

OFFICE MEMO

TO: Terry Beeson  
FROM: Richard T. Ward

Date 4/23/79

RECEIVED

APR 24 1979

QSES-SO

SUBJECT: Owl Canyon Pinyon Natural Area  
REMARKS:

This is to provide record of use  
of the Pinyon Grove Natural Area.

A field trip with students of BY220-Ecology  
was taken to the Grove on the afternoon of  
April 20, 1979 - No collections of any  
kind were made and no materials left  
at the site.



INDIAN SPRING NATURAL AREA  
Saguache County

Indian Spring is the largest of the few remaining natural cold springs in the San Luis Valley. The spring is in the midst of an active, warm climate sand dune field. The drainage has been separated from the Rio Grande River for several thousand years, isolating the aquatic fauna of the ponds formed by the springs. A rare species of tiger beetle and an unusual diversity of butterflies, wasps and bees occur in the vicinity. Indian Spring contains evidence of paleo-Indian habitation. (Owned by the State of Colorado)

INDIAN SPRINGS TRACE FOSSIL NATURAL AREA  
Fremont County

The 95 acre Indian Springs Trace Fossil Natural Area includes an exposed section of the Harding formation unusually rich in markings of species that lived 450 million years ago. Twenty-five types of trace fossils illustrate behavior patterns of animals which lived on the mudflats of this ancient tidal lagoon. Tracks and burrow patterns of pawless armor-plated fish, brachropod, horseshoe crab, and grant isotelid trilobite have been discovered in the natural area. (Private, BLM)

KREMMLING CRETACEOUS AMMONITE NATURAL AREA  
Grand County

The 750-acre Kremmling Cretaceous Ammonite Research Natural Area has exceptionally large and well-preserved fossils of giant ammonites (Placenticer spp.) as well as numerous other marine invertebrate fossils: Baculites spp. nautilus (Eutrophocerus alsensence), bivalves (Inoceramus spp.) and gastropods. The fossil ammonites found at this site are the largest specimens of this Cretaceous group known in North America. The area's exceptionally large fossil biota, including rare tropical and subtropical forms, represents a rare fossil assemblage in North America. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the State of Colorado)

LOWER GREASEWOOD CREEK NATURAL AREA  
Rio Blanco County

This 203-acre site is a relatively undisturbed example of a pinyon-juniper woodland. Significant populations of Gilia stenothyrsa, a Green River Shale endemic occur on this natural area. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

McELMO RESEARCH NATURAL AREA  
Montezuma County

McElmo Research Natural Area contains a diverse assemblage of amphibians and reptiles not duplicated in Colorado. Species known only from this 443-acre area are the desert spiny lizard (Sceloporus magister) and the kingsnake (Lampropeltis getulus). The leopard lizard (Crotaphytus wislizenii), spotted nightsnake (Hypsiglena torquata), and lesser earless lizard (Holbrookia maculata approximans) are other animal species of special concern that inhabit McElmo Natural Area. Others species occurring in this natural area are: spadefoot toad (Scaphiopus hammondi), Western whiptail lizard (Cnemidophorus tigris), tree lizard (Urosaurus ornatus), and yellow-headed collared lizard (Crotaphytys collaris auriceps). (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

MEXICAN CUT NATURAL AREA  
Gunnison County

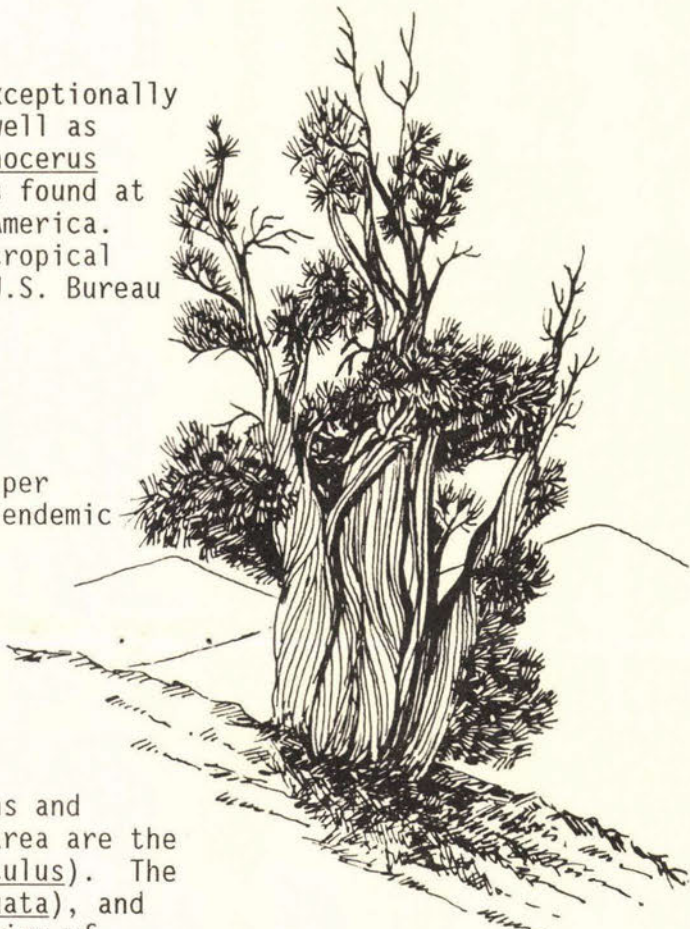
Mexican Cut, 430 acres, is a hanging valley located high in the Elk Mountains. Alternating layers of limestone and quartzite have been tilted up and worn differentially by glacial action. The resulting topography is a series of shelves of increasing altitude. Interconnected ponds lie on each shelf. All ponds are fed by snowmelt and rainfall but each has a distinct flora and fauna. The reproductive behavior of populations of salamanders, Ambystoma tigrinum, varies between ponds. Some populations are able to reproduce in the larval form. (Private ownership)

MOUNT CALLAHAN NATURAL AREA  
Garfield county

The 360-acre Mt. Callahan Natural Area is a high quality remnant of a Great Basin grassland and barrens that supports populations of five rare plant species: Astragalus lutosus, Festuca dasyclada, Mentzelia argillosa, Thalictrum heliophilum, and Penstemon debilis. All species are endemic to Green River Shale. Mt. Callahan is the type locality for Penstemon debilis. (Private ownership)

MOUNT GOLIATH RESEARCH NATURAL AREA  
Clear Creek County

Large virgin stands of bristlecone pine intersperse with Engelmann Spruce forest and alpine grassland on the 160-acre natural area. Mount Goliath Natural Area is located at timberline at the headwater of Vance Creek. The gnarled and twisted bristlecone pines on the windswept granitic ridges is the northernmost occurrence of this species. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)



Bristlecone Pine  
at Mount Goliath



**NARRAGUINEP NATURAL AREA**

Dolores County

This 1,928-acre natural area encompasses Narraguinep Canyon. Steep rock cliffs of Dakota, McElmo, and La Plata sandstone form this scenic canyon. Virgin stands of Ponderosa pine and pinyon-juniper dominate the area. Oak scrub interspersed with a rich diversity of shrubs forms a major plant community of the area. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service).

**NORTH PARK RESEARCH NATURAL AREA**

Jackson County

The 340-acre North Park Research Natural Area contains nearly half of the known individuals of Phacelia formosula. This federally endangered plant species is restricted to sandstone bluffs of the Coalmont Formation. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

**OWL CANYON PINYON GROVE NATURAL AREA**

Larimer County

Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove is located on a rough hogback approximately 12 miles northwest of Fort Collins. This 658-acre area contains the northeasternmost stand of pinyon pine, Pinus edulis, in North America. Individual trees have been determined to be 300-400 years old. This disjunct stand is 150 miles from the nearest naturally occurring population near Colorado Springs. The pinyon stands occur on a rare exposure of the Ingleside formation, a marine limestone laid down in a shallow sea 250 million years ago. Owl Canyon contains over sixty archeological sites dating from 5000 B.C. (Private and State ownership).

**PARADISE PARK RESEARCH NATURAL AREA**

Grand County

Paradise Park Natural Area includes 5,760 acres of the upper drainage basin of Paradise Creek in Rocky Mountain National Park. Numerous alpine and subalpine lakes fill the glacially carved depressions along Paradise Creek. Pure populations of state-endangered Colorado River Cutthroat trout (Salmo clarkii pleuriticus) inhabit Paradise Creek. Virgin forests of Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine fir dominate below tree line, alpine meadows occur above treeline. (Owned by the National Park Service)

dinosaurs (Ceratosaurus and Allosaurus), and several herbivorous dinosaurs including an ornithomimid (Fabrosaurus), a Brachiosaurus, and Stegosaurus. (Owned by the Bureau of Land Management)

**GOTHIC RESEARCH NATURAL AREA**

Gunnison County

Gothic Research Natural Area, a tract of 1,490 acres, contains virgin stands of Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine fir vegetation typical of the upper montane ecosystem of western Colorado. The area ranges in elevation from 10,000 feet at the East River to 12,809 feet at the summit of Mt. Baldy and includes high elevation phenomena such as glacial cirques, moraines, talus slopes and high alpine lakes. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

**GUNNISON GRAVELS RESEARCH NATURAL AREA**

Mesa County

Gunnison Gravels is a five-acre site that contains a unique fluvial gravel deposit which is integral to the determination of the recent geological history of Unaweep Canyon. Several hypotheses suggest an ancestral stream drainage southwestward along Dominguez Canyon to Cactus Park and through Unaweep Canyon to the Dolores River. Geologists assume that the ancestral stream deposited the gravels in Cactus Park, the location of this natural area. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

**HIGH MESA GRASSLAND RESEARCH NATURAL AREA**

Fremont County

Sommerville Mesa, 1,100 acres, is capped by basaltic rock resistant to erosion and rises several hundred feet above the surrounding eroded land. Other geologic features of interest include a stream cut bench, fault escarpment, fault-lock mountain and lava flows. The vegetation of the natural area may represent what South Park grasslands looked like 200 years ago prior to livestock grazing. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

**HURRICANE CANYON RESEARCH NATURAL AREA**

El Paso County

Hurricane Canyon Research Natural Area includes two primary canyons, cut by the North and South Forks of French Creek, and several secondary canyons. This 520-acre tract is characterized by steep slopes and canyon bottoms covered with boulders or colluvial soil. The virgin stands of Douglas fir and ponderosa pine are rare undisturbed examples of east slope, lower montane forest. Oak brush is present at lower elevations. Engelmann and blue spruce are present in small acreages along stream bottoms at higher elevations. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)



**DOME ROCK NATURAL AREA**

Teller County

This 640-acre scenic area, located within Mueller Ranch State Park is dominated by massive outcrops of Pikes Peak granite. The most spectacular outcrop, Dome Rock, rises 800 feet from the canyon floor. The area contains relatively undisturbed examples of ponderosa pine, limber pine and Douglas fir montane plant communities. The area provides winter browse and lambing grounds for a herd of Rocky Mountain Bighorn sheep. (Owned by the State of Colorado)

**DUDLEY BLUFFS NATURAL AREA**

Rio Blanco County

Dudley Bluffs is a 1,620-acre outcrop of the Green River Shale Formation. Populations of two rare plant species endemic to this formation occur on the site -- Physaria obcordata and Lesquerella congesta. Remnant, high quality pinyon-juniper woodlands and cold desert shrublands occur at Dudley Bluffs. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

**EAST SAND DUNES NATURAL AREA**

Jackson County

The East Sand Dunes in North Park are one of only two active cold climate dunes in Colorado. The dunes on the 480-acre natural area differ significantly from those at the Great Sand Dunes National Monument in that they contain sedimentary structures (freeze-thaw and snow melt features) peculiar to moist, cold climate dunes. The dunes resulted from aeolian sand deposits which moved up the drift slope of North Park. The area includes blow outs of loose sand, sage brush communities, and forested areas of aspen and lodgepole pine. (Owned by the State of Colorado)

*Dudley Bluffs Bladderpod***FRUITA PALEONTOLOGICAL RESEARCH NATURAL AREA**

Mesa County

Jurassic outcrops, deposited about 140 million years ago, are the most fossiliferous formations within the Grand Valley and are protected within these 280 acres at Fruita. The quality of preservation, completeness, and abundance of the fossil specimens make the Fruita Paleontological locality unique. Some of the oldest mammal fossils found in the Western Hemisphere occur here. Fossil specimens found at the Fruita site include: a new species of triconodont, a new family of multi tuberculates, symmetrodont, a new genus of crocodilla, sphenodontid squamates, two carnivorous

**PLAINS CONSERVATION CENTER AND NATURAL AREA**

Arapahoe County

Mixed-grass prairies, once common along the eastern mountain-front of Colorado, extend across the 1,584 acres of rolling hills included in the natural area. Many bird and mammal species typical of the Great Plains use the area. A riparian corridor formed by East Tollgate Creek provides habitat for great horned owls and northern harriers. This area has been developed for educational use primarily by the Aurora and Denver public school systems. (Owned by the Arapahoe County Soil Conservation District)

