open, mostly panoramic landscape mainly dominated by pinyon/juniper woodlands and dopen sagebrush parks.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Mailbox Park

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Rolling tops of mesas	
b. Vegetation		3		Pinyon/juniper and sage	
c. Water			0	n/a	
d. Color			2	Not a lot of variety but not muted	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		San Juans, La Sals Uncompahgre Plateau	
f. Scarcity			1	Others like it	
g. Cultural Modification			0	n/a	
TOTALS		6	5	11	

Comments:

Common pinyon/juniper and sage on rolling benches; adjacent scenery creates a beautiful setting. Vegetation is the dominant visual characteristic; otherwise the area is lacking in notable visual variety.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 51 – Naturita Ridge

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt, Amanda Rainey

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Broad, rounded ridge – more hill-like; ridge slopes gently to the north	Rounded, clumpy, mottled; sage, meadow plane	Mine tailings, dome-like, geometric
Line	Rounded, horizontal ridge from most views; diagonals with drainages to the north	Line created by fire; organic edge between sage flats and upper vegetation	Vertical, horizontal, diagonal (pipeline, seismic roads), fencing
Color	Beige, grays, subtle reds	Green to gray	Browns, beige
Texture	Medium to coarse	Medium	Smooth surfaces, coarse

3. Narrative

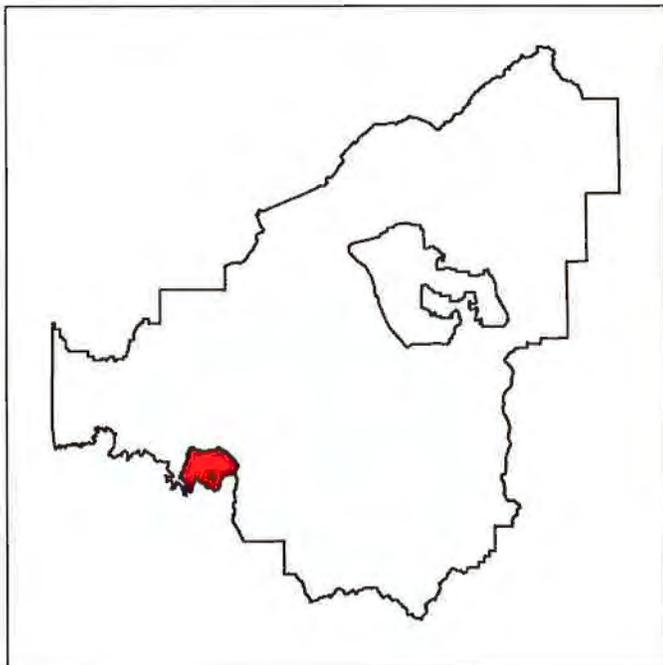
A broad, rounded ridge that gently slopes to the north and is incised with drainages that cut to the north. Mostly dominated by pinyon/juniper; otherwise the area lacks notable visual variety. Segregated from surrounding units by changes in landform character.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Naturita Ridge

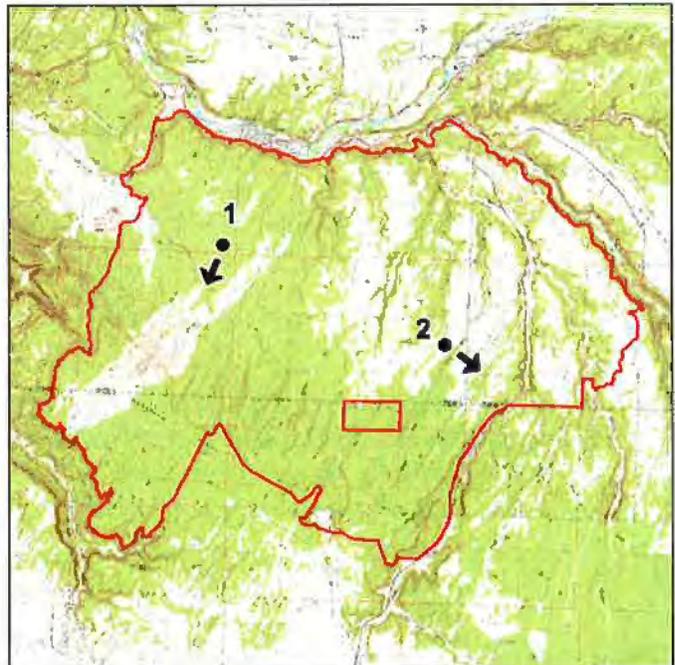
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Rounded ridge with gentle slope	
b. Vegetation		3		Some variety and contrast	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color			2	Subtle colors, little variety	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	Has little or no effect	
f. Scarcity			1	Interesting, but common in region	
g. Cultural Modification			-0.5	Roads, vegetative modifications, pipeline, seismic roads	
TOTALS		3	6.5	9.5	

Comments:

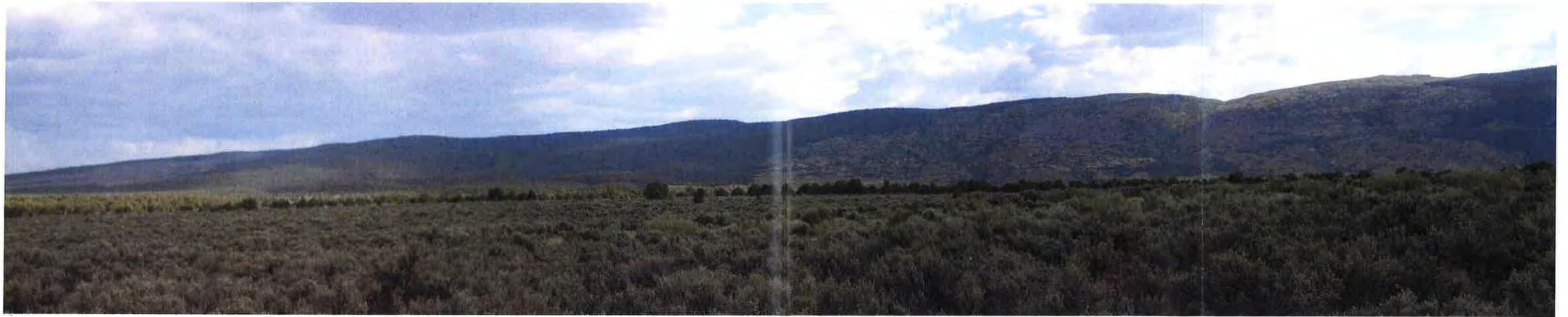
An interesting feature but common in region; vegetation is the dominant scenic quality element.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 52 – Dry Creek Canyon

1. **Evaluators:** Gary Long, Lindsey Utter, Julie McGrew, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Canyon complex, rock outcrops, steep slopes	Juniper woodlands with narrow riparian bottom, cottonwood shrub bottom, mottled form	None noted except minor road/trail
Line	Diagonal, vertical, rounded, ridges	Sinuuous riparian vegetation	n/a
Color	Brown, buff, beige	Yuma and Juniper Green, gray	n/a
Texture	Coarse to medium	Coarse to medium	n/a

3. Narrative

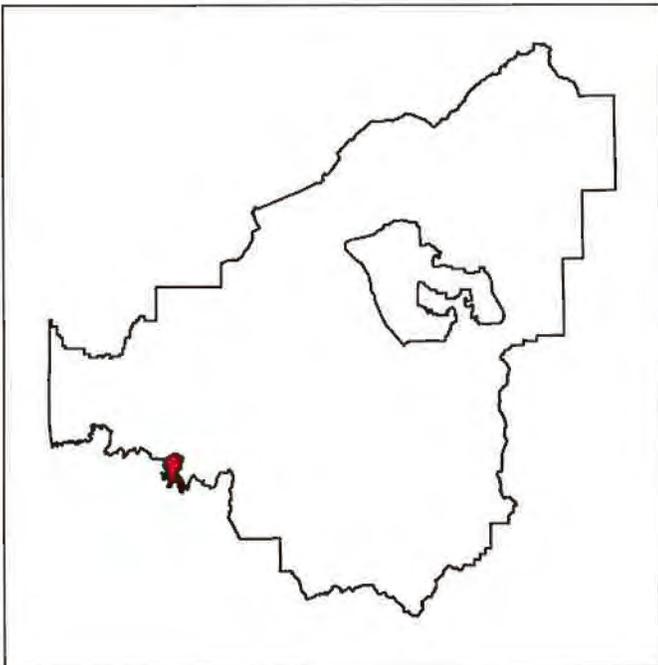
Steep canyon unit defined by Field Office boundary, Naturita Ridge Rim, and lower sage flats to the north. Pinyon/juniper and sage are the dominant vegetation with cottonwood and other shrubs along the stream.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Dry Creek Canyon

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2.5	Modest landforms	
b. Vegetation		3		Upland and riparian vegetation	
c. Water			2	Small stream but noticeable	
d. Color			2.5	Modest color variation	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	None visible	
f. Scarcity			2	Similar to others in area	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None	
TOTALS		3	9	12	

Comments:

Narrow canyon complex with steep walls, some rock outcrops. Narrow canyon is a dominant feature.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 53 – San Miguel – Vancorum to Piñon

1. **Evaluators:** Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Irregular, rugged wall canyon with occasional benching; steep sloped; valley floor has a flat floodplain	Clumpy, rounded, flat fields	Geometric
Line	Diagonal lines on walls (drainages), curving valley floor	Curvilinear vegetation line along river and irrigation ditch	Regular, straight, vertical, horizontal
Color	Tans, browns, whites, grays, weak reds	Yuma and Juniper Green, lighter greens, grays; fields are harmonious	A large variety of colors on structures
Texture	Coarse	Smooth	Smooth sides, rough in landscape

3. Narrative

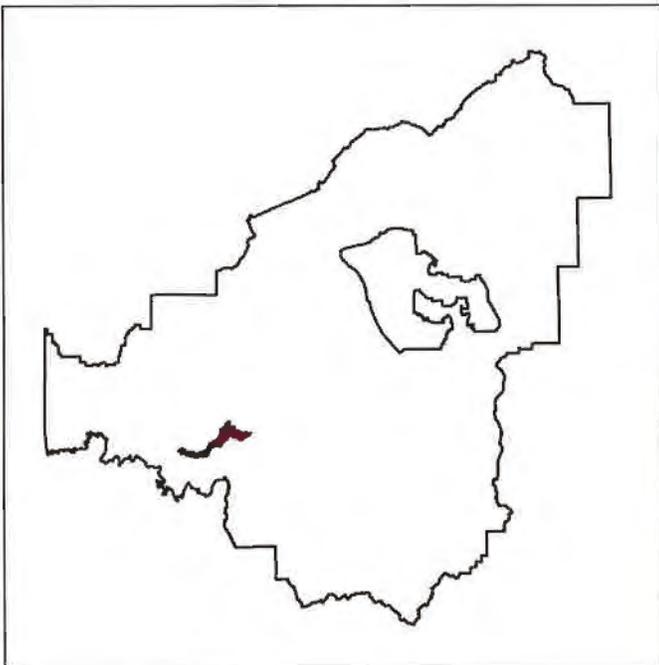
Valley is full of structures, including houses, power plant, and junk yards. Parts of this portion of the San Miguel broaden and with agricultural development, exhibit a pastoral appearance. The river in this portion of the valley is less dominant; it is also slower and somewhat flatter than in other units.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: San Miguel – Vancorum to Piñon

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one)
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2.5	Not as steep as other locations	A – 19 or more
b. Vegetation		3.5		Variety provided by areas with water	X B – 12 – 18
c. Water		3.5		Visible, not totally dominant	C – 11 or less
d. Color		3		Riparian vegetation and fields create nice contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	Little is visible out of the valley	
f. Scarcity		3.5		Not many valleys like this	
g. Cultural Modification			-2	Gravel pit, junkyards, power plant, sense of a modified landscape; discordant with a natural landscape	
TOTALS		13.5	0.5	14	

Comments:

Valley contains this unit. There are nice, natural features, but human impacts catch the eye.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 54 – Third Park

1. **Evaluators:** Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat to gentle rolling; wide open; a few steep drainages or washes	Low shrubs with grass/forb understory; patchy to dense pinyon/juniper stands	Geometric
Line	Simple, horizontal	Weak, indistinct	Geometric fencing, horizontal roads
Color	Beige to reddish orange	Grays, greens, browns	Browns, red
Texture	Smooth	Smooth to medium	Medium

3. Narrative

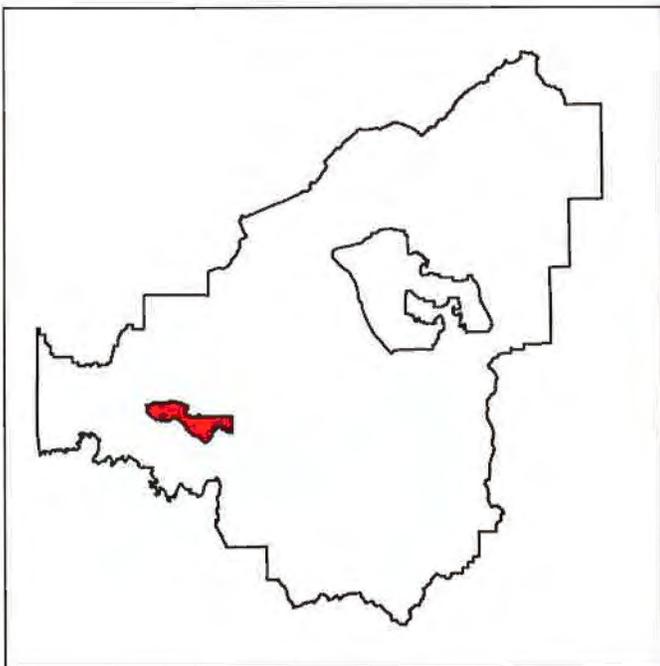
Sagebrush flats with pinyon/juniper stands; cultural modifications include fencing and corrals (stockyard). This is a mostly horizontal and panoramic landscape. Vegetation is the dominant element.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Third Park

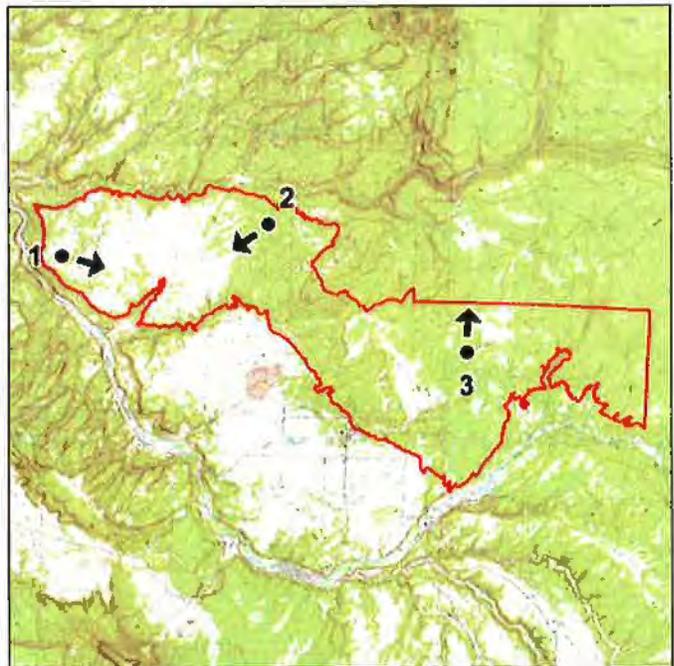
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Rolling hills	
b. Vegetation		3		Open sagebrush parks and pinyon/juniper	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color			2	Some contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		Moderate influence	
f. Scarcity			1	Common in region	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Some mining activity but it does not detract	
TOTALS		6	5	11	

Comments:

Adjacent scenery and vegetation have the most influence in this unit.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 3



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 55 – First Park/Second Park

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Lindsey Utter, Julie McGrew

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat/rolling	Low, flat; irrigated fields; clumpy, patchy, and some stipple; natural vegetation	Geometric
Line	Horizontal	Line created by irrigated fields and natural vegetation	Geometric
Color	Grays, beiges	Bright green (irrigated fields), dark greens and grays; natural vegetation	White, green, brown, tan, blue
Texture	Smooth	Smooth to medium	Rough

3. Narrative

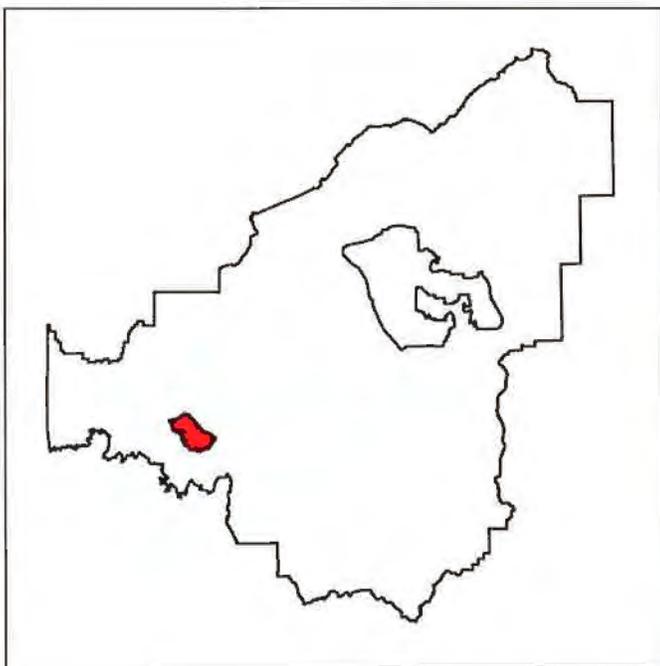
A more developed area with private residences and irrigated fields mixed with areas of more natural vegetation. Includes a reclaimed strip mine and the town of Nucla, airport, gravel pits, power plant, dumped junk along roadside. The unit is defined by the San Miguel River and drainage, which separate it from the Third Park unit.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: First Park/Second Park

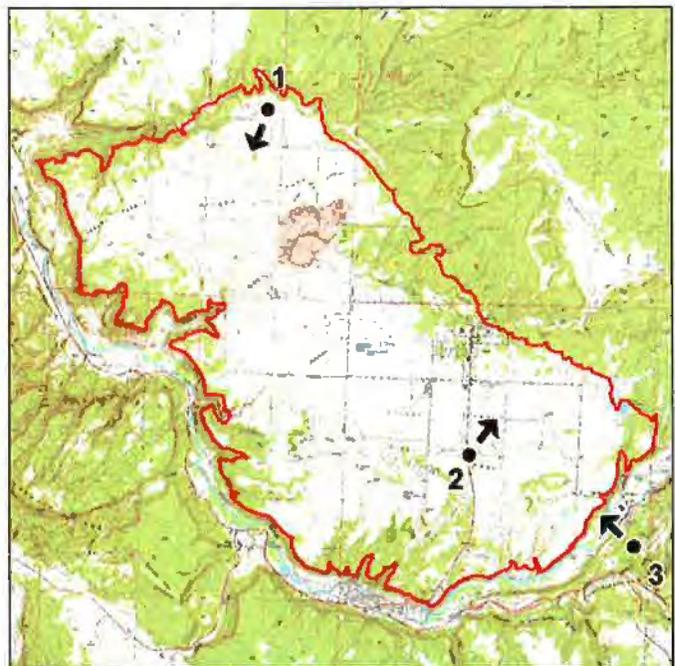
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			1.5	Irrigated fields, minor drainages	
b. Vegetation	4			Pinyon/juniper, Russian olive, irrigated fields, cottonwoods	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color		3		Different colors of green	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		Uncompahgre Plateau, Sawtooths	
f. Scarcity			1	Common	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Agricultural, community	
TOTALS	4	6	2.5	12.5	

Comments:

Vegetation is very diverse and colorful; otherwise this is a common landscape in the region.



SQRU Locator



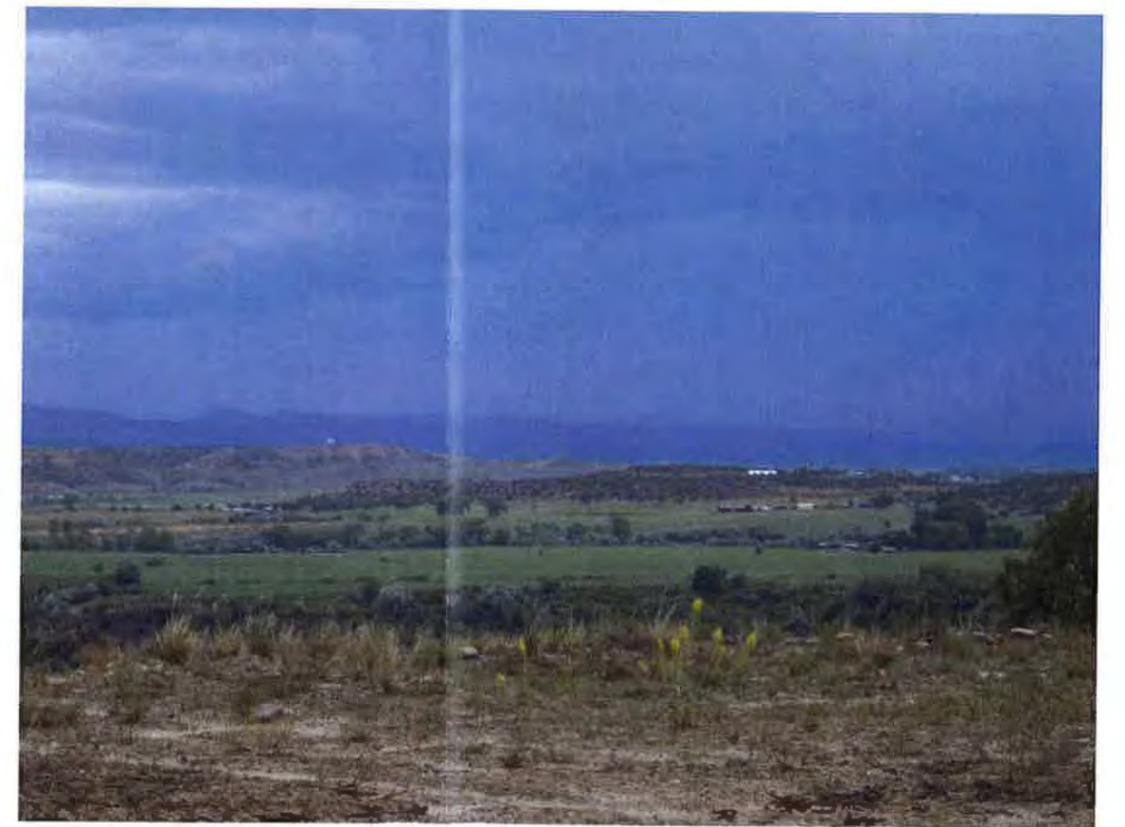
• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 56 – Sawtooth Ridge

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Rounded, linear; elongated ridge slopes to north; dissected with numerous drainages, canyons	Pinyon/juniper and open sagebrush parks; pinyon/juniper is the more dominant; clumpy, rounded, continuous ponderosa	Road network mines
Line	Horizontal and diagonal, rounded	Horizontal, overall aligned with form of landscape	Sinuuous, diagonal, horizontal
Color	Gray, light brown, red (light)	Yuma and Covert Green, gray	Light brown overall, some gray and some light red
Texture	Medium to coarse	Medium; appears coarse in foreground	Smooth

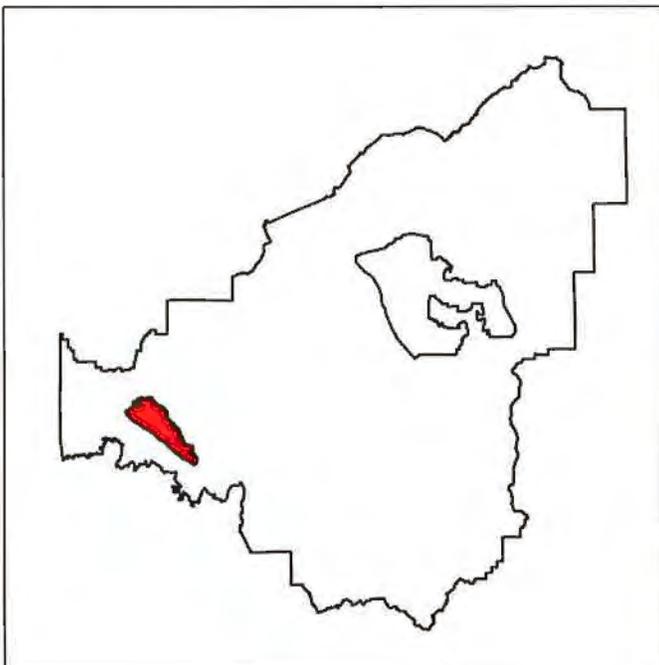
3. Narrative

An open, extensive landscape. Begins at Sawtooth Ridge and slopes to the north. Dissected by numerous south to north drainages. Heavy pinyon/juniper and sagebrush vegetative cover. Fairly high visual variety in the landscape.

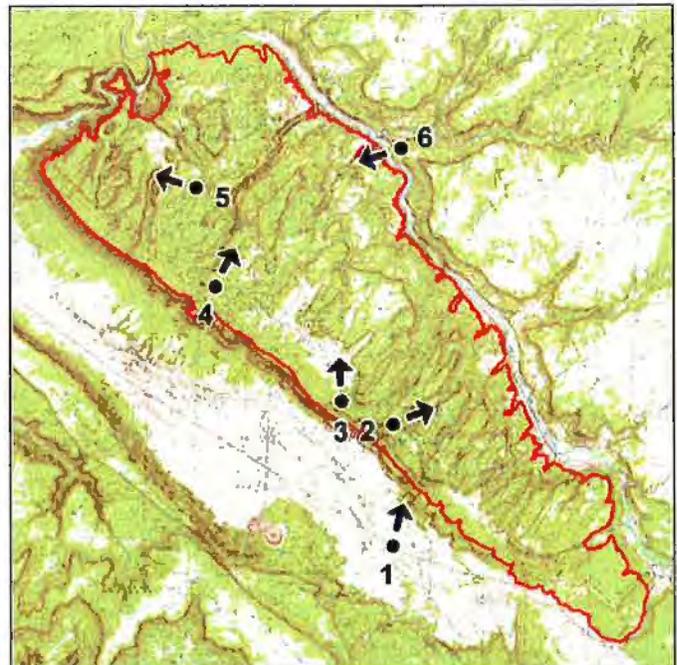
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one)
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Interesting, exposed rock faces	A - 19 or more
b. Vegetation		3		Sage, pinyon/juniper, ponderosa	X B - 12 - 18
c. Water			0	n/a	C - 11 or less
d. Color		3		Gray background, vegetation and red rock pops out	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			La Sals, Uncompahgre Plateau, San Juans: all create setting	
f. Scarcity			2	Similar yet unique	
g. Cultural Modification			-1		
TOTALS	4	9	1	14	

Comments:

The area has no single outstanding feature, although it does have scenic values. The adjacent scenery is notable (the La Sal Mountains and other national forest landscapes), which is clearly an enhancement. There are a few red slickrock faces on top; evidence of mining activity and many roads. The landscape does have a great ability to absorb impacts; there is a large mine reclamation site on the north side of unit.



SQRU Locator



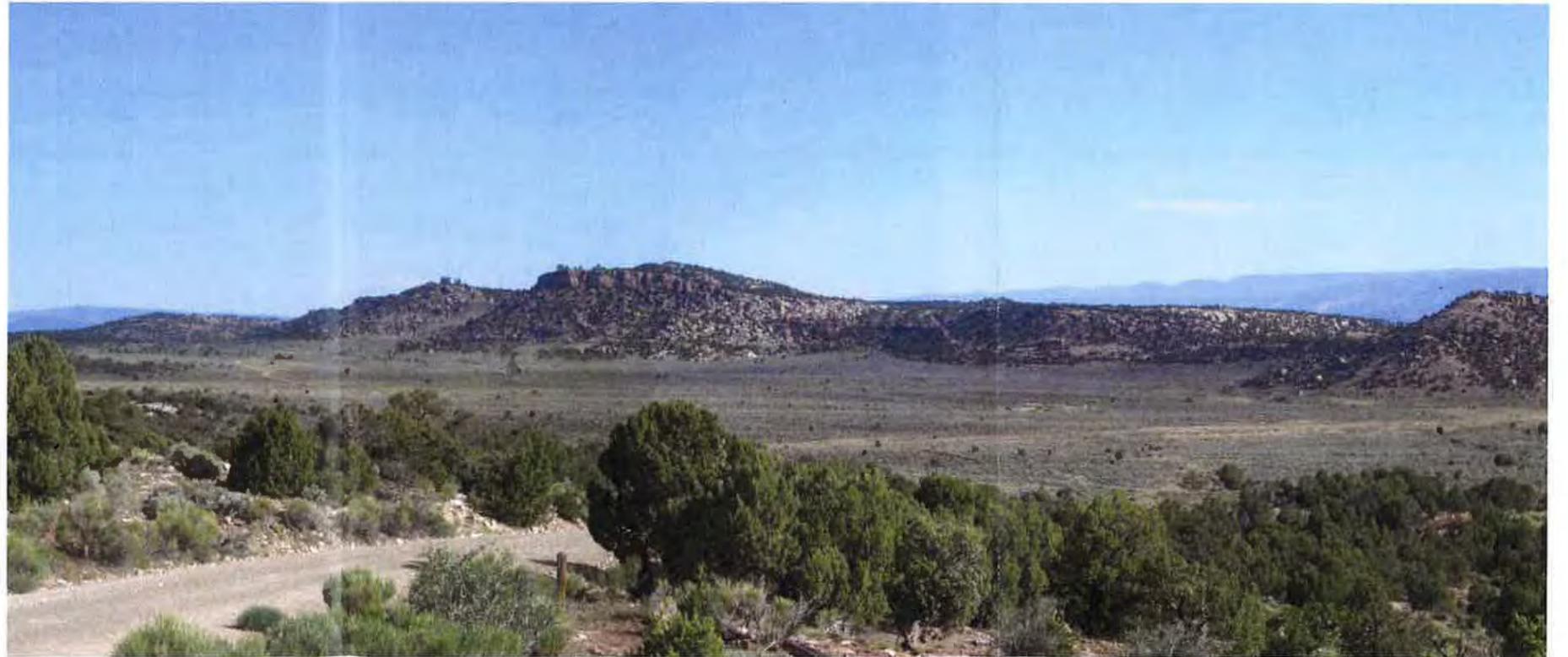
• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 57 – Sawtooth Ridge Face

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Lindsey Utter, Julie McGrew, Dean Stindt, Amanda Rainey

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Bold, linear feature on edge of Paradox Valley; horizontal banding	Sparse pinyon/juniper; scattered, continuous	Communications towers
Line	Horizontal banding; curve/wave-like banding	Indistinct; accentuates horizontal banding	Vertical
Color	Reds, grays, salmon	Yuma Green	Gray/silver
Texture	Medium to coarse	Medium	n/a

3. Narrative

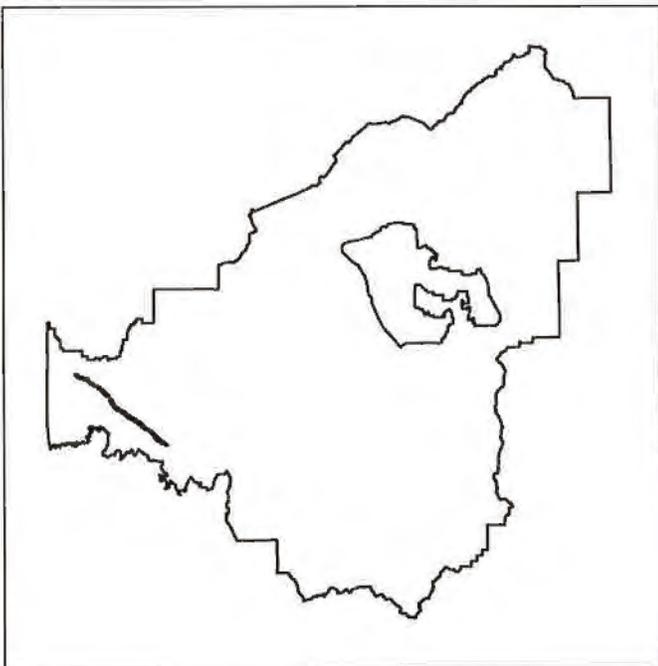
Steep cliff face defined by valley bottom and rim of Sawtooth Ridge above. The ridge face was delineated as a Scenic Quality Rating Unit because it is distinctive and a dominant visual element in the region. It is substantially different from the valley to the north and the rolling hills to the south.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Sawtooth Ridge Face

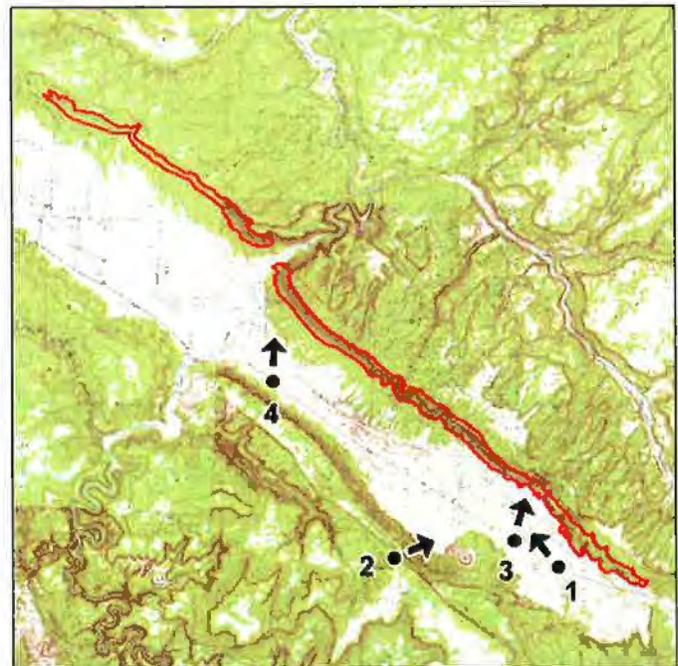
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	4			Steep, near vertical face	
b. Vegetation			2	Minimal, not dominant feature	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color	4			Deep reds, gray, vivid	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	Paradox Valley, La Sals	
f. Scarcity		3.5		Follows length of linear valley	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Compatible	
TOTALS	8	3.5	4	15.5	

Comments:

A bold, dramatic, elongated ridge with dramatic rock outcrops and consistent red color; rock art, petroglyphs; an impressive and prominent ridge face with dramatic vertical relief that rises from the paradox valley floor.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 4