**PYRAMID ROCK NATURAL AREA**

Mesa County

Pyramid Rock, 480 acres, is a local landmark of exposed Wasatch formation that contains substantial occurrences of three rare plant species: Sclerocactus glaucus, and Phacelia submutica and Astragalus debequaeus. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

**RABBIT VALLEY RESEARCH NATURAL AREA**

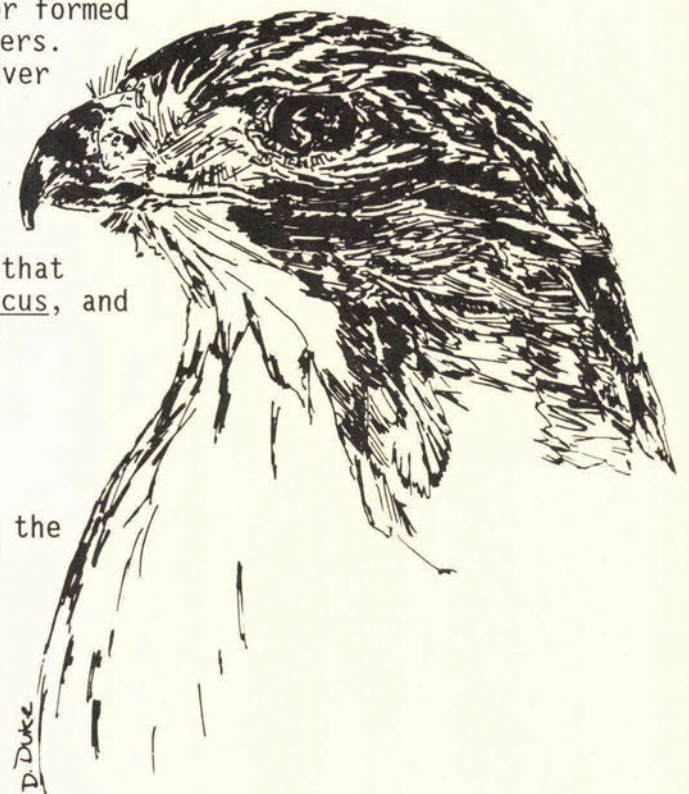
Mesa County

Rabbit Valley is a 320-acre site located north of the Colorado River along the northwest flank of the Uncompahgre Uplift. The site contains large specimens of several dinosaurs including Camarasaurus, Allosaurus, and Camptosaurus. The Bureau of Land Management and Museum of Western Colorado have developed the site for interpretive use. Excavations of fossil vertebrates are continuing under the direction of the Museum of Western Colorado. Recent identification of an Iguanadon skull has marked the earliest known occurrence of this species in the world. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

**RAVEN RIDGE**

Rio Blanco County

Raven Ridge is a 1049 acre exposure of the Evacuation Creek member of the Green River formation. Raven Ridge provides habitat for eight endemic plant species: Penstemon grahamii, Penstemon albifluvis, Astragalus lutosus, Aquilegia barnebyi, Cryptantha rollinsii, Parthenium ligulata, Eriogonum ephedroides, Phacelia incana. Raven Ridge is unique in Colorado for the rare plant assemblage that occurs there. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

*Red Tail Hawk at  
Plains Conservation Center**(Drawing Courtesy of Birds of Prey  
Rehabilitation Foundation)*



**ROXBOROUGH STATE PARK AND NATURAL AREA**

Douglas County

Massive erosional remnants of Fountain sandstone dominate the landscape of Roxborough State Park. The park encloses a geologic span of 500 million in a east-west span of less than a mile. Exposed geology dates from Precambrian to Late Mesozoic, including hogbacks of Cretaceous Permian, and Pennsylvanian age. The vegetation of Roxborough is representative of the foothills region. Ponderosa pine and Douglas fir dominate higher elevation forests, oak scrub are present in lower elevation situations. Ecotonal mixed grass prairie is characteristic of colluvial areas between hogbacks. (Owned by the State of Colorado)

**SADDLE MOUNTAIN RESEARCH NATURAL AREA**

Park County

Saddle Mountain Research Natural area supports a variety of pristine plant communities. Included in the 480-acre natural area are dense stands of Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir, aspen, and bristlecone pine reaches a canopy height of fifty feet and is regenerating. Extensive meadows of Danthonia parryi (Parry's oat grass) cover the fertile soil derived from basalt. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

**SLUMGULLION EARTHFLOW NATURAL AREA**

Hindsale County

Two major earthflows included in this 1,351-acre (351 designated) natural area illustrate a striking example of mass wasting. Slumgullion earthflow is over four miles long and 2,000 feet wide. A huge mass of volcanic rock slumped down the valley about 700 years ago damming Lake San Cristobal. The older flow was covered by a younger flow 300 years ago. Trees on the earthflow are being pushed over by the forward advance of the younger flow. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service)

**SOUTH CATHEDRAL BLUFFS NATURAL AREA**

Rio Blanco County

Spectacular shale bluffs in this 316-acre natural area provide habitat for three rare plant species endemic to the Green River Shale: Thalictrum heliophilum, Lesquerella parviflora, and Gentianella tortuosa. This site is the type locality for Lesquerella parviflora. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

**DESIGNATED COLORADO NATURAL AREAS****BLUE MOUNTAIN - LITTLE THOMPSON FAULT NATURAL AREA**

Larimer County

This natural area of 240 acres includes exposure of the Blue Mountain Fault, providing a clear example of drape or drag faulting and of stratigraphic pinch-out of two quality layers of Permian Age (Satanka and Ingleside). The zone of mingling between the alluvial fan of the ancestral Rockies and the sand beaches of the ancestral sea (Great Plains) is clearly visible. (Private ownership)

**COLORADO TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATURAL AREA**

Boulder County

269 acres of relict tallgrass prairie are located in the broad floodplain of South Boulder Creek, east of the City of Boulder. The area contains remnants of a once extensive area of tallgrass prairie occupying the entire South Boulder Creek floodplain and much of the ponderosa pine ecotone of the Front Range. These tallgrass prairie remnants contain flora similar to tallgrass prairies of South Dakota, Kansas, and the Midwest. (Owned by the City of Boulder)

**COMANCHE GRASSLAND LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKEN NATURAL AREA**

Baca County

This 9,000-acre Comanche National Grassland site contains the largest concentration of active leks (display ground) for the Lesser Prairie Chicken in Colorado. The sand sagebrush community of the site provides critical habitat for this state threatened species. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

**DEER GULCH NATURAL AREA**

Rio Blanco County

This 1,809 acre site in Deer Gulch is habitat for two plant species endemic to Green River Shale -- Festuca dasyclada and Aquilegia barnebyi. Relatively undisturbed remnants of a Great Basin Grassland, mixed mountain shrubland, and Douglas fir forests occur in the area. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)



*Lesser Prairie Chicken  
at Comanche National Grassland*



The Colorado Natural Areas Program is designating a comprehensive system of natural areas to preserve the best examples of Colorado's plants, animals, plant and animal communities and geologic features.

The Colorado Department of Natural Resources promotes the use of natural areas for scientific research and education. Researchers and educators are encouraged to investigate the challenging problems related to the maintenance or enhancement of endangered species, plant and animal communities and geologic features protected within natural areas.

A Colorado Natural Area is a physical and biological area which either retains or has reestablished its natural character, although it need not be completely undisturbed. A Colorado Natural Area contains natural features of exceptional scientific and educational value, including any one of the following:

- o natural formations or features which significantly illustrate geologic processes;
- o significant fossil evidence of the development of life on earth;
- o an undisturbed ecological community maintaining itself under prevailing natural conditions typical of Colorado;
- o an ecological community significantly illustrating the process of succession and restoration to natural condition following disruptive change;
- o a habitat supporting an endangered, rare, endemic or restricted species;
- o a relict flora or fauna;
- o a seasonal haven for concentrations of native animals, or a vantage point for observing concentrated populations, such as a constricted migration route;
- o an area containing significant evidence illustrating important scientific discoveries;
- o habitat for species with unique anatomical, physiological, or behavioral characteristics and adaptations for survival;
- o a study site for the biology of a particular species or taxonomic group;
- o an area demonstrating well-developed, diverse, or unusual community structure.

The Colorado Natural Areas Program reviews information on each recommended site and contacts the landowner or public land manager to obtain permission to register the site. The Natural Areas Council, a seven-member board appointed by the Governor, determines whether to accept a recommended area for the registry.

Articles of designation are developed for registered sites in consultation with the landowner or land manager. The articles constitute a management agreement for the site. A registered site becomes a designated natural area when a formal agreement is reached.

## SPECIMEN MOUNTAIN RESEARCH NATURAL AREA

Larimer/Grand Counties

Specimen Mountain Research Natural Area straddles the Continental Divide in Rocky Mountain National Park and includes Specimen Mountain and Shippler Mountain. This 9,056-acre natural area is capped with volcanic material from a nearby volcano that erupted approximately 28 million years ago. Specimen Mountain is covered with virgin stands of Engelmann spruce-subalpine fir and pristine alpine meadows. Specimen Mountain is an important calving area for Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. Natural salt licks in the "crater" attract elk, deer, and bighorn sheep to the area. (Owned by the National Park Service)

## TAMARACK RANCH NATURAL AREA

Logan County

The 600 acres of Tamarack Ranch State Wildlife Area include excellent examples of plains cottonwood riparian forest and sandsage grassland. The cottonwood riparian site encompasses a portion of the broad, meandering South Platte River providing habitat for migrating waterfowl and eastern species at the edge of their range such as the opossum, white-tailed deer and red-headed woodpecker. The sand-sage community provides critical habitat for the greater prairie chicken. Prairie restoration on Tamarack Ranch is being conducted by the Division of Wildlife. (Owned by the State of Colorado)

## UNAWEEP SEEP RESEARCH NATURAL AREA

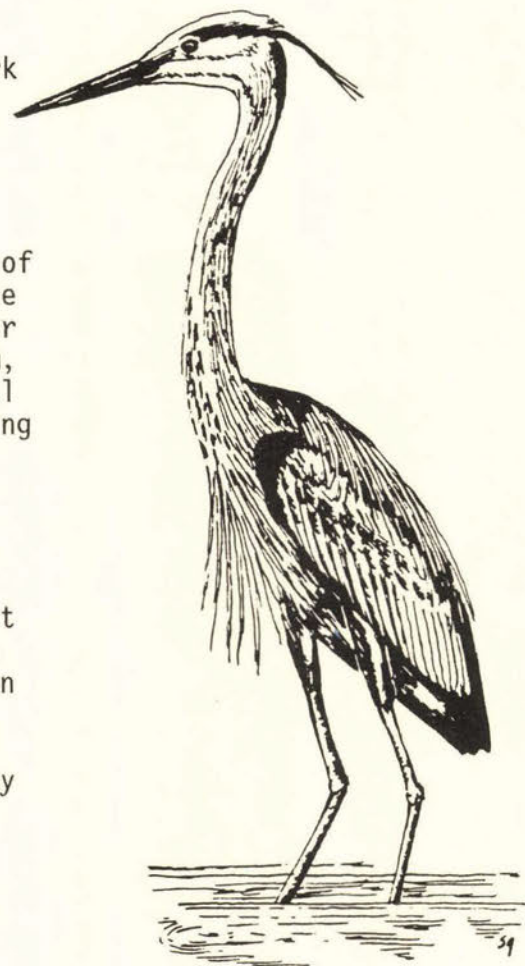
Mesa County

Unawep Seep Research Natural Area is an unusual hillside spring ecosystem of wet sedge marshes and seeps. The springs included in the 36-acre site are associated with the terminal moraine in Unawep Canyon and are not affected by flooding and fluctuation in surface water flow. One of three Colorado populations of a rare butterfly, the Nokomis fritillary (*Speyeria nokomis*), occurs on Unawep Seep. The butterfly feeds specifically on bog violets (*Viola nephrophylla*) that occur at Unawep Seep. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

## WEST CREEK NATURAL AREA

Larimer County

West Creek Natural Area is 9,043 acres of West Creek and Fox Creek drainages in the Big Thompson River Basin. The area is covered with virgin forests of lodgepole pine and limber pine. The area is utilized by elk, deer and bighorn sheep. Peregrine falcons are occasionally sighted in the area. Pure populations of cut throat trout (*Salmo clarki stomias*) occur in West Creek. (Owned by the National Park Service)



*Great Blue Heron  
at Tamarack Ranch*



#### WHEELER GEOLOGIC NATURAL AREA

Mineral/Saguache Counties.

Wheeler Geologic Natural Area is a mass of pinnacles and domes, some over several hundred feet tall, extending over 640 acres. Erosive forces have sculpted white, beige and lavender layers of lava and ash flow for several million years. The geologic features occur within virgin forests of Engelmann spruce and sub-alpine fir. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

#### WHITE ROCKS NATURAL AREA

Boulder County

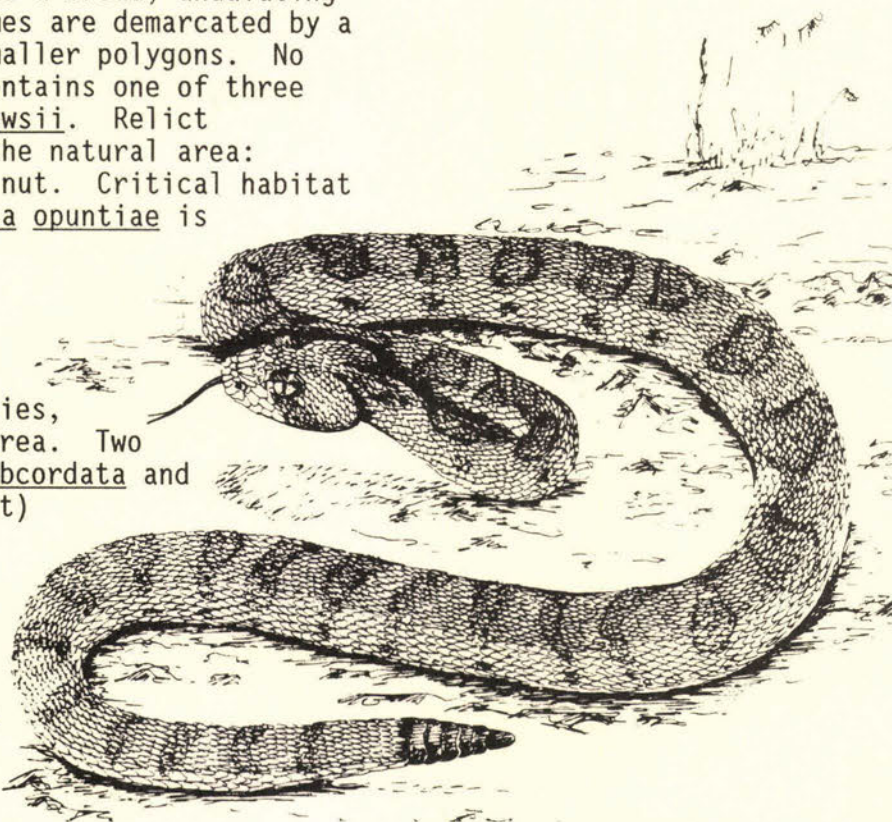
White Rocks Natural Area, a 105-acre tract, takes its name from the outcrops of light-colored Laramie and Fox Hill sandstones along Boulder Creek. Toward the western end of the natural area, the shelf of the Laramie sandstone forms a broad, undulating land cap divided into low domes known as turtlebacks. These domes are demarcated by a system of polygonal joints that are each further divided into smaller polygons. No conclusive theory explains this polygonal jointing. The area contains one of three occurrences in the world of the spleenwort fern, *Asplenium andrewsii*. Relict populations of two infrequent plant species also occur within the natural area: *Aristida basiramea*, three awn grass and *Apios americana*, ground nut. Critical habitat for several species of rare ants and a rare drilling bee, *Perdita opuntiae* is included in White Rocks Natural area. (Private ownership)

#### YANKS GULCH/UPPER GREASEWOOD CREEK NATURAL AREA

Rio Blanco County

Remnant Great Basin Grasslands, lowland sagebrush communities, and pinyon-juniper woodlands are encompassed by this 2687 acre area. Two Green River Shale endemic plant species occur here -- *Physaria obcordata* and *Aquilegia barnebyi*. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

*Prairie Rattlesnake  
at Bonny Prairie*



1977-88: Development of management plans began in 1985.

#### INVENTORY

Goal: Complete comprehensive statewide inventory, with emphasis on state lands in southeast and southwest Colorado.

In 1987: Inventories of plants and plant communities in Moffat County, Mesa County, Montezuma County, Saguache County, Alamosa County, and Costilla County completed.

1985-88: Inventories completed in 12 counties.

1977-88: Twenty percent (20%) of statewide inventory complete. A comprehensive inventory of state lands is still underway.

#### AREA EVALUATIONS

Goal: Register 15 areas from the statewide inventory which meet the scientific criteria of the Natural Areas Program.

In 1987: Three areas registered: Dave's Draw (Weld County); Escalante Creek, (Montrose County); Williams Creek (Archuleta County); and thirteen areas evaluated: Mesa de Maya (Las Animas), Purgatoire Canyon (Las Animas County), South Beaver Creek (Gunnison County), Rabbit Mountain (Boulder County), Bonny Reservoir (Yuma County), Dave's Draw (Weld County), Sand Bench (Archuleta County), Williams Creek (Archuleta County), Escalante Canyon (Montrose County), Wacker Ranch (Montrose County), Lost Park (Park County), Spout Lake (Chaffee County).

1985-88: 14 areas placed on Colorado Natural Areas Registry. Plan goal 93% complete.

1977-87: 44 areas registered.



*Black Ridge Arches*



RESULTS OF THREE YEAR PLAN (1985-88)

The Colorado Natural Areas Program’s Three Year Plan sets directions and goals for protecting Colorado’s significant natural features. Goals and accomplishments are:

PROTECTION

- Goal:** Designate 20 Colorado Natural Areas.
- In 1987:** 11 areas designated: Deer Gulch (Rio Blanco County); Dudley Bluffs (Rio Blanco County); Fruita Research Natural Area (Mesa County); Gunnison Gravels (Mesa County); Indian Spring (Saguache County); Lower Greasewood Creek (Rio Blanco County); the Palisade (Mesa County); Pyramid Rock (Mesa County); Rabbit Valley (Mesa County); South Cathedral Bluffs (Rio Blanco County); Yanks Gulch/Upper Greasewood Creek (Rio Blanco County).
- 1985-88:** 21 areas designated. Three Year Plan goal met.
- 1977-88:** 42 areas designated.

MANAGEMENT

- Goal:** Complete and implement management plans for 15 designated Colorado Natural Areas.
- In 1987:** Management and monitoring plans prepared and implemented for seven areas: Deer Gulch, Dudley Bluffs, Lower Greasewood Creek, South Cathedral Bluffs, Yanks Gulch/Upper Greasewood Creek, Raven Ridge (all in Rio Blanco County); and Lookout Mountain (Moffat County).
- 1985-88:** Management and monitoring plans were prepared for 17 areas. Three Year Plan goal met.

REGISTERED COLORADO NATURAL AREAS

BONNY PRAIRIE  
Yuma County

Bonny prairie consists of four small prairies, totalling 80 acres, of little bluestem (*Andropogon scoparius*) loess grassland. Less than 30 occurrences exist in North America of this grassland type that once covered tens of thousands of acres in the central Great Plains. Bonny Praire is the largest and highest quality loess (wind deposited soils from 10,000 years ago) prairie in Colorado. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the State of Colorado)

BUCKLEY PRAIRIE  
Arapahoe County

Adjacent to the Plains Conservation Center, Buckley Prairie exhibits an extension of the mixed-grass prairie, riparian corridor, and animals found on the Plains Conservation Center (Owned by the U.S. Department of Defense).

CALIFORNIA PARK  
Routt County

Nesting habitat for state endangered greater sandhill cranes, the 640-acre piece of California Park contains nest sites that the cranes use annually. California Park is the only area in Colorado where the three native species of grouse occur: sharp-tailed, blue, and sage. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service and the State of Colorado).

COPELAND LAKE WILLOW CARR  
Boulder County

The 100-acre willow carr (marsh-like area with flowing water) included in this natural area is the largest high quality montane willow carr on the Front Range. Breeding bird censuses in the area indicate that this riparian community has one of the most diverse species assemblages in Colorado. (Owned by the City of Longmont)

DAVE’S DRAW  
Weld County

Dave’s Draw Research Natural Area is a 289-acre site that includes high quality examples of limber pine scarp woodlands, Great Plains woody draws, and mixed grass and short grass prairie. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)



## DEEP CREEK CAVES

Garfield County

Five outstanding Colorado caves are included in this 3,840 acre-site on the White River Plateau. Three of the caves are among the largest in the state. Groaning Cave is the longest core in the Rocky Mountain Region. The caves are elaborate and display a variety of unusual mineral formations including moonmilk, boxwork, cave bacon, cave pearls, cave folia, shields, and massive selenite crystals. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

## EAST HOOSIER RIDGE

Park/Summit Counties

East Hoosier Ridge, a 920-acre alpine site, provides habitat for four rare plant species. Eutrema penlandii requires the moist bogs with mossy ground cover that occur on the ridge. Saussurea weberi and Armeria maritima ssp sibirica are arctic disjuncts. Ipomopsis globularis, a plant species of special concern for Colorado, also occurs on East Hoosier Ridge. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

## ESCALANTE CREEK (RESEARCH NATURAL AREA)

Delta County

40 acres of a narrow, steep canyon of a dry fork of Escalante Creek is designated a Research Natural Area by the US Forest Service to protect a virgin blue spruce riparian forest. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

## "THE FARM IN BOULDER VALLEY" HERONRY

Boulder County

The 40-acre heronry is located in a grove of mature cottonwood trees along Boulder Creek. 70 active great blue heron (Ardea herodias) nests are scattered throughout the cottonwood grove. The heronry includes the only known nesting site for the Great Egret (Casmerodius albus) in Colorado and a large population of blackcrowned night herons (Nycticorax nycticorax). (Private ownership)

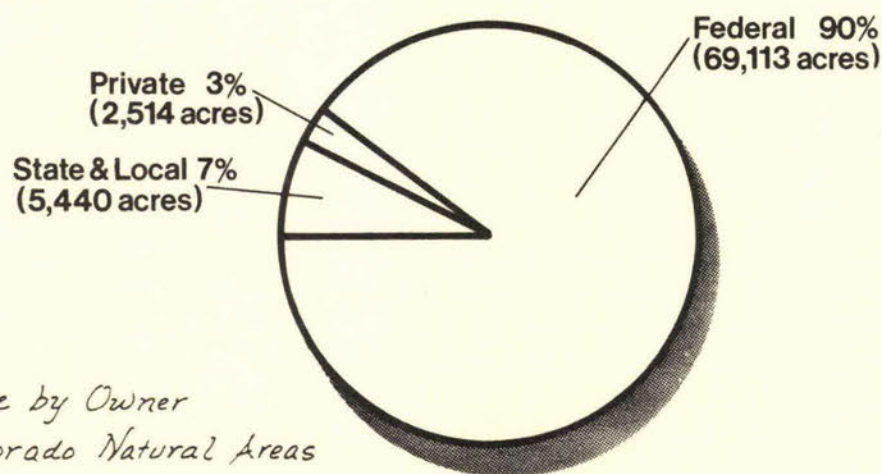
## GARDEN PARK FOSSIL LOCALITY

Fremont County

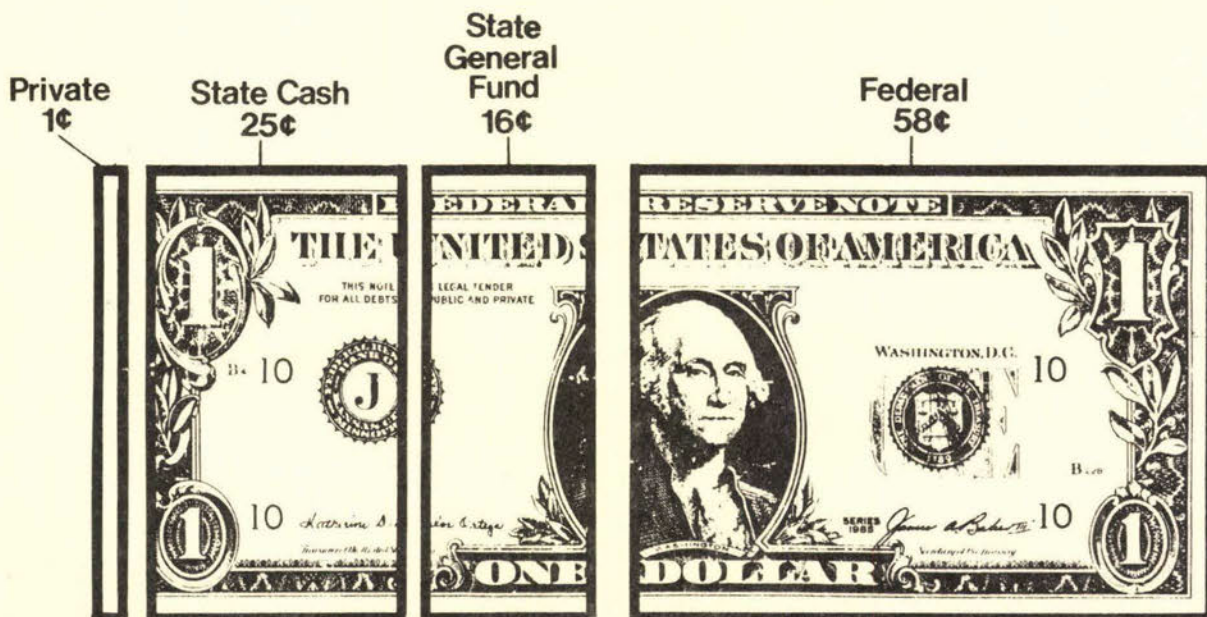
This 1,000-acre paleontological area contains the type locality for several species of Jurassic dinosaurs and mammals. One of the first large dinosaur quarries in North America, Garden Park is important for the abundance and quality of fossil bones.