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 58 – Davis Mesa

1. **Evaluators:** Gary Long, Lindsey Utter, Julie McGrew, Dean Stindt, Amanda Rainey

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat, minimal elevation change on top; steep face	Dense, continuous	Geometric
Line	Horizontal, vertical	Indistinct; vegetation voids for roads create lines	Vertical/horizontal mining headframe, geometric, horizontal/curvilinear roads, weather vane
Color	Reds, tans, grays, gray to white	Greens, grays	Rusty, brown
Texture	Medium	Medium	Medium to coarse

3. Narrative

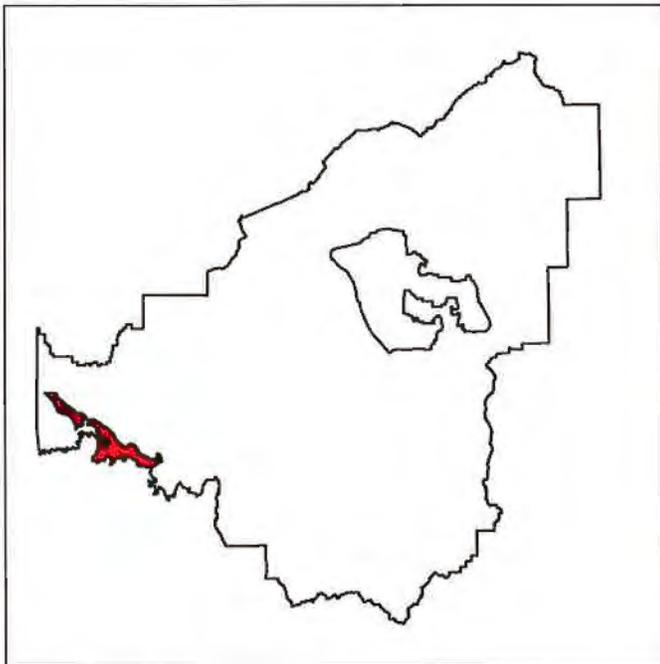
The mesa rises to the south of Paradox Valley, and is defined by the Field Office boundary on the south. Dramatic elevation going from Paradox Valley floor; primary vantage point for most viewers as they travel on Highway 90. Vegetation is primarily pinyon/juniper with rabbit brush. Rock pilings/exposed rock, flat top; can absorb visual impact.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Davis Mesa

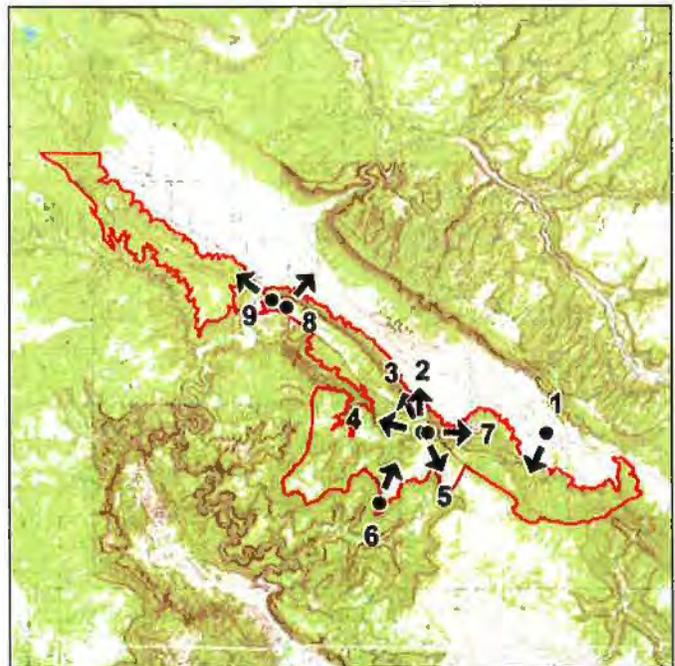
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one)
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Steep elevation gain from Paradox Valley	A – 19 or more
b. Vegetation		3		Sagebrush, pinyon/juniper	X B – 12 – 18
c. Water			0	None noted	C – 11 or less
d. Color		3		Good contrast between soil and vegetation (red/green)	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	La Sals, Dolores	
f. Scarcity			2	Interesting but common in region	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Mining activity, roads	
TOTALS		9	4	13	

Comments:

Mining activity is not as noticeable; roads are more noticeable. No single characteristic is rated high, but the cumulative total of landform, vegetation, and color results in a Class B rating.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



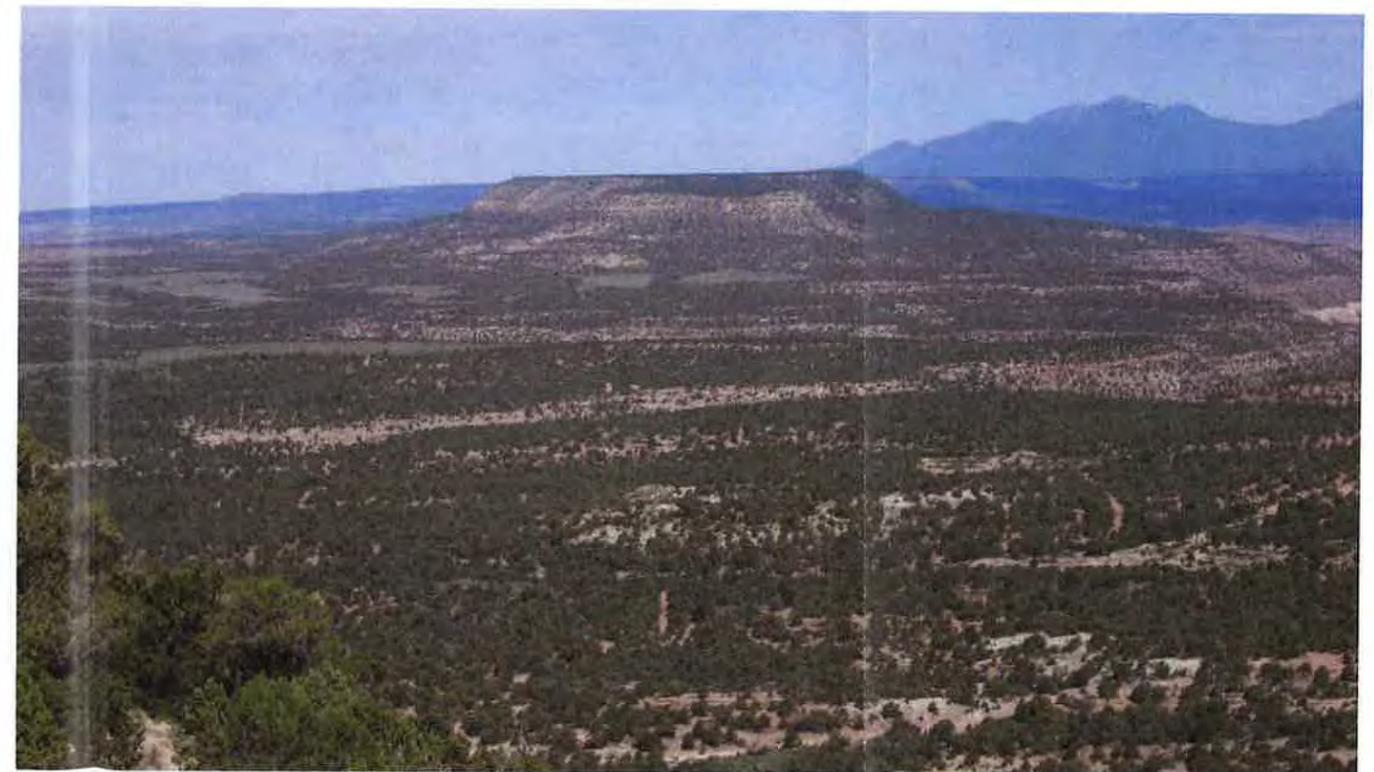
IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



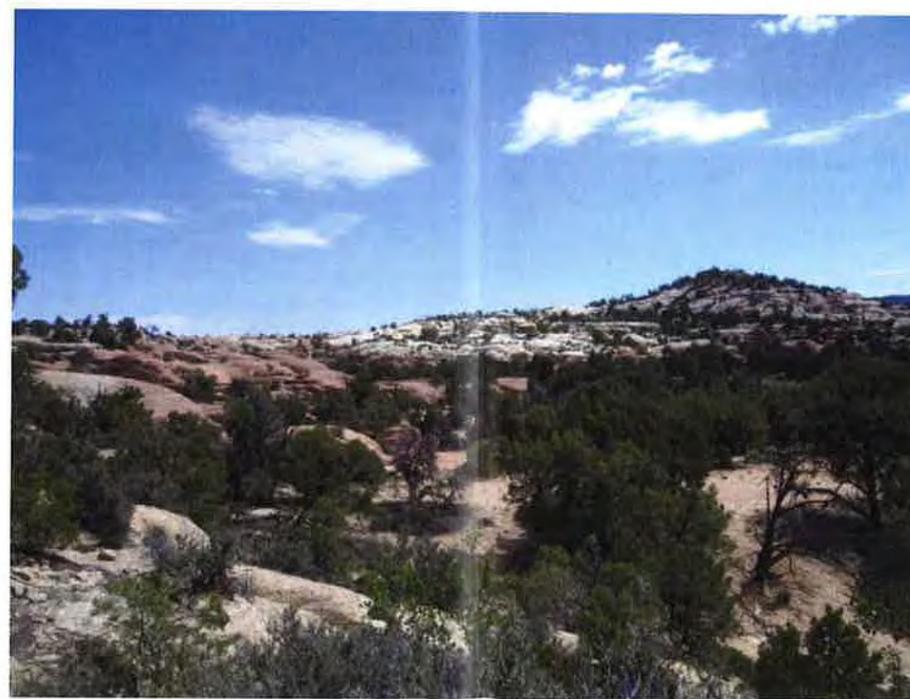
IOP 5



IOP 6



IOP 7



IOP 8



IOP 9

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 59 – Dolores River Canyon Wilderness Study Area

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)			
	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Prominent, blocky, massive rock outcrops, banding	Scattered, continuous, rounded, conical	Camping shelters
Line	Horizontal banding creates terracing effect; vertical walls, lines in cliffs	Line seen at breaks in landforms	Vertical
Color	Reds, grays, beiges, dark gray, almost black (desert varnish)	Yuma and Juniper Green, gray	Brown, Carlsbad Canyon
Texture	Coarse with medium, lower slopes	Smooth to coarse	Smooth

3. Narrative

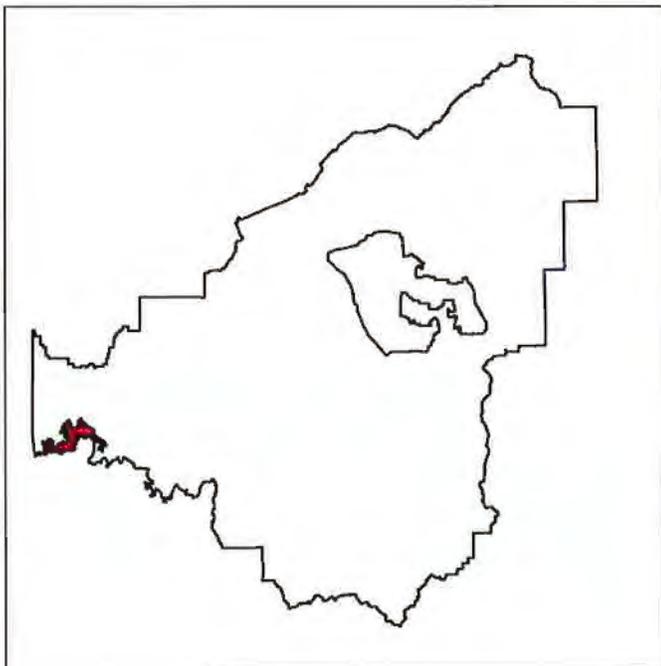
A deep canyon with steep slopes characterized by vertical cliffs and massive, complex rock outcrops. Vegetation is pinyon/juniper with a willow/tamarask riparian area. Some scattered cottonwood found throughout. Cliffs are banded with sandstone formation. A dramatic landscape, distinctly different from surrounding units. Substantially natural area lacking human intrusion.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Dolores River Canyon WSA

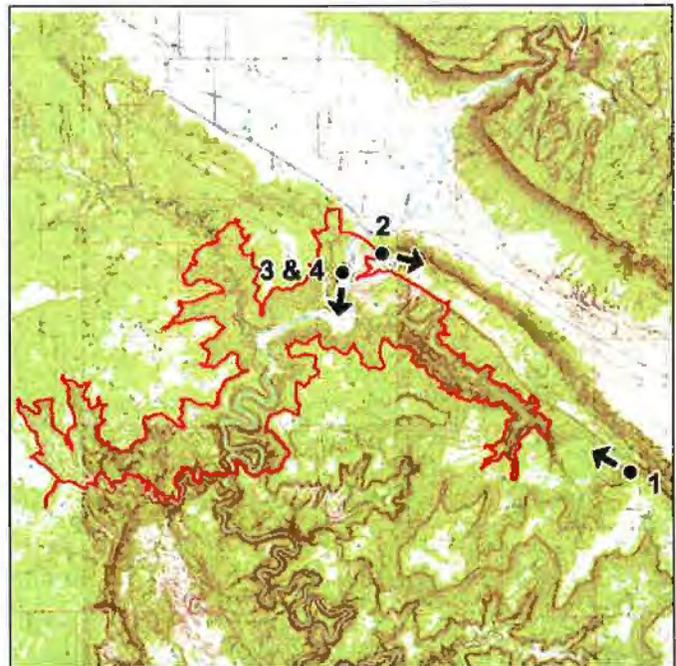
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	4.5			Dramatic outcrops	
b. Vegetation	4			Variety	
c. Water	4			Dominant feature	
d. Color	4			Red color, lots of contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	None of note seen from canyon	
f. Scarcity		3.5		Distinctive canyon	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Compatible	
TOTALS	16.5	3.5	0	20	

Comments:

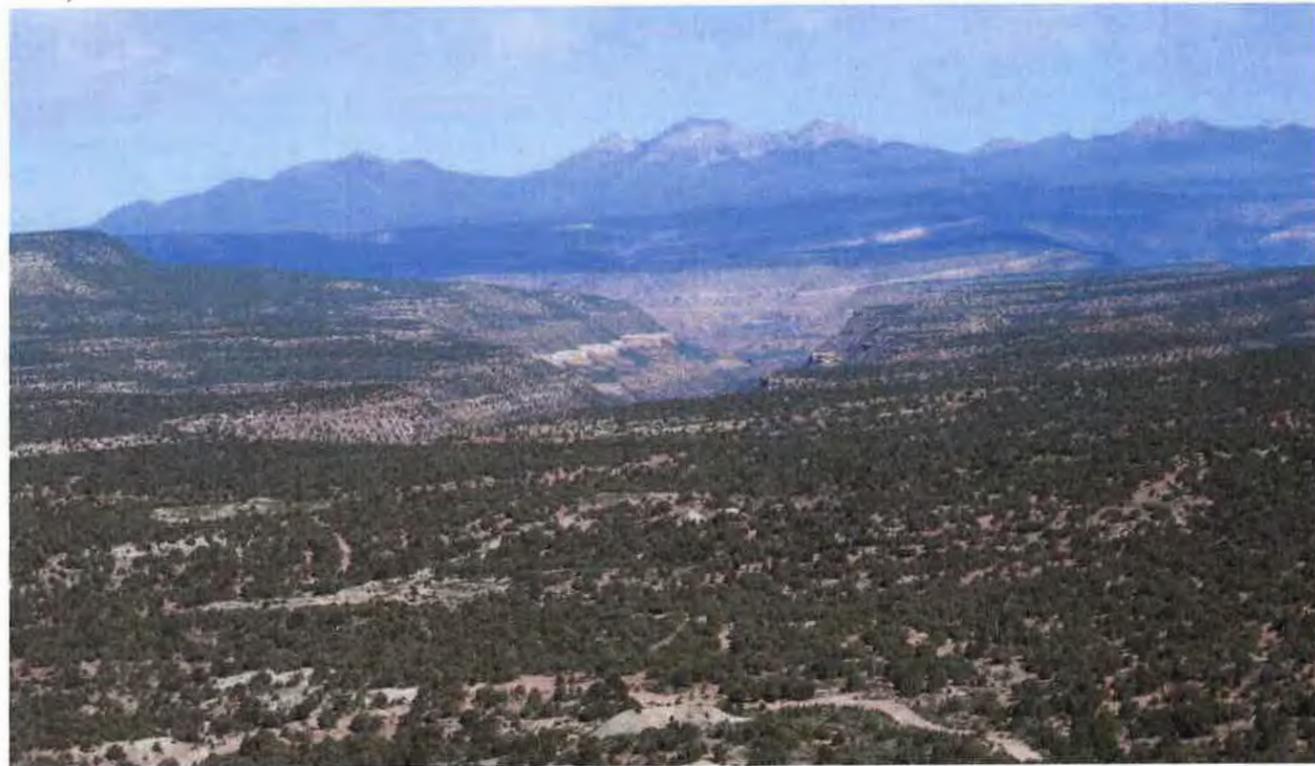
A roadless canyon. The combination of dramatic landforms, distinctive vegetation, vibrant color, and a notable river result in superlative scenic quality.



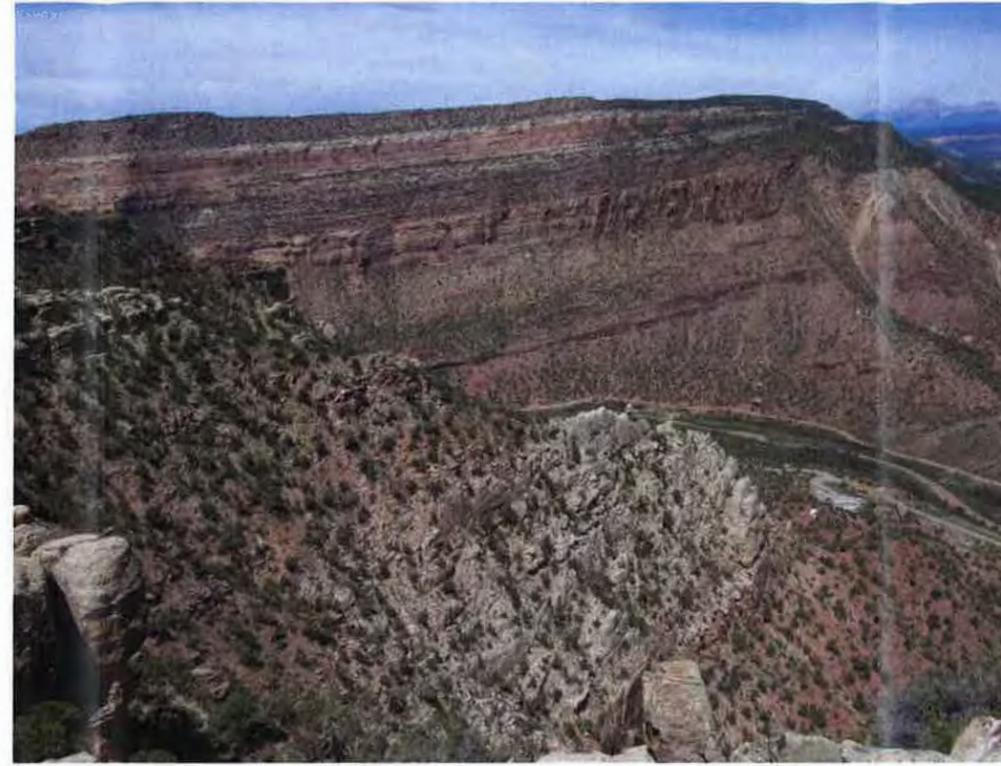
SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 60 – Wray Mesa

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Lindsey Utter, Julie McGrew

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Mesa complex; gentle, rolling terrain; flat	Pinyon/juniper, dense, continuous	Roads
Line	Horizontal with gentle diagonals	Horizontal	Horizontal
Color	Red, beige, buff, gray	Yuma Green	Tan, beige
Texture	Smooth to medium	Medium	Smooth

3. Narrative

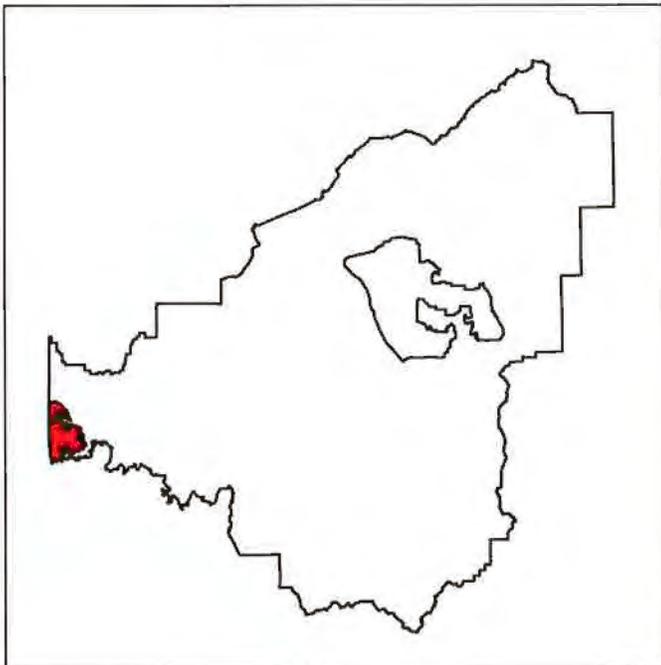
High csa defined by the Dolores River Canyon WSA, Coyote Wash, La Sal Creek, and the Field Office boundary. The combination of rolling terrain and pinyon/juniper vegetation results in a landscape common to much of southwest Colorado and parts of Utah.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Wray Mesa

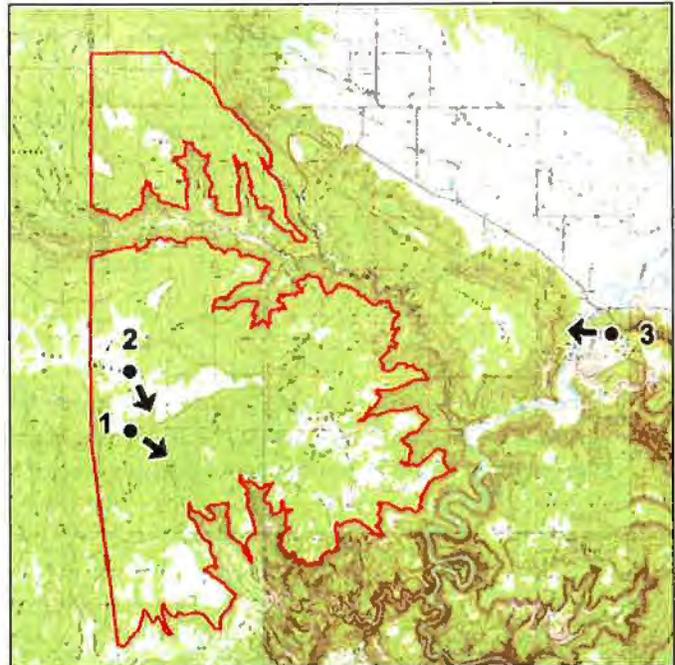
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Low, rolling mesa	
b. Vegetation		3		A little ponderosa, mostly pinyon/juniper and sage	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color			2	Some variation and contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		La Sals	
f. Scarcity			1	Common in region	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Does not detract	
TOTALS		6	5	11	

Comments:

This unit's characteristics are common in the region, but it does have some variety and contrast in vegetation and good visuals of the La Sals from on top. Dominant vegetation and great views of adjacent scenery.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office:

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 61 – Paradox Valley

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Amanda Rainey, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Flat to gently sloping valley	Agricultural valley, irrigated vegetation, low shrub/grass, clumpy and patchy along Dolores River	Houses, roads, fences, power lines; geometric
Line	Horizontal	Low, horizontal	Vertical, horizontal, geometric
Color	Beige, red	Shades of green	Various
Texture	Smooth	Smooth	Smooth

3. Narrative

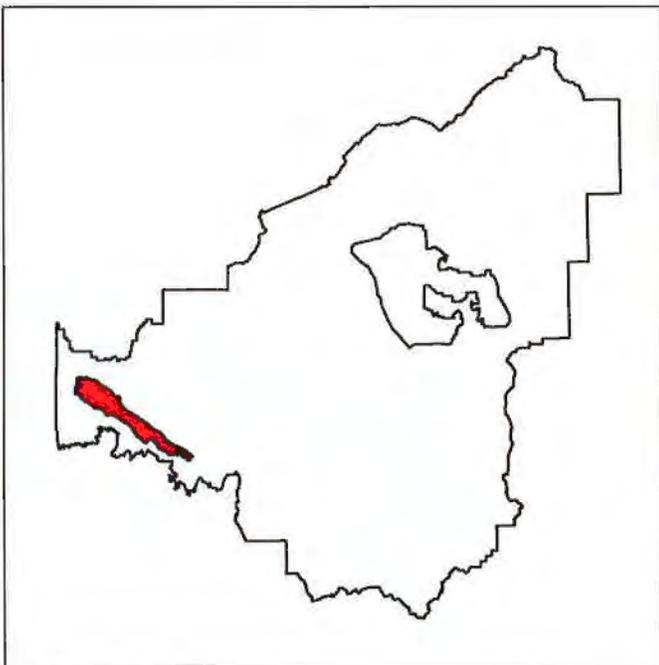
A wide-open, enclosed valley surrounded by prominent cliff faces. Monitoring wells at dead-end roads; private uranium processing mill going through permitting.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Paradox Valley

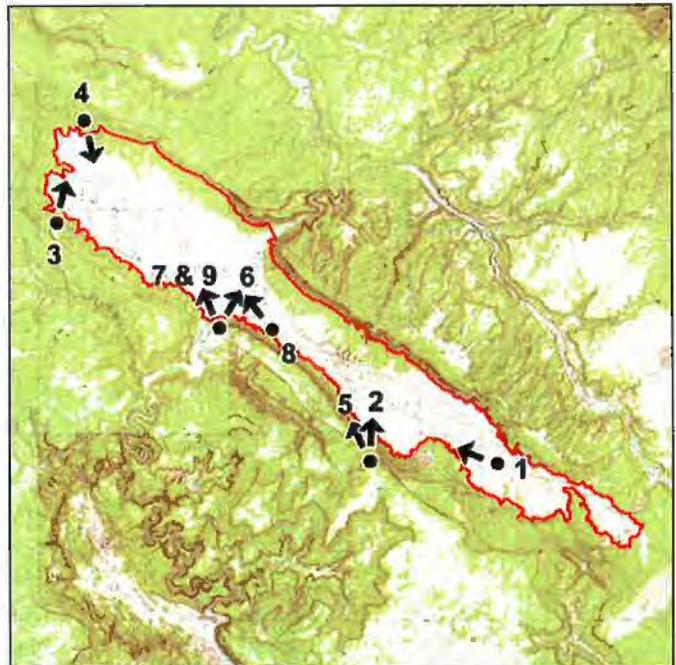
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Some interesting features	
b. Vegetation		3		Some variety of vegetation types	
c. Water			2	Dolores River and West Paradox Creek	
d. Color			2	Some color but not a dominant feature	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Noticeable adjacent scenery	
f. Scarcity			1	Not uncommon	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Mines, agriculture	
TOTALS	4	3	7	14	

Comments:

Adjacent scenery makes this unit unique. It is a picturesque, enclosed valley with a paradox (river runs perpendicular to valley).



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



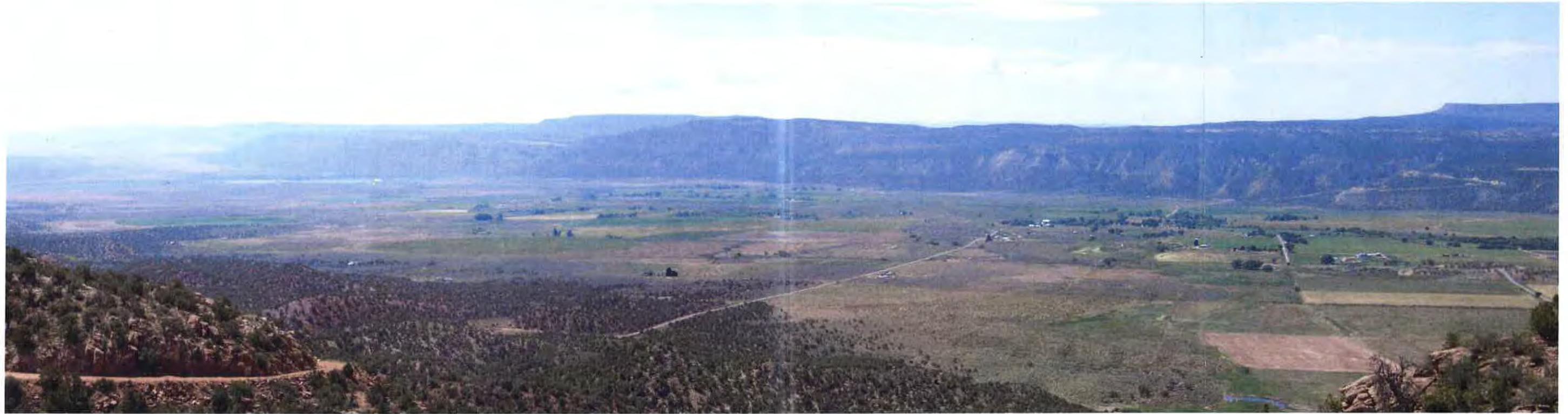
IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



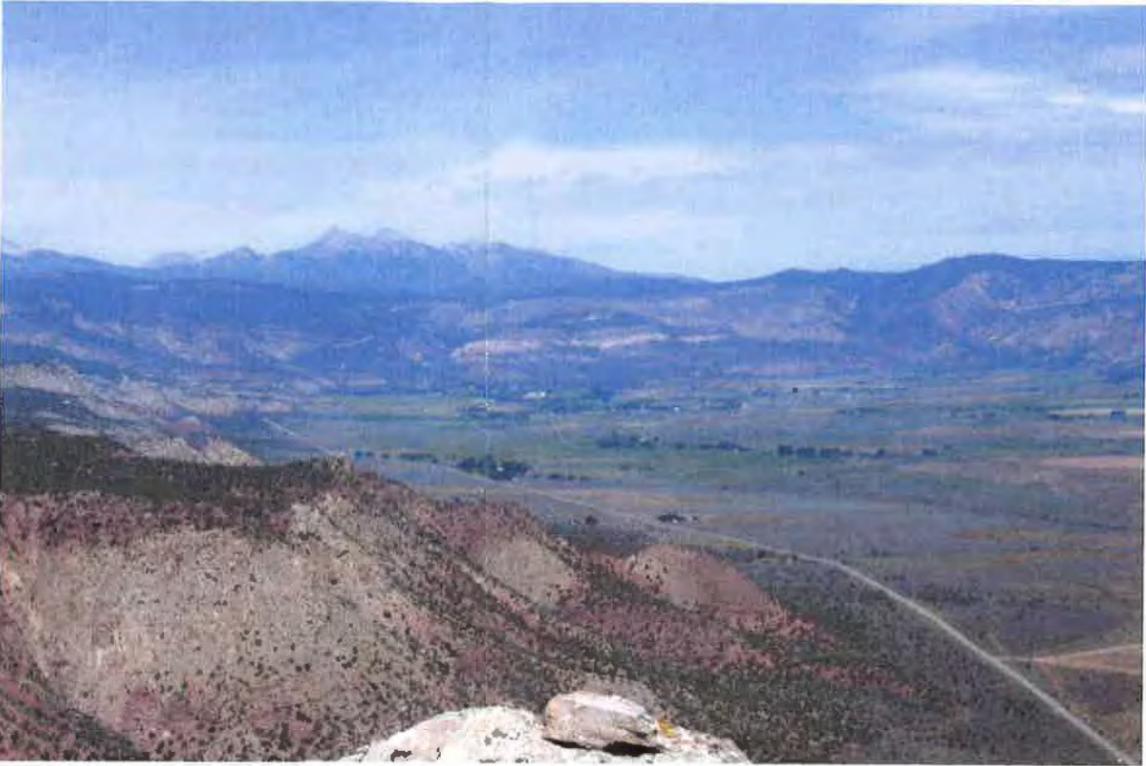
IOP 5



IOP 6



IOP 7



IOP 9



IOP 8

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 62 – Middle Dolores Canyon

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Lindsey Utter, Julie McGrew, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Steep vertical walls, lower diagonal slopes	Juniper slopes and tamarisk willow, riparian shrubs, sage	Road
Line	Vertical, diagonal, horizontal banding	Horizontal and diagonal with landforms	Sinuuous
Color	Deep red (carob brown) with salmon (light) colored formation above	Yuma and Juniper Green, gray	Beige, buff
Texture	Smooth to coarse	Coarse to medium	Smooth

3. Narrative

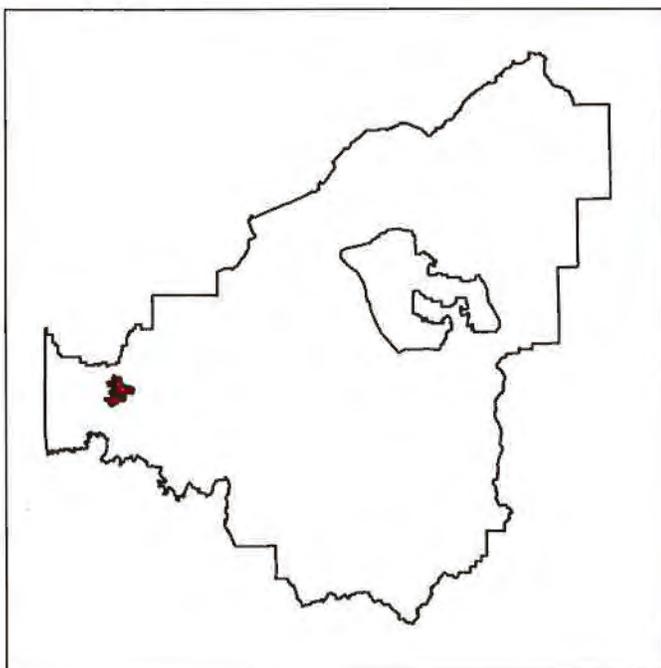
Includes confluence of the Dolores and San Miguel rivers. A deep, dramatic, red-rock canyon.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Middle Dolores Canyon

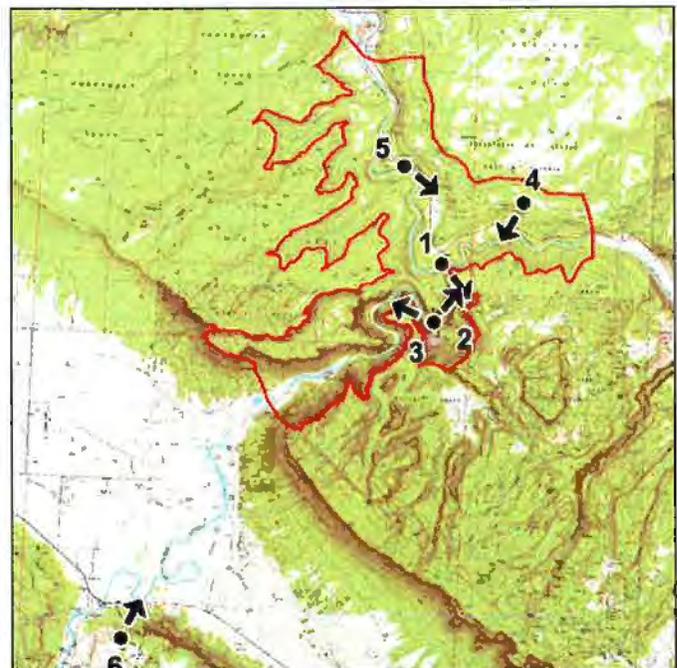
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	5			Dramatic sandstone	
b. Vegetation		3.5		Some variety of vegetation	
c. Water	4			Dominates landscape	
d. Color	4.5			Dramatic colors	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	None visible	
f. Scarcity	4			Uncommon but not unique	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None of note	
TOTALS	17.5	3.5	0	21	

Comments:

One of the most dramatic canyons in Western Colorado. Spectacular landforms, color, water, and vegetation combine to create Class A scenic quality.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



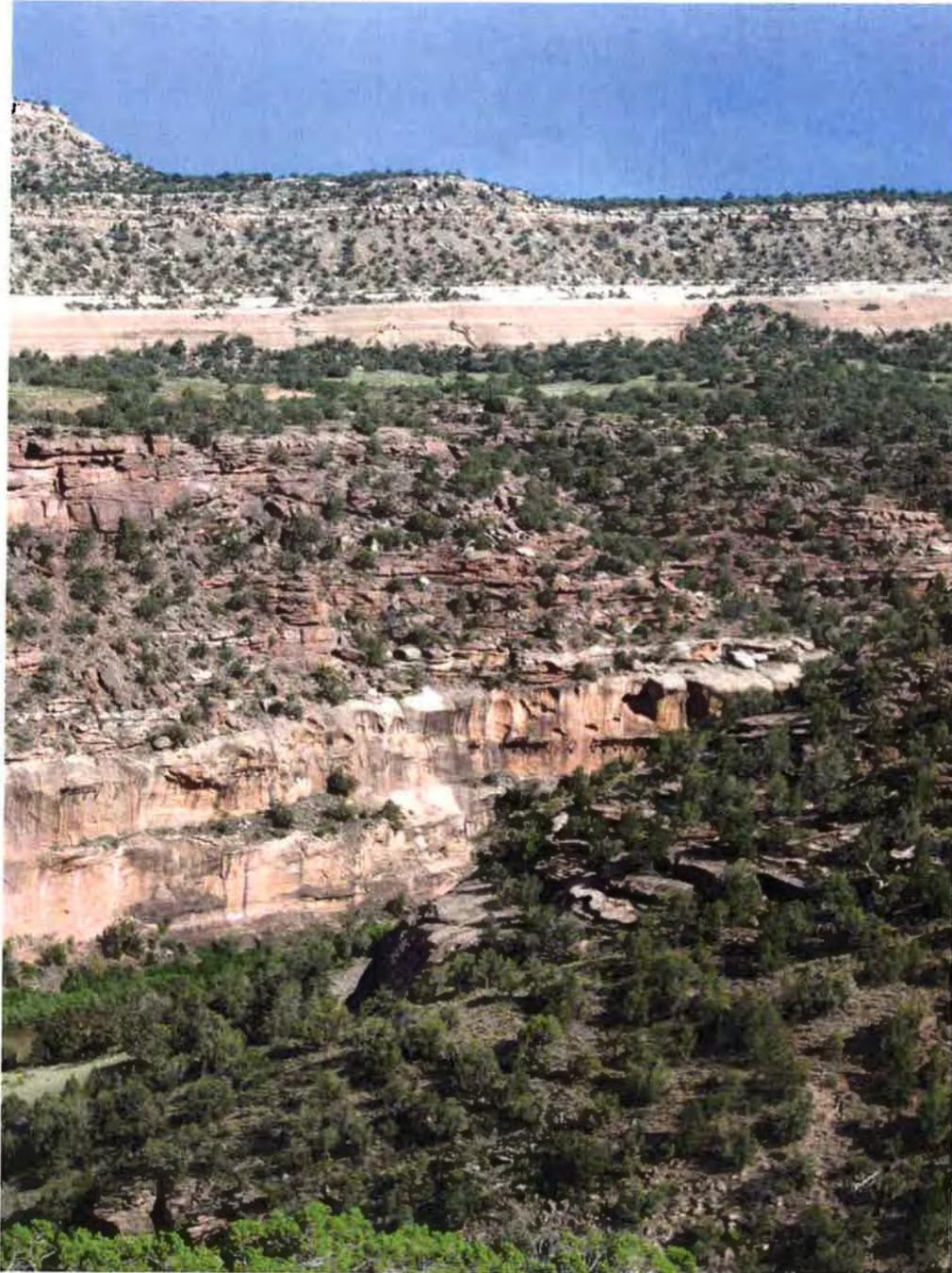
IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 63 – San Miguel/Tabeguache

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Broad valley, rock outcrops, steep slopes	Continuous pinyon/juniper, cottonwood, riparian	Roads, highways, fences
Line	Complex: horizontal, diagonal, rounded	Indistinct	Geometric
Color	Brown, salmon, red	Yuma and Juniper Green, gray	White
Texture	Coarse	Coarse to medium to fine	Smooth

3. Narrative

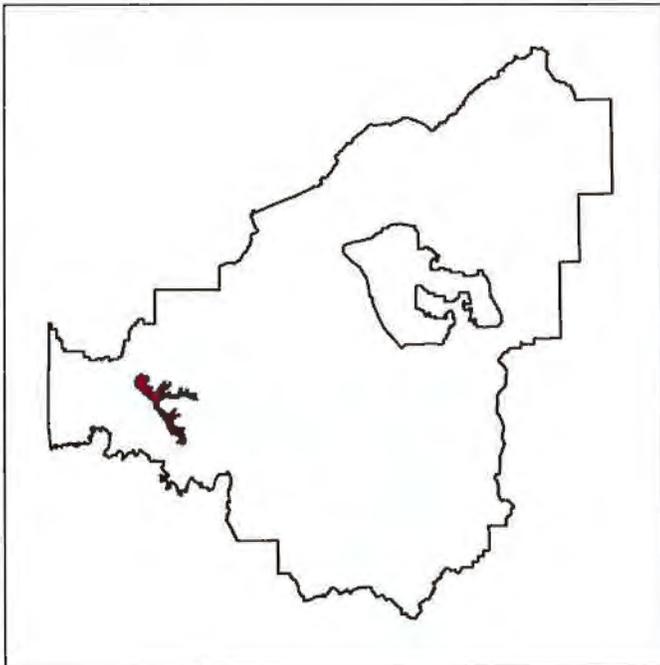
Human activity noticeable; water noticeable. Well-developed riparian zone. Canyon exhibits a high degree of visual variety; landforms are dominant but not spectacular. Vegetation is diverse with riparian vegetation well developed and dominant. Color is pleasing but not outstanding. The unit is defined by rims of canyons.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: San Miguel/Tabeguache

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3.5		Moderate	
b. Vegetation	4			A dominant feature	
c. Water	4			River is dominant	
d. Color		3		Pleasant but not outstanding	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	None noticeable	
f. Scarcity		3		Distinctive but similar to others	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Some positive, some negative	
TOTALS	8	9.5	0	17.5	

Comments:

A long canyon system with interesting but not spectacular topography. The scene of former uranium mining and milling, where reclamation has significantly reduced visual evidence of human impact. The area has a high capacity to absorb visual impact due to high visual variety and the existence of extensive pinyon/juniper woodlands.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 64 – Tabeguache Special Management Area

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Steep, rugged; long, linear; rock benches diagonal	Rounded, mottled, patchy, continuous	n/a
Line	Horizontal, vertical	Indistinct	n/a
Color	Tans, brown, oranges, blue shale	Dark green, sage green	n/a
Texture	Rough	Medium	n/a

3. Narrative

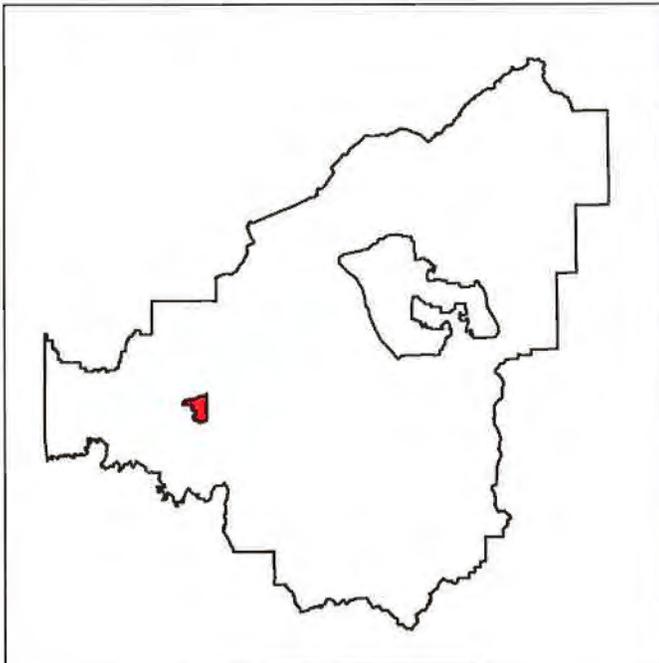
Special management area with limited human access; potential seldom-seen areas in valleys.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Tabeguache Special Management Area

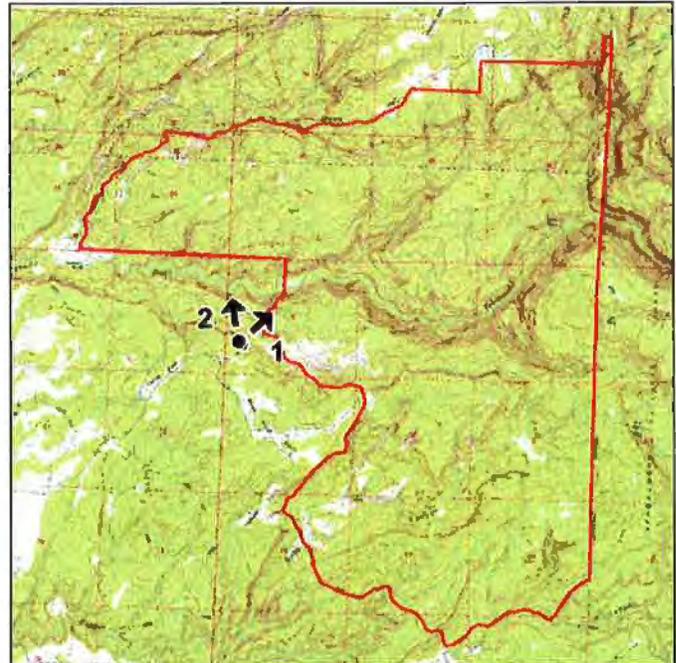
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Interesting erosion exposed area	
b. Vegetation		3		Pinyon/juniper and riparian	
c. Water			1	Small, barely noticeable stream	
d. Color		3		Blue shale, slickrock, dark-green vegetation	
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		La Sals, Uncompahgre Plateau	
f. Scarcity			2	Overall landscape character is common for region	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None noted	
TOTALS		12	3	15	

Comments:

A Special Management Area shared by the USFS with limited human access. Landform, vegetation, color, and adjacent scenery are the predominant elements that contribute to the landscape character of this unit.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 65 – Atkinson Mesa

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Open, gently rolling hills	Pinyon/juniper woodland, sagebrush parks	Roads, power lines, mines
Line	Mostly horizontal landscape	Horizontal	Geometric
Color	Red/salmon soil	Yuma and Covert Green	Brown, gray, salmon, red
Texture	Smooth to medium	Medium to coarse, smooth	Smooth

3. Narrative

An open, rolling landscape with low hills, gentle drainages. An open, panoramic landscape. Bounded by Forest Service land on the northeast and by San Miguel/Tabeguache on the south.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Atkinson Mesa

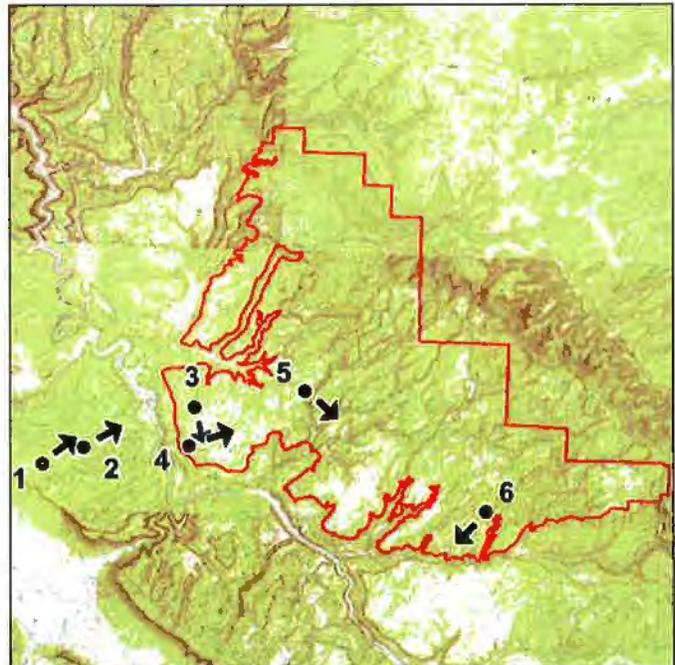
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2.5	Not a notable feature	
b. Vegetation		3		Pinyon/juniper and sagebrush are dominant	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color			2.5	Gray and Yuma Green	
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Notable in all directions	
f. Scarcity			2	Not unusual or scarce	
g. Cultural Modification			0	Neutral	
TOTALS	4	3	7	14	

Comments:

Views towards the La Sal mountains and other national forest units are spectacular in all directions and positively influence the Atkinson Mesa landscape.



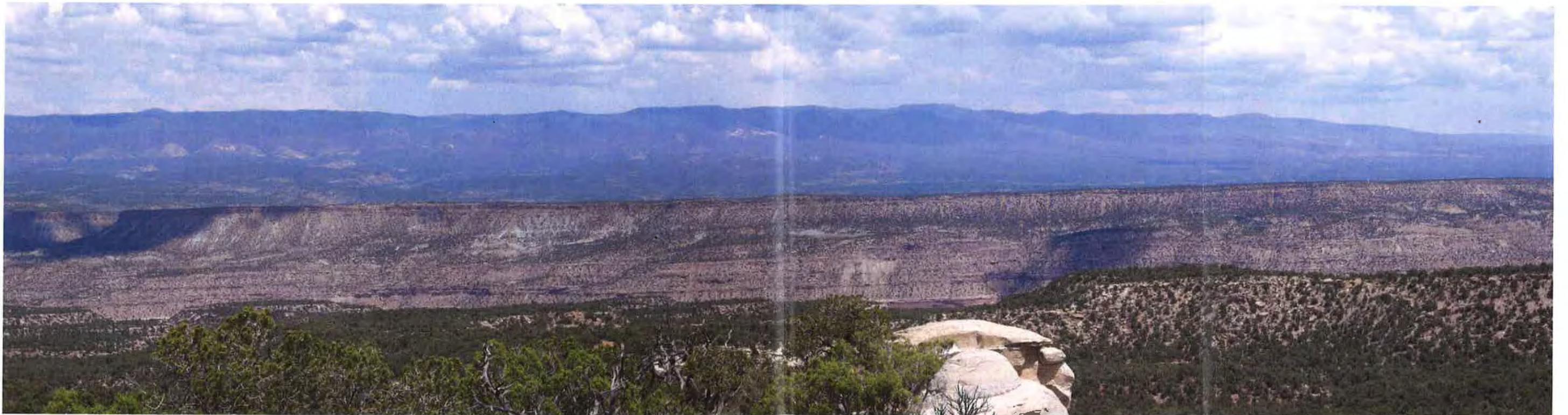
SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



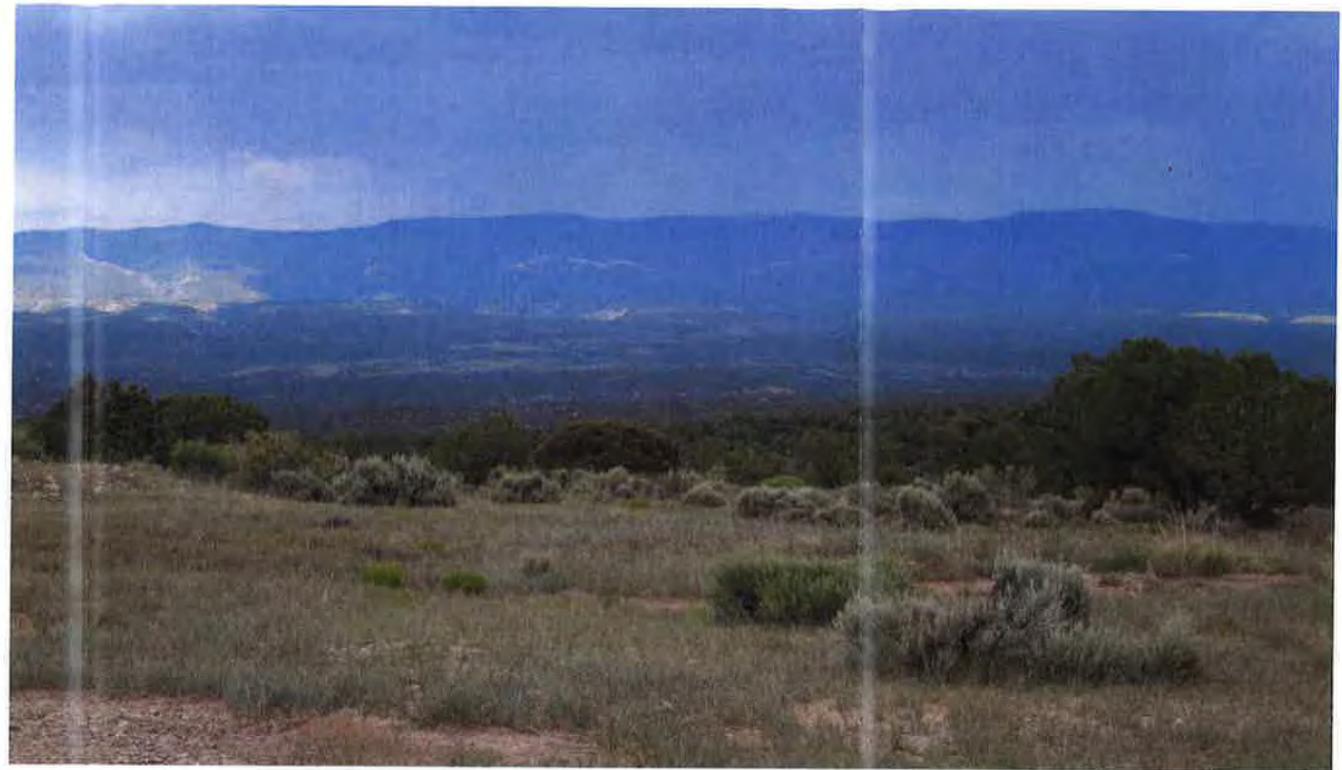
IOP 1



IOP 2



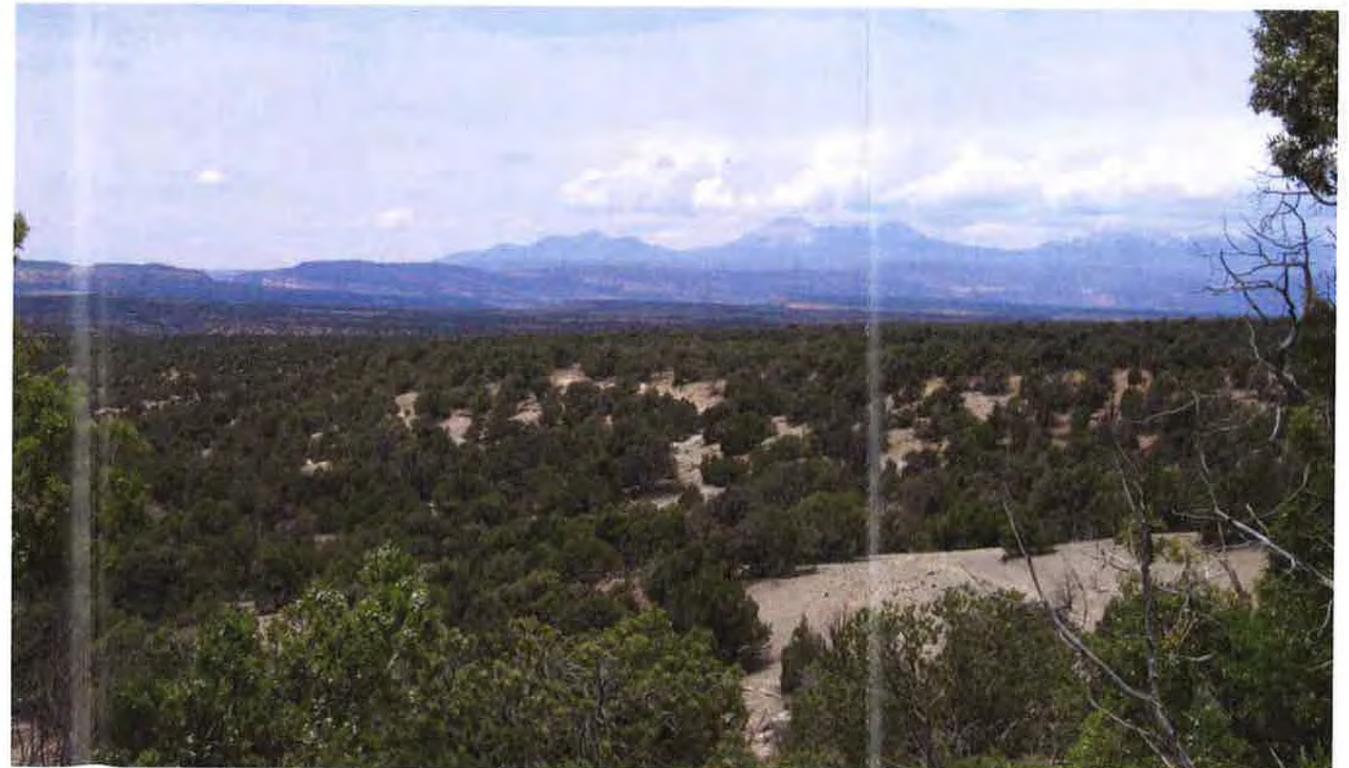
IOP 3



IOP 4



IOP 5



IOP 6

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 66 – Lower Dolores River

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Canyons, steep slopes, rock outcrops; narrow	Pinyon/juniper; lumpy; continuous riparian in bottom	Mines, gravel pits, roads; geometric
Line	Diagonal canyon walls	Indistinct	Geometric
Color	Mixed: red, gray, salmon, beige, light brown	Yuma Green, gray, juniper green	Various: white, brown, gray
Texture	Medium to coarse	Coarse to medium	Smooth

3. Narrative

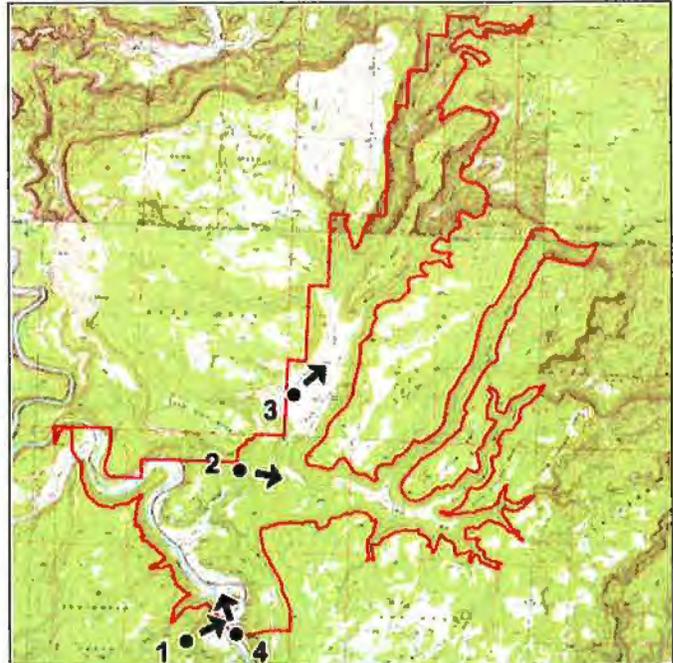
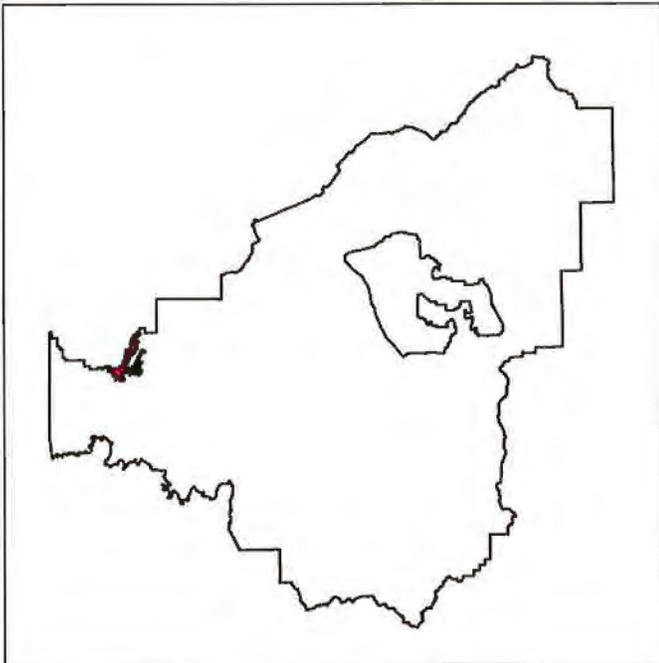
A canyon complex with deep canyons, diagonal slopes, exposed rock faces. The unit is defined by canyon rims and the Field Office boundary.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Lower Dolores River

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	4			Notable landforms	
b. Vegetation		3		Average vegetation	
c. Water		3.5		River notable but not overly dominant	
d. Color		3.5		Notable but not spectacular	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	None visible	
f. Scarcity		3		Distinctive but not unusual	
g. Cultural Modification			-1	Significant human presence	
TOTALS	4	13	-1	16	

Comments:

A very pleasing canyon complex. Notable topography, vegetation, water, and color combine to provide high visual variety.



SQRU Locator

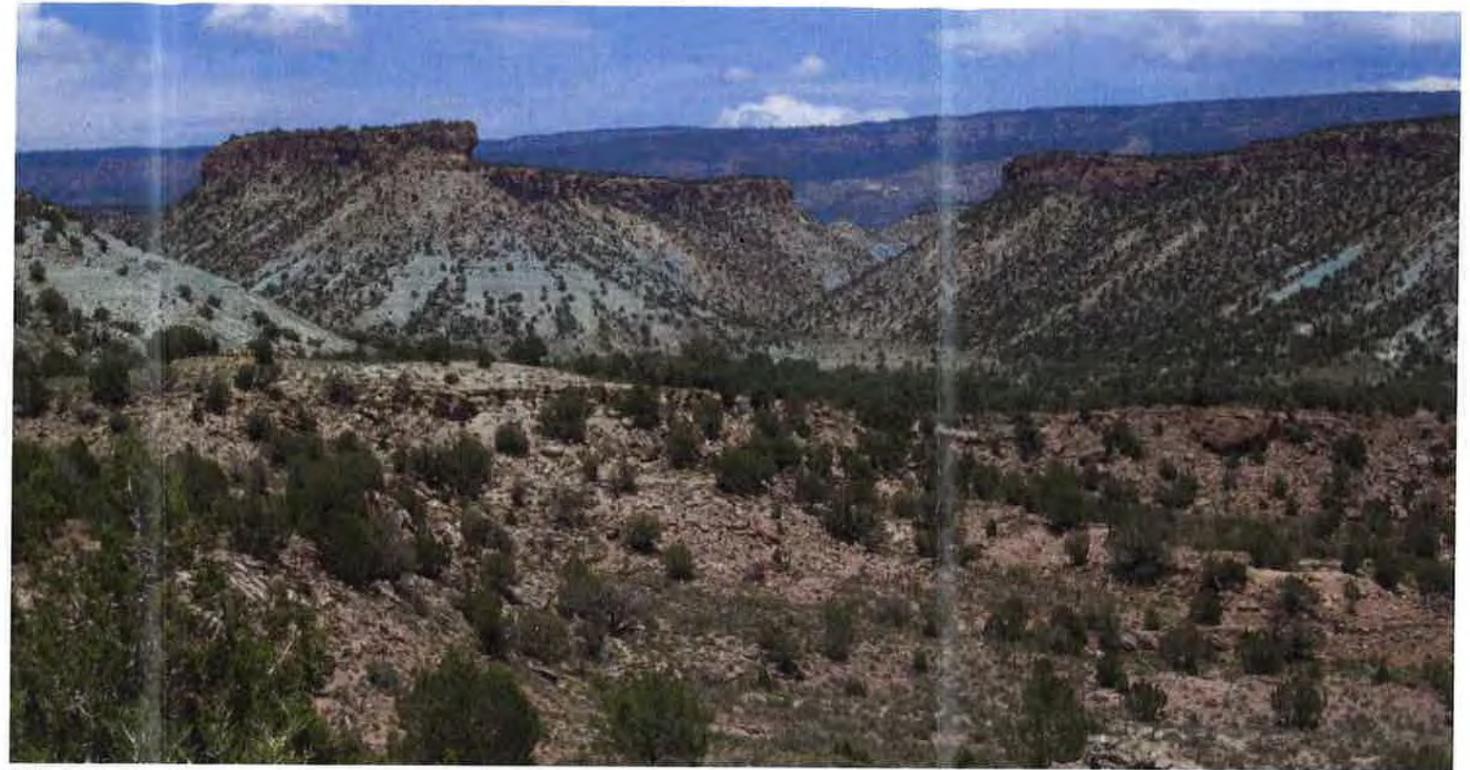
• IOP Locations



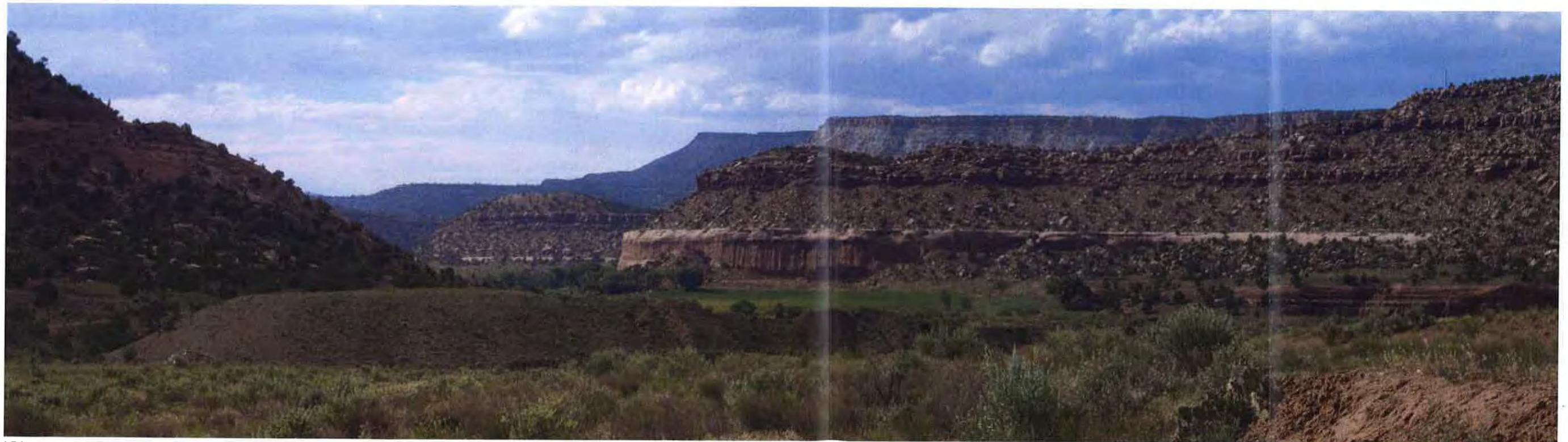
IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3



IOP 4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July, 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 67 – Sewemup Mesa Wilderness Study Area

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Kate Schwarzler

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Large mesa with massive vertical cliffs all around; rugged, rolling hilltop, spires, outcrops	Clumping, patchy	None noted
Line	Vertical, horizontal, banding, diagonal	Indistinct	n/a
Color	Reds, grays, rust, buff	Juniper and Covert Green	n/a
Texture	Coarse	Medium	n/a

3. Narrative

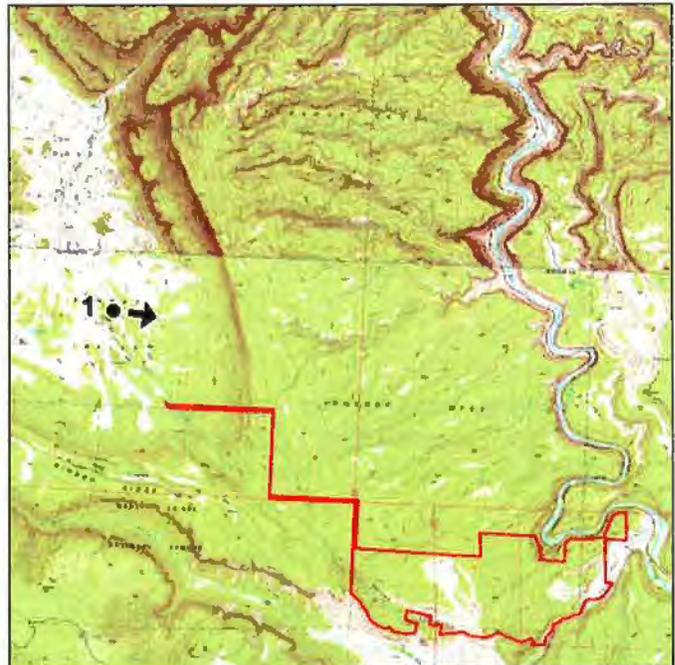
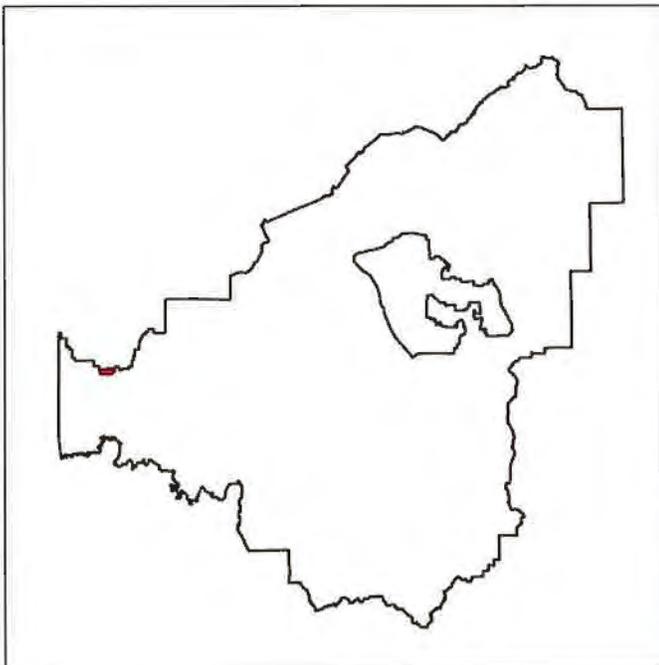
A large mesa completely ringed by a dramatic vertical cliff band. Base of cliffs is a steep, diagonal slope. Deep-red sandstone color (carob brown). Lower slopes covered with scattered juniper. Summit plateau is a rolling hill complex. Most of the WSA is in the Grand Junction Field Office.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Sewemup Mesa Wilderness Study Area

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	5			Dramatic vertical relief	
b. Vegetation	4			Some variety in forms, textures, patterns	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color	4			Rich color, pleasing contrast between soil and vegetation	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	Some influence; Cone Mountain, Unawep Canyon	
f. Scarcity			2	Interesting but common in region	
g. Cultural Modification			0	None noted	
TOTALS	13		4	17	

Comments:

The landform, vegetation, and color are the most expressive elements for this unit.