## FUNDING SOURCES FOR COLORADO NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM, 1977-87

The Colorado Natural Areas Program cooperates with federal, state and private landowners throughout Colorado. Program priorities have reflected specific funding sources.



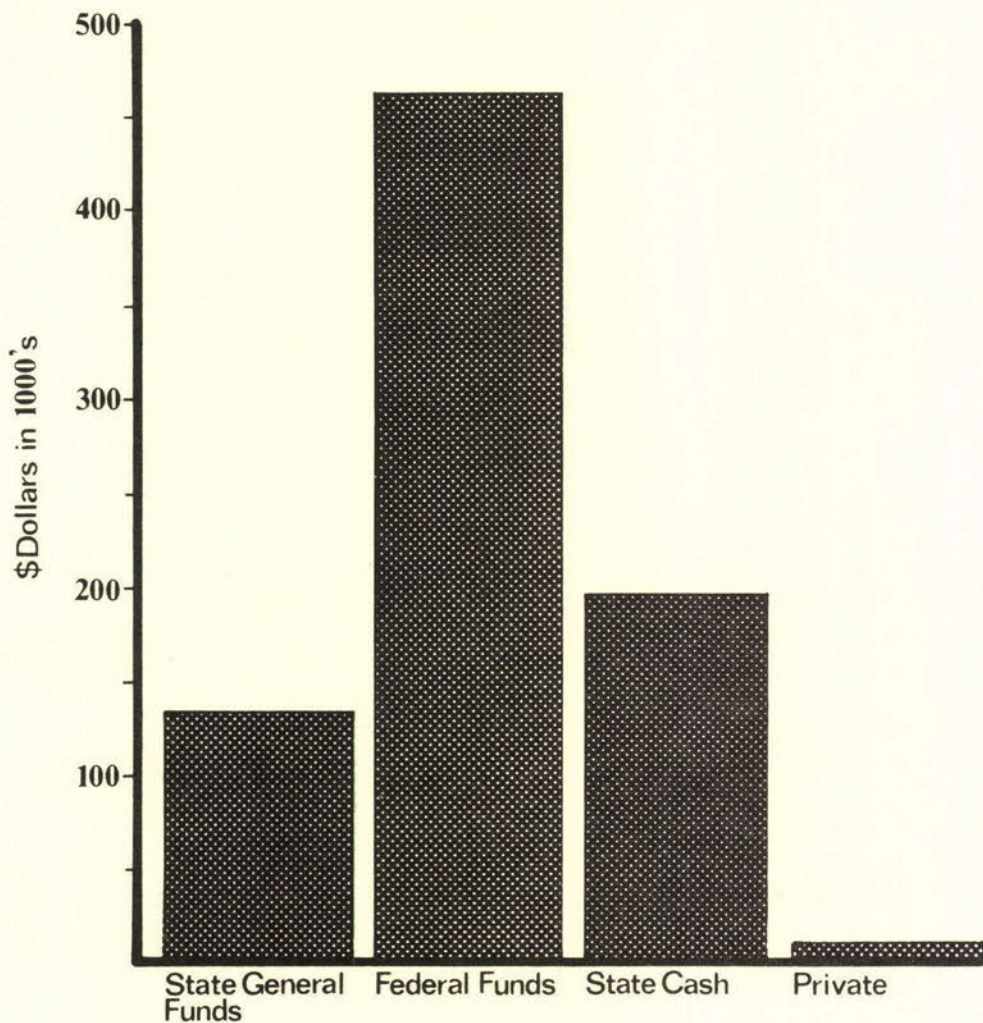
Investments for protecting each acre of natural areas were \$6/acre from federal funds, \$2.53/acre from state cash, \$1.70/acre from state general funds, and \$0.13/acre from private sources (\$200,000 in in-kind matching funds have been provided by The Nature Conservancy).





RETURN ON THE INVESTMENT

The Colorado Natural Areas Program has received a total of \$795,000 from 1977-87. This investment has come from a variety of sources -- state, federal and private. All of the non-state dollars were earmarked for specific projects and determined many of the directions of the program.



Funding Sources for  
Colorado Natural Areas Program  
1977 - 1987

Specimens and collections from Garden Park are housed in several museums in North America. The area is still paleontologically rich and diverse. *Eriogonum brandegei*, a plant species endemic to Colorado, occurs at Garden Park. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

IRISH CANYON  
Moffat County

Irish Canyon, 1,300 acres, contains an excellent cross-section of mid-elevation Uinta Mountain vegetation types: western slope grasslands, shale barrens, curlleaf mountain mahogany woodlands. Irish Canyon has populations of three rare plant species: *Eriogonum tumulosum*, *Penstemon yampaensis*, and *Parthenium ligulatum*. The site also contains the best exposure of the geologic history of the eastern Uinta Mountains. (Owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management)

LOST PARK  
Park County

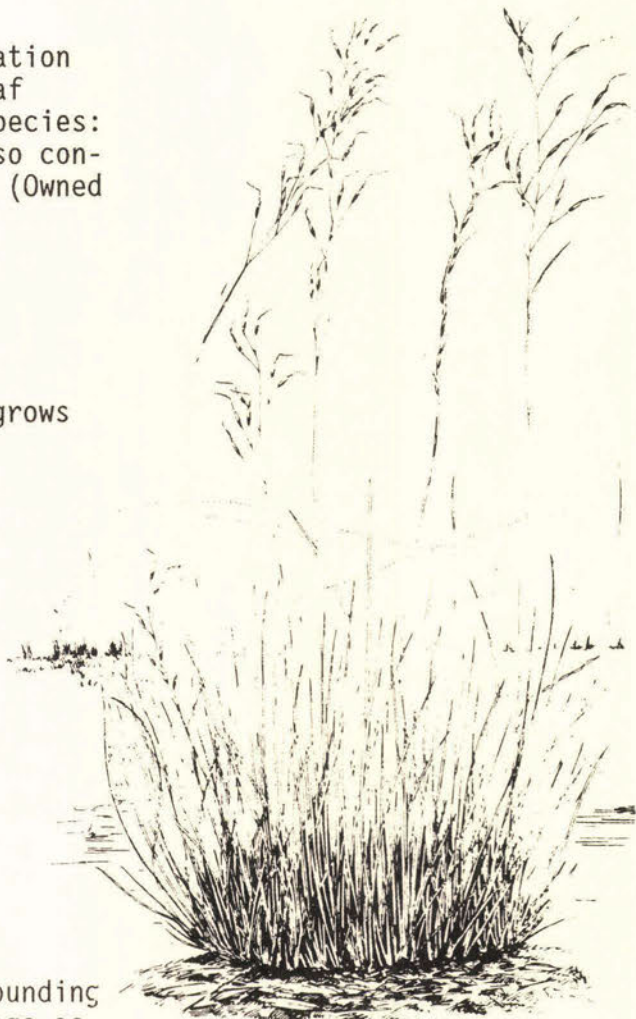
The Lost Park site consists of three acres of critical habitat for Porter needlegrass (*Ptilagrostis porteri*), a rare plant species. Porter's needlegrass grows on large, springy floating mats. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

MT. EMMONS IRON BOG  
Gunnison County

This 85-acre site contains a three-acre bog surrounded by a lodgepole pine forest. The bog is fed year-round by several warm and highly acidic springs. Iron oxide deposited from the spring covers the ground on much of the natural area. The bog is vegetated by a sphagnum floating-mat community. Mt. Emmons Iron Bog represents the only occurrence of sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) in the central or southern Rocky Mountains. Unusual insect species of the area include the dragonflies *Sematochlora semicircularis* and *Leucorhined hudsonica*. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

NEEDLE ROCK  
Delta County

Needle Rock, included in this 80-acre site, towers 800 feet above the surrounding valley floor. Needle Rock originated during volcanic activity 28 million years ago as molten rock intruding between existing sedimentary formations. Subsequently, as those sedimentary formations eroded over millions of years, the resistant igneous core was exposed. (Owned by the Bureau of Land Management)



Porter's Needlegrass  
at Lost Park



#### ROCKY MOUNTAIN WOOD FROG POND Grand County

This 1.2-acre site provides a portion of the critical habitat for the Rocky Mountain wood frog (*Rana sylvatica*). The Colorado populations of the Rocky Mountain wood frogs are boreal relicts and are restricted to eutrophic ponds surrounded by coniferous forest. (Private ownership)

#### RUNNING CREEK FIELD STATION Elbert County

Running Creek Field Station includes two community types: a mixed grass prairie dominated by blue grama, western wheatgrass, side-oats grama and other medium height grasses and a ponderosa pine woodland growing on the sandstone outcrops along Running Creek. (Private ownership)

#### UNCOMPAHGRE FRITILLARY SITE Hinsdale County

This 15-acre registered site is located within the Big Blue Wilderness Area in the Uncompahgre National Forest. One of two populations in the world of the Uncompahgre Fritillary, *Boloria acrocnema* occur here. The rare butterfly populations are dependent on the snow communities (*Salix reticulata* ssp. *nivalis*). The larval, pupal, and egg-laying stages of this species depend on the snow willow for food and cover. Adults use associated species in the willow community for nectar. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

#### WEST HOOSIER BRAYA SITE Park County

Forty registered acres on West Hoosier Ridge contain the type locality of a rare alpine endemic, *Braya humilis* ssp. *ventosa*. The 500 individuals in the populations occur on a steep, rocky slope in alpine tundra. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)

#### WILLIAMS CREEK Hinsdale County

Williams Creek Research Natural Area (545 acres) encompasses a large, undisturbed, mixed coniferous forest. The area occupies a glaciated bench between the valley of Williams Creek and steep cliffs and outcrops forming the western boundary of the Weminuche Wilderness. (Owned by the U.S. Forest Service)



*Rocky Mountain Woodfrog*

42 areas are designated Colorado Natural Areas. Designated natural areas are formally recognized under the provisions of the Natural Areas Act; a legal agreement exists between the landowners and the State of Colorado for their management.

20 areas are registered with the Natural Areas Program. Registered natural areas meet the ecological or geological criteria of the Natural Areas Program, but no legal agreements are signed between the land owners and the State of Colorado.



*Colorado Tallgrass Prairie*



1987 marked the tenth anniversary of the Colorado Natural Areas Program. The Natural Areas Program was established by the Colorado Legislature to protect and preserve rare natural features in Colorado -- without state government acquiring land.

The Colorado Natural Areas Act (36-10-101 et seq. C.R.S.) requires establishment and maintenance of a registry of qualified natural areas representing diverse plant communities, geological features and habitats for rare plants and animals.