SQRU Locator

• IOP Locations



IOP 1

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 68 – Roc Creek

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Bold rock outcrops, narrow canyon, steep slopes, rounded shapes	Diverse, rounded, patchy; mostly continuous	Road, power lines
Line	Vertical, horizontal, diagonal	Indistinct overall but sinuous in canyon bottom	Sinuous roads
Color	Red soils and rock, banded colors on slickrock outcrops	Yuma and Juniper Green; more vibrant in canyon bottom	Road, shows as light red
Texture	Coarse overall but smooth surfaces on rock outcrops	Coarse, smooth, medium	Smooth

3. Narrative

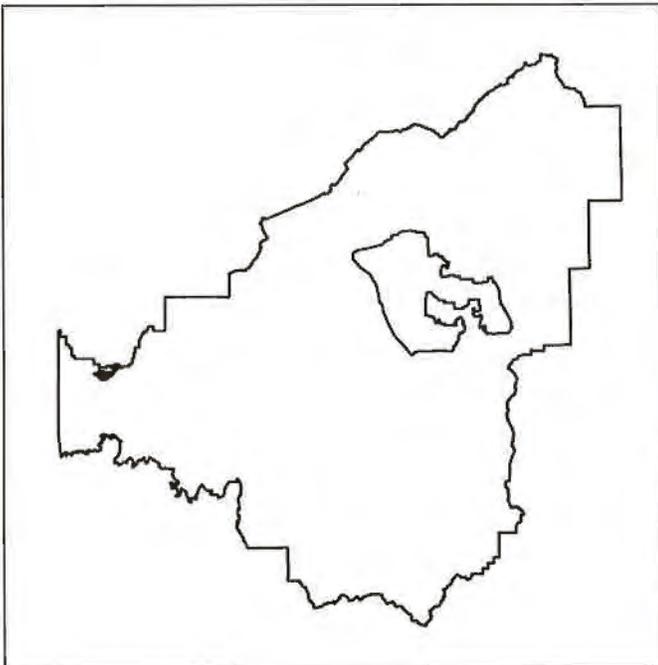
A lovely, scenic valley with steep canyon walls, massive rock outcrops, colorful features. High amount of scenic/visual variety. The area is defined by canyon rims.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Roc Creek

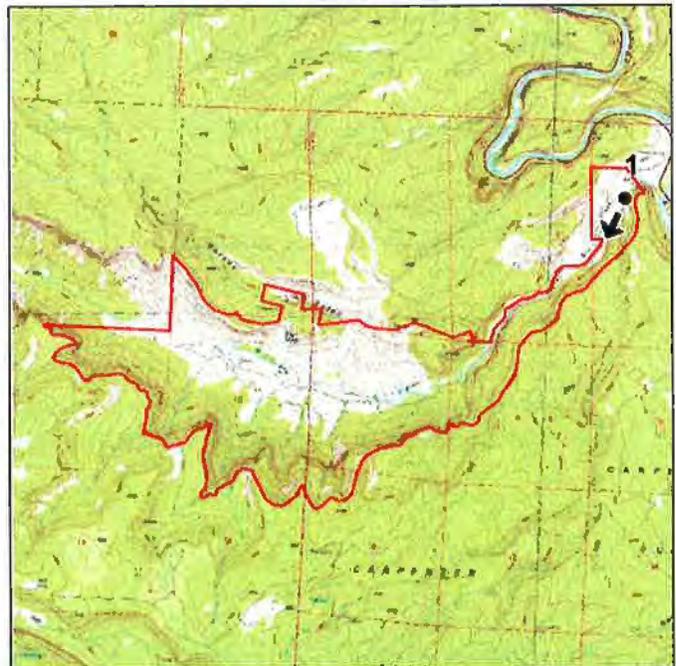
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more X B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	4			Spectacular slickrock walls	
b. Vegetation	4			Diverse vegetation, adds greatly to visual variety	
c. Water			1	Stream; not readily visible	
d. Color	4			Diverse, spectacular color and contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0	More visible	
f. Scarcity		3		Not unique but very distinctive	
g. Cultural Modification			1	Add to visual variety and are harmonious	
TOTALS	12	3	2	17	

Comments:

A narrow canyon that exhibits a high degree of visual variety, spectacular landforms, lush, diverse vegetation, and exceptional color.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 69 – Carpenter Ridge

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Sloping, dissected ridge; rough terrain, south to north drainage	Pinyon/juniper woodland with minimal ponderosa, shrubs, blotchy patches; noticeable vegetation treatments	Dense road network; uranium mines
Line	Diagonal lines radiating from horizontal ridge	Horizontal, diagonal, indistinct	Sinuous
Color	Mixed buff, gray	Yuma Green	Gray, buff colored roads
Texture	Medium to coarse	Medium to coarse	Smooth

3. Narrative

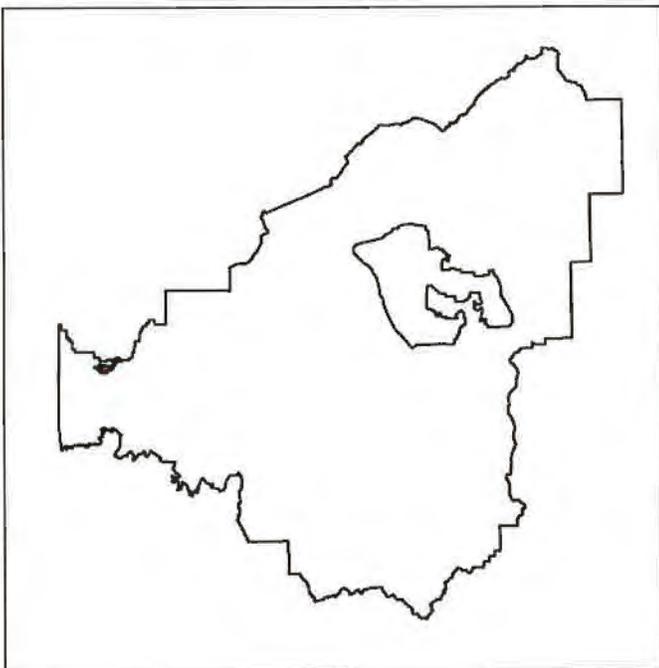
A modified landscape with dense road network; pinyon/juniper woodland has significant capacity to absorb visual impact; slopes south to north from mostly horizontal ridge; extensive vegetation treatments to encourage grass production. The unit is defined by rims and river canyons.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: Carpenter Ridge

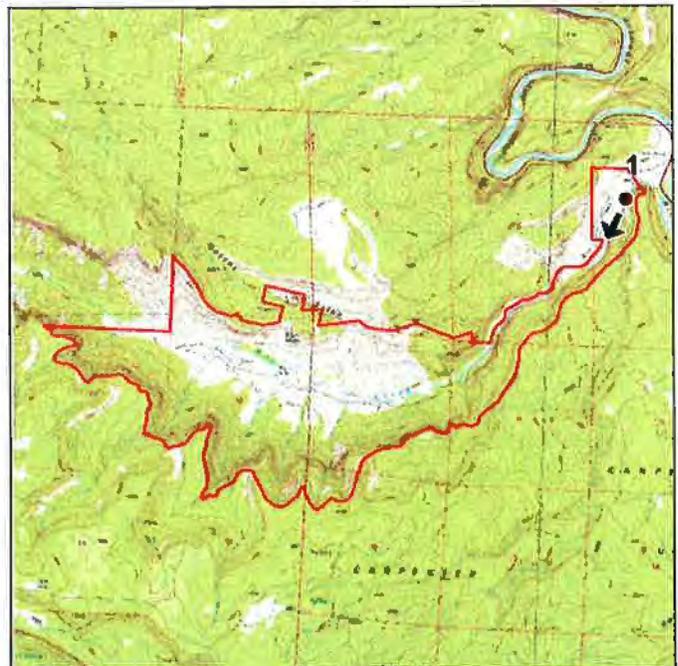
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform			2	Sloping terrain	
b. Vegetation			2.5	Mostly pinyon/juniper	
c. Water			0	None noted	
d. Color			2.5	Juniper is dominant	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2.5	Uncompahgre Plateau, Paradox Valley	
f. Scarcity			1	Common	
g. Cultural Modification			-1	Not compatible	
TOTALS			9.5		

Comments:

A somewhat modified landscape th atlacks visual variety or any notable visual characteristic.



SQRU Locator



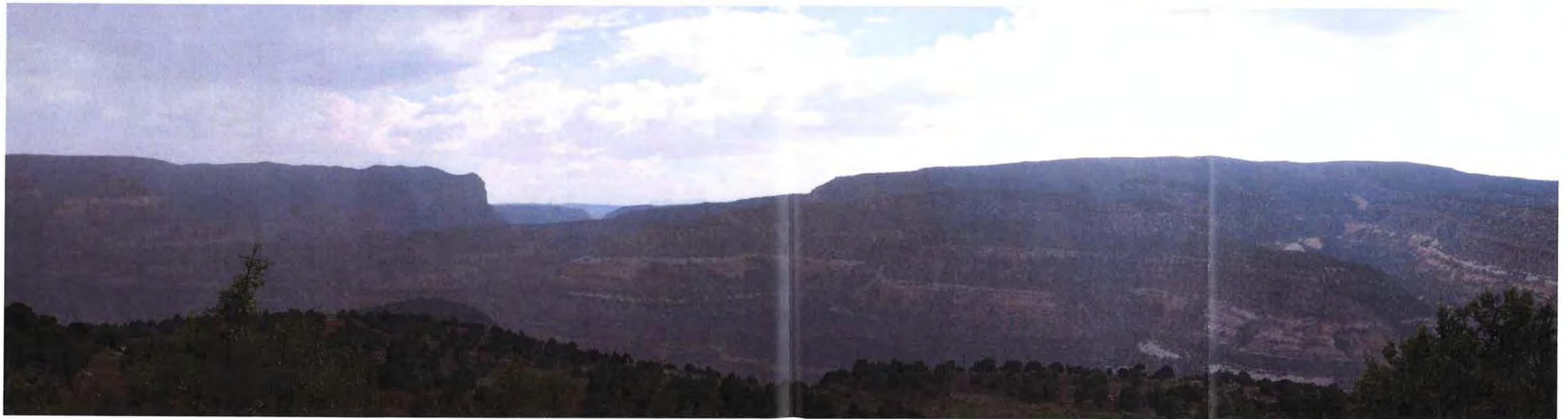
• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 2



IOP 3

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 70 – La Sal Creek

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Amanda Rainey, Dean Stindt

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Bold, narrow canyon with steep slopes, massive rock outcrops	Continuous, rounded, lumpy	Roads and power lines, buildings, fences
Line	Horizontal banded cliffs, diagonal slopes	Sinuuous, heavy riparian vegetation	Geometric forms and lines
Color	White, light gray, red, buff, salmon	Yuma and Juniper Green, spring green	Brown, white, gray, red
Texture	Coarse to medium	Medium, mostly due to juniper woodland	Smooth

3. Narrative

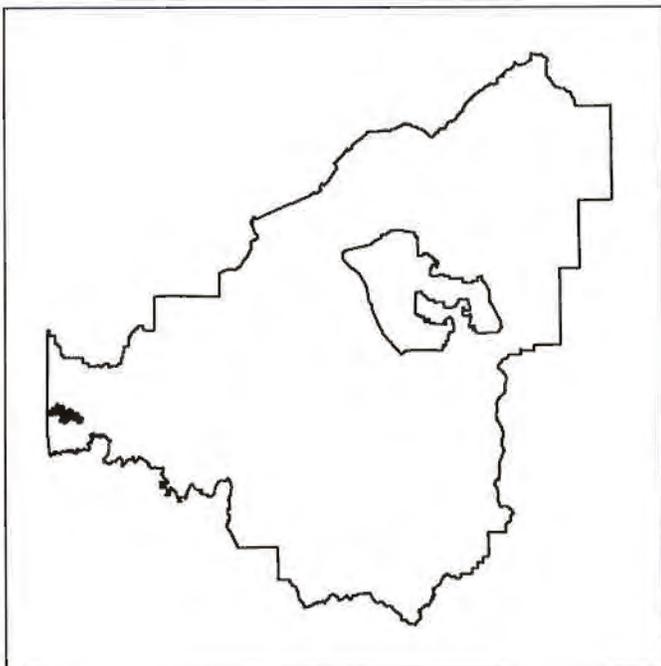
A narrow canyon with steep walls, massive rock outcrops, high contrast between rock, soil, and vegetation. Vibrant riparian corridor and live streams. The unit is defined by canyon rims.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: La Sal Creek

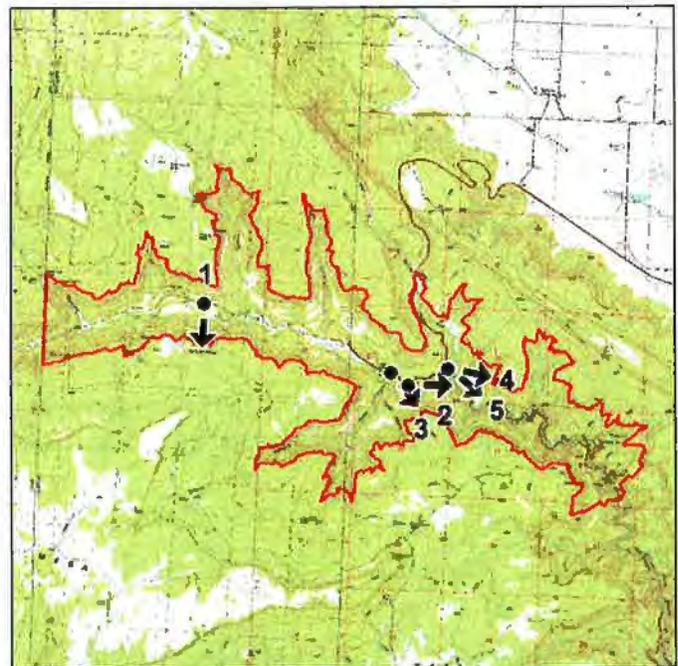
4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) X A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform	4			Massive rock outcrops	
b. Vegetation	4			Vibrant riparian and lots of variety	
c. Water		3		A continuous presence	
d. Color	4			Dominant feature	
e. Adjacent Scenery			0		
f. Scarcity		3		Distinctive but similar to others in region	
g. Cultural Modification			1	Fields	
TOTALS	12	6	1	19	

Comments:

High visual variety, vegetative diversity; notable landforms, vegetation, and color.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1



IOP 3



IOP 2



IOP 4



IOP 5

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SCENIC QUALITY FIELD INVENTORY

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: July 2009

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: 71 – Maverick Mesa Complex

1. Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Kate Schwarzler

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (Features)

	A. Landform/Water	B. Vegetation	C. Structures
Form	Mesas, flat-tops, angled slopes, banded cliffs	Heavy, continuous pinyon/juniper woodland: clumpy, continuous blanket	Lots of roads and a few power lines
Line	Horizontal, diagonal; horizontal is dominant	Weak, indistinct	Sinuuous, meandering, lots of roads
Color	Brown, buff, light tan	Yuma and Shale Green; very uniform color of vegetation	Same as soil; light brown to tan, some gray
Texture	Medium to smooth mesa tops	Medium texture	Smooth to medium

3. Narrative

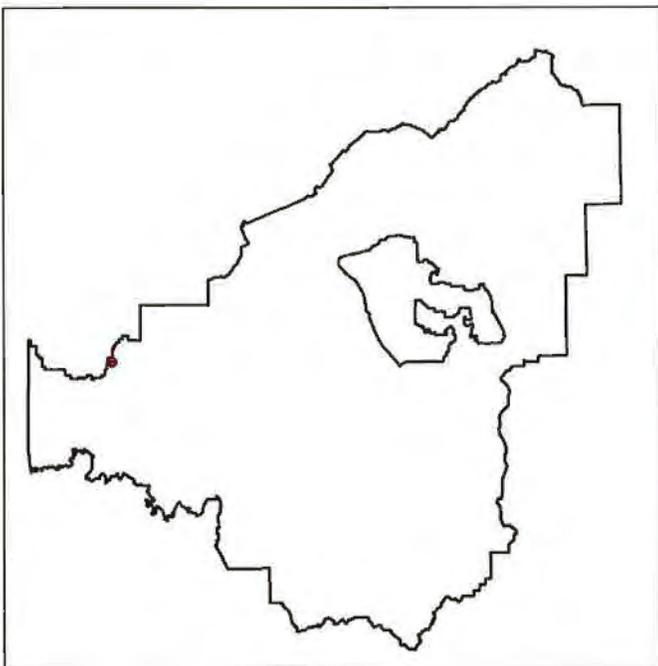
A much more horizontal landscape. Huge capacity of the landscape to absorb visual impact. Generally a panoramic landscape.

Scenic Quality Rating Unit: **Maverick Mesa Complex**

4. SCORE (Circle Appropriate Level)					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION (check one) A – 19 or more B – 12 – 18 X C – 11 or less
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	EXPLANATION OR RATIONALE	
a. Landform		3		Mesas, canyons	
b. Vegetation		3		Some variety in vegetation	
c. Water			0	Not seen	
d. Color		3		Some variation and contrast	
e. Adjacent Scenery			2	Minor enhancement	
f. Scarcity			1	Common in region	
g. Cultural Modification			-1	Mining, roads	
TOTALS		9	2	11	

Comments:

Lots of human impact but it is not readily seen. Many roads. Pinyon/juniper is the most dominant visual element.



SQRU Locator



• IOP Locations



IOP 1

Sensitivity Level Rating Units

No.	SLRU Name	Page	No.	SLRU Name	Page
01	Bull Mountain	B-2	40	Uncompahgre Canyon	B-43
02	Stevens Gulch	B-3	41	Mount Sneffels Foothills	B-44
03	Somerset	B-4	42	Upper San Miguel River	B-45
04	Paonia Reservoir	B-5	43	Beaver Mesa Complex	B-46
05	Deep Creek	B-6	44	Oak Hill	B-47
06	Thousand Acre Flats	B-7	45	Hamilton Creek	B-48
07	Beebe Gulch	B-8	46	Hamilton Mesa	B-49
08	North Delta OHV	B-9	47	Naturita Canyon	B-50
09	Redlands Mesa	B-10	48	Norwood Valley	B-51
10	Paonia Valley	B-11	49	San Miguel – Piñon to Beaver Creek	B-52
11	Jumbo Mountain	B-12	50	Mailbox Park	B-53
12	Minnesota Creek Valley	B-13	51	Naturita Ridge	B-54
13	Elephant Hill	B-14	52	Dry Creek Canyon	B-55
14	McDonald Mesa	B-15	53	San Miguel – Yancorum to Piñon	B-56
15	Upper Gunnison River	B-16	54	Third Park	B-57
16	Alkali	B-17	55	First Park/Second Park	B-58
17	Adobe Badlands WSA	B-18	56	Sawtooth Ridge	B-59
18	Escalante Canyon – Bennett's Basin	B-19	57	Sawtooth Ridge Face	B-60
19	Escalante Canyon	B-20	58	Davis Mesa	B-61
20a	Dominguez-Escalante NCA	B-21	59	Dolores River Canyon WSA	B-62
20b	Monitor Mesa Complex	B-22	60	Wray Mesa	B-63
20c	Camel Back WSA	B-23	61	Paradox Valley	B-64
21	Cactus Park (Drylands)	B-24	62	Middle Dolores Canyon	B-65
22	Greater Delta/Montrose Valley	B-25	63	San Miguel/Tabeguache	B-66
23	Grand View Mesa	B-26	64	Tabeguache Special Management Area	B-67
24	Smith Fork	B-27	65	Atkinson Mesa	B-68
25	Fruitland Mesa	B-28	66	Lower Dolores River	B-69
26	Youngs Peak	B-29	67	Sewemup Mesa WSA	B-70
27	Needle Rock	B-30	68	Roc Creek	B-71
28	Crawford Reservoir Valley	B-31	69	Carpenter Ridge	B-72
29	Castle Rock Foreground	B-32	70	La Sal Creek	B-73
30	Dry Creek Basin	B-33	71	Maverick Mesa Complex	B-74
31	Crystal Valley	B-34			
32	Uncompahgre Plateau	B-35			
33	Southeast Montrose Hills	B-36			
34	Waterdog Foothills	B-37			
35	Cimarron Valley	B-38			
36	Spruce Mountain	B-39			
37	Ridgway Reservoir	B-40			
38	Cimarron Ridge Foothills	B-41			
39	Pleasant Valley	B-42			

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
01 – Bull Mountain	H	H	H	H	n/a	n/a	H	Scenic quality is a main attraction.

Narrative:

High public interest, especially with elevated oil and gas activity. The West Elk Scenic Byway runs through the unit.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
2 – Stevens Gulch	M	H	L	M	n/a	n/a	M	Residential and agriculture-related properties

Narrative:

Users would mainly be those living in the area.

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Barney Buria

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
3 – Somerset	M	M	L	L	L	n/a	M	Existing industrial disturbance

Narrative:

This is a heavily traveled corridor for commercial/industrial and local/non-local traffic. Recreational traffic is from the West Elk Scenic Loop. While the volume of use is high, suggesting a moderate level of visual sensitivity, the human imprint on the landscape is significant. This is seen more as a working landscape. However, it is still part of a scenic byway and as such, carries a significant volume of leisure-time traffic. Accordingly, a moderate sensitivity rating is warranted.

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Lindsey Utter

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
04 – Paonia Reservoir	H	H	H	L	n/a	H	H	Located on the Unawcep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway.

Narrative:

Travelers in the area are quite aware of the high scenic quality, and the route is marketed for its high scenic quality.

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Barney Buria

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
05 – Deep Creek	H	M	L	L	n/a	n/a	M	Property value is based on the high scenic quality of the area

Narrative:

The unit contains mostly private land used by ranching interests.

Form 8400-6
 (September 1985)
 (Format Modified 2008)

UNITED STATES
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 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Lindsey Utter

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
06 – Thousand Acre Flats	M	L	L	L	n/a	n/a	M	High landscape adjacent to national forest; recreation and ranching uses

Narrative:

The unit is adjacent to the Gunnison National Forest. Use is limited to recreation (hunting) and livestock grazing.

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsay Utter

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
07 – Beebe Gulch	L	L	L	L	n/a	n/a	L	Not much use

Narrative:

The area seems to be tucked away. Users are minimal with low concern for scenic quality.

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
08 -- North Delta OHV	L	L	L	L	n/a	n/a	L	Use is not compatible with maintaining scenic quality

Narrative:

Scenic quality is not part of the management direction for the area. Public interest seems to be directed toward maintaining OHV use.

UNITED STATES
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 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
09 – Redlands Mesa	M	H	M	L	n/a	H	M	Many users who are moderately sensitive to visual change

Narrative:

Grand Mesa Scenic Byway travels through the center of the unit.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
10 – Paonia Valley	M	H	M	H	H	n/a	H	Users would be moderately concerned about preserving visual values; public interest would be moderate.

Narrative:

Highway 133 is part of the West Elk Scenic Loop as it travels through the unit. Paonia residents are conscious of the town's scenic location and changes around it that may adversely affect its scenic appeal.

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11 – Jumbo Mountain	M	M	L	H	n/a	n/a	H	Located in the viewshed from Paonia

Narrative:

The landscape is visible from Paonia and from Highway 133.

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12 – Minnesota Creek Valley	H	M	M	M	n/a	n/a	H	Users are there for scenic quality

Narrative:

The valley contains scattered residences and is a recreation corridor to the national forest.

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13 – Elephant Hill	M	M	L	M	n/a	n/a	M	Landform complex visible from Paonia

Narrative:

The landform complex as seen from Paonia is not nearly as dramatic or as noticeable as other surrounding landforms.

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14 – McDonald Mesa	M	H	M	H	n/a	n/a	H	Views from Paonia

Narrative:

The landscape is at the base of spectacular peaks and is seen from Paonia and Highway 133.

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15 – Upper Gunnison River	H	L	H	H	H	n/a	H	Part of the Dominguez-Escalante NCA

Narrative:

Rafters go through the corridor; however, there is not a lot of recreation access. The Gunnison River is high profile. Dominguez Canyon wilderness area borders the west edge.

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16 – Alkali	L	L	L	L	n/a	n/a	L	A simple landscape with a few visible modifications

Narrative:

The unit consists of a broad, open landscape generally lacking interesting features. Colors and features are mostly subtle, with little visual variety.

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17 – Adobe Badlands	M	L	L	L	H	n/a	H	Wilderness Study Area

Narrative:

The unit is considered to have high visual sensitivity due to its status as a Wilderness Study Area.

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18 – Escalante Canyon – Bennett’s Basin	L	L	H	H	H	n/a	H	Part of the Dominguez-Escalante NCA

Narrative:

This unit is adjacent to a wilderness area and Escalante Canyon. There is some national forest access, but visitors probably access the forest from other locations. The McCarty Trail also runs through this unit.

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19 – Escalante Canyon	H	H	H	H	H	n/a	H	A scenic destination; recreational opportunities and historical sites

Narrative:

A variety of users frequent the canyon. The public seems interested and protective of it. Adjacent lands include a wilderness area and national forest, and the unit is located in the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area which includes state wildlife areas. Swimming is allowed in designated areas.

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20a - Dominguez- Escalante NCA	H	M	H	H	H	n/a	H	Part of the National Conservation Area

Narrative:

This unit is located between Escalante Canyon and Camel Back Wilderness Study Area.

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20b – Monitor Mesa Complex	M	M	M	M	H	n/a	H	Contains portions of the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area

Narrative:

Interesting landforms with moderate recreation and forest service access.

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20c – Camel Back WSA	M	M	M	M	H	n/a	M	Wilderness Study Area

Narrative:

Users in the unit must make an effort to gain access as there are no roads through it.

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21 – Cactus Park (Drylands)	M	M	L	M	H	n/a	M	Backdrop for the Delta valley

Narrative:

Recreationists and users accessing national forest and wilderness study areas would travel through this unit, which currently has harmonious modifications.

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22 – Greater Delta/ Montrose Valley	L	H	L	L	n/a	n/a	L	High-use area with users who are moderately sensitive to visual values

Narrative:

Modifications occur throughout the unit, but users would be sensitive to a use which did not fit the setting. Developed area with high traffic volume on a day-to-day basis, but does not relate to scenic quality.

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23 – Grand View Mesa	M	M	M	L	n/a	n/a	M	Substantial rural residences, agricultural, subdivisions

Narrative:

Extensive rural residences where the landscape is an important part of the lifestyle.

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24 – Smith Fork	H	L	L	L	n/a	n/a	H	Not many users , but they would be sensitive to visual changes

Narrative:

Rural residential use in the canyon.

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25 – Fruitland Mesa	M	L	L	L	n/a	n/a	M	Those who live on the Mesa would be most concerned with any potential visual impacts.

Narrative:

The unit contains mostly private land and small, rural farmsteads and residences.

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26 – Youngs Peak	M	L	M	L	n/a	n/a	M	Adjacent to the town of Crawford

Narrative:

Youngs Peak is the northeast backdrop for the town of Crawford. A trail from town provides access to the peak.

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27 – Needle Rock	H	H	H	L	H	n/a	H	A unique, prominent feature

Narrative:

A signature feature for the town of Crawford, Needle Rock is identified as an outstanding natural feature due to its interesting and unique formation.

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28 – Crawford Reservoir Valley	M	M	M	L	n/a	n/a	M	Rural residences

Narrative:

The valley includes a State Recreation Area but is mainly comprised of agricultural development.

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29 – Castle Rock Foreground	M	M	M	L	n/a	n/a	M	Many users travel through the valley to access national parks, Forest Service, or other federal recreational lands

Narrative:

The unit provides a visual backdrop for the surrounding valley.

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30 – Dry Creek Basin	M	M	M	L	n/a	n/a	M	Proximity to urban areas, access to national forest

Narrative:

Recreational use/access is evident and includes jeep trails and Tabeguache Mountain Bike Trail.

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31 – Crystal Valley	H	H	M	L	n/a	n/a	H	Users visit the area to view the scenery.

Narrative:

The Crystal Valley is located along a major highway which provides access to the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park as well as Curccanti National Recreation Area. The Gunnison National Forest is also accessed through the unit.

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32 – Uncompahgre Plateau	M	H	M	M	n/a	n/a	M	Users are not as sensitive to changes within the unit as they would be in other units in the area.

Narrative:

The unit has many users because it is a bedroom community and is located en route to a national forest.

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33 – Southeast Montrose Hills	L	M	L	M	n/a	n/a	M	Users may have low sensitivity but adjacent land uses would be moderately sensitive to change.

Narrative:

Users within the unit would have a low visual sensitivity; adjacent land uses would be moderately sensitive due to the unit being located in the visual foreground. The unit is the backyard of adjacent communities.

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34 – Waterdog Foothills	M	H	M	H	n/a	n/a	H	The highway running through the unit is the only route from the west to Gunnison and a major route to the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.

Narrative:

The unit contains a lot of private land. A highway goes through the unit, and there are access points to the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and Gunnison Gorge NCA.

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35 – Cimarron Valley	H	H	M	H	n/a	n/a	H	Within view of travel corridor Highway 50, en route to Gunnison and Montrose; a hidden gem

Narrative:

Uses include day use recreation, photography, hunting, camping, forest access, private residences, and cabins. The unit is bordered by special areas including a State wildlife area, national forest, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, and wilderness area.

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36 – Spruce Mountain	H	M	L	M	n/a	n/a	H	Users in the unit would be very aware of and sensitive to scenic quality.

Narrative:

High-end real estate is evidence of people's appreciation for scenic quality.

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37 – Ridgway Reservoir	H	II	II	II	II	n/a	H	State Park

Narrative:

Ridgway State Park and Reservoir is a destination adjacent to Ridgway and along a highway. Users would go to enjoy the water as well as the setting.

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38 – Cimarron Ridge Foothills	H	M	M	M	n/a	n/a	M	Moderate amount of use and public interest

Narrative:

Users include outfitters, anglers, recreationists, sightseers, and high-end homeowners. Adjacent land uses would be moderately sensitive to change as it provides a backdrop for their setting.

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39 – Pleasant Valley	H	H	H	H	n/a	n/a	H	Many users with high sensitivity to visual values

Narrative:

The location on the San Juan Skyway, homes, community, and the fact that people live here to enjoy the beauty of the outdoors contribute to high visual sensitivity.

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40 – Uncompahgre Canyon	H	H	H	H	n/a	n/a	H	Located on the Unaweeep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway

Narrative:

The area is well-known for its scenic beauty and is a popular location for recreationists and second homes.

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41 – Mount Sneffels Foothills	H	H	H	H	n/a	n/a	H	Unit would have many users who are highly sensitive to visual values.

Narrative:

High-end properties, Forest Service access, San Juan Skyway, town of Ridgway, and being the foreground for spectacular adjacent scenery makes sensitivity for the unit high.

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42 – Upper San Miguel River	H	H	H	n/a	H	n/a	H	“The” route to Telluride

Narrative:

The northwestern portion of the unit includes the Unawcep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway and the San Miguel Area of Critical Environmental Concern; the southeastern portion includes the San Juan Skyway.

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43 – Beaver Mesa Complex	H	M	M	L	n/a	n/a	H	Travel corridor to National Forest and private residences (high-end real estate)

Narrative:

The unit contains recreational corridors to national forest and private residences/ranches.

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44 – Oak Hill	H	H	M	M	n/a	n/a	H	Travel corridor and residential area

Narrative:

The unit is located on a travel route to national forest as well as Lone Cone Mountain and lands to the south. Current residents may have moved to this area because of high scenic quality.

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45 – Hamilton Creek	H	M	M	L	n/a	n/a	M	Area does not receive a lot of use; users would be moderately sensitive

Narrative:

National forest access and Miramonte Reservoir access; private high-end real estate/ranches.

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46 – Hamilton Mesa	M	L	L	L	n/a	n/a	L	Private land; top not visible from valley floor

Narrative:

The mesa top is mostly private land with one section of State land. Development would be at the owner's discretion and not visible from the valley floor.

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Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter,

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
47 – Naturita Canyon	M	M	M	L	n/a	n/a	M	Undeveloped canyon close to community in the urban/wildland interface

Narrative:

Major national forest road access passes through the unit. It is not visible from the Norwood valley but is visible from the Unawcep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway when traveling east from Naturita.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

Field Office: Uncompahgre

Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Kate Schwarzler, Lindsey Utter, Julie Jackson

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
48 – Norwood Valley		M	M	L	n/a	n/a	M	Rural valley; primary residence for most of the valley population

Narrative:

The unit comprises a small, agriculture-based area and a bedroom community for Telluride.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
49 – San Miguel— Piñon to Beaver Creek	H	M	H	M	H	n/a	H	Part of the San Miguel Area of Critical Environmental Concern

Narrative:

Uses include placer mining and recreation (rafting). This is a dead-end canyon that attracts visitors for a specific purpose.

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Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
50 – Mailbox Park	M	L	L	L	n/a	n/a	L	Off the beaten path and not anyone's immediate viewshed

Narrative:

The unit is a high spot between Norwood Valley and First Park/Second Park. It does not appear to be a destination where scenic quality is valued.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
51 – Naturita Ridge	M	L	M	M	n/a	n/a	M	In viewshed of a scenic byway and communities nearby

Narrative:

In addition to the Unawcep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway, the unit is in view of First Park and Second Park, Wright's Mesa, and Mailbox Park.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
52 – Dry Creek Canyon	L	L	M	L	L	n/a	M	More intact because of limited access

Narrative:

Poor access limits use. The area is of local interest.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
53 – San Miguel— Vancorum to Piñon	L	H	M	L	n/a	n/a	M	Portions are located on a scenic byway.

Narrative:

This stretch of the river has more impact from development (power plant) than other stretches of the river and is within view of the Unaweep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

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Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Dean Stindt

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
54 – Third Park	M	M	M	H	n/a	n/a	M	Close to town, easy to access, with a variety of uses

Narrative:

Uses of this unit include some recreation, ranching, mining, and hunting (a lot of game). The Paradox Trail goes through the unit. Third Park provides a backdrop for the town of Nucla and is adjacent to the Tabeguache Special Management Area.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
55 – First Park/ Second Park	H	H	H	L	n/a	n/a	H	This unit is a community with private residences.

Narrative:

A residential and agricultural area.

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Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
56 – Sawtooth Ridge	L	M	M	H	n/a	n/a	M	Out of sight from the Unaweep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway and Highway 90. Unless one is working there it may not be a destination.

Narrative:

Mostly mining/oil and gas with some recreation. Beautiful canyons and scenic byway surround the unit.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
57 – Sawtooth Ridge Face	L	M	II	L	n/a	H	H	A prominent feature that is within view when traveling east to west on Highway 90

Narrative:

The unit is located along a highway. There is local appreciation for the scenic quality of the area, and new residents often move here because of scenic quality of the landscape. The wall is visible and the angle of observation is direct; views are unobstructed.

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Date: June 2009

Evaluators: Gary Long, Julic McGrew, Lindsey Utter, Amanda Rainey, Dean Stindt

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
58 – Davis Mesa	L	L	L	H	n/a	n/a	L	Industrial use is a priority.

Narrative:

Davis Mesa does not catch the eye as much as the Sawtooth Ridge Face when traveling on Highway 90. A lot of uranium mining and grazing activity.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
59 – Dolores River Canyon WSA	H	M	H	L	H	n/a	H	A Wilderness Study Area and distinctive river corridor

Narrative:

The river has an active float season during the spring.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
60 -- Wray Mesa	L	L	L	M	n/a	n/a	L	Not really seen or a scenic destination

Narrative:

Not highly accessible or a destination. Fuel treatments, bordered by WSA.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
61 – Paradox Valley	H	H	H	H	n/a	n/a	H	Tourist route between Telluride and Utah

Narrative:

Agriculture and a history of irrigated fields; that is why people moved into the area.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
62 – Middle Dolores Canyon	H	M	H	L	L	n/a	H	Hanging flume, scenic byway

Narrative:

This section is the most scenic and historic section of the Unaweep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway within the Field Office.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
63 – San Miguel/ Tabeguache	H	M	H	L	M	n/a	H	Part of the Unawcep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway. Canyon begins to narrow and all views are within the foreground/midground.

Narrative:

The unit receives a high volume of visitation through highway travel and river floating, and is the object of significant local interest.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
64 – Tabeguache SMA	H	L	L	M	H	n/a	H	Special Management designation

Narrative:

The Special Management Area extends into the Forest Service land where there are special archeological sites. Access is extremely limited and local people do not seem to have a heightened visual sensitivity to it.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
65 – Atkinson Mesa	L	L	L	L	n/a	n/a	L	Out of the way for most people; no easy access to national forest

Narrative:

Past resource management decisions regarding minerals and vegetation suggest that scenic quality is not a high priority in the area. The unit is not visible from the Unaweep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway and can only be seen from on top or from Carpenter Mesa, Sawtooth Ridge, or Third Park.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
66 – Lower Dolores River	M	M	M	L	L	n/a	M	Portions are within view from the Unawcep/Tabeguache Scenic Byway

Narrative:

Landscape has noticeable human presence. No on-the-ground evidence that maintaining visual quality is a priority.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
67 – Sewemup Mesa Wilderness Study Area	H	M	H	L	H	n/a	H	Wilderness Study Area

Narrative:

Management goal includes protecting scenic quality.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
68 – Roc Creek	H	L	M	L	n/a	n/a	H	Adjacent to the Dolores River Canyon WSA and the Unawep Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway

Narrative:

Local adjacent landowners exhibit a high degree of care and compassion for the area. A remote area with extraordinary scenic beauty.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
69 – Carpenter Ridge	M	L	L	L	L	H	H	Identified in the San Juan/San Miguel RMP as an outstanding scenic area

Narrative:

The Paradox mountain bike trail runs through the unit; OHV activity.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
70 – La Sal Creek	M	M	H	H	H	n/a	H	Only major route between west/central Colorado and Utah

Narrative:

Historic mine is within the unit. The major paved highway from Telluride/Moab passes through the unit. Borders Wilderness Study Area.

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SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

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Date: July 2009

Evaluators: Julie McGrew, Lindsey Utter

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT	TYPE OF USE	AMOUNT OF USE	PUBLIC INTEREST	ADJACENT LAND USES	SPECIAL AREAS	OTHER FACTORS	OVERALL RATING	EXPLANATION
71 – Maverick Mesa Complex	L	L	L	M	n/a	n/a	L	Extensive road systems and mineral exploration/development

Narrative:

Largely a pinyon/juniper woodland with extensive mineral exploration and development. Has capacity to absorb visual impact but roads and development are seen throughout the area.

Appendix C. Visual Resource Inventory Data Collection and Processing Methodology

The BLM Visual Resource Inventory Manual H—8410-1, BLM Technical Note 407, and the BLM Visual Resource Management Course Manual were sources used for the UFO Visual Resource Inventory.

Inventory

Preliminary units were drawn in the field on copies of 1:100,000 scale topographic maps and adjusted as necessary after consulting BLM staff to provide an accurate boundary. These maps were used in the field for navigational purposes, for ground-truthing the SQRU boundaries, and for recording notes and Inventory Observation Point (IOP) locations. High-quality aerial photographs and terrain models available on Google Earth™ and Google Maps™ were also used to verify the boundary locations, as well as a 25-meter Digital Elevation Model (DEM) provided by the BLM. These maps and photos clearly show the topographic and visual features of the landscape which enabled the inventory team to divide the area into SQRUs.

Field work for the VRI was conducted the weeks of June 8-12 and 22-26, 2009 with subsequent site visits on July 14, 16, and 17, 2009 (a total of 13 days). Each Scenic Quality Rating Unit was accessed by vehicle. The inventory team drove through each SQRU, stopping on multiple occasions to evaluate scenic quality. Notes and photographs were taken at each stop (IOP) to document the landscape character (as discussed in Section 2 – Scenic Quality Inventory Factors). A total of 243 stops were made throughout the UFO (Map A-1). The photographs, latitude/longitude, and heading for each IOP were recorded using a Ricoh Caplio 500SE 8 MP GPS camera. The IOPs were also drawn onto the 1:100,000 scale topographic maps for tracking purposes to ensure that each SQRU was thoroughly documented. A photograph log was used to document the number of photos per SQRU.

All SQRUs were named in the field based on a significant feature, drainage, or area. Numbers were added later when all the SQRUs were finalized to ensure that the reader could easily find specific units.

GIS

All VRI GIS data was created in ArcView 9.3. The SQRUs drawn on the 1:100,000 scale topographic paper maps were made into a digital vector version by heads-up digitizing. Raster images were used as the background data and include: digital copies of the 1:100,000 scale topographic maps provided by the UFO as well as Digital Raster Graphics (DRGs) and aerial imagery (National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP)) downloaded from the USDA Geospatial Data Gateway. Topology was validated by using the following ET GeoWizard functions: Clean Polygons, Clean Gaps, and Eliminate.

Scenic Quality Rating

The SQRU shape file attribute table was expanded to include the SQRU name and number, the seven Scenic Quality Rating Factors, the Total Scenic Quality Rating Score, and the final Scenic Quality Rating Class (A, B, C). The acreage was also included. (Table C-1).

Table C-1. Scenic Quality Inventory Factors

SQRU No.	SQRU Name	Rating	Landform	Vegetation	Water	Color	Adjacent Scenery	Scarcity	Cultural Mod.	Total Score	Acres
01	Bull Mountain	2	4	3.5	4	4	2	0	19.5	A	20552.54
02	Stevens Gulch	3	3.5	1	3	3.5	2	0	16	B	94217.27
03	Somerset	3	4	4	3	0	2	-2	14	B	19621.23
04	Paonia Reservoir Canyon	3.5	5	4	4	0	3	-0.5	19	A	10742.63
05	Deep Creek	2.5	5	1	4	5	3	0	20.5	A	9705.18
06	Thousand Acre Flats	2	4	0	3.5	4	2	0	15.5	B	2304.61
07	Beebe Gulch	3	2	0	2	2	1	0	10	C	15526.55
08	North Delta OHV	3	1	0	1	3	2	-2	8	C	21973.94
09	Redlands Mesa	2	3.5	2	3	3	1	0	14	B	71607.57
10	Paonia Valley	2	3.5	3	3	4	2.5	0	18	B	34436.19
11	Jumbo Mountain	3.5	3	0	3.5	4	2	0	16	B	13860.19
12	Minnesota Creek Valley	2	4	1	3	3	1	1	15	B	1084.83
13	Elephant Hill	2	3	0	2	4	1	0	12	C	4036.79
14	McDonald Mesa	2	3	0	2.5	4	1	0	12.5	B	13123.27
15	Upper Gunnison River	4	3.5	4	4	1	2	1	19.5	A	8016.51
16	Alkali	2	2	0	2	3	1	-0.5	9.5	C	41184.93
17	Adobe Badlands WSA	2	1	0	2	1	1	0	7	C	8973.82
18	Escal Canyon_Bennet's Basin	1	3	0	2	1	1	0	8	C	6795.13
19	Escalante Canyon	4	3.5	4	4	0	2	0	17.5	B	17422.22
20	Monitor Mesa Complex	4	2.5	0.5	3	2	2	0	14	B	58809.17
21	Cactus Park (Drylands)	1	1.5	0	1.5	3	1	-0.5	7.5	C	38039.89
22	Greater Delta/Montrose Valley	1	3	2	3	3.5	1	0	13.5	B	132978.19
23	Grand View Mesa	2	4	2	3	4	2	1	18	B	27761.83
24	Smith Fork	3	3.5	2	2.5	0	3	0	14	B	3470.57
25	Fruitland Mesa	1	3	0	2	4	1	0	11	C	10161.95
26	Youngs Peak	2	2	0	2	4	2	-1	11	C	3065.68
27	Needle Rock	5	2	0	3	2	5	0	17	B	426.68
28	Crawford Reservoir Valley	1	3	3	3	4	1	1	16	B	11077.03
29	Castle Rock Foreground	3	3	0	3	4	2	0	15	B	22575.53
30	Dry Creek Basin	2.5	3.5	0	3	3	1	-0.5	12.5	B	101576.20
31	Crystal Valley	2	5	1	5	3	3	0	19	A	9766.62
32	Uncompahgre Plateau	1	3	0	2	3.5	3	-0.5	12	B	47163.48
33	Southeast Montrose Hills	3	2	0	2	2	1	-0.5	9.5	C	28605.01
34	Waterdog Foothills	2.5	3	0	3	3	1	0	12.5	B	37953.86
35	Cimarron Valley	3.5	4	3	4	5	3	0	22.5	A	43676.99
36	Spruce Mountain	2	4	2	3.5	5	3	0	19.5	A	97210.86
37	Ridgway Reservoir	3	2.5	4	3.5	3	3	0	19	A	12135.56
38	Cimarron Ridge Foothills	2	4	3	3	4	2	0	18	B	40529.01
39	Pleasant Valley	1.5	3	1	3	5	2	0	15.5	B	21194.05
40	Uncompahgre Canyon	4	3	3	4	2	3	0	19	A	7206.92
41	Mount Sneffels Foothills	3	4	0.5	3.5	2	2	0	18	B	43405.10
42	Upper San Miguel River	4	4	4.5	5	0	3.5	-0.5	20.5	A	39287.02
43	Beaver Mesa Complex	2	4	1	4	4	3	0	18	B	48778.16
44	Oak Hill	2	4	1	4	4	3	0	18	B	30223.32
45	Hamilton Creek	2	4	0	3.5	3.5	2	0	15	B	29934.27

SQRU No.	SQRU Name	Rating	Landform	Vegetation	Water	Color	Adjacent Scenery	Scarcity	Cultural Mod.	Total Score	Acres
46	Hamilton Mesa	1	3	0	2	4	1	0	11	C	5693.81
47	Naturita Canyon	3	3	1	3.5	0	1.5	0	12	B	6280.52
48	Norwood Valley	1	3	0	3	2	1	0	10	C	30272.80
49	San Miguel - Pinon to Beaver	3	4	5	3.5	0	3.5	0	19	A	8513.58
50	Mailbox Park	2	3	0	2	3	1	0	11	C	19864.81
51	Naturita Ridge	2	3	0	2	2	1	-0.5	9.5	C	32953.64
52	Dry Creek Canyon	2.5	3	2	2.5	0	2	0	12	B	8629.63
53	San Miguel - Yancorum to Pinon	2.5	3.5	3.5	3	0	3.5	-2	14	B	7985.01
54	Third Park	2	3	0	2	3	1	0	11	C	30339.76
55	First Park/Second Park	3	3	1	3	3	2	0	15	B	18017.43
56	Sawtooth Ridge	3	3	0	3	4	2	-1	14	B	33927.74
57	Sawtooth Ridge Face	4	2	0	4	2	3.5	0	15.5	B	4244.81
58	Davis Mesa	3	3	0	3	2	2	0	13	B	30447.65
59	Dolores River Canyon WSA	4.5	4	4	4	0	3.5	0	20	A	13959.13
60	Wray Mesa	2	3	0	2	3	1	0	11	C	24824.55
61	Paradox Valley	2	3	2	2	4	1	0	14	B	38854.51
62	Middle Dolores Canyon	5	3.5	4	4.5	0	4	0	21	A	6995.13
63	San Miguel/Tabeguache	3.5	4	4	3	0	3	0	17.5	B	13360.50
64	Tabeguache SMA	1.5	4	0	3	3	1	0	12.5	B	8137.13
65	Atkinson Mesa	2.5	3	0	2.5	4	2	0	14	B	64438.61
66	Lower Dolores River	4	3	3.5	3.5	0	3	-1	16	B	8884.02
67	Sewemup Mesa WSA	5	4	0	4	2	2	0	17	B	1802.88
68	Roc Creek	4	4	1	4	0	3	1	17	B	1954.18
69	Carpenter Ridge	2	2.5	0	2.5	2.5	1	-1	9.5	C	17964.40
70	La Sal Creek	4	4	3	4	0	3	1	19	A	4326.03
71	Maverick Mesa Complex	3	3	0	3	2	1	-1	11	C	96.62
NR	Dominguez Canyon Wilderness Area	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	SA	36776.16
NR	State	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	645.13
NR	Curecanti NRA	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	SA	8167.81
NR	Black Canyon National Park	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	27834.13
NR	USFS	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	

Visual Resource Inventory Classes

To determine the final Visual Resource Inventory Classes, the Scenic Quality, Sensitivity Level and Distance Zone GIS layers are combined as per Visual Resource Inventory Manual H—8410-1 BLM Technical Note 407, with some modification. Each Layer is converted into a raster layer and then is reclassified as follows:

<u>Scenic Quality Rating</u>	<u>Assigned Value</u>
• A	500
• B	300
• C	100
• NR or Not Rated	0

<u>Sensitivity Level Analysis</u>	<u>Assigned Value</u>
• High	50
• Medium	30
• Low	10
• NR or Not Rated	0

<u>Distance Zone</u>	<u>Assigned Value</u>
• Foreground/midground	5
• NR or Not Rated	0

<u>Special Areas</u>	<u>Assigned Value</u>
Wilderness Areas	1,000
NR or Not Rated	0

The four raster layers are then combined and their values added.

- Values greater than or equal to 1,000 = Class I.
- Values greater than or equal to 355 but less than 1,000 = Class II.
- Values of 155, 355, and 353 = Class III.
- The value of 351 is Class III if it is adjacent to Class III, II, or I. If adjacent to Class IV, it is Class IV.
- All other values = Class IV.

Appendix D. Community Information Summary

Introduction

In June of 2009, information requests were sent to federal agencies, counties, and municipalities located within the UFO, on BLM letterhead under signature of Barbara Sharrow, Field Office Manager. (Exhibit D-1). The information request varied slightly depending upon the type of jurisdiction. Responses were logged and follow-up calls and e-mails were made as necessary. (Exhibit D-2).

Many small communities within the UFO do not have GIS data and/or zoning and land-use codes that pertain specifically to visual resources, and some communities did not respond to either the letter request or subsequent follow-up communications. In these cases, every effort was made to locate and download pertinent documents from county and municipal websites, and this information is recorded in the log.

This appendix provides excerpts copied directly from planning and regulatory documents, as well as short summaries of information that pertain specifically to visual resources. All downloaded documents and full-sized maps provided by the various jurisdictions are included on the CD-ROM that accompanies this document.

Federal Agencies

■ **BLM Uncompahgre Field Office** ***Final Community Assessment of the*** ***Uncompahgre Planning Area, February 2009***

2.2 REASONS PEOPLE LIVE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

(Page 2-5; also found in the Executive Summary on page ES-3)

“The reasons most often cited included recreational opportunities, natural and scenic beauty, proximity to public lands...”

3.1 COMMUNITY-DESIRED BENEFITS FROM PUBLIC LANDS

(Page 3-2 and 3-3; also found in the Executive Summary on pages ES-3 and ES-4)

Scenery/Aesthetics/Open Space

Public lands offer wide open spaces and scenic vistas that many communities consider a substantial benefit. Being surrounded by a natural-looking landscape appeals to current residents and is a reason many choose to stay in these communities. Many residents voiced the dark ‘night sky’ as an important benefit of the open space public lands offer.

Open Space and the Natural Landscape

Public lands managed by the Uncompahgre Field Office are generally open and natural in appearance. This natural-looking landscape was the most commonly identified social (see above) and environmental benefit by communities. Some groups stated their hope that public lands would not change from the way they are now.

3.2 COMMUNITY VISION FOR PUBLIC LANDS

(Page 3-5 and 3-8)

Physical characteristics refer to what communities would like public lands near them to look like, including the degree of naturalness and the amount or type of development and infrastructure. Examples would be more or fewer developed recreation facilities, a network of designated travel and transportation routes, or natural-appearing scenery.

Social Characteristics. Discussion of social characteristics focused on maintaining the dispersed nature of recreational opportunities on public lands in the area and preserving the natural character of the lands.

4.1 GROUP AREAS WITH SIMILAR SOCIOECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

(Page 4-1)

For example, in the upper San Miguel River watershed, most communities favor resource conservation for urban buffering, viewshed protection, and recreation.

- **Socioeconomic Unit 1 (Bowie, Paonia, and Somerset).** Residents choose to live here because of the strong sense of community, natural resource-based jobs, good quality of life, access to federal lands (BLM and Forest Service), recreational opportunities, and the scenic beauty of the landscapes.
- **Socioeconomic Unit 2 (Austin, Cedaredge, Crawford, Hotchkiss, and Orchard City)** [value] the scenic beauty of the landscapes. Residents value their access to public lands, the sense of community, good quality of life, recreational opportunities, and the scenic beauty of the landscapes.
- **Socioeconomic Unit 3 (Delta, Montrose, and Olathe)** are more tied to urban economies, agriculture, and recreation. Like the other units, people in this unit live here for the good quality of life, access to public lands, sense of community, recreation opportunities, and scenery.

- **Socioeconomic Unit 4 (Mountain Village, Norwood, Ouray, Placerville, Redvale, Ridgway, Sawpit, and Telluride)** have all experienced some level of transformation from an “old west” to a “new west” economic structure. In general, residents that move into this unit are attracted to the region for scenery, recreation, and the “western feel.” Therefore, it is not surprising that recreation, open space, and viewshed and watershed protection are important to local residents, as are non-extractive historic uses, such as livestock grazing.
- **Socioeconomic Unit 5 (Naturita, Nucla, and Paradox).** Communities are supportive of resource extraction and use of public lands in an environmentally sustainable manner for economic gain (including recreational uses). The isolation and social independence of this part of the planning area is a prime value of the people who live here, as is access to public lands and the scenery.

4.2 ADDRESS PLANNING ISSUES AND CONCERNS

(Page 4-5)

Energy Development and the Natural Landscape

All communities recognize the importance of energy development for the nation; however, the location, intensity, and overall acceptance of energy development varied by community. A number of communities indicated an interest in seeing continued energy development on public lands, especially if there were direct economic benefits to the community (e.g., jobs and spending). Others stated that they believe it will continue, even if they do not have a sense of directly benefiting from it. These same communities, however, stated that the natural landscape, scenic beauty, wildlife, and recreation benefits of public lands are of great importance to residents and visitors, as well as to their economies.

Detailed responses from attendees are found in Appendix C, List of Participants and Summaries of Meetings.

■ National Park Service

General Management Plan, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument and Curecanti National Recreation Area, 1977

Excerpts from this plan that pertain to visual and scenery protection include the following:

Black Canyon of the Gunnison

Park Purpose (Page 3)

- Preservation and protection of the spectacular gorges and scenic values.

Park Significance (Page 4)

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 resources in the park. The following are the significance statements developed for the park through the management assessment process.

- 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.

Curecanti National Recreation Area

Park Purpose (Page 5)

- To conserve the scenery, natural, historic, and archeological resources, and wildlife of Curecanti National Recreation Area.

Specific Objectives; Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument; Resource-Specific Objectives Page 13:

SCENIC VALUES AND SOUND—Maintain a full spectrum of tangible and intangible attributes for which the national monument was established. Park areas contain various tangible natural and cultural features such as animals, plants, waters, geologic features, historic buildings and monuments, and archeological sites. They also have intangible qualities such as natural quiet, solitude, space, scenery, scenic vistas, a sense of history, sounds of nature, and clear

night skies that are important components of visitor use and enjoyment.

Conditions to be attained:

1. A strategy has been developed that protects viewsheds, allowing them to remain generally natural and undeveloped as seen from within the monument and Vernal Mesa.
2. Development that will be seen from within the park is done in a sensitive way, minimally impacting the visitor experience of a wild canyon setting and blending with the natural landscape.
3. Management for viewsheds that are critical to providing quality experiences for park visitors is cooperatively coordinated with adjacent land management agencies, county planning entities, private landowners, and transportation agencies.
4. A strategy has been developed to protect the viewshed along the scenic approaches to the monument (Highway 50 to the South Rim entrance and Crawford to North Rim boundary), emphasizing the importance of retaining the rural characteristics of the area along these routes.
5. Outstanding natural sound quality, night lighting, and air pollution are improved over 1993 levels.

Geographic-Specific Objectives (Page 16)

PANORAMIC VIEWS—Preserve the natural setting that allows the Black Canyon to be seen within the larger regional context.

Conditions to be attained:

1. Visitors are allowed to see and access the area for the larger panoramic views.
2. To support visitor access and a quality visitor experience, minimal development is done.
3. Air quality for a Class I airshed is maintained for long-distance views (to the San Juans, Grand Mesa, West Elks, Uncompahgre Valley, etc.), which are important parts of the Black Canyon geologic and human history stories.

Issue-Specific Objectives (Page 17)

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT SURROUNDING THE PARK—Cooperatively guide the appropriate development of lands surrounding the park so that they do not adversely affect the park environment. Two areas could potentially negatively impact the park environment from inappropriate development of surrounding lands—water quality and aesthetics.

Conditions to be attained:

1. A strategy for a local community baseline information system has been developed to provide a better understanding of the physical and ecological processes that shape and contribute to the evolution of Black Canyon and the Gunnison Basin.
2. Viewsheds remain generally natural as seen from within the park.
3. A cooperative strategy for appropriate private land development adjacent to Black Canyon and on access routes leading into the park has been developed with land management agencies, private landowners, county planning entities, and transportation agencies, so that impacts to water quality and aesthetic quality of the park experience have been reduced.

Specific Objectives; Curecanti National Recreation Area; Resource-Specific Objectives: (Page 20)

SCENIC—Maintain a full spectrum of tangible and intangible attributes for which the national recreation area was established.

Conditions to be attained:

1. Internal—viewsheds remain generally natural and undeveloped as seen from within the park.
2. External—management for viewsheds that are critical to providing quality recreational experiences for park visitors is cooperatively coordinated with adjacent land management agencies, county planning entities, private landowners, and transportation agencies.
3. Park development and park facilities do not derogate viewsheds or other scenic qualities.

Issue-Specific Objectives (Page 23)

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT SURROUNDING THE PARK

Conditions to be attained:

1. A strategy for a local community baseline information system has been developed to provide a better understanding of the physical and ecological processes that shape and contribute to the evolution of Curecanti and the Gunnison Basin.
2. Viewsheds remain generally natural and undeveloped as seen from within the park.
3. A cooperative strategy for any appropriate private land development adjacent to Curecanti has been developed with land management agencies, private landowners, county planning entities, and transportation agencies so that water quality and aesthetic quality of the park experience are not adversely impacted.

■ U. S. Forest Service

Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests—Proposed Forest Plan, 2007

Introduction (Page 16)

The outstanding scenery and outdoor recreation opportunities provided by the GMUG are major contributors to socioeconomic forces currently at work and expected to continue over the Plan period. Forest amenities generate tourism, which is a very important industry for several communities within the sub-region. It is also a major contributing factor to the “amenity migration” phenomenon wherein communities are seeing rapid growth of second home development and new residents permanently re-settling to the area.

1.A.13. RECREATION (Page 77)

Components of the Recreation Program discussed in this Plan include Scenery – visual quality and scenic integrity. The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum outlined in section 1.A.13.1 defines scenic integrity objectives for the following categories:

Backcountry Settings

- SPNM (Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized)—Very High (unaltered) to High (appears unaltered)
- SPM (Semi-Primitive Motorized)—Very High (unaltered) to Moderate (slightly altered)

Built Environment: Rural Areas

Rural areas are characterized by substantially modified natural environment. The landscape is often dominated by human-caused geometric patterns; there is also a dominant sense of open, green-space. Scenic byway corridors are also within this setting. Driving for pleasure, viewing scenery, camping, and picnicking are common activities. Scenic integrity objectives are High (unaltered) to Moderate (slightly altered).

General Forest Roaded Settings

- RN (Roaded Natural)—Very High (unaltered) to Low (moderately altered)
- RM (Roaded Modified)—Moderate (slightly altered) to Very Low (heavily altered)
- RN-NM (Roaded Natural Non-Motorized)—High Moderate or Moderate

Forest-wide Desired Conditions

Scenery appears natural within and adjacent to developed recreation facilities. Scenic integrity objectives are High (appears unaltered) or Moderate (slightly altered).

1.A.14. SKI AREAS (Page 87)

Scenery in and around ski areas appears natural. Protection of scenic values is emphasized through basic landscape design principles. The visual impacts of structures, ski lifts, roads, utilities, buildings, signs, and other man-made facilities are minimized. Facilities are architecturally designed to blend and harmonize with the national forest setting as seen from key viewpoints. Facilities that no longer serve a useful purpose are removed. Advertising of services or products is generally non-existent or temporary in conjunction with a special event.

1.A.15. SCENERY (Page 91)

Scenic resources are a component of natural settings and make up the visual landscape. Scenic resources vary by location and existing natural features including vegetation, water features, landforms, geology, and man-made elements.

Forest-wide Desired Conditions

High quality natural appearing scenic landscapes are present throughout the Forest. Scale, color, texture, orientation, and location are evident in facility designs and management activities.

Healthy vegetation provides a variety of successional stages, plant communities, and associated wildlife. A variety of scenic integrity objectives (SIO) are disseminated throughout the Forest.

A range of scenic integrity objectives from low to very high exist with a focus on meeting or exceeding public demand for high quality scenery that benefits regional tourism, economy, community self-image, and recreation opportunities by maintaining existing natural appearing scenic landscapes.

Scenic values and scenic integrity goals are integrated with other resource objectives. Multiple-use activities and facility designs incorporate design features that include such components as scale, color, texture, orientation, and location to achieve scenery integrity objectives for the area or watershed. Healthy vegetation contributes to sustaining scenic values. Planned vegetation altering activities maintain a variety of successional stages, plant communities, and associated wildlife through a combination of human manipulation and natural processes.

1.A.16.2. WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS (Page 97)

- Scenic Rivers —Very High
- Recreation Rivers—High

1.A.16.3. RESEARCH NATURAL AREAS (Page 97)

Scenery appears unaltered by human activity. Deviations may be present but are mostly unobtrusive.

The visual effects of natural disturbance events to achieve primary goals are accepted.

1.A.16.4 SPECIAL INTEREST AREAS (Page 98)

The scenery of the area appears unaltered or as described in the heritage resource management plan.

1.A.16.5. Scenic Byways and Scenic Travel Corridors (Page 99)

The Forest has identified six additional forest roads to be managed as scenic travel corridors for their high quality scenery and recreation values.

Forest-wide Desired Conditions

Scenic Byways: Scenic byway road corridors and adjacent landscapes provide high quality scenery through time. Viewsheds along scenic byways meet the public's desire for attractive natural landscapes and contribute to recreation tourism and the regional economy. The intrinsic qualities for which the byways were designated continue to be emphasized and managed consistent with current Corridor Management Plans.

Vegetation is managed to enhance the scenic quality of recreation opportunities within the immediate foreground of Concern Level 1 travelways and use areas. Timber harvest, prescribed fire, recreation, and livestock use are incorporated to enhance Scenic Integrity Objectives. Interpretation and education are provided through exhibits, signs, programs, along roadways, and in adjacent recreation facilities.

Scenic Travel Corridors: Forest scenic travel corridors maintain their high quality scenery and recreation values characteristic of the region. Forest management activities may be seen, but are visually subordinate to the surrounding landscape.

Viewsheds seen from the road are included as part of the corridor. Scenic integrity objectives are High to Moderate. Vegetation alterations enhance the viewing opportunity and long-term vigor and health of the

vegetation. Roads and adjacent facilities are consistent within ROS desired condition settings.

2.A.13. SCENERY

1. Rehabilitate project areas that do not meet Scenic Integrity Objectives within 10 years of Plan approval.

2.C.3. MA1.3 – PRIMITIVE LANDS

These areas encompass approximately two percent of the GMUG, where natural conditions are protected or restored. There is a range of goals which include providing wildlife habitat areas, research or reference areas, primitive and semi-primitive recreation, natural scenery, and livestock grazing.

2.C.9. MA5.1 – GENERAL FOREST WITH ACTIVE MANAGEMENT

MA5.1 is the most prevalent area in the Plan Area, encompassing 40 percent of the Forest. These areas are actively managed to meet a variety of ecological and human needs. They are managed with a strong multiple-use emphasis.... They are often characterized by a substantially modified natural environment. Scenic Integrity Objective is generally Moderate.

Plan Guidelines (Section 3) include provisions for scenery resource enhancement or rehabilitation following timber harvest and use of overhead utility lines. In addition, section 3N, Scenery, provides these guidelines:

1. When constructing facilities and structures, project-level guidance found in Forest Service Built Environment Image Guide should be used to design facilities and structures subordinate and complementary to surrounding landscapes.
2. To the extent possible, large facilities such as power lines, gas wells, appurtenances, and power stations should be screened from Concern Level 1 travel corridors.

Section 3.02, Wild and Scenic Rivers, states that When authorizing projects and activities, the Responsible Official should consider river management guidelines found in FSH 1909.12, sec. 82.5 and 82.51.

Counties

■ Delta County

Delta County Master Plan Final Draft, 1996

Part One: Cultural Resources (Page 3)

Delta County has two state designated Scenic and Historic Byways. Both Scenic Byways are developing corridor management plans to provide for the protection and interpretation of the cultural heritage and natural resources of the areas.

Part Two Goals, Policies and Implementation

(Page 6)

Part B. Inventory and classify the physical features and environmental resources of the County.
Implementation Strategies

1. Collect and analyze the data necessary to map the significant physical features and environmental characteristics of the County. The data base should include, at a minimum; areas of steep or unstable slopes, soils, floodplains, wetlands and riparian areas, critical watersheds, wildlife migration paths and (critical) winter habitat, important scenic viewsheds.