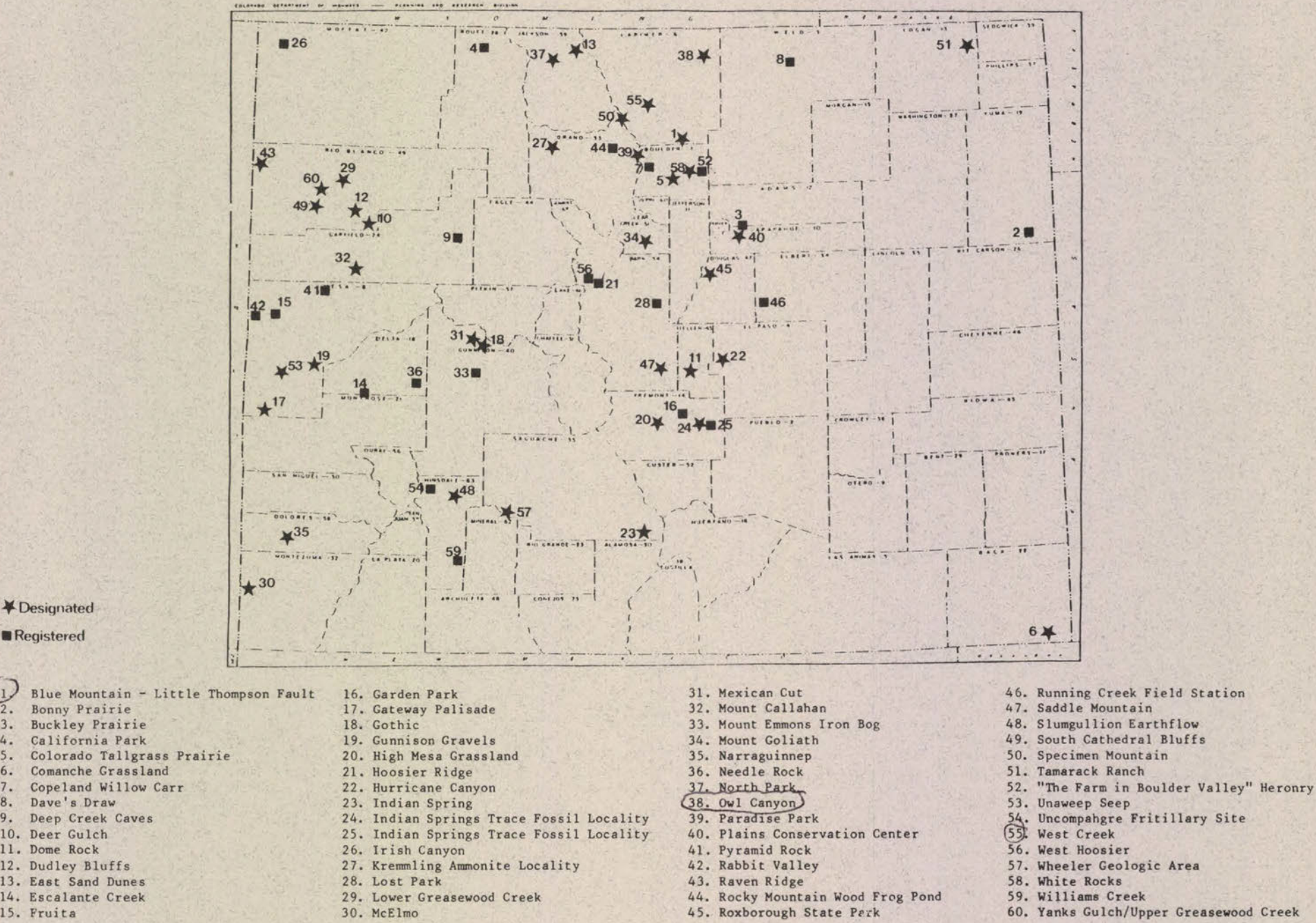
The Colorado Natural Areas Program protects special, rare and threatened natural features in Colorado through a statewide system of designated natural areas for the use and benefit of present and future generations.

Reauthorization of the Colorado Natural Areas Act will be considered by the Colorado Legislature in 1988. This report summarizes the activities and accomplishments of the Natural Areas Program in 1987 and during the past decade. The 1987 report is submitted to the Joint Budget Committee as required by Senate Bill 218 and to the Governor as stipulated in the Colorado Natural Areas Act.

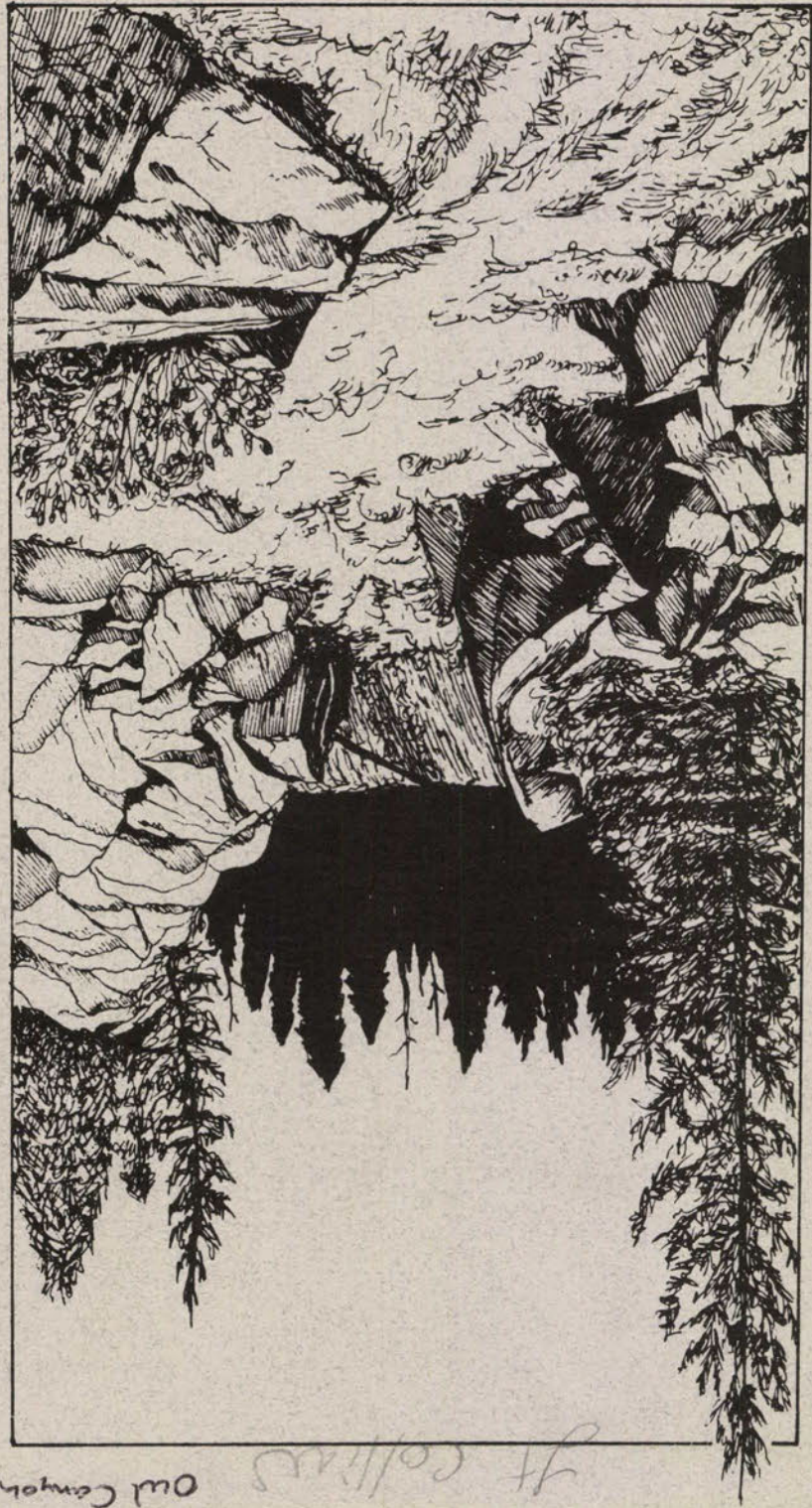
The Accomplishment

Along with many other private organizations and public agencies, the Colorado Natural Areas Program has an important role in protecting Colorado's valuable but rapidly diminishing natural heritage -- a remarkable natural diversity ranging from grasslands to glaciers. Many Colorado Natural Areas contain stunning scenery and provide a wide spectrum of recreational and educational opportunities for Colorado's citizens and visitors. The Colorado Natural Areas Program is working to identify and protect still more unique pieces of the rich and colorful tapestry woven by Colorado's prairies, forests, and tundra.

Colorado's Natural Areas







2500  
Old Canyon  
Jt Collins

A Decade of  
Investment & Accomplishment  
1977-1987

# COLORADO NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Hamlet J. Barry III, Executive Director  
DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION  
Ron G. Holliday, Director

For further information contact:

David Kuntz, Director, Natural Areas Program  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
303/866-3311



Martyn - Pls make copy for C-1-3  
DOL  
4/16/77  
m

DEL WTB

Terry ~~your~~ yours

8.



Commissioners

ROWENA ROGERS  
ROBERT D. McPHEE  
TOMMY NEAL



BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS  
Department of Natural Resources  
620 Centennial Building  
1313 Sherman St., Denver, Colorado 80203  
(303) 839-3454

April 11, 1979

ANTHONY SABATINI  
Administrator

THOMAS E. BRETZ  
Minerals Director

ROBERT L. HAPGOOD  
Chief Accountant

RECEIVED

APR 12 1979

CSFS-SO

Mr. Eugene T. Petrone  
Executive Secretary  
State Board of Agriculture  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523

Dear Mr. Petrone:

Re Lease S-36778

We are sending to copies of your Lease S-36778 covering the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area.

Also enclosed is a statement for \$56.50 to cover the rental and related fees as per the attached statement. This amount covers the rental to November 3, 1979.

As per your request a copy of this lease is being sent to Mr. Tom Borden.

It has been a long time working out this agreement, but as you know we had numerous individuals and agencies involved and it was really a matter of cooradinating all the needs of the different agencies and it was held up for many months in the office of the Attorney General.

In any event the agreement is completed and we are looking forward to a meaningful relationship with you.

Very truly yours,

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

Anthony Sabatini  
Administrator

AS/mc

Enclosures 2

cc Tom Borden  
State Forester

Dr. Carol "Carse" Pustmueller



S-36778  
LEASE OF STATE LANDS

THIS LEASE made this 3rd day of November, 1978, by and between the State of Colorado, BOARD of LAND COMMISSIONERS, hereinafter the Lessor, and the State of Colorado, Board of Agriculture for the use and benefit of COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, hereinafter the Lessee.

WHEREAS, the Lessor owns, controls and manages certain land situate in the County of Larimer, State of Colorado, to wit: T. 10 N., R. 70 W., 6th P.M., Sec. 36; and

WHEREAS, a Pinon Grove occupies a portion of said land; and

WHEREAS, the Lessor has entered into Articles of Designation by document signed on November 3, 1978 with the State of Colorado, Department of Natural Resources whereby said Pinon Grove has been designated a scientific and interpretative natural area to be known as the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area; and

WHEREAS, the Lessor desires that the Pinon Grove Area be managed consistent with the purposes for which said area was designated a natural area; and

WHEREAS, the Lessee desires and has the necessary resources to manage said area for said purposes as part of its educational training program; and

WHEREAS, the Lessee recognizes and desires to maintain the uniqueness of the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area.

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the covenants below, it is hereby agreed that:

1. The Lessor shall lease the Pinon Grove Area to the Lessee for educational purposes and for purposes set forth in the Articles of Designation pertaining to said area. Said Articles, which include a legal description of the Pinon Grove Area, are attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and incorporated herein by reference.



2. This lease is subject to all the terms and conditions of the above-referenced Articles of Designation. Pursuant to said Articles, the Lessee shall prepare a comprehensive Management plan which shall at least address the following: the access to the Pinon Grove Area, measures taken to assure that access will only be as intended, scientific research to be undertaken on said area, interpretative use of the area, improvements proposed for said area, and any other matter which will affect the natural state of the area. Said plan shall be submitted to the Lessor and the Department of Natural Resources by no later than May 3, 1979 for approval.

3. The Lessee shall pay the Lessor, at the office of the Lessor, the sum of fifty (50) dollars per year as rental each and every year, in advance, during the term of this lease. Rental will be subject to review and revision annually. To have and to hold, the above premises for a term of ten years, from the 3rd day of November, 1978, to the 3rd day of November, 1988.

4. During the term of this lease the Lessor shall not sell, lease, or grant rights-of-way across the leased premises unless said action would not substantially interfere with the purposes for which this lease was executed.

5. The Lessee may use water produced on the leased premises. However, the Lessor retains ownership to all water rights established thereon or with respect thereto. Any adjudication of such water rights shall be in the name of the Lessor.

6. This lease is only for the purposes set forth herein. In the event the Lessee uses or attempts to use said lease for any other purposes, without the Lessor's written consent, this Lease shall automatically terminate and all rights and privileges granted hereunder shall automatically revert to the Lessor.

7. This lease shall remain in full force and effect unless and until the Articles of Designation are terminated or the Lessee defaults. In either event, the Lessor may elect to terminate this lease with ninety (90) day's prior written notice to the Lessee. This lease may be terminated by the Lessee at any time with ninety (90) days prior written notice to the Lessor.



8. If this lease is terminated, the Lessee shall vacate the premises on or before the effective date of termination and shall remove all equipment, materials, improvements and the like placed thereon. Any equipment, materials, improvements and the like remaining on the property after the termination date shall automatically become the property of the Lessor. Upon termination, the area shall be restored to its condition prior to the execution of this lease.

9. This lease is personal in nature and shall not be assigned or sub-leased.

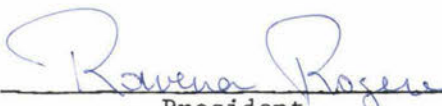
STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

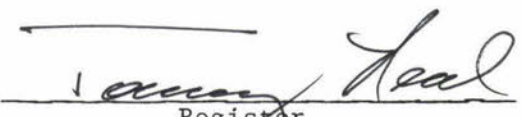
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

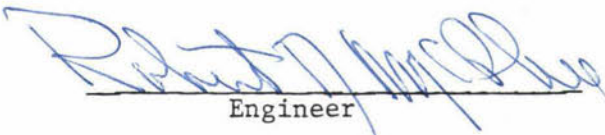
Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

(Seal)

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Register

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Engineer

(Seal)



NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
STATE OF COLORADO  
OWL CANYON PINYON GROVE NATURAL AREA

## ARTICLES OF DESIGNATION

These ARTICLES OF DESIGNATION, made this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 1978, by and between the STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 718, Denver, CO 80203, hereinafter the Department and the STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 620, Denver, CO 80203, hereinafter the Board.

WHEREAS, the Board on behalf of the State of Colorado, controls and manages certain state owned lands, situate in the County of Larimer, State of Colorado, hereinafter the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Board declares that the highest and best use of the Property is that it be preserved and protected; and

WHEREAS, the Department is authorized by the Colorado Natural Areas Act, C.R.S. 1973, 36-10-101, et seq., hereinafter the Act, to administer a Colorado Natural Areas Program, hereinafter the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Act establishes a Natural Areas Council, hereinafter the Council, which advises the Department on the administration of the Program and which approves the designation of Natural Areas by the Department; and

WHEREAS, the Department has determined, pursuant to its criteria, that the Property is a natural area which would be desirable to include within the Colorado Natural Areas System as a designated Natural Area; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the attributes of the Property, the Property provides one or more of the benefits described in C.R.S. 1973, 36-10-104(1).

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed that:

1. Designation of Property as a Natural Area. Upon filing of these Articles of Designation with, and the acceptance of same by, the Department, with the advice and approval of the Council, the Property described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, shall become a designated scientific and interpretive natural area and thereby shall become part of the Colorado Natural Areas System. Said designated natural area shall be known as the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area.



2. Purpose of Designation. The Department has determined, upon recommendation by the Council, that the Property qualifies as a natural area to be included in the Colorado Natural Areas System due to the following:

- a. The Property contains a disjunct population of Pinus edulis (two needle pinyon) which is at the northeastern extremity of its range; and
- b. The Property serves as a study site, historic, present and future, for the biology of Pinus edulis and its associated habitat; and
- c. The Property contains populations of plant species which are of special interest, including uncommon xerophytic ferns such as Pellaea atropurpurea.

This particular property also contains a very important set of archeological sites which are clearly eligible for inclusion on the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

As a result of these attributes, the Property provides, among other benefits, the following benefits:

- a) It serves as an example of the native condition in studies relating to air, water, and soil quality and habitat productivity;
- b) It serves as resource material from which new knowledge may be derived and as a reservoir of genetic material which has present and future value to scientific inquiry;
- c) It provides habitat for rare plant species;
- d) It serves as an outdoor classroom and laboratory for scientific study by students of all ages; and
- e) It serves as an area of natural diversity which enriches the meaning and enjoyment of human life.

3. Rights and Duties of the Department. The Department shall list the Property as a designated natural area of the Colorado Natural Areas System and provide the Board with a Certificate indicating said designation. This designation evidences the desire of the Department that the Property be protected from impacts adversely affecting the attributes for which the Property is designated.



- a. Access. The degree of access granted to the Property will be addressed by the management plan described in Paragraph 4. Such granted access must be consistent with and promote the purposes of this Agreement.
- b. Inspection. The Department shall have the right to inspect the Property from time to time to confirm that it is being used solely for the purposes stated in Paragraph 4.

4. Rights and Duties of the Board. The Board, through its Lessee, shall maintain the Property solely as a natural area, for scientific, educational and aesthetic purposes, and keep the Property entirely in its natural state, excepting the undertaking of scientific research and establishment of such improvements as may be appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes without impairing the essential natural character. A comprehensive management plan will be prepared by the Board through its Lessee and submitted to the Department for approval within six months of the effective date of this agreement. The management of the Property shall be the responsibility of the Board through its Lessee pursuant to the policies and goals described in the management plan which, when approved, will be attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. The Board shall notify the Department upon termination of or execution of any lease or any other document granting a property interest in the Property. All documents affecting the Property executed by the Board subsequent to the date of this Agreement shall be subject to this Agreement, which shall be attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference. Except as so stated, the Board may continue to exercise all of its legally mandated rights and duties regarding the Property.

5. Binding Effect. This Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto and upon any successors in interest to the Property. Any sale or transfer of the Property by the Board shall be subject to this Agreement which shall be attached to any document of purchase or transfer and incorporated therein by reference. The purchaser or transferee shall succeed to the Board's rights and duties hereunder.



6. Default. If any party reasonably believes that any other party is in default in any of its obligations under this Agreement, it may give any other party written notice of the alleged default. Promptly thereafter, the parties shall confer and make a good faith effort to correct the default and to resolve any difference of opinion which may exist as to the respective rights and duties under this Agreement. Default by the Board or its Lessee may result in the removal of the Property from the Colorado Natural Areas System.

7. Termination. If any party desires to terminate this Agreement, it shall so notify any other party and give said other party (ies) an opportunity to confer regarding the reasons for termination. No less than 90 days after said initial notice, the notifying party may terminate this Agreement by notice to said other party (ies). At the Board's request, following termination of this Agreement, the Department shall execute and deliver to the Board a release of all its right, title, and interest in the Property arising out of this Agreement.


8. Notice. All notices to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sent postage prepaid by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested to the addresses first listed above or to such other person or address as the party to be notified may have designated prior thereto by written notice to the other party. Any notice so mailed shall be effective upon receipt.

9. Amendments. These Articles may be amended in writing by the parties hereto with approval of the Council.

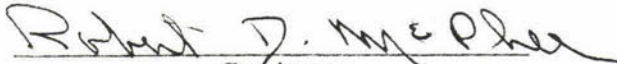


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the day first written above.

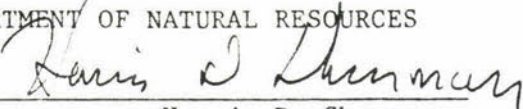
STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

By   
President

Register


  
Engineer

STATE OF COLORADO  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By   
Harris D. Sherman  
Executive Director

APPROVED:

NATURAL AREAS COUNCIL

By   
Sue Cannon  
Chairman

APPROVED:

  
Assistant Attorney General



PIÑON GROVE

Legal Description

A parcel of land being located in the West One-half of the Northeast One-quarter (W/2 NE/4), the Southeast One-quarter of the Northeast One-quarter (SE/4 NE/4), the East One-half of the Northwest One-quarter (E/2 NW/4), and the North One-half of the Southeast One-quarter (N/2 SE/4) of Section Thirty-six (Sec. 36), Township Ten North (T 10 N), Range Seventy West (R 70 W) of the Sixth Principal Meridian (6th P.M.) in Larimer County, State of Colorado;

Being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

Beginning at a point on the north boundary line of said Sec. 36, said point being the north one-quarter corner of said Sec. 36;

Thence North  $89^{\circ} 42'$  West along the north boundary a distance of 450.0 feet to "Corner D";

Thence South  $13^{\circ} 58'$  East a distance of 3,448.0 feet to "Corner A";

Thence South  $88^{\circ} 39'$  East a distance of 403.0 feet to the centerline of railroad trackage ("Station A" of Right-of-way No. 515, Bk. 5);

Thence continuing South  $88^{\circ} 39'$  East a distance of 590.0 feet to "Corner B";

Thence North  $03^{\circ} 09'$  West a distance of 3353.5 feet to a point on the north boundary line of Sec. 36, said point being "Corner C";

Thence North  $89^{\circ} 42'$  West along the north boundary of said Sec. 36, a distance of 1190.0 feet to the point of beginning.

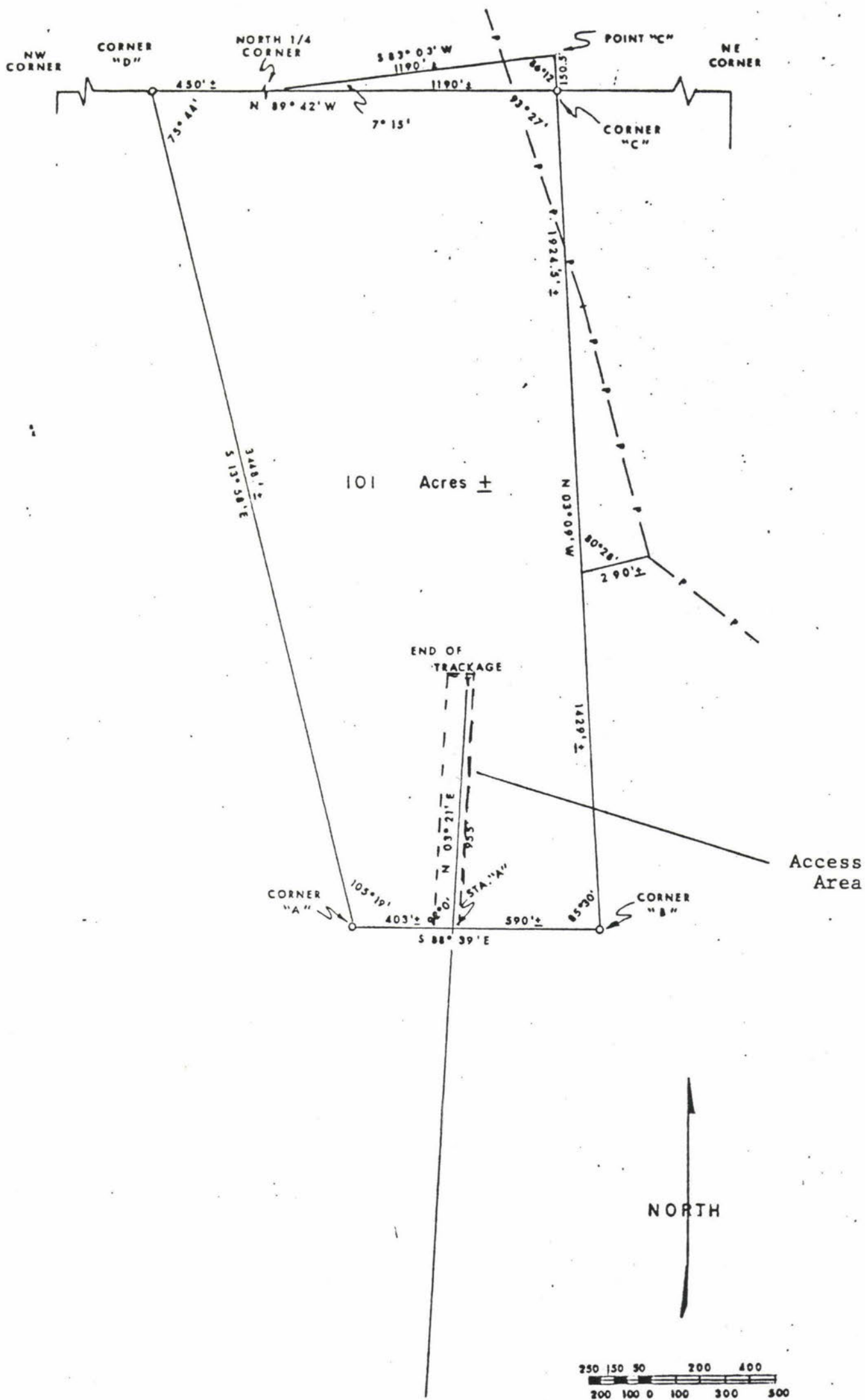
Containing 101 acres more or less.

EXCEPT, a rectangular parcel of land for purposes of ingress, egress and maintenance which extends fifty (50) feet to the East, one hundred (100) feet to the West, and one hundred (100) feet to the North of the Colorado and Southern Railroad Spur.

Bearings based on the assumption that the railroad spur (Right-of Way #515, Bk 5) bears N  $03^{\circ} 21'$  E; North boundary assumed to be N  $89^{\circ} 42'$  W per original G.L.O survey notes, dated January 21, 1878.

This property is diagrammatically represented on the attached page 2.















#### LITERATURE CITED

1. Anderson, Joe M. 1950. A Flora of Baca County, Colorado. Unpublished Master's thesis, University of Colorado.
2. Cain, Stanley A. 1944. Foundations of Plant Geography. New York: Harper and Brothers, 556 pp.
3. Cottle, H. J. 1931. Studies in the vegetation of Southwestern Texas. Ecology, 12. 105-115.
4. Davis, Ralph. 1947. Origin, age, and correlation of the Ingleside Formation of North Central Colorado. Unpublished Master's thesis, University of Colorado.
5. Emerson, Fred W. 1932. The tension zone between the Grama Grass and pinon-juniper association in Northeast New Mexico. Ecology 13 (4): 347-358.
6. Gittings, Edwin B. 1941. Climate of Colorado. U.S. Dept. Agric. Yearbook 1941: 798-808.
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9. Phillips, F. N. 1909. A study of the pinon pine. Bot. Gaz. 48: 216-223.
10. Sweet, A. T. and J. N. Spencer. 1927. Soil survey of the Fort Collins area, Colorado. Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, U. S. Dept. of Agric. Series 1927, no. 27: 1-29.



10/30/19

Tony B

4.



HOLLY SUGAR CORPORATION

Route Slip

Date 10/24/79

To: TOM BORDEN

COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE

From: NEIL STADTMILLER

Please:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handle           | <input type="checkbox"/> Approve and return        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Note and return  | <input type="checkbox"/> Give me your comments     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Note and destroy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For your files |

Remarks: TOM: JUST THOUGHT YOU MIGHT

LIKE TO KNOW WHAT WE ARE DOING

AND THAT YOU MIGHT BE HAVING VISITORS

- I MIGHT EVEN COME.

— Neil

Forward to \_\_\_\_\_



RECEIVED

OCT 26 1979

CSES-SU

October 24, 1979

Mr. Jerry Doherty, President  
Divide Constructors, Inc.  
208 South Bothun Road  
Berthoud, Colorado 80513

Dear Jerry:

Attached is some self explanatory correspondence regarding the Pinon Grove at the Rex Quarry. Our letter was written after discussing it with Leonard--you were not available.

The portions of the Management Plan shows the working of the Permit Plan and "Holds Harmless" Holly and Divide from any outside presence on our holdings. You or Leonard should visit with Tom Borden of the Colorado State Forest Service at Ft. Collins, who will administer the Pinon Grove and work out a communicating system with him, since the Quarry office is often unmanned.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Neil Stadtmiller  
LIMESTONE COORDINATOR

NS/mc  
Attachment

cc: J. C. Cooper  
Leonard Overholt





SUGAR CORPORATION P.O. BOX 1052 COLORADO SPRINGS COLORADO 80901 • (303) 471-0123

October 24, 1979

Dr. Carse Pustmueller  
Director, Colorado Natural Areas Program  
Department of Natural Resources  
1313 Sherman Street  
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Dr. Pustmueller:

Enclosed are the copies of the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Management Plan sent for our signature.

It appears to be an excellent program and we will cooperate with the agencies involved in any way possible.

The Colorado Lien Company has not been our operating contractor since January 1, 1978. Although they still maintain their office and a fine grinding plant on Section 36, their quarrying operations are on the adjacent Section 1, and they would have nothing to do with access to the Pinion Grove.

Our present operating contractor is Divide Constructors, Inc., 201 South Bothun Road, Berthoud, Colorado 80513 and the persons to contact would be:

Jerry Doherty, President--Berthoud, Colorado (303) 532-2453  
Leonard Overholt, Vice-President--Lakewood, Colorado (303) 237-4985  
John Gruner, Business Manager--Berthoud, Colorado (303) 532-3894  
Roy Grass, Quarry Supt.--LaPorte, Colorado (303) 493-0498  
Owl Canyon Quarry Office--(303) 493-5967

We have retyped "Appendix D - Application For Use Permit," adding to the Hold Harmless Clause "Holly Sugar Corporation and its operating contractor," in place of just "Holly Sugar Corporation." A replacement sheet is in each copy to be bound into the Management Plan prior to distribution.

We have notified Divide Constructors of the Management Plan and they will visit with Tom Borden of Colorado Forest Service, in the near future, to work out a mutually satisfactory arrangement to implement the Management Plan Permit procedure.

If you have any comments or if we can assist in any way, please let us hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

Neil Stadtmiller  
Limestone Coordinator

NS/mc

Encl.

cc: W. Newton, II                      L. L. Neville  
     J. C. Cooper                      Divide Constructors, Inc.  
     Mary Adrienne Hupp



# STATE OF COLORADO

## COLORADO NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM

Department of Natural Resources  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718  
Denver, Colorado 80203

Phone (303) 839-3311



Richard D. Lamm  
Governor

Harris D. Sherman  
Executive Director

Carol J. Pustmueller, Ph.D.  
Program Director

October 15, 1979

Neil P. Stadtmiller  
Holly Sugar Corporation  
P.O. Box 1052  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

OCT 22 1979

N.P.S.

Dear Mr. Stadtmiller:

Attached are the copies of the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove promised in the foregoing letter. Because we had to make special printing arrangements for them, there was a two-week delay.

I would like to emphasize that we anticipate a very low level of visitors to the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove--perhaps between 50 to 100 persons per year. Any person(s) wishing to visit the grove will have to present the signed permit at the entrance to the grove, but personnel from your operating contractor will not need to accept any paperwork, or keep any records or forms on file.

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Mary Adrienne Hupp  
Administrative Assistant



VENDOR NO. Beeson

ALPHA		

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

## INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS.

VENDOR NAME

1313 Sherman St.

Denver, CO 80203

1. THE MATERIAL COST DOES NOT EXCEED \$200 UNLESS SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY THE C.S.U. PURCHASING DEPARTMENT. ("SERVICES" PROVIDED ARE NOT LIMITED TO THIS AMOUNT.)
2. THE "APPROVED BY" BLOCK CONTAINS THE SIGNATURE OF AN AUTHORIZED C.S.U. OFFICIAL.
3. ALL MATERIAL DELIVERED IS SPECIFICALLY DESCRIBED AND INDIVIDUAL ITEM AND COST IS ENTERED PRIOR TO CERTIFICATION
4. THE SIGNATURE OF THE C.S.U. EMPLOYEE ACTUALLY RECEIVING THE MATERIAL OR SERVICE IS SECURED IN THE "RECEIPT" BLOCK AND COPY 2 (YELLOW) IS FURNISHED THAT INDIVIDUAL, WHO WILL PROMPTLY RETURN IT TO THE FUND APPROVING OFFICIAL.
5. COPY 1 (WHITE) ATTACHED TO ORIGINAL COPY OF YOUR INVOICE SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO C.S.U., ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SECTION.
6. COPY 3 (GREEN) IS FOR YOUR FILE.

PAY  
TO

DISTRIBUTION				INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	DESCRIBE MATERIALS PURCHASED OR SERVICES PERFORMED	I R  S	AMOUNT
FUND	DEPT.	PROJECT	CLASS					
<b>19</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2255</b>	<b>5541</b>		<b>110379</b>	Rental as per att'd = Owl Canyon Pinon Grove		<b>50.00</b>
						(Lease # S-36778)		
						INTERAGENCY VOUGER		
						TOTAL		
						LESS DISCOUNT		
						TOTAL TO BE PAID ►		<b>50100</b>

GOODS OR SERVICES RECEIPT	INTERNAL SIGNATURES	EXPENDITURE AND PURCHASE APPROVED BY
<p>I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE ITEMS OR SERVICES HAVE BEEN SATISFACTORILY RECEIVED OR PERFORMED.</p> <p><i>Janell Haglund</i> SIGNATURE</p> <p>PHONE 6303      DATE REC'D 11/3/79</p>	<p>DATE _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>DATE <u>12/17/79</u></p> <p><i>Rich Board</i> AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE</p>

REV. 7 / 77

©

**VENDOR COPY**







## OFFICE MEMO

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

REMARKS:

Date

6/12/79

RECEIVED

JUN 13 1979

CSFS:SO

Pinon Plan

Thanks for sending a copy of the Plan. Looks to me to be a concise statement of purpose, opportunities and restrictions - Research, ~~education~~ and natural processes are clearly emphasized. The mechanics for use are not cumbersome. The connection with Colorado Lien (misspelled on page 3) may need to be checked. I heard that they were getting out of the quarry





Department of Anthropology

Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
80523  
June 14, 1979

TO: Terry Beeson  
FROM: Elizabeth A. Morris *EAM*  
SUBJECT: Management Plan for Pinon grove

RECEIVED  
JUN 18 1979  
OSFS-SC

Thank you for sending me the management plan for the Pinon Grove. I regret that I have not been more useful in my participation this year, and I promise to try harder next year.

I have talked to Evan Roberts and he is quite enthusiastic about his involvement in the natural area. I am sure his cooperation will be forthcoming in any way that might be useful in the future.

Here are my comments on the draft management plan. It is clearly written and very informative on the whole.

Page 2. para. 2. line 2.

I recommend, "One excavated archaeological site exists on the area and others have been located by the Department of Anthropology, Colorado State University and members of the Fort Collins Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society. Site records are on file at the Office of the State Archaeologist.



6/18

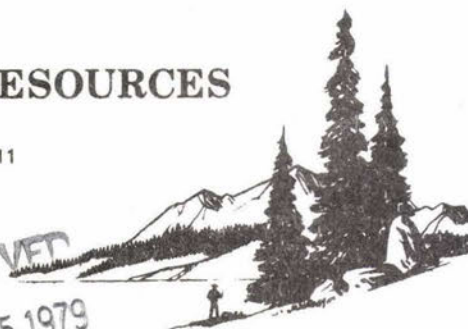
*Tony Rong*

STATE OF COLORADO RICHARD D. LAMM, Governor

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

HARRIS D. SHERMAN, Executive Director  
1313 Sherman St., Room 718, Denver, Colorado 80203 839-3311

RECEIVED  
JUN 15 1979  
GSES-SO



Board of Land Commissioners  
Division of Administration  
Division of Mines  
Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation  
Division of Water Resources  
Division of Wildlife  
Geological Survey  
Oil and Gas Conservation Commission  
Soil Conservation Board  
Water Conservation Board  
Mined Land Reclamation

Harris D. Sherman, Executive Director of the Department of Natural Resources, invites you to attend official ceremonies designating the White Rocks area in Boulder County as a Colorado Natural Area.

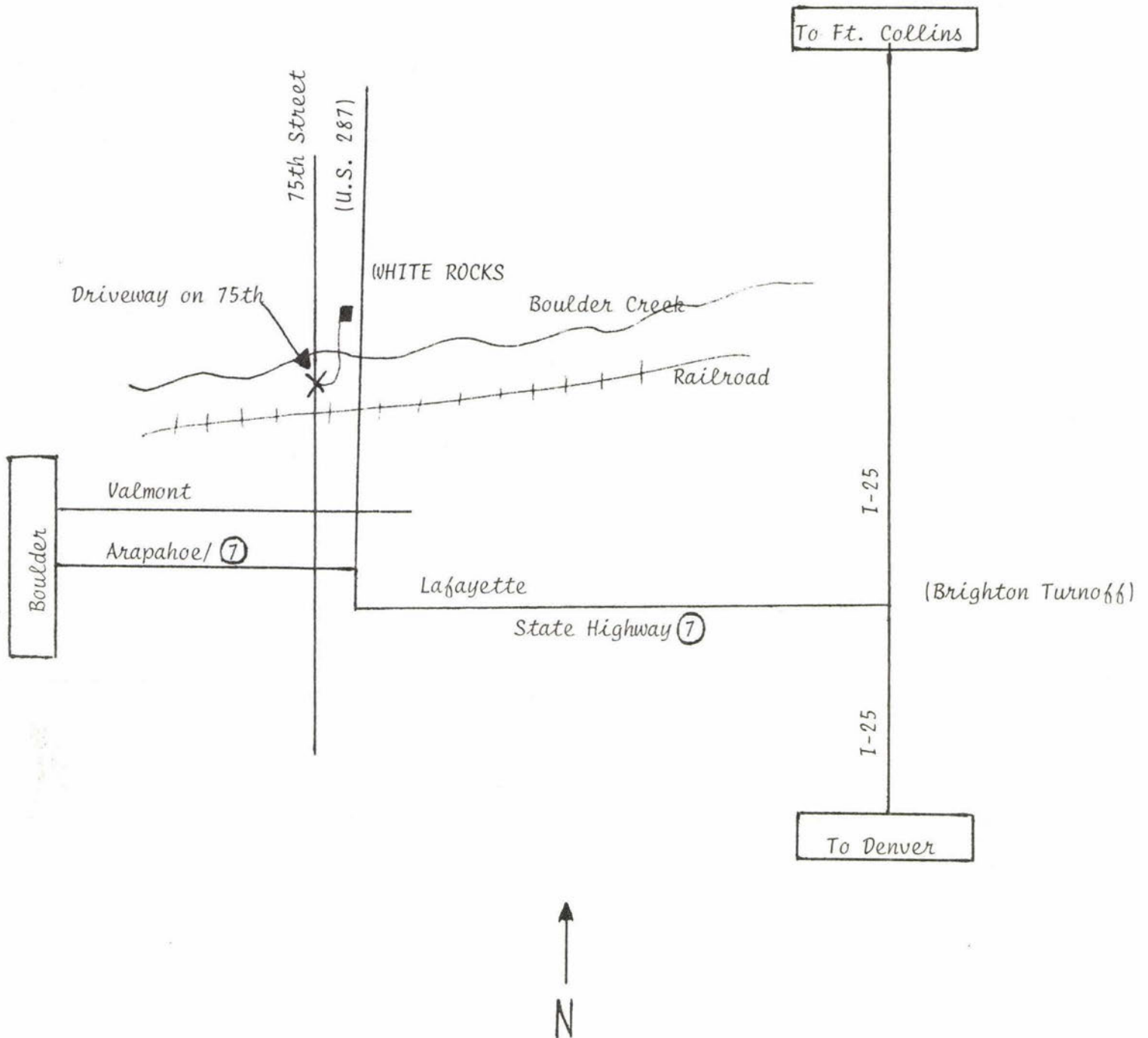
Ceremonies will be held Tuesday, June 26, 1979, at 9:30 a.m., on the White Rocks site, 4020 75th Street, east of Boulder. Signs will be posted at the head of the driveway on 75th Street, and along the driveway to marked parking areas. (See map on reverse.) Since parking is limited, we encourage you to carpool with other members of your agency or institution, or with friends.