Delta County Subdivision Regulations 2008

N. Scenic Impact Report

When a development or subdivision may adversely impact the view form a designated Scenic By-Way or impact the views in Significant View Corridors designated in the Delta County Master Plan, the Board may require a Scenic Impact Report which shall consist of the following:

1. The report shall graphically illustrate the impact of the proposed development on the views from Scenic By-Ways or Significant View Corridors.
2. The graphic shall illustrate ground elevations before development and superimpose the proposed buildings against the background on a ground level elevation.
3. The graphic shall take into account the elevation

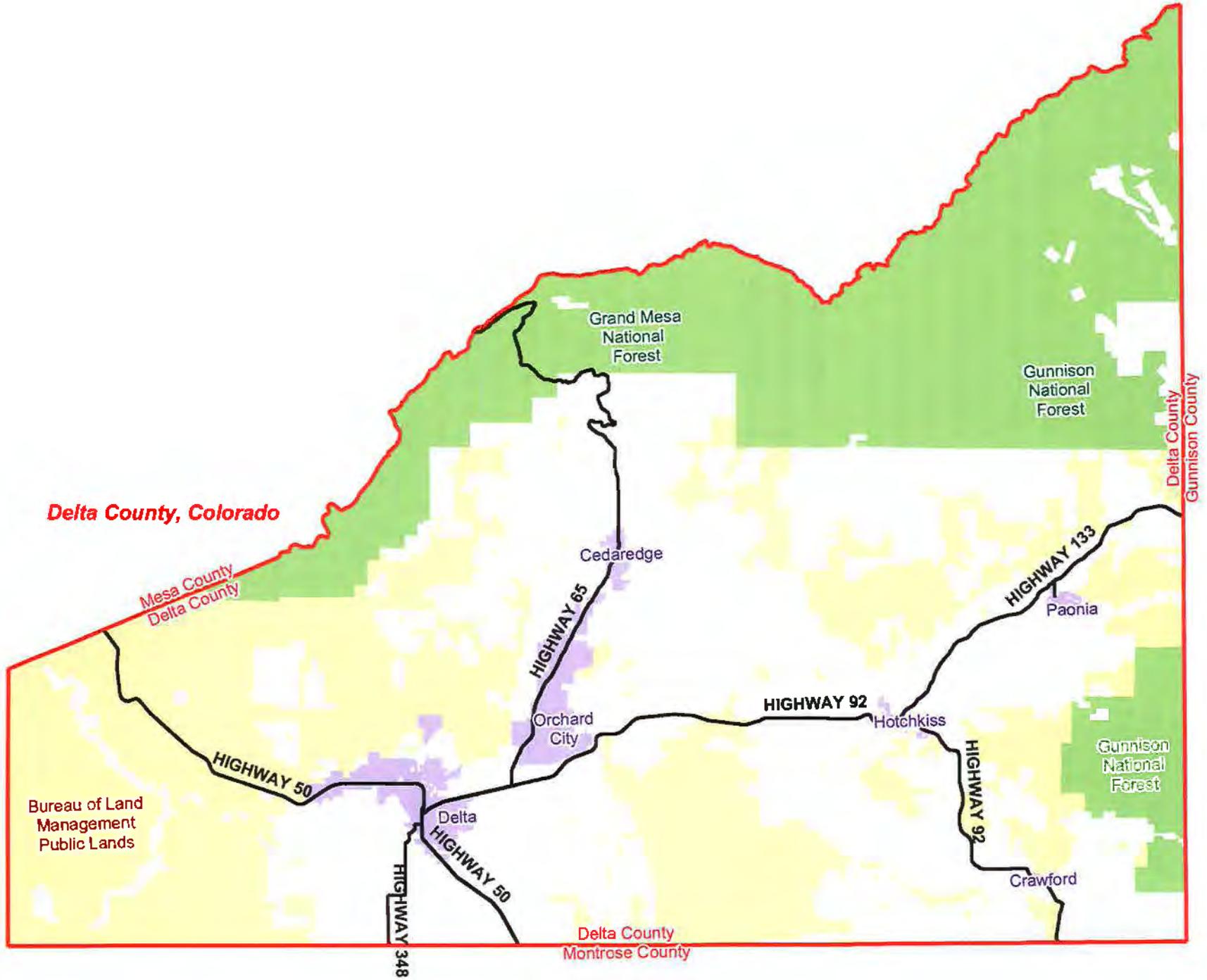
from the roadway and the distance to the view to be preserved.

4. A Scenic Impact Report required by the Board shall include a general narrative which describes:
 - The actions necessary to mitigate the adverse scenic impact
 - The report shall include a graphic which illustrates how the developer or subdivider proposes to mitigate any adverse impacts of the scenic vies that were identified.
5. The report shall be submitted as part of the preliminary plat or before the Final Plat if a preliminary plat is not required.

Delta County Regulation for Specific Developments, As Amended Effective Date: August 1, 2009

P. Scenic Views

1. Developments within the view shed as defined by the West Elk Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan for the West Elk Scenic Byway and within the view shed of Grand Mesa Scenic Byway shall be reviewed by the respective scenic byway committee. The comments received from the scenic byway committee shall be advisory only for use by each Advisory Planning Committee and the Planning Commission to incorporate in their findings and/or recommendations.
2. Development (huilding placement) on ridgelines with a direct effect on the skyline and/or blockage of view sheds from adjoining properties shall be mitigated.



■ Ouray County

Ouray County Master Plan Adopted December 1, 1999

SECTION I: UTILITIES

2. Visual impacts should be identified and effective mitigation measures employed.

SECTION J. VISUALLY SIGNIFICANT AREAS

Ouray County contains some of the most unique and beautiful scenery in Colorado. The diversity of the landscape ranges from jagged high mountain peaks and mesas to river valleys and irrigated fields. Preservation of this visual beauty is of utmost importance to the citizens of the County. The citizens want to be assured that future development will not hinder, impair or destroy Ouray County's scenic beauty.

Goal: To protect and preserve visually significant and sensitive areas of Ouray County that provide the scenic backdrops and vistas that all residents and visitors of Ouray County enjoy.

Policies:

1. Maintain strong visual impact regulations.
2. Develop and implement strategies for the protection and preservation of critical scenic vistas.
3. Evaluate and consider for adoption programs and incentives that encourage the placement of land into conservation easements and other protective status.
4. Evaluate and consider for adoption programs for the protection of open space by Ouray County.
5. Evaluate and consider for adoption incentives for Planned Unit Developments to surpass the minimum open space requirement as set forth in the Land Use Code
6. Adopted by the Ouray County Board of Commissioners December 29, 1997.

Ouray County Visual Impact Regulations, Section 9 Adopted December 1, 1999

9.2 COMPLIANCE

A. All land use approvals and all new construction including public or private road and driveway cuts and fills must meet the requirements of this Section 9 except the following:

(1) Accessory structures, private roads and/or driveways used exclusively for agricultural or mining purposes, and not located on any escarpment or ridgeline.

(2) Structures, driveways or roads that can be clearly demonstrated to be not visible from the highways and roads listed in Section 9.3 A.

B. Existing structures, public or private roads and/or driveway cuts and fills shall be allowed to remain in their present state subject to the provisions of Section 4 of this Code.

C. A visual impact mitigation plan and commitments to ensure the plan's completion must be approved by the County prior to issuance of required permits, including but not limited to: building, access, driveway and road construction permits.

D. Continued compliance with these regulations shall be required in the future, notwithstanding an initial determination by the County that development meets the requirements of this Section 9.

9.3 CRITERIA AND STANDARDS

A. All proposed structures must be at least one hundred (100) feet from the centerline of U.S. Highway 550, Colorado Highway 62, that portion of County Road 1 lying between County Road 24 and the south intersection of County Road 1A and County Road 1, and County Roads 5, 7, 8, 10, 24 and 24A.

B. All structures at or within 1.5 miles of the centerline of the roads or highways listed under Section 9.3 A. (as represented by the Ouray County Visual Impact Corridor Map) shall be subject to the point system described in detail in the document.

C. No structure shall break the skyline as seen from any viewing point within any viewing window as

established by Section 9.6 D. of this Code except the following:

(1) Where there is a gap in the existing skyline no greater than ten (10) feet wide, a maximum length of ten (10) feet of the roof and walls of the structure may be visible as measured along the skyline, but shall not exceed the height of a horizontal line extended from the high point of the lower side;

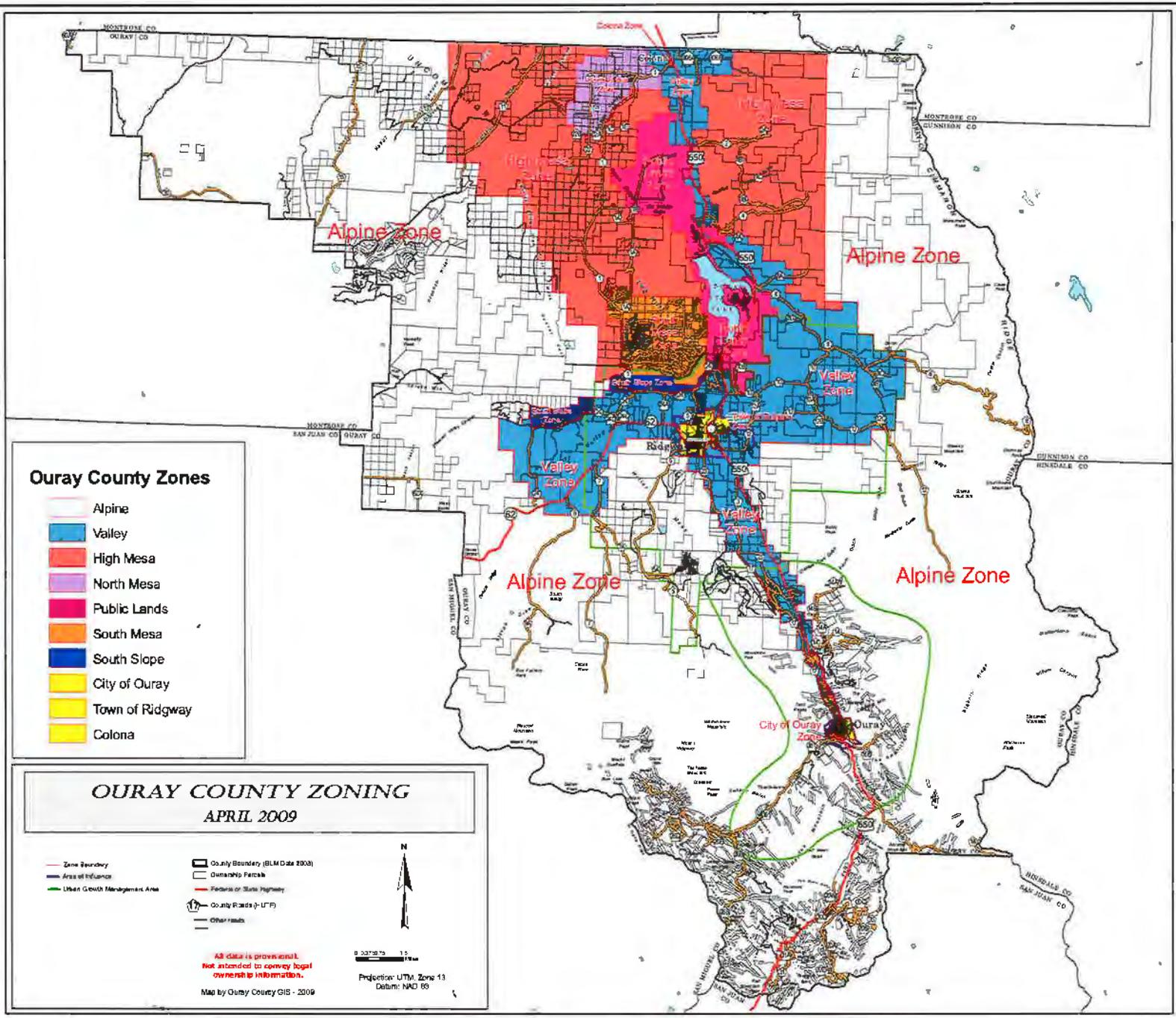
(2) Where the roofline is not horizontal to the viewing window, an additional maximum length of twenty (20) feet of the roof and walls of the structure may be visible as measured along the skyline. This additional twenty (20) feet must not be connected to the first ten (10) feet and shall not exceed the height of a horizontal line extended from the high point of the lower side to the high point of the high side.

D. In addition to any requirements imposed by this section, all structures falling within a viewing window and/or located along a ridgeline or escarpment shall be set back a minimum of fifty (50) feet from the ridgeline or edge of escarpment.

E. All public or private road and driveway cuts and fills shall be revegetated and/or reforested utilizing materials native to the disturbed area.

Section 9.7 of the code provides specific requirements for building materials and lighting standards that minimize visual impacts.

OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO



Ouray County Zones

- Alpine
- Valley
- High Mesa
- North Mesa
- Public Lands
- South Mesa
- South Slope
- City of Ouray
- Town of Ridgway
- Colona

OURAY COUNTY ZONING
APRIL 2009

— Zone Boundary	 County Boundary (BLM Data 2003)
 Area of Influence	 Ownership Parcels
 Urban Growth Management Area	 Federal or State Highways
	 County Roads (I-UTP)
	 Other roads

AS data is provided. Not intended to convey legal ownership information.

Map by Ouray County GIS - 2009

Projection: UTM, Zone 13
Datum: NAD 83

■ San Miguel County

San Miguel County Comprehensive Development Plan Adopted August 3, 1978 Amended through February 13, 2008

Article I: Goals and Objectives

SECTION 5. WEST END (BASIN- DISAPPOINTMENT-SLICK ROCK-EGNAR) (Page 12)

The West End (as identified on the adopted map) includes all land west of Range 14 West, and west of Naturita Creek and north of Township 43 North, including Dry Creek Basin, Gypsum Valley, Disappointment Valley, Slick Rock and Egnar.

It is the intent of the above communities to develop goals, objectives and policies that directly relate to our areas and our way of life.....It is our desire to guarantee that our Western Heritage is preserved and that the means by which we make a living be provided for and protected. In doing this we also want to ensure that the very lands that we live and work on are protected, that we preserve the natural beauty of our areas and to provide for the sustainable use of our natural resources, and the preservation of wildlife, historical, archeological and our natural resources and landmarks.

5.3 More Specific Guidelines for the Siting of Utilities and Utility Lines Throughout the County

It is the policy of San Miguel County to locate public utilities and utility lines to create the least amount of impact on county residents and the natural environment. To accomplish this in an orderly and equitable manner, the County has established a land classification system.

It is the County's policy to try and locate utility lines and utilities on Class 5 priority lands. Any proposal to utilize other priority lands shall demonstrate a clear need to do so and shall consider the **visual**, environmental, physiographic, and socio-economic

characteristics of the land including evaluation of broad ecosystems, topography, soils hydrology, geology, vegetation, wildlife, climate and unique features so that the siting of utilities and utility lines results in the least possible adverse impact.

Residential Objective 5: Ensure that new development does not promote the invasion of noxious weeds or create visual permanent scarring on hillsides.

Residential Policies:

- (3) Locate houses and driveways to minimize visual impact.
- (4) Encourage native, non-reflective materials for residential construction.
- (5) Limit light pollution by requiring residential lighting plans and down shielded lighting. Architectural lighting would be prohibited.

SECTION 6. TELLURIDE/OPHIR HIGH COUNTRY AREA (Page 18)

It is important to preserve and protect the alpine and other high country areas in the upper San Miguel watershed for their historic, scenic, aesthetic and rural landscapes and recreational amenities. These alpine areas are relatively undeveloped and include backcountry basins and scenic hillsides. The land in these alpine areas is typified by lack of maintained and improved roads, lack of winter plowing, little or no utilities or infrastructure and very limited or sparse development. Characteristics that may be present include sensitive environmental areas (i.e. wetlands, steep slopes, sub alpine forest, wildflowers or tundra), historic mining remnants, high ridges and alpine peaks, and other areas that provide scenic views. Development in many of these areas can be difficult due to elevation, limited access, steep terrain and other site constraints and create undue adverse impacts on visual and recreational resources. Therefore, it is important to discourage development in areas that would result in demand for public services beyond what is currently provided.

...As seen from the towns of Telluride, Mountain Village, and Ophir, these areas represent historic landscapes, which are essential to the scenic views that contribute to each town's individual identity and economy. Development in backcountry basins and on scenic hillsides should be limited and/or mitigated and historic access methods should be preserved as a means of maintaining the area's existing historic character.

Limitations on new development and roads help prevent the invasion of noxious weeds and the visual scarring of hillsides thereby preventing pollution of waterways at the headwaters of the San Miguel River and protecting community drinking water supplies.

6.1 Overall Goals, Policies

(7) Preserve scenic vistas, historic landscapes, recreational opportunities and the integrity of natural resources.

6.2A Natural Resources, Scenery, Tourism and Recreation (Page 19)

Goal: To protect San Miguel County's natural resources and scenic landscapes upon which the economy is based and which are essential to the quality of life for residents

Objective 1: Preserve recreational and scenic lands of economic, recreational, and cultural importance to the County.

Objective 3: Retain the relatively undeveloped character of backcountry areas:

e). that does not detract from the areas' scenic quality from public use areas

Policies:

1. Create a new zone district that protects undeveloped rural landscapes and recreational areas in the high country.
2. Maintain the rough and present condition of existing mountain passes and roads to protect their recreational functions, including but not limited to such roads as Tomboy Road, Imogene

Pass, Black Bear Pass, Bear Creek Road, Liberty Bell Road, Ophir Pass, and Boomerang Road including that portion of Boomerang above the Valley Floor and below the Alta Lake town site excluding the Mountain Village and Ski Area boundary.

3. Protect the views from the Towns of Telluride, Mountain Village, Ophir, and public use areas by limiting the visibility of roads, driveways, and development.

6.2C Residential (Page 21)

Goal: To retain the relatively undeveloped character of backcountry areas while allowing for low impact residential development that is compatible with the environment and does not negatively impact recreational and natural resources.

Objective 5: Ensure that new development does not promote the invasion of noxious weeds or create visual permanent scarring on hillsides.

Policies:

1. Create a new zone district that regulates residential house size and associated development activities on the scenic hillsides and upper basins above the Towns of Telluride and Ophir. The new zone district would be adjacent to and surrounding the town grids of both communities. These communities have preserved their historic character by limiting residential development through house size limits. The new zone district would continue the restriction on residential house size outside these communities and into the surrounding high country.
2. If development occurs, cabins and small-scale single-family residential development consistent with the type of single-family residential development that historically occurred in the area would be appropriate.
3. Locate houses and driveways to minimize visual impact.
4. Encourage native, non-reflective materials for residential construction.
5. Limit light pollution by requiring residential

lighting plans and down shielded lighting.
Architectural lighting would be prohibited.

6.2D Transportation, Communication and Utilities (Page 22)

Goal: To retain the relatively undeveloped character of backcountry areas and maintain the rough and present condition of existing mountain passes and roads to protect their historic character and recreational functions.

Objective 3: Require alternatives to the extension of utility lines, including but not limited to solar, wind or hydropower and fuel cells.

SECTION 7. REMAINDER OF THE COUNTY (Page 24)

7.2A Natural Resources, Agriculture and Recreation (Page 24)

Goal: To develop San Miguel County's natural resources, upon which the economy is based - for mining, agriculture and recreation - in a manner which enhances the living environment of its citizens.

Objective 2: Preserve valuable natural resources, including physical attributes such as scenic vistas as well as economically valuable resource deposits.

7.3 More Specific Guidelines for the Siting of Utilities and Utility Lines throughout the County (Page 29)

It is the policy of San Miguel County to try and locate public utilities and utility lines on lands that create the least amount of impact on the residents of the County and the natural environment.

Class 5 Priority—All public and government lands, and all other lands not falling within the definition of Class 1, 2, 3, or 4 Priority.

It is the County's policy to try and locate utility lines and utilities on Class 5 Priority lands. Any proposal to utilize other priority lands shall demonstrate a clear need to do so and shall consider the visual, environmental, physiographic, and socio-economic

characteristics of the land including evaluation of broad ecosystems, topography, soils, hydrology, geology, vegetation, wildlife, climate and unique features so that the siting of utilities and utility lines results in the least possible adverse impact.

Article II: The Land Use Plan

SECTION 2. WRIGHT'S MESA AREA (Amended February 13, 2008)

Goal CS 1 – Wright's Mesa Character and Scenic Quality Protected

Protect the scenic quality and historical and cultural features of Wright's Mesa by minimizing the visual impacts of development.

Policies:

CS 1(a) – Wright's Mesa Image and Appearance.

The county will encourage and cooperate with the Town of Norwood, other government entities, and landowners, to protect attributes of Wright's Mesa that contribute to its unique character and image, including:

- Small, self-contained town,
- Scenic views of mountains from Highway 145 and county roads,
- Natural, forested setting with low intensity development, and
- Large, intact properties with viable agriculture.

CS 1(b) – New Development Maintains Scenic Quality and Highway Views

- New development will be sited to minimize the negative visual impacts on neighboring properties and rights-of-way. New residential development along State Highway 145 should be set back from the road if possible, and landscaped and screened with trees or other vegetation or topography to maintain scenic quality.

CS 1(e) – Transmission Lines Mitigate Impacts

- Interstate and trans-county utility transmission lines should be installed in a manner that protects scenic corridors and mitigates adverse impacts on residents.

CS 1 (F) – Maintain Dark Skies

- Protect dark night skies and maintain ambiance of the night sky through lighting standards. Limit lighting to the amount needed to address safety and security while preventing glare.

CHAPTER 4. THE FUTURE LAND USE PLAN FOR NORWOOD (page 20) designates the Highway 145 corridor to the east of Norwood and north and west of town as Scenic Highway Corridor.

For the Norwood Light Industrial Area (page 26):

- Provide a buffer area along Highway 145 to maintain positive open space and scenic qualities, using techniques such as berms and landscaping.

Wright’s Mesa Rural Development Principles *(Page 37)*

Wright’s Mesa is made up of a diverse and eclectic variety of homes, horse properties, open fields, and scenic mountain views....Using rural residential development principles, the Mesa will retain its valued traits (such as natural features and scenic views), and new housing will be designed in a manner that conserves open lands, shows variety, protects vistas, and retains and conforms with many of the rural characteristics of the area.

CHAPTER 5. STRATEGIES *(Page 39)*

Character and Scenic Quality

The Character and Scenic Quality goals and policies aim to protect the rural qualities and historical and cultural features of Wright’s Mesa by minimizing the visual impacts of development and promoting historic sites.

CS 1.2 – Lighting Standards

Standards for lighting should minimize spillover and glare by ensuring lighting is of appropriate height, lamp wattage, and is shielded and downward-directed.

CS 1.3 – Scenic Highway Overlay District

Establish a Scenic Highway Overlay District for Highway 145 to protect scenic resources. This standard would only apply to property that is

proposed to be developed or subdivided; existing development and agricultural uses would not be subject to any requirements. The overlay district would affect lands visible from Highway 145 that contribute to the visual quality of Wright’s Mesa. The district should address, building massing and siting with topography, lighting, screening, and natural landscaping for residential development. Section 5-316 of the Land Use Code development standards could be a model to use.

PS 1.3 – Review Telecommunication Facility Development Standards

Review county development regulations for telecommunication facilities to ensure that facilities are sited and/or co-located in a manner that does not detract from the Mesa’s scenic character.

SECTION 3. TELLURIDE REGIONAL AREA *(Repealed and re-enacted as Telluride Regional Area Master Plan adopted July 12, 1989, amended December 18, 2006)*

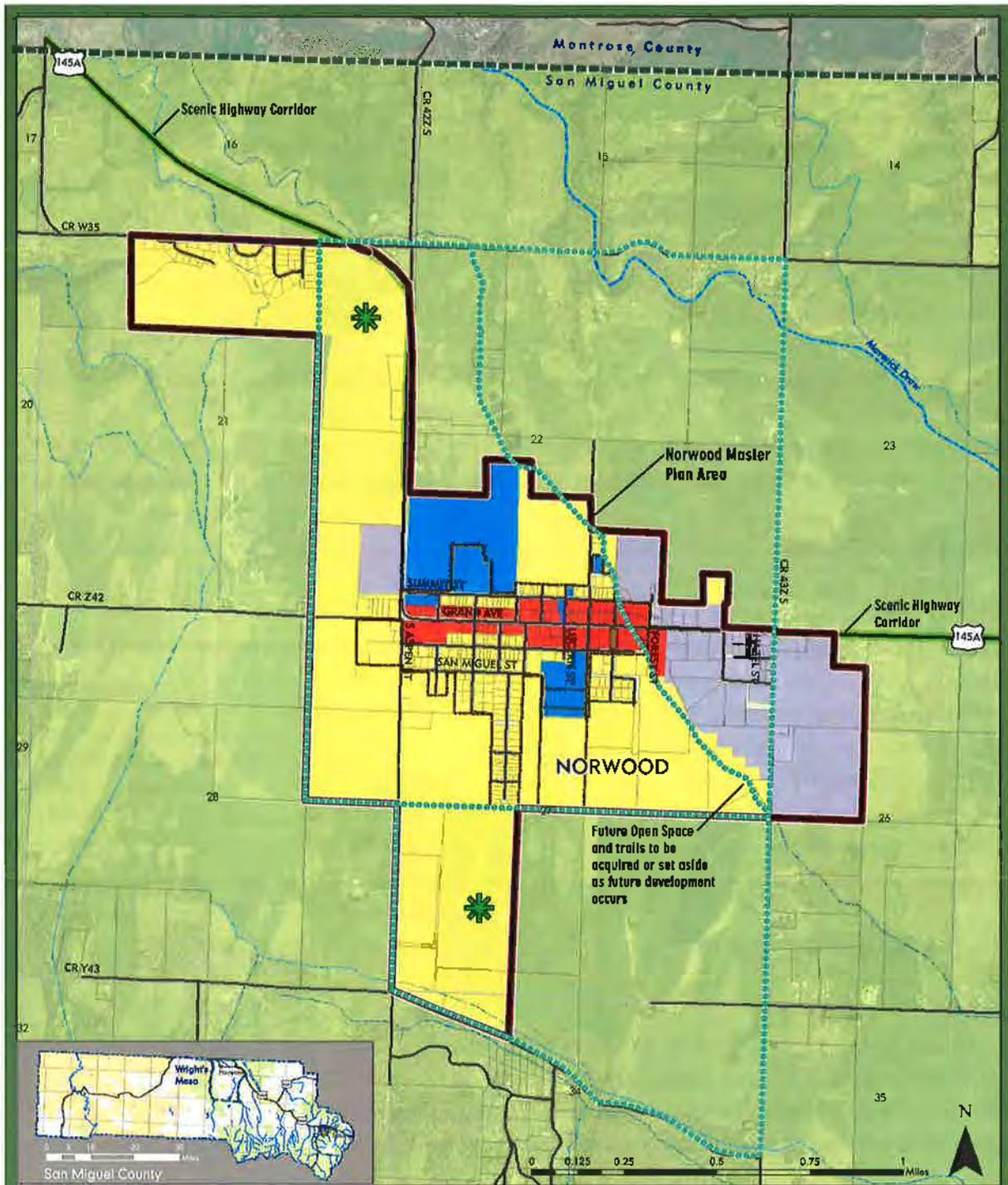
C. Scenic Quality

Goal: Preserve and enhance the scenic quality along State Highway 145 for the benefit of residents and the continued viability of the Regional Area’s recreation-based economy which is primarily dependent upon the quality of the physical setting.

Objective:

Promote the aesthetic improvement and positive visual images of existing developments along State Highway 145 and guide the location of new development so that detrimental impacts upon visual quality are minimized.

1. Establish a scenic foreground along the State Highway 145, within the Telluride Regional Area and steer development away from the foreground.
2. Preserve the outstanding scenic vistas which draw people to Telluride, such as the view of the Town of Telluride from the old Sundance Texaco Station, the view of the San Miguel Mountain range from Highway 145 on Turkey Creek Mesa



Wright's Mesa Master Plan

San Miguel County, Colorado

Figure 4.2

LEGEND

Boundaries

- Wright's Mesa Planning Area
- County Boundary
- Town Limits (Norwood)
- Norwood Master Plan Area

- Local Road
- County Road
- Highway
- River or Stream

Town of Norwood and Master Plan Area

- Norwood Commercial
- Light Industrial
- Public
- Town Residential
- Future Park (location to be determined)
- Future Trail (Norwood)

Outside Norwood Master Plan Area

- Agriculture/Rural Residential

Source: San Miguel County GIS, Clorion Associates

February 2009

FUTURE LAND USE - NORWOOD MASTER PLAN AREA

- and the view of the valley floor from Society Turn and the lower airport road (Last Dollar Road).
3. Establish view planes to protect the outstanding scenic vistas and prevent future developments from obstructing the identified view plains.
 4. Exterior lighting is a potential source of visual pollution, therefore future development will be required to mitigate the potential adverse visual impacts of such lighting.
 5. Establish a County design review board to review the design elements of all projects within the Town of Telluride's Service Area. Encourage development styles that utilize native materials, are compatible with both the architecture of the local area and climate conditions, and are rough and natural as opposed to neat and manicured.
 6. Provide consistent, high levels of maintenance for all elements of open space, parks and recreational facilities.
 7. Encourage the improvement of the aesthetic appearance of Goldking, the Hillside Subdivision and other existing developments bordering State Highway 145.
 8. Avoid the four-laning of State Highway 145 and instead encourage the improvement of the existing two-lane access to the Town of Telluride. The four-laning of the Highway would have a negative impact on the rural setting and historic character of the Town of Telluride and the Regional Area.
 9. Encourage the undergrounding of the power lines that will serve future development.

San Miguel County Land Use Code

SECTION 2-12: SCENIC QUALITY

(Page 2-3)

It is the policy of the County to preserve the scenic quality of lands within the County for the benefit of its residents and the continued viability of a resort economy that is dependent upon the quality of its rural and natural setting. To this end, it is the policy of the County to:

2-1201: Preserve the natural appearance of the mountain slopes, particularly from major activity areas, public roads, and trails by regulating the location, height, design and screening of development;

2-1202: Minimize the adverse scenic effects of roads and facilities by regulating the location and use of future development and the expansion of existing development where new or increased roads and facilities would be required to serve such areas and where the construction of such roads and facilities would impact the scenic quality of areas visible from public roads, trails or major activity centers;

2-1203: Minimize any adverse scenic effects of roads and other facilities by regulating their alignment, design, and construction so as to reduce their impact on the visual quality of any areas in the County, particularly public roads, trails and major activity areas;

2-1204: Control the use of natural areas to insure that development does not result in scars from fire, erosion or vandalism;

2-1205: Preserve and create scenic views of the surrounding mountains from public places within the County;

2-1206: Achieve visual quality within areas of existing and future development by prohibiting or mitigating the impacts of unsightly equipment, uses and structures; controlling the design and alignment of electricity and phone lines and similar facilities; and, where feasible, requiring such lines to be underground; specifying design standards such as setbacks, height limits, view corridors, historic zones and material requirements; controlling signs, and ensuring the rehabilitation of areas subject to temporary or discontinuous use, such as mines, pits and quarries; and

2-1207: Manage development within the designated view planes and the scenic foreground to preserve the natural appearances within the Telluride Region.

■ City of Delta

City of Delta, Colorado Comprehensive Plan Update 2008

CHAPTER 6. TRANSPORTATION

Transportation enhancement projects are transportation-related activities that are designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the intermodal transportation system. The enhancement program provides for the implementation of a variety of non-traditional projects. Examples are: the restoration of historic transportation facilities, bike and pedestrian facilities, landscaping and scenic beautification, and mitigation of water pollution from highway runoff. In order for a project to be eligible to receive funding as an enhancement project it must adhere to one of the following project types:

3. Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites
4. Scenic or historic highway programs (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities)
5. Landscaping and other scenic beautification

CHAPTER 8. PARKS, RECREATION, TRAILS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The plan makes reference to the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office management objectives and lists Scenic and Backcountry Byways in the region (*Page 8-7*)

- Unaweeep-Tabeguache
- San Juan Skyway
- West Elk
- Grand Mesa
- Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways

PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

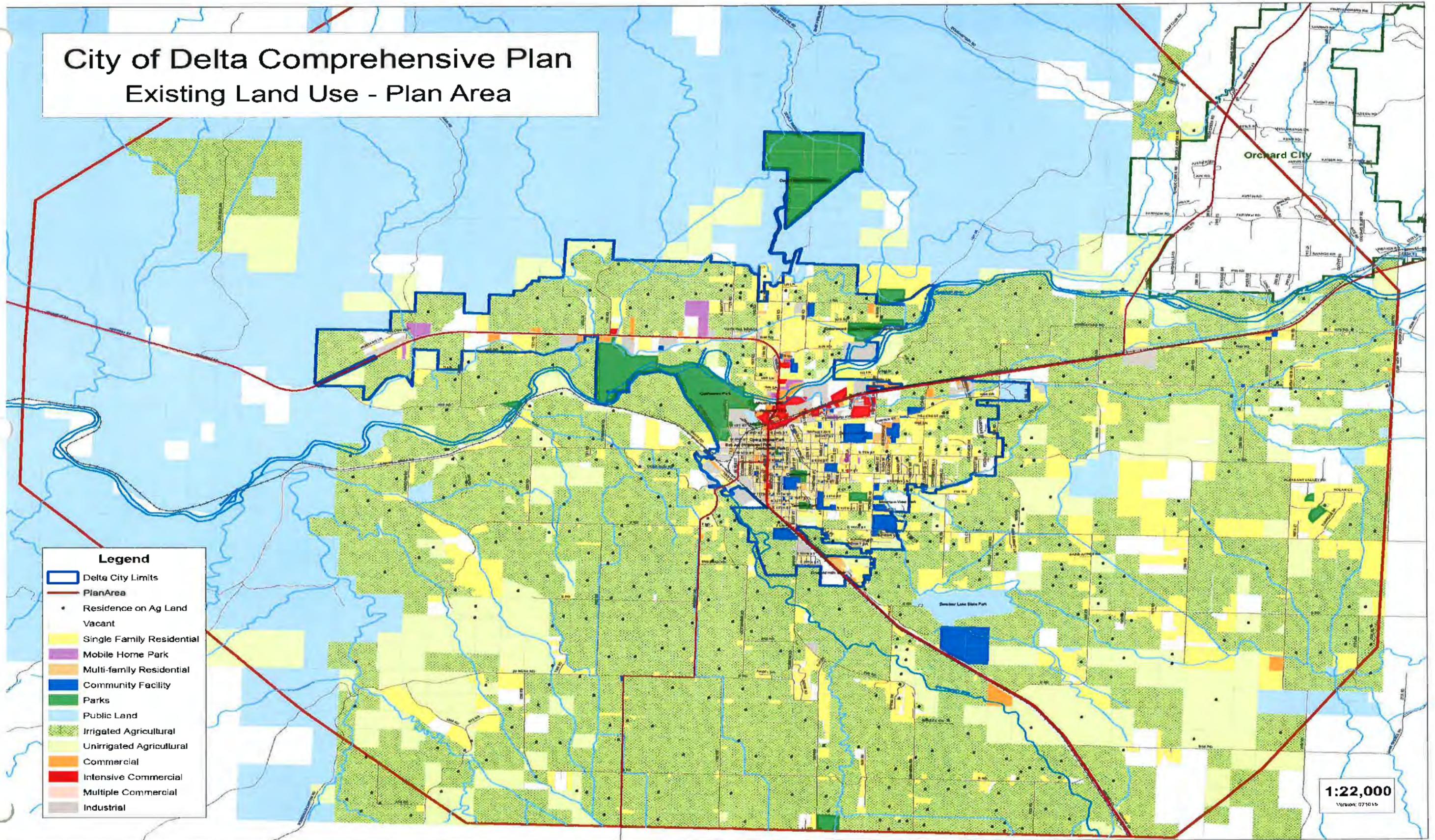
Section One: Develop Park Amenities

The following guidelines were carried forward from the 1997 Comprehensive Plan:

- Page 8-17: Utilize appropriate available legal tools (i.e. conservation easements, land dedications) to protect regional riverways and historic vistas as linear parks.
- Page 8-18: Cooperate with conservation organizations and other groups to promote and help ensure the conservation of open space, the protection of view sheds and vistas, waterways and other natural areas

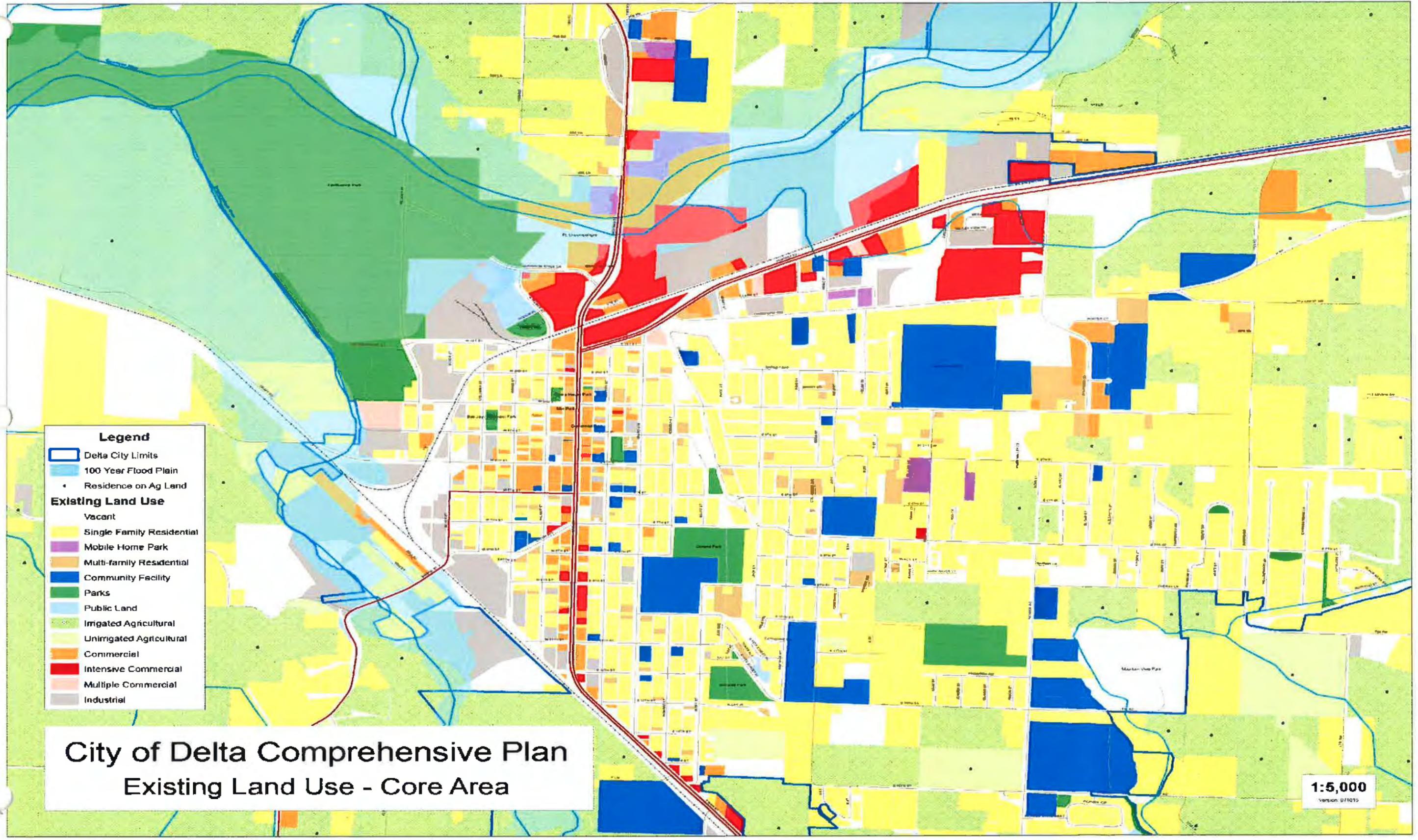
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City of Delta Comprehensive Plan Existing Land Use - Plan Area

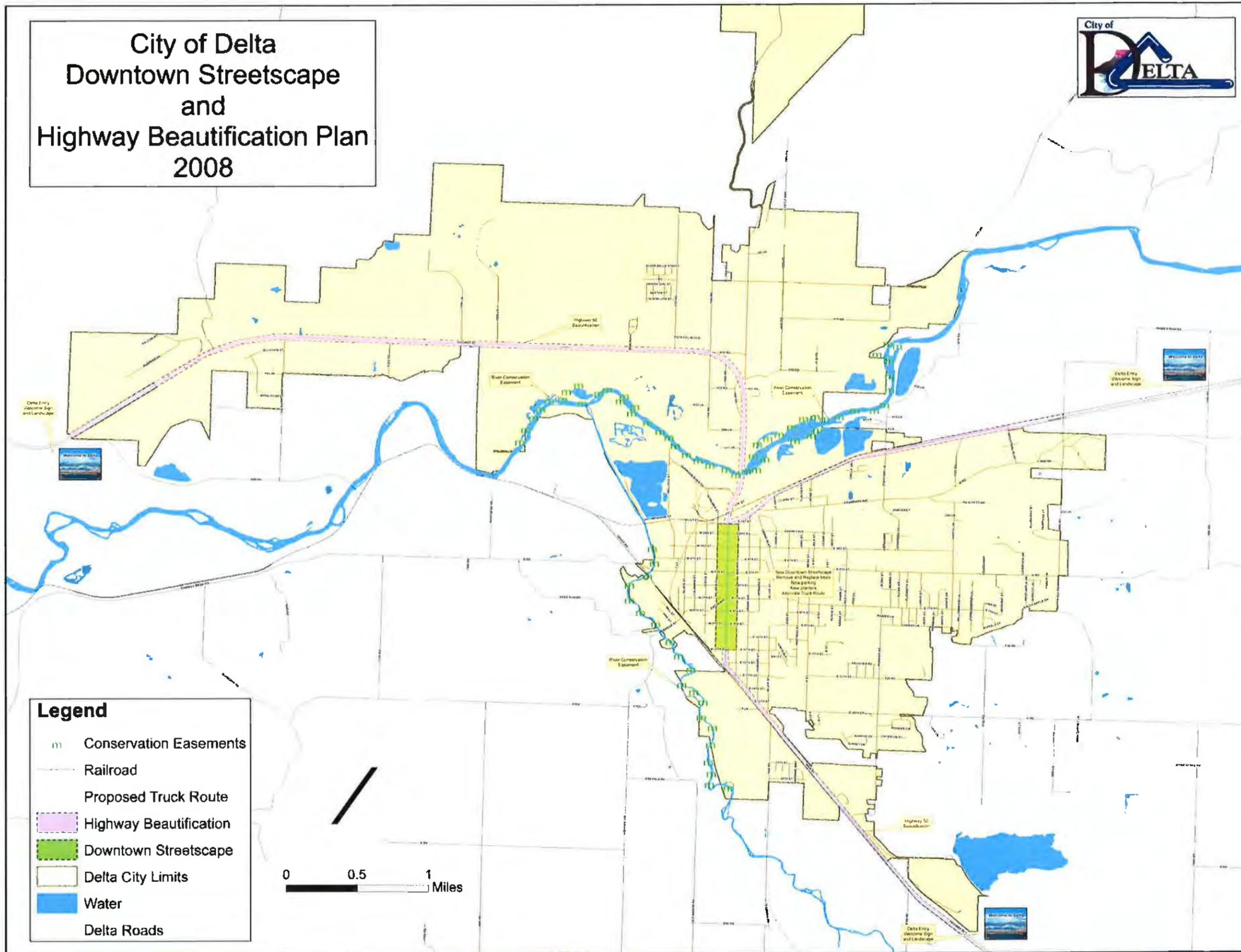


- Legend**
- Delta City Limits
 - Plan Area
 - Residence on Ag Land
 - Vacant
 - Single Family Residential
 - Mobile Home Park
 - Multi-family Residential
 - Community Facility
 - Parks
 - Public Land
 - Irrigated Agricultural
 - Unirrigated Agricultural
 - Commercial
 - Intensive Commercial
 - Multiple Commercial
 - Industrial

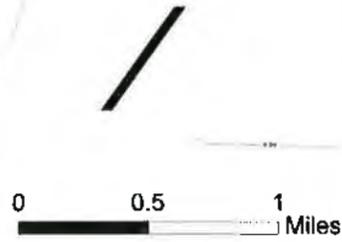
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Version: 071015



City of Delta Downtown Streetscape and Highway Beautification Plan 2008



- Legend**
- m Conservation Easements
 - Railroad
 - Proposed Truck Route
 - Highway Beautification
 - Downtown Streetscape
 - Delta City Limits
 - Water
 - Delta Roads



■ **Town of Norwood**

Norwood Major Streets / Future Land Use Plan Adopted October 10, 2007

*(Also see page D-12, paragraph 2 and the map of
Norwood on page D-13 of this document)*

VI. LAND USE POLICIES

5. Norwood will continue to protect its peace and quiet, preserving the beauty and agricultural character that surround the town. Norwood values its rural, agricultural character and its western history.

IX. IMPLEMENTATION

Parks, Public Lands and Open Space: *(Page 26)*

3. Work closely with San Miguel County to create open space standards and zoning and subdivision regulations to ensure that an open space buffer is maintained on the edge of the town's growth area.

Environmental Protection *(Page 28)*

1. Establish light pollution and screening standards and incorporate into the Land Use Code and other town regulations and guidelines.

URBANIZATION POLICIES

Master Plan Boundary

Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreements with San Miguel County for areas to the east and Montrose County for areas to the east of town to address land use issues, including maintaining the view corridors entering and exiting Town.

Town of Norwood Land Use Code

§ 5.05 Landscaping and Screening *(Page 101)*

(a) Purpose. This section is designed to provide standards for the installation and maintenance of landscaping, walls and screening devices so as to promote the general welfare of the community.

This is accomplished by encouraging the creation of an attractive appearance along collector streets and by screening from view those uses that may be unattractive to the public eye. Landscaping materials, including ground covers, shrubs, and trees further facilitate the control of erosion and the reduction of glare and dust, as well as the visual softening of building masses.

§ 5.07 Performance Standards *(Page 107)*

(a) Applicability. All uses in any district of the Town of Norwood shall conform in operation, location and construction to the subjective performance standards herein specified so that the public health, safety and welfare will be protected.

(b) General. The location, size, design and operating characteristics of all uses shall minimize adverse effects, including visual impacts, on surrounding properties.

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■ Town of Paonia

Town of Paonia Comprehensive Plan

August 1996

Among the most pressing items facing the community are: the capacity of existing infrastructure; commercial “stripping” of State Highway 133 (a Scenic Byway); impacts from growth on the area’s visual quality and rural character; and, lack of controls on development both within town and on adjacent county parcels. Town Clerk Barbara Peterson noted in the document that this is still true.

OFFICE AND INDUSTRIAL LAND USES *(Page 111-4)*

C: Highway 133/“P” Road (The Drive-In Site)

This area includes land east to the “P” Road and west to the Redwood Arms Motel and restaurant, as well as the area currently in use for self-storage, north of State Highway 133. Recommendations include expansion and creation of a buffer around the area, protecting the aesthetic quality of the roadway corridors and natural balance along the river corridor. A high visual quality for east/west traffic and traffic going into downtown Paonia is a priority.

OPEN SPACE/RECREATION LAND USES

Preservation of agricultural lands and wildlife preserves, maintenance and enhancement of the visual quality of the Valley...

D2: Visual Preservation of Key Landforms

Preserve Cedar Hill as a town landmark and visual element at the south end of Grand Avenue. In addition, preserve Stucker, Wakefield, and Garvin Mesas as agricultural and open space resources. Finally, preserve and encourage continued use of agricultural land throughout the Valley.

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT GOALS FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION *(Page IV-1)*

LU/D-20: Ensure that new development does not significantly impact views of the mesas.

GOAL: PROVIDE ADEQUATE LEVELS OF INFRASTRUCTURE *(Page IV-2)*

1-4: Areas identified for business and industrial development outside of Town should minimize visual impact and traffic congestion along Highway 133, and on traffic routes into and through Town.

ED-6: Work in cooperation with Delta County and Hotchkiss to recruit and control the character and visual impact of appropriate industry, particularly along major traffic arteries outside the Town.

Town of Paonia Land Use Code

The Town’s Land Use Code does not provide relevant visual resource regulation.

■ **Town of Ridgway**
Town of Ridgway Comprehensive Plan
2000

CHAPTER III-2: ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSTRAINTS AND SENSITIVE AREAS (*Page*
31)

The natural environment in and around Ridgway is an outstanding feature of the area. The mountains, rivers, agricultural lands, wildlife, air quality and vegetation are unique and create unparalleled scenic vistas.

...These environmentally sensitive areas embody many of the characteristics that make Ridgway a desirable community. Environmentally sensitive lands can provide many amenities to both public and private landowners. Attributes such as scenic views, natural vegetation, free-flowing rivers and abundant wildlife are highly valued by both residents and visitors because they contribute to the unique character of the area and support a strong sense of place. Preservation of these natural and scenic resources is critical to maintaining the quality of life and economic vitality of the Ridgway community.

7. VISUAL RESOURCES (*Page 38*)

A. Views

Views in and around Ridgway are spectacular. The majestic San Juan Mountains and the Cimarron Peaks are important factors contributing to the quality of life in Ridgway. Views of the open lands and spaces surrounding the town are an important value to the community.

The town should consider road layout, height restrictions and good site design in evaluating development on properties adjacent to developed areas of town, public parks or facilities. Consideration of visual impact mitigation will be made during review of new development proposals in un-platted areas of town. Use of setbacks, building envelopes, cluster development, stringent exterior lighting standards, building heights and road layout are all methods that

can be employed to minimize intrusion on viewsheds. It is unreasonable to think that development will not have any impact on views from adjacent structures. However, good design and input from surrounding neighborhoods can result in minimum impacts.

B. Air Quality

In addition to views and view corridors, visual resources include clear air unobstructed by dust, pollutants and other locally induced contaminants. Daytime views of the mountains as well as views of the clear, star-filled night sky are important values the community desires to maintain.

Reduced air quality can adversely affect visual resources and community health.

Excessive combustion emissions, dust from construction sites, other air clarity reducing emissions and light pollution from poorly designed exterior fixtures, streetlights must be avoided. Use of solid fuel burning devices and automobiles are major contributors to increased pollution levels. The Uncompaghre Valley around Ridgway is subject to inversion conditions that trap atmospheric pollution near the ground. Many of these air pollutants, when subject to sunlight, create photochemical smog that further reduces visibility and air quality.

Land-use design that de-emphasizes the automobile, encourages non-motorized access, supports the use of solar designs and non-polluting renewable energies will be necessary to minimize degradation of air quality. Land-use proposals should devote attention to the issues of energy conservation and non-motorized access in their design. Applicants should minimize the use of solid fuel burning devices in new residential structures.

C. Ridgeline Protection

Ridgelines are an important part of the visual resource in the Ridgway area. New structures should not be placed on any ridgeline in a manner that silhouettes the structure against the natural skyline when viewed from the central part of town. Ridgway should use

the Ouray County ridgeline regulations to evaluate ridgeline impacts in conjunction with regulations developed by the town. Setbacks from ridges should be used to prevent skylining of structures on ridges. The important ridgelines around town include the high ground north and south of Highway 62 west of town, the high ground west of the Solar Ranch subdivision, the hills in the River Park area north of town and the plateau north east of town around and east of the county shop complex. Ridgelines are sometimes located outside of the town boundaries but because of the impact of ridgeline development on town residents, this concern should be incorporated into joint planning agreements or other intergovernmental agreements between the town and Ouray County.

A field investigation should be part of the development review process where lots are proposed in proximity to ridgelines around Ridgway. Applicants for new development should use story poles or other methods to portray roofline and structure impacts near ridges for purposes of assessing visual impacts before development occurs. Setbacks, designation of maximum roofline heights and lot relocation in these areas are some of the tools that should be used to eliminate the visual impact of structures.

CHAPTER III-3: THE LAND USE MAP (PAGE 39)

The town recognizes that the specifics of individual land-use applications may require some flexibility with the designations shown on this map. Those specifics may include considerations of topography, soils and geology, visual impacts, traffic circulation, access to services and infrastructure, and neighborhood compatibility, among other things. However, the overall integrity of the plan should remain intact as it represents the collective community desires and values regarding future development.

3. The Urban Influence Zone (Page 42)

The Urban Influence Zone extends for a distance of three miles from the existing town boundaries and

has been delineated according to the designation of an urban area of influence as allowed by Colorado Statutes. The town's concerns within this area include, but are not limited to, type and density of development, impacts on the community from surrounding development, preservation of visual and scenic quality, preservation of environmental quality, mitigation of traffic and transportation impacts, maintenance of the town's water supply, preservation of agricultural lands, and efficient provision of services. In general, the town expects this area to remain rural in character and to delineate the boundary of the urban zone.

CHAPTER III-5: GATEWAYS

Three major access points serve Ridgway: US Highway 550 on the North, State Highway 550 on the South and State Highway 62 on the West. These entry points or "gateways" introduce the public to the community.

1. North Gateway

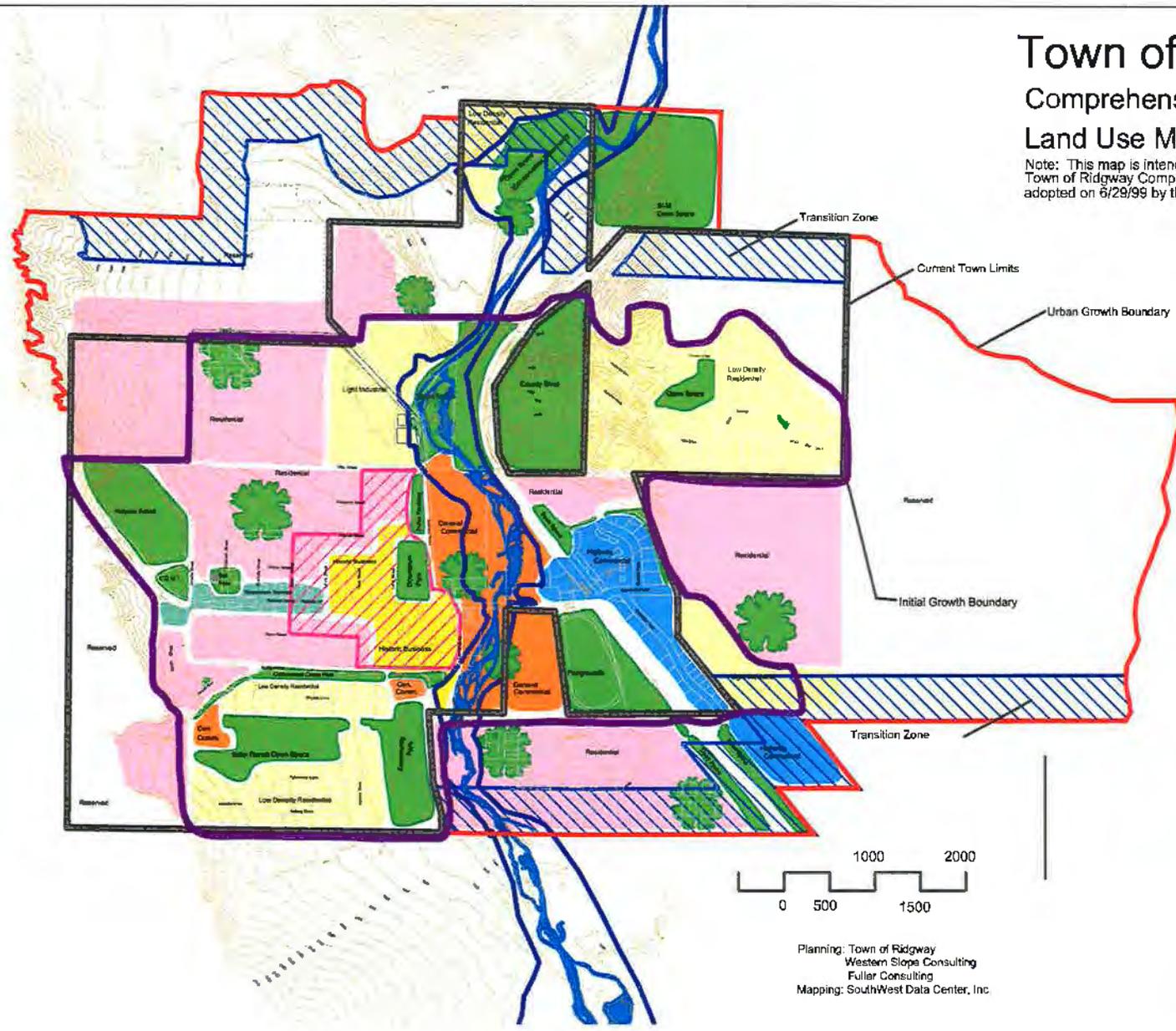
The North Gateway is elevated above the northeastern section of Ridgway. This area is characterized by spectacular views of the San Juan Mountains and showcases 14,154' Mt. Sneffles. There are also excellent views across the northerly portions of Ridgway. The Uncompahgre River parallels Highway 550 on the West... The North Gateway should remain in a natural state with little or no adjoining development.

3. West Gateway

The West Gateway drops significantly in elevation from the west entrance to the Colorado Department of Transportation maintenance/storage facility. Steep hillsides adjoin Highway 62 as it drops into Ridgway. There are excellent views to the east of the Cimarron Mountains... The gateway should be preserved in its natural condition up to the existing town limits.

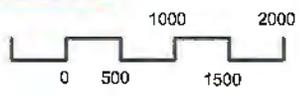
Town of Ridgway Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map 6/29/99

Note: This map is intended to be used in conjunction with the Town of Ridgway Comprehensive Plan Land Use Element adopted on 6/29/99 by the Ridgway Planning Commission.



Legend

- Urban Growth Boundary
 - Initial Growth Boundary
 - Current Town Limits
 - Riparian Protection Zone
- Residential Gross Density**
- High Density Overlay
 - Residential (avg. 4.5 units/acre)
 - Low Density (1-3 units/acre)
- Commercial/Industrial**
- Downtown Service
 - Historic Business
 - General Commercial
 - Highway Commercial
 - Light Industrial
- Reserved - Future Growth**
- Reserved
 - Transition Zone
- Open Space**
- Open Space / Public Use
 - Required Park (General Location)



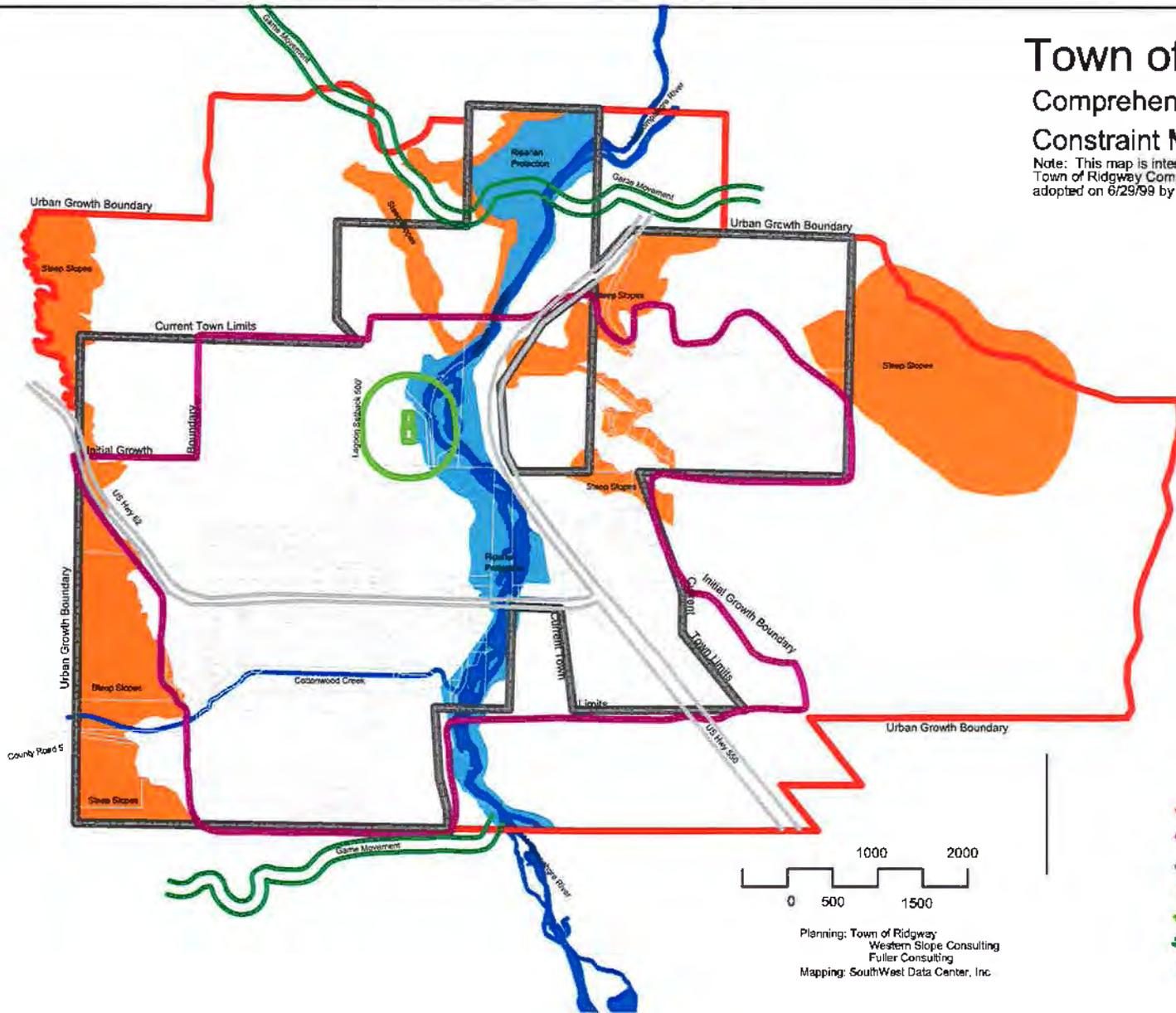
Planning: Town of Ridgway
Western Slope Consulting
Fuller Consulting
Mapping: SouthWest Data Center, Inc.

Town of Ridgway

Comprehensive Plan

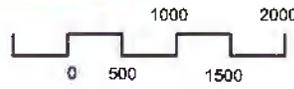
Constraint Map 6/29/99

Note: This map is intended to be used in conjunction with the Town of Ridgway Comprehensive Plan Land Use Element adopted on 6/29/99 by the Ridgway Planning Commission.



Legend

-  Urban Growth Boundary
-  Initial Growth Boundary
-  Current Town Limits
-  Steep Slopes
-  Sewer Lagoon Setback
-  Game Movement Corridor
-  Riparian Protection Zone



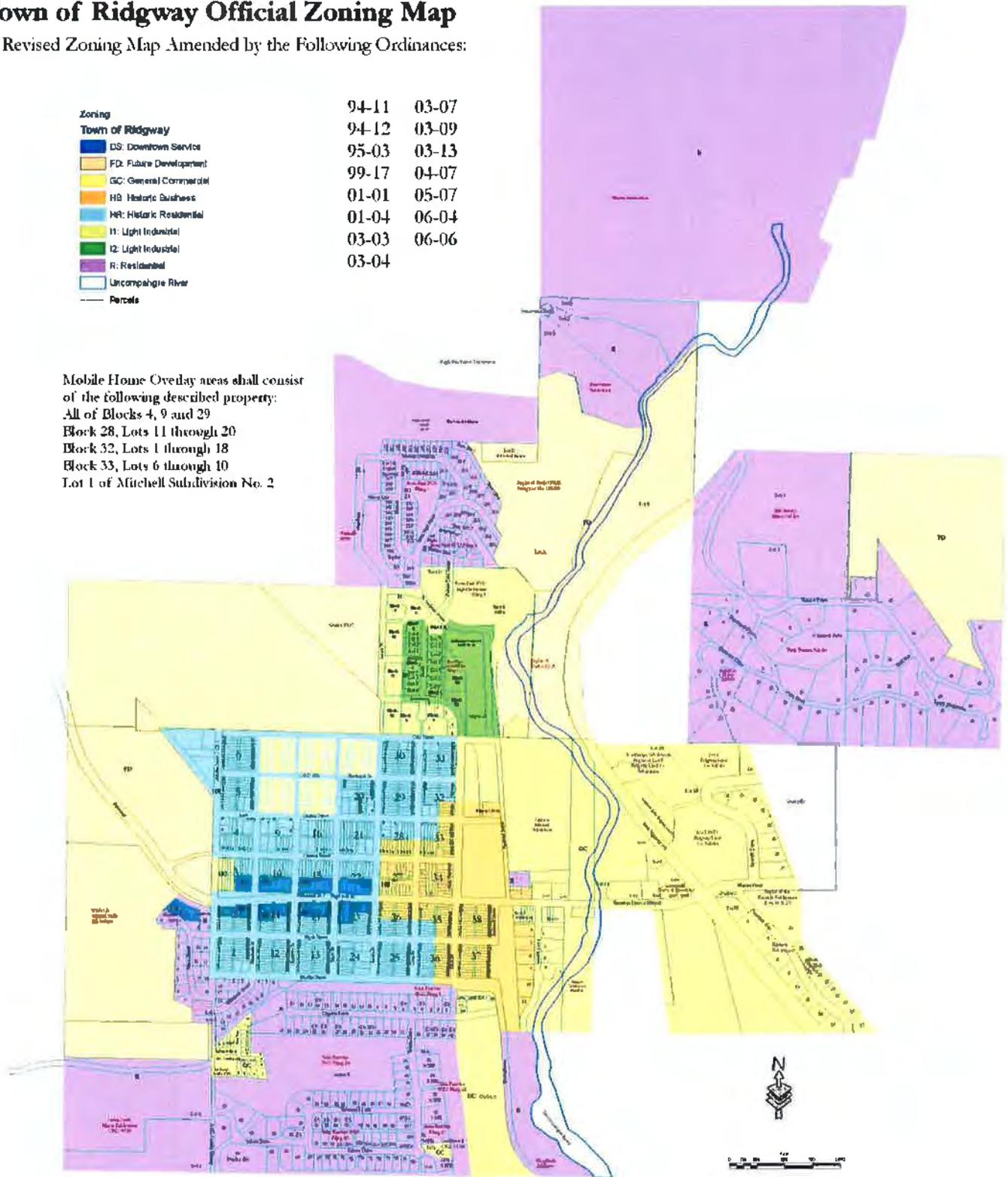
Planning: Town of Ridgway
 Western Slope Consulting
 Fuller Consulting
 Mapping: SouthWest Data Center, Inc.

Town of Ridgway Official Zoning Map

1993 Revised Zoning Map Amended by the Following Ordinances:

Zoning	94-11	03-07
Town of Ridgway	94-12	03-09
DS: Downtown Service	95-03	03-13
FD: Future Development	99-17	04-07
GC: General Commercial	01-01	05-07
HD: Historic Business	01-04	06-04
HR: Historic Residential	03-03	06-06
I1: Light Industrial	03-04	
I2: Light Industrial		
R: Residential		
Uncompahgre River		
Parcels		

Mobile Home Overlay areas shall consist of the following described property:
 All of Blocks 4, 9 and 29
 Block 28, Lots 11 through 20
 Block 32, Lots 1 through 18
 Block 33, Lots 6 through 10
 Lot 1 of Mitchell Subdivision No. 2



**Town of Ridgway Municipal Code and
Subdivision Regulations**

The Municipal Code does not provide specific regulations for visual protection at the urban boundary / urban interface. The code does limit industrial building size and mass.

Item 7 of the subdivision regulations (page 7-4-5) include the following provisions:

(5) Significant natural and manmade features on the site, such as streams, lakes, natural drainageways; vegetation types including locations of wooded areas; wildlife habitats; scenic corridors; visual impacts; solar access; existing buildings; utility lines and easements; irrigation ditches; bridges and similar physical features; and existing development on adjacent property.

(6) Demonstrate compatibility with natural features.

**Northwest Area Master Plan
November 2008, As Amended**

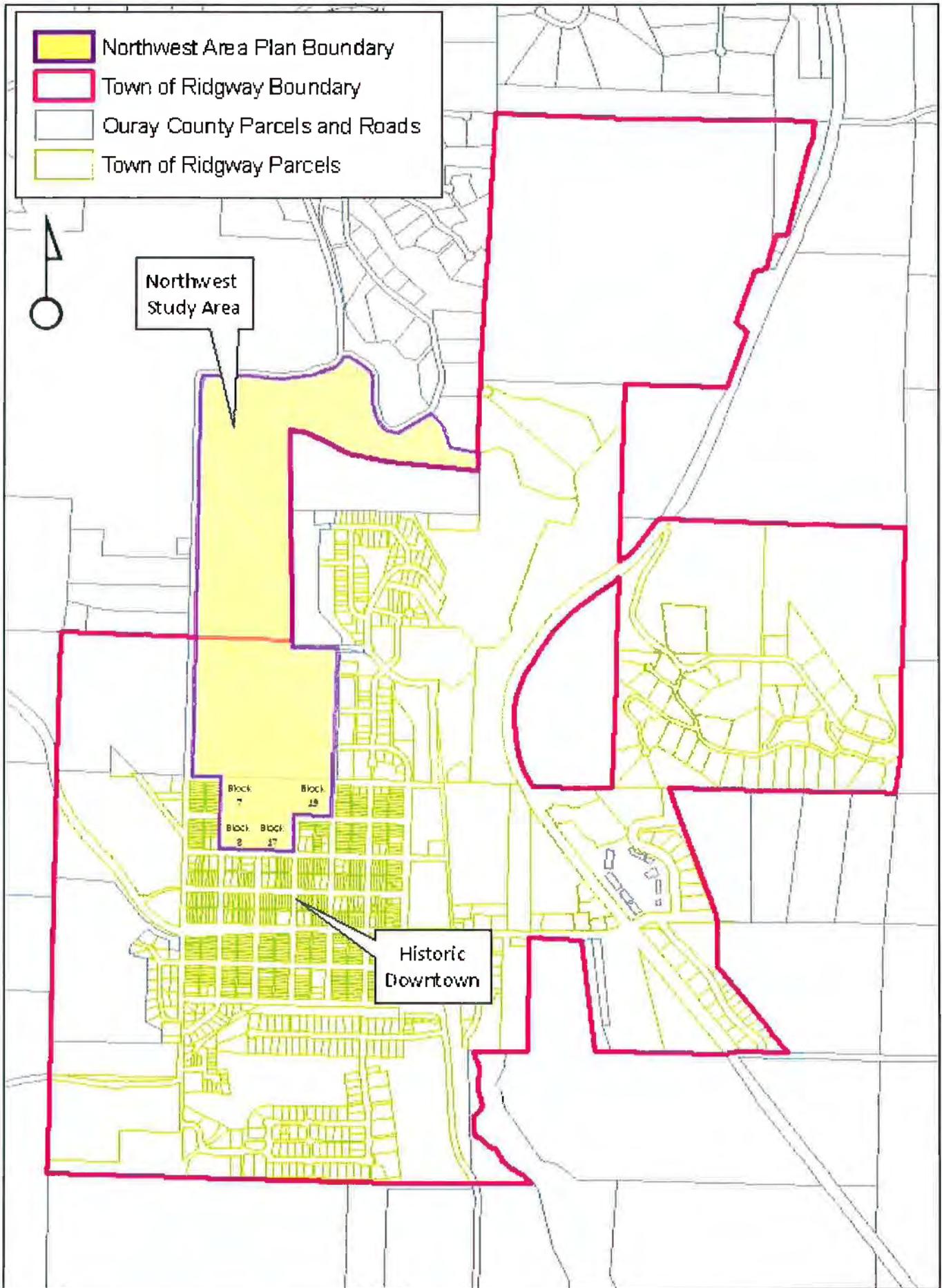
The boundary for the study area was defined based on developed and undeveloped areas of Town and existing natural boundaries.