The ceremonies will be held on the White Rocks themselves, so please wear appropriate clothing. Allow sufficient time to park and walk to the location of the ceremonies, about a quarter-mile from the parking area. Additional information will be available at the site, or may be obtained by calling 839-3337.

The White Rocks Natural Area contains a major outcrop of Fox Hills and Laramie Sandstones; the only known North American locality of the fern, Asplenium andrewsii; and several rare species of insects.

The Colorado Natural Areas Program  
Carse Pustmueller, Ph.D, Director  
Mary A. Hupp, Adm. Assistant







# Owl Canyon Piñon Grove

## What

202 Acres

North east stand

Designated Natural Area

Pinon 80% Juniper 20%

Sandstone

Limestone < Quarrying  
Holly

Interest in Preserving \* read clipping

Where - 12 mi north

Disjunct Population

Other populations

When Established ? 400 yrs

Age dist 1-400

uneven aged - groups

Wrights 1952 theory

spread from largest

(30" + Dbh - 400 yrs

## How

PG established

Outpost

relict

Planting

## Administration

Land Bk Agreement

Csu → CSFS

Management plan

Goals

System

## Summary

Evidence of concern



# STATE OF COLORADO

## COLORADO NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM

Department of Natural Resources  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718  
Denver, Colorado 80203

Phone (303) 839-3311



Richard D. Lamm  
Governor

Harris D. Sherman  
Executive Director

Carol J. Pustmuelier, Ph.D.  
Program Director

To: Rowena Rogers, Tommy Neal, and William Clare  
State Board of Land Commissioners

J. Evan and Catherine Roberts, Roberts' Ranch

Thomas B. Borden and Terry Beeson, Colorado State Forest Service

Neil Stadtmiller, Holly Sugar Corporation

From: Carse Pustmuelier *CP*

Date: November 23, 1979

Re: The Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Management Plan

Attached for each of you is a signed copy of the Management Plan for the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove. We are very pleased that the efforts and cooperation of all of you have made this product possible. The process is now established for the protection of the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove. It identifies a procedure allowing access to those with a genuine interest and appreciation for the grove. A special word of commendation is due to Terry Beeson, who is responsible for this management plan, and to Thomas Borden, head of the Colorado State Forest Service. The Forest Service will monitor the condition of the grove, and maintain a record of activities conducted on it. Neil Stadtmiller, of the Holly Sugar Corporation, has pledged that company's cooperation in the means of access, and has given time and effort unselfishly to this project. Finally, special thanks must go to J. Evan and Catherine Roberts, who for years have sought a means of protecting and preserving the grove, and to the State Board of Land Commissioners, both of which, by designating properties under their ownership, have made a lasting contribution to the welfare, education, and enjoyment of the people of Colorado.

There are a few changes in the management plan which we would like to call to your attention. Some are relatively minor--the acreage figure on page 1 now reflects the addition of Roberts' Ranch, and certain appendices which were not available at the time of the initial printing have now been included. The most significant changes are the inclusion of Holly Sugar Corporation and its operating contractor in matters related to access and on the permit application "hold harmless clause" and the permit itself. Originally the management plan read "the Colorado Lein Company," which is no longer acting as Holly Sugar's operating contractor, though that company does continue to operate a grinding plant near the natural area.



Memorandum

The Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Management Plan

Page 2

We would also like to reiterate that this management plan is not writ in stone; review and revision is anticipated by the Colorado State Forest Service. However, should any major changes in operating procedure be necessary, all signatories to the plan will be notified for their consideration and approval.

Once again, thank you all for your contributions of time, resources and personal effort to this project.





Office of the President

Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
80523

RECEIVED


OCT 24 1978

October 23, 1978

M E M O R A N D U M

CSFS-SO

TO: Tom Borden, Director  
Colorado State Forest Service

FROM: A. R. Chamberlain 

SUBJECT: Owl Canyon Pinon Grove

Various members of the University faculty and staff have been negotiating with the State Land Board and with the Natural Areas Council to obtain University management control of the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove. This grove of trees, of considerable research programmatic interest to a number of our departments, was originally included in a tract of land leased to Holly Sugar for cement mining. Holly Sugar has now agreed to relinquish its rights to the tract of land containing the pinon trees and the State Land Board has agreed to name the area a state natural area under the management jurisdiction of Colorado State University.

In accordance with my memo to you dated June 12, 1978, I hereby designate the Colorado State Forest Service to administer, manage and protect the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove in cooperation with other interested University departments. The final contract between the State Land Board and the State Board of Agriculture is expected to contain a clause requiring the University to present a management plan within six months of contract signing. We have had some indications that Governor Lamm may wish to come to CSU to participate in a ceremony commemorating this agreement sometime between now and the first week of November.

cc: M. A. Binkley  
J. R. Hehn  
D. L. McClintock  
J. R. Bennett  
J. M. Hughes  
E. T. Petrone



Send to attached list

From Terry Buron

Subject Management Agreement - Piñon Grove

Enclosed is a copy of the Articles of Designation ~~State~~ and management agreement (lease of State lands) to serve as the basis for our work on the management plan and in future. A copy of the Natural Areas Statute is also included as well as the letter from A.R. Chamberlain designating the State Forest Service as administering agency.

I hope to have a rough outline for the management plan to you ~~before~~ before our next meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Dec.

Terry

list - Dick Ward (Botany)  
Gil Fechner 7dws  
Ralph Dix Botany  
Wayne Brewer zoo & ENT  
Liz Morris Anthropology  
Frank Hawksworth RMFRES  
Howard Alden Rec



## CHAPTER 471

## NATURAL RESOURCES — GENERAL

## COLORADO NATURAL AREAS

SENATE BILL NO. 480. BY SENATORS L. Fowler, Gallagher, Hatcher, Anderson, Comer, Harding, Meiklejohn, Plock, Stewart, and Wunsch; also REPRESENTATIVES T aylor, Dick, Frank, Jones, Witherspoon, Cantrell, DeMoulin, Hilsmeier, Hume, Knox, Lloyd, McElderry, Smith, and Zakhem.

## AN ACT

CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COLORADO NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM, AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION THEREFOR.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

Section 1. Title 36, Colorado Revised Statutes 1973, as amended, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW ARTICLE to read:

## ARTICLE 10

## Colorado Natural Areas

**36-10-101. Short title.** This article shall be known and may be cited as the "Colorado Natural Areas Act".

**36-10-102. Legislative declaration.** The general assembly hereby finds and declares that certain lands and waters of this state representing diverse ecosystems, ecological communities, and other natural features or phenomena, which are our natural heritage, are increasingly threatened with irreversible change and are in need of special identification and protection and that it is in the public interest of present and future generations to preserve, protect, perpetuate, and enhance specific examples of these natural features and phenomena as an enduring resource. It is the intent of this article to provide a means by which these natural features and phenomena can be identified, evaluated, and protected through a statewide system of designated natural areas.

**36-10-103. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Articles" or "articles of designation" means the articles of designation filed by or at the direction of the owner of a natural area or a govern-

*Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.*

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**36-10-105.**  
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ment agency having ownership or control thereof with the department and accepted by the department in the process of the designation of a natural area as provided in section 36-10-108.

(2) "Council" means the natural areas council created by section 36-10-106 within the department of natural resources.

(3) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(4) "Designated natural area" means a natural area which is formally designated under the provisions of this article.

(5) "Director" means the executive director of the department of natural resources.

(6) "Natural area" means a physical and biological area which either retains or has reestablished its natural character, although it need not be completely undisturbed, and which typifies native vegetation and associated biological and geological features or provides habitat for rare or endangered animal or plant species or includes geologic or other natural features of scientific or educational value.

(7) "Program" means the statewide Colorado natural areas program established by this article.

(8) "Registry" means the list of natural areas inventoried by the department.

(9) "System" means those natural areas designated under the provisions of this article for which articles of designation have been accepted.

**36-10-104. Colorado natural areas program.** (1) There is hereby established a statewide Colorado natural areas program to implement the intent and provisions of this article. The program shall be administered by the department with the advice of the natural areas council.

(2) The program shall identify and protect certain natural areas in this state which provide, among other benefits, the following benefits:

(a) Serve as examples of the native condition in studies relating to air, water, and soil quality and habitat productivity;

(b) Serve as resource material from which new knowledge may be derived and as a reservoir of genetic material which has present and future value to scientific inquiry;

(c) Provide habitat for rare or endangered animal or plant species;

(d) Serve as outdoor classrooms and laboratories for scientific study by students of all ages; or

(e) Serve as areas of natural beauty, inspiration, and diversity which meet mankind's spiritual and aesthetic needs and which enrich the meaning and enjoyment of human life.

**36-10-105. Powers and duties of the department.** (1) (a) The department, through its director, shall administer the program in accordance with the provisions of this article, with the advice and approval of the council, and shall have the following additional powers and duties:



(I) To establish a systematic inventory of natural areas of the state and maintain a registry of such natural areas;

(II) To establish criteria by which inventoried natural areas can be evaluated and selected for formal inclusion in the system;

(III) To promulgate rules for the designation of natural areas and for the development of plans for the management and use of designated natural areas;

(IV) To seek and approve the designation of natural areas under the provisions of section 36-10-108; and, when necessary, to acquire by gift, devise, or grant the fee or other interest in real property or accept, under the provisions of section 36-10-108, the designation of real property for inclusion in the system; except that the department shall not have the power of eminent domain for such purposes and, that the department shall, promptly, after acquisition of said interest, convey the same to such agency or department of the state or its political subdivisions as it may select in agreement with such agency or department, attaching such conditions as it deems necessary.

(V) To encourage and oversee scientific research and educational use of the designated natural areas; to conduct or encourage conduction of interpretive programs and to establish and disseminate information and recommendations pertaining to the system and other natural areas;

(VI) To administer and enforce the provision of this article and rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, including the provisions of the articles of a designated natural area; except that the department shall have no regulatory jurisdiction over lands or interests therein which are not part of the system;

(VII) To cooperate and contract with any federal, state, or local governmental agency, educational institution, private organization or individual for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this article;

(VIII) To publish and submit to the governor every three years, or more often as it deems necessary, a report on the status and condition of each designated natural area and each natural area in the registry; and

(IX) To accept and disburse moneys and grants made available to the department under the provisions of any federal law for the purposes of this article.

(b) It shall not be a permitted function of the department under this article to make or pursue direct or indirect objection or opposition before any governing body to any application for development of private lands which have not been made subject to articles of designation under section 36-10-108.

**36-10-106. Colorado natural areas council.** (1) There is hereby created the Colorado natural areas council as a part of the office of the executive director of the department. The council shall advise the department on the administration of the program and shall approve the designation of natural areas by the department.

(2) The council shall consist of the following seven members: One member each from the membership of the board of parks and outdoor recreation, the wildlife commission, and the state board of land commissioners

appointed by beginning July shall be individual areas.

(3) The member appointed for each for term 1981. Annually shall be appointed commencing on January 1, 1981, appointments council shall be by the governor.

(4) The council from among July 1977, and members biennial shall constitute.

(5) Membership on the council the performance.

(6) The council form its duties department.

(7) The council of each calendar be open to 1 chairman and by two or more meeting shall.

(8) The council vices require.

**36-10-107** ing powers

(a) To establish

(b) To maintain registry of

(c) To acquire for and sell

(d) To maintain, manage

(e) To maintain as public

(f) To educate education designated



appointed by their respective board or commission for three-year terms beginning July 1, 1977, and four members appointed by the governor who shall be individuals with substantial interest in the preservation of natural areas.

(3) The members of the council first appointed by the governor shall be appointed for original terms beginning July 1, 1977, as follows: One member each for terms ending on June 30 in each of the years 1978, 1979, 1980, and 1981. Annually thereafter, as the term of a member expires, his successor shall be appointed by the governor