6. Natural Environment

Chapter III-2 of the 2000 Comprehensive Plan addresses Environmental Constraints and Sensitive Areas such as riparian areas and wetlands, steep slopes and geological features, wildlife areas and migration corridors, wildfire, agricultural lands, soils, visual resources. As the specific environmental constraints and sensitive areas in this Northwest Area are not known at this time, the sub-area plan does not directly address these town-wide objectives. However, it is understood that these constraint areas will be identified and analyzed as part of a development plan and commensurate with the goals of the Town.

It is apparent that there will need to be consideration for nearly all of the environmental constraint and sensitive areas defined in the 2000 Master Plan. When

planning for open spaces, transportation corridors and variable densities, significant consideration shall be given to these constraint areas.



■ Town of Telluride and Mountain Village
Town of Telluride Master Plan
2006

GOAL A: Maintain and enhance the unique sense of community that is present in Telluride today.

Policy 2: Give special recognition in the Master Plan to those qualities and features that make Telluride unique and use these elements to protect and cultivate the town's sense of identity. The most basic of these qualities is the town's setting, with a special scale, views, and proximity to mountains.

Policy 6. Identify and protect those scenic vistas that make Telluride special, when viewed from within or outside of town.

GOAL H: Develop a coordinated approach to urban design that establishes visual continuity, promotes a sense of community and a "walkable" town.

Policy 12: Protect and enhance key public view corridors across the town that highlight special natural features and architectural landmarks. Views to the east end of the valley and to the river are especially important.

Policy 13: Preserve special public view corridors and ensure design guidelines preserve significant views.

GOAL M: Protect the aesthetic and visual qualities of the mountain backdrop from degradation by development and growth in the Hillside Area and protect functioning environmental systems.

Policies/Actions:

1. Define an "edge" to the town in the Hillside Area, with large open space areas but the edge of the developed town in a distinct and visible way and require protection of open space beyond that edge.

2. No new urban development of any kind shall be permitted above Tomboy Road.

3. Wherever possible, residential development shall be clustered to create a clear distinction between developed and undeveloped areas.

4. New development in the hillside area should be clearly distinct from the historic area of the town to preserve and reinforce the identity of the National and the Telluride Historic Landmark Districts.

5. The Town shall cooperate with private landowners to create public-private mechanisms that facilitate the hillside goals, objectives and actions.

6. The Town shall cooperate with and/or participate in land trades needed to consolidate open space and/or road right-of-ways as necessary to implement the adopted Hillside Master Plan.

7. The Town shall maintain development review processes for lands in the Hillside Area which recognize the unique development conditions of the area:

a. The Town will interpret, clarify and/or amend its development regulations as they apply in the Hillside Areas as necessary to create flexibility in development, planning and design as long as these changes are in accordance with the Master Plan.

b. Technical review will be required of all development proposals to ensure that Land Use Code requirements are met.

c. Costs for technical analysis shall be borne by the applicants and shall be performed by qualified professionals.

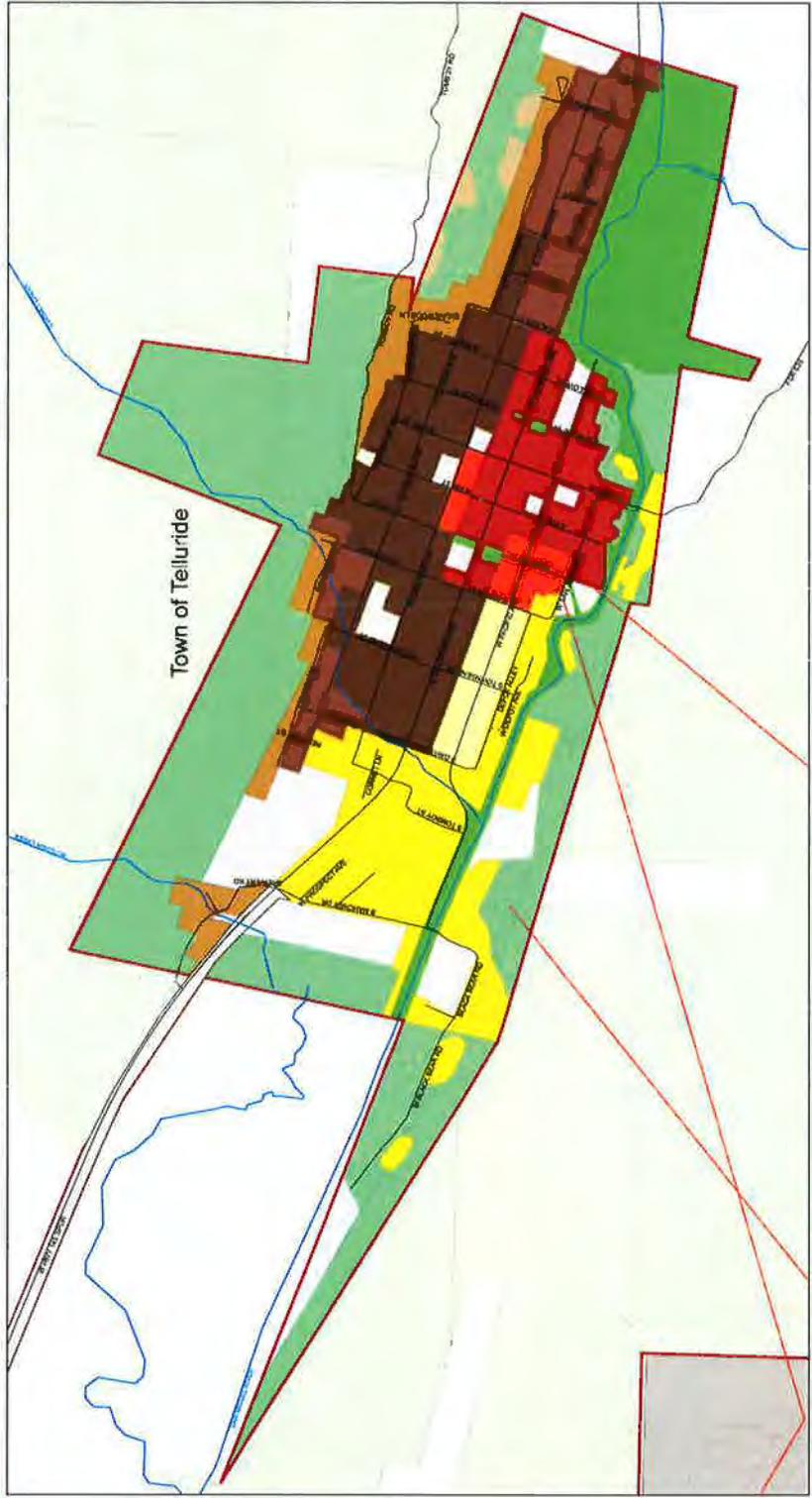
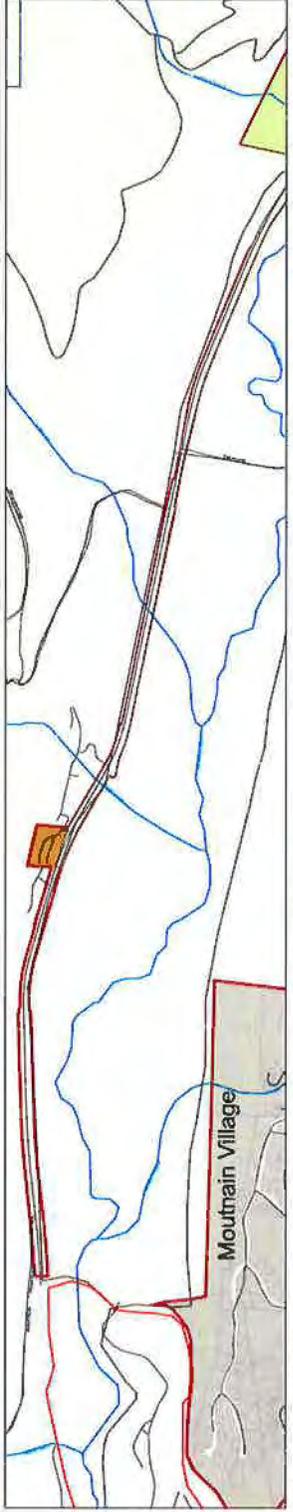
d. Development agreements will be used as a means of establishing joint responsibilities related to development requests.

TELLURIDE LAND USE MAP

Zoning and Land Use

- Roads
- Highway
- Rivers/Streams
- Ski Lifts
- Town Boundary
- Regional Boundary
- USFS Land
- 1 - Historic Residential
- 2 - Residential
- 3 - Hillside Residential
- 4 - Hillside Developing
- 5 - Residential/Commercial
- 6 - Commercial
- 7 - Accom and High Density Residential (AC II)
- 8 - Accommodations Special (AC I)
- 9 - Town Park
- 10 - Open Space
- 11 - Public Purpose
- Town of Mountain Village

Approved March 15, 2005
 Approved March 2005
 Approved March 2005
 Approved March 2005



Transitional Hillside Treatment Area and Transitional Overlay

The Transitional Hillside Treatment Area is a specially designated portion of land that lies immediately outside of the historic district.

Views of the surrounding mountain and the town are important elements in the Treatment Area and new infill construction will have a major impact on existing buildings and pattern of development. For this reason, special respect should be given to existing views and the solar access of neighbors.

This area is also quite visible from viewpoints lower in the valley floor, and concern should be given to the visual impact of any project upon the overall perception of open space that forms the dramatic background for the historic district. Projects that are subtle in their general appearance and which have minimal visual impacts from below are therefore desired.

The Transitional Hillside Overlay Area encompasses hillside areas south of the San Miguel River and coincides with the Accommodations and the River Park Corridor Treatment Areas. Development and infill in this visually sensitive area will become the town's built edge in the future. Therefore, mitigation of the visual impacts associated with new construction is important. Note that only TH(1)-TH(10) will be used for the Transitional Hillside Overlay.

3. Policy: Views

Views down to the core of town, up the canyon, to the mountains and to the Transitional Hillside Treatment Area from town are very important and should be preserved. The impacts that structures and site elements have on these view corridors are great and should be avoided. Careful planning of the proposed project is a must.

A. PRESERVE VIEWS TO SCENIC FEATURES WHEN FEASIBLE.

1) Consider positioning buildings on the site to maintain significant view corridors.

8. Policy: Site Lighting

Located mostly above the town, the Transitional Hillside Treatment Area has views of all that goes on below. Conversely, those in the other parts of Telluride can easily see all of the hillside. Any site features added to the hillside stand a chance of being seen and detracting from this view.

Lighting is a special concern to those below this Treatment Area, where too much or unshielded lights may create nighttime glare.

A. POSITION LIGHTING TO MINIMIZE VISUAL IMPACTS AS SEEN FROM LOWER VIEWPOINTS.

1) Buildings located higher on hillsides are more visible at night which may affect the night character of the community.

BUILDING MASS, SCALE AND FORM USE ROOF FORMS SIMILAR TO THOSE FOUND TRADITIONALLY IN THE ESTABLISHED RESIDENTIAL AREAS.

1) Gabled and shed roofs are typical and are appropriate.

2) Roof forms that protect views of significant features and existing view corridors are encouraged.

ROOF SLOPES THAT REPEAT THE SLOPE OF THE HILLSIDE ARE ENCOURAGED.

1) Roof forms that protect views of significant features and existing view corridors are encouraged.

2) Use muted colors that blend with the hillside.

3) As an alternative, consider earth covered roofs.

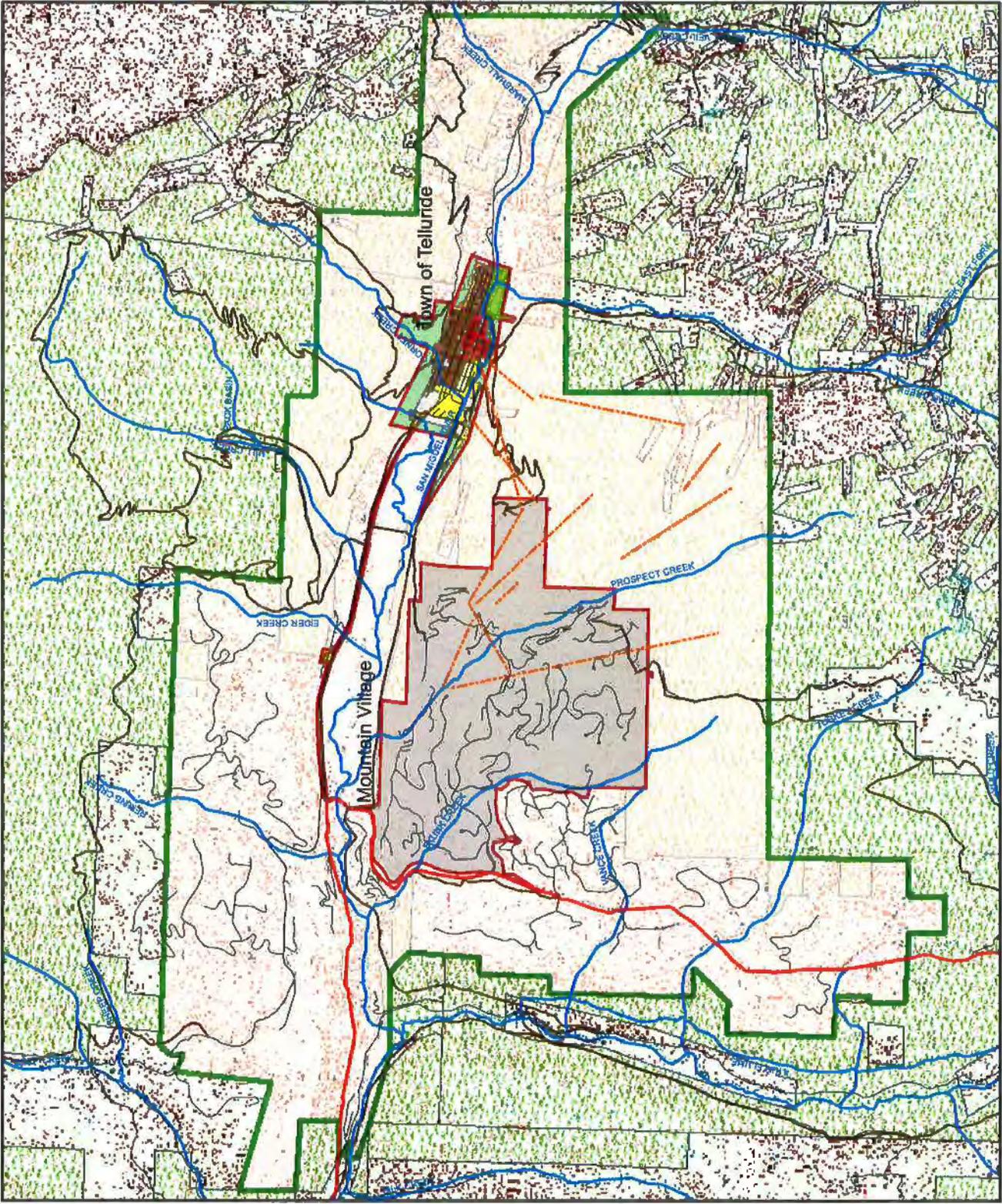
TELLURIDE REGION

Zoning and Land Use

- Roads
- Highway
- Rivers/Streams
- Six Lifts
- Trails
- Town Boundary
- USFS Land
- 1 - Historic Residential
- 2 - Residential
- 3 - Hillside Residential
- 4 - Hillside Developing
- 5 - Residential/Commercial
- 6 - Commercial
- 7 - Accom and High Density Res (AC1)
- 8 - Accommodations Special (AC1)
- 9 - Town Park
- 10 - Open Space
- 11 - Public Purpose
- Town of Mountain Village
- Telluride Region Boundary



Reference: USGS 7.5 Minute Topographic Maps
 25000 Scale
 1980s Edition
 © 2000

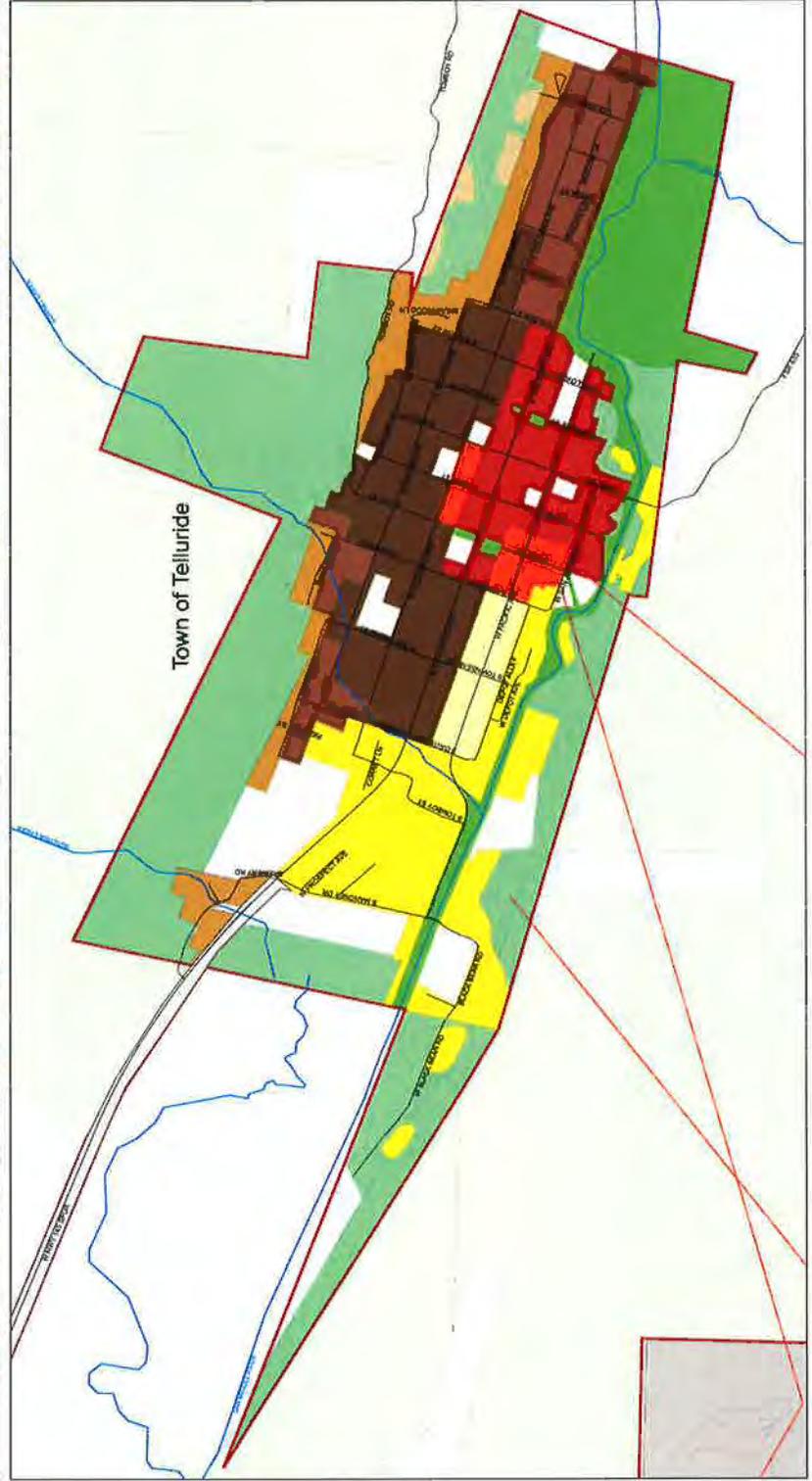
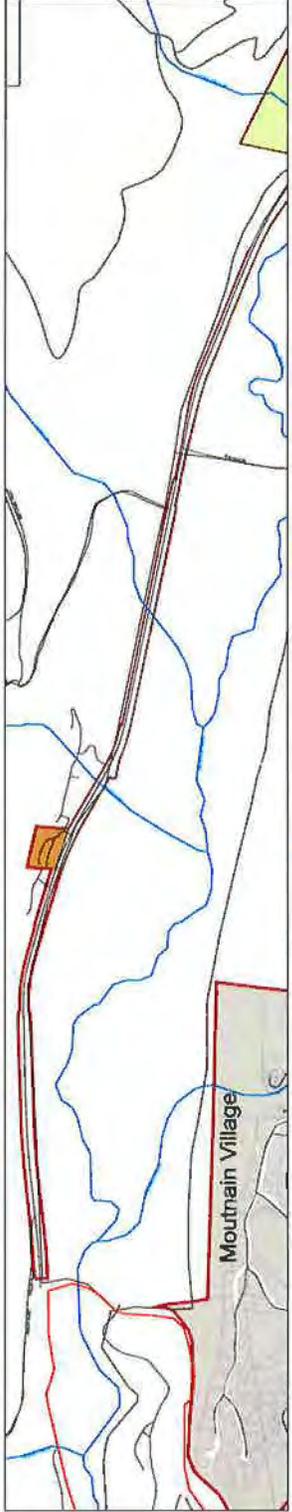


TELLURIDE LAND USE MAP

Zoning and Land Use

- Roads
- Highway
- Rivers/Streams
- SM Lifts
- Town Boundary
- Regional Boundary
- USFS Land
- 1 - Historic Residential
- 2 - Residential
- 3 - Hillside Residential
- 4 - Hillside Developing
- 5 - Residential/Commercial
- 6 - Commercial
- 7 - Access and High Density Residential (AC 11)
- 8 - Accommodations Special (AC 1)
- 9 - Town Park
- 10 - Open Space
- 11 - Public Purpose
- Town of Mountain Village

ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 15, 2003
 TOWN BOARD
 RESOLUTION #23



Mountain Village Vision for 2025

6. OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

6.1 Mountain Village offers an exceptional setting in which to live, work, invest and visit. Residential neighborhoods are surrounded by scenic alpine landscapes, forested mountain open space, alpine vistas, and wildlife habitat. A system of open space creates attractive buffers between the built and natural environments, and gives context to the built environment. Together, open space conservation and recreation contribute to the quality of life and a robust economy in Mountain Village.

8. ENVIRONMENT

8.1 Mountain Village promotes actions that preserve and protect the environment and natural resources, locally and globally.

8.2 Night skies and important mountain vistas are preserved. Air and water qualities are improved.

Town of Mountain Village Land Use Ordinance Revised March 29, 2005

4-312 PASSIVE OPEN SPACE

4-312-1 Passive Open Space shall be preserved as designated in the Official Lot List recorded October 6, 1995 at Reception No. 301133 in the records of the San Miguel County Clerk and Recorder, as amended from time to time. Passive Open space is intended to preserve property within flood plains, Wetlands, riparian areas and wildlife habitats in its natural character.

Exhibit D-1: Sample Information Request Letter



United States Department of the Interior BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Uncompahgre Field Office
2465 S. Townsend Avenue
Montrose, Colorado 81401
www.blm.gov



IN REPLY REFER TO:
8410 (CO-S05)

Ken Stahlnecker
National Park Service
Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park
102 Elk Creek
Gunnison, CO 81230

Re: Bureau of Land Management Uncompahgre Field Office Visual Resource Inventory

Dear Mr. Stahlnecker,

The Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO) of the Bureau of Land Management requests your assistance to better understand the scenic viewshed sensitivities within your jurisdictional region. This information will be used in preparation for revisions to the existing land use plan, also known as the Resource Management Plan (RMP). The assessment will help answer the land use planning question; *"How should BLM manage visual resources"* within the UFO.

Background

The UFO is responsible for managing more than 700,000 acres of public lands within its planning area. The planning area is bordered on the west by the state of Utah; on the north by the BLM Grand Junction Field Office and the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest (GMUG); on the east by the BLM Gunnison Field Office and GMUG; and on the south by the BLM Dolores Field Office, San Juan National Forest and GMUG. The planning area encompasses six counties; Montrose, Delta, Mesa, Gunnison, Ouray, and San Miguel. BLM lands within the planning area range from salt-desert shrub (4,701 ft.) to alpine forest (11,449 ft.). The area exhibits varied topography, geology, soil, and flora and fauna includes desert scrub, riparian, sagebrush parks, pinyon-juniper woodlands, mountain shrub, ponderosa pine, and spruce-fir forests. These lands contain a wealth of resources and opportunities for public use and enjoyment.

We are currently updating our Visual Resource Inventory for the UFO, and classes will be assigned through the inventory process. The Inventory classes will provide the baseline data for determining the Visual Resource Management classes in the RMP process. The classes that are finally established through the resource management planning process will guide us in determining allowable types of projects and appropriate stipulations needed to adhere to VRM management objectives.

Information Request

As part of the evaluation we are contacting counties, local communities and agencies to gain an understanding of your current regulations and zoning regarding scenic quality objectives and to identify other areas in your jurisdiction valued for their visual aesthetics. We are asking for assistance in gathering GIS maps, data, and metadata that delineates:

- Jurisdictional boundaries
 - Visually sensitive regulated boundaries/overlays
 - Zoning districts
 - Anticipated growth patterns and density projections
-

And text descriptions relative to scenic area protection and regulation goals, objectives, policies, ordinances, resolutions and as addressed within:

- Comprehensive plans
- Zoning and development codes
- Subdivision regulations

The BLM has contracted with Otak to assist with information collection and evaluation. We ask that the requested information be forwarded to Otak by June 19. Please forward only the pertinent information regarding visual and scenery protection, rather than entire sets of documents. If available, we would prefer to receive the information in digital format. If the information is available to download from a website or FTP site, please e-mail instructions.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Should you have questions specific to the BLM's planning process, please contact Julie Jackson in the Uncompahgre Field Office. For questions about the requested data, please contact either Kate Schwarzler or Julie McGrew at Otak. Contact information is provided below.

- Kate Schwarzler, Otak Project Manager kate.schwarzler@otak.com
Julie McGrew, Otak Environmental Planner julie.mcgreg@otak.com
36 North 4th Street
Carbondale, CO 81623
970.963.1971
- Julie Jackson, BLM Uncompahgre Field Office julie_jackson@blm.gov
2465 S. Townsend Avenue
Montrose, CO 81401
970.240.5300

Thank you again for your assistance. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Sharrow
Field Office Manager

Enclosure: Uncompahgre Field Office Planning Area Map

Exhibit D-2: Communication Log

Jurisdiction	Name	Title	Phone	E-mail	Letter Mailed	Response	Mode	Follow-up log
Federal								
Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park	Ken Stahlnecker	National Park Service	970-641-2337 x225		6/10/2009	9/1/2009 and 9/2/2009	Phone, email	Mr. Stahlnecker could not recall the letter; resent via email. 9/2/09 He called back and attached a word document that has excerpts from their General Management Plan that pertains to visual and scenery protection. He will look for any related GIS data, but to date none has been provided.
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest	Chiara Palazzolo USDA Forest Service	Recreation Planner	970-874-6671		6/10/2009	7/15/2009	Phone, website	Standard Scenery Management Systems (SMS) descriptions, full-sized paper maps of the Draft Scenic Integrity Objective for the GMUG, and GIS data received; also downloaded portions of the 2007 Forest Plan pertaining to Scenery.
County								
Delta County	Susan Hansen	County Administrator	970-874-2102	shansen@deltacounty.com	6/10/2009	9/2/2009	Phone, website	Delta County does not have specific zoning related to scenery protection. Ms. Hansen referred us to the Subdivision Regulations and the Specific Development Regulations, which were downloaded from the County website.
Gunnison County	Matthew Birnie, Mike Pelletier	County Manager	970-641-0248	mbirnie@gunnisoncounty.org	6/10/2009	6/19/09, 7/2/2009	Docs; website	Downloaded GIS data from the Gunnison County Website and saved the data in the GIS\Community Information\gunnison_county folder. Data includes zoning, roads, parcels etc.
Montrose County	Joe Kirby	County Manager	970-252-4510	jkirby@co.montrose.co.us	6/10/2009	7/2/2009	Website	Downloaded GIS data from the Montrose County Website and saved the data in the GIS\Community Information\montrose_county folder. Data includes zoning, roads, parcels etc.
Ouray County	Connie Hunt, Mark Castrodale	County Administrator	970-325-7263		6/10/2009	6/15/2009	Disk, website	Disk was provided with GIS data, Master Plan, maps and regulations. Downloaded Master Plan from County website 9/3/09.
San Miguel County	Dave Schneck, Karen Hendersen	County Environmental Health Director	970-728-0447	daves@sanmiguelcounty.org	6/16/2009	7/2/2009	Website	Downloaded GIS data from the San Miguel Website and saved the data in the GIS\Community Information\sanmiguel_county folder. Data includes zoning, roads, parcels etc. Also downloaded their Comprehensive Development Plan and Land Use Code relating to Scenic Quality.
Cities/Towns								
City of Delta	Lanny Sloan	City Manager	970-874-7909	lanny.sloan@delta-co.gov	6/10/2009	6/15/2009	email, Website	Mr. Sloan's email referred us to the website; Delta Comprehensive Plan and maps were downloaded.
City of Montrose	Scott Sellers, Scott Shine	Assistant City Manager	970-240-1429	ssellers@ci.montrose.co.us	6/10/2009	6/22/09, 7/2/2009	Website	Kerwin Jensen called, Scott Shine followed up (trading emails); Downloaded GIS data from the City of Montrose website including zoning and city limits, etc.
City of Ouray	Patrick Rondinelli		970-325-7211	rondinellip@ci.ouray.co.us	6/10/2009	9/1/2009	Phone	Spoke with Mike Fedel, Land Use Coordinator. No visual impact codes in city code. Ouray areas of influence that extend beyond the city boundary are coordinated with the county and county code.
Town of Cedaredge	Kathleen Sickles					6/11/2009	E-mail	The town does not have regulations regarding visual aesthetics but provided a jurisdictional boundary map.
Town of Crawford	Margaret Pearce	Town Clerk	970-921-4725		6/10/2009	9/1/2009	Phone	Crawford has only 366 people, no codes or zoning. They abide by setbacks from roads etc. The town "does their own thing and the county does their own thing."
Town of Hotchkiss	Marlene Searle	Town Clerk	970-872-4328	MSe1047096@aol.com	6/10/2009	9/1/2009	Phone	Mike Owens, Public Works Director said the town has no code except a building code implemented 6 months ago. Their zoning is up for vote in October of 2009. Within the watershed, anything outside of town is Forest land.
Town of Hotchkiss	George Brauneis	Trustee	970-872-4328		6/10/2009	9/1/2009	Phone	Spoke to Mike Owens/Public Works Director. Do not have any code for town except building code (implemented 6 months ago). Their zoning is up for vote next month. Within the watershed, anything outside of town is Forest Land.
Town of Mountain Village	Greg Sparks	Town Manager	970-369-6404	gsparks@mtnvillage.org	6/10/2009	9/1/2009	Phone	The Town of Mountain Village is in a 15-year comprehensive planning process now. No code or scenery protection language yet. Greg had Rebecca Mossige sent their approved Vision Statement. They do not have GIS data and referred us to the county.
Town of Naturita	Cameron Riley	Mayor	970-865-2313	ibuglmcam@aol.com	6/10/2009	9/1/2009	Phone message	Phone calls have not been returned and no response was received to the letter.
Town of Norwood	Patti Grafmyer		970-327-4288	norwoodparker@centurytel.net	6/10/2009	9/1/2009	Phone	Spoke to Patti; referred to their website for Master Plan, Land Use Plan, and maps
Town of Nucla	Downa Morris	Mayor	970-864-7351		6/10/2009	9/1/2009	Phone	Spoke to Elizabeth at the Town; re-emailed BLM letter so she could attach it to message for Ms. Morris; no response.
Town of Olathe	Scott Harold	Town Administrator	970-323-5601	sah@olatheco.com	6/16/2009	9/1/2009	Phone	The Town of Olathe does not have any GIS data; referred us to the county. They do not have any language in their town code regarding scenery protection.
Town of Orchard City	David Varley	Town Administrator	970-835-3403	davidvarley@kaycee.net	6/10/2009	9/1/2009	Phone	The town does not have the information requested and referred us to the County.
Town of Paonia	Neal Schwieterman	Mayor	970-527-4101	mambomamba@paonia.com	6/16/2009	9/1/2009	Phone, email	Barbara, the Town Clerk forwarded the town's Comprehensive Plan, regulations, and maps.
Town of Ridgway	Jennifer Coates	Town Planner	970-626-5308	jcoates@town.ridgway.co.us	6/10/2009	6/19/2009	E-mail	Ms. Coates forwarded all information requested.
Town of Sawpit	Michael Kimball	Mayor	970-728-3708 or 970-729-2678 (cell)	michaeljoyce@msn.com	6/10/2009	9/1/2009	Phone, email messages	No response.
Town of Telluride	Stuart Frase	Mayor	970-728-3071	sfraser@roadrunner.com	6/16/2009	9/1/2009	Phone	Left message with Allen Shumack in Planning and Zoning. 9/2/09 Received call that they never received original letter. Resent letter via email. 9/3/09 - No feedback from the Town of Telluride. Downloaded relevant information from the Town of Telluride website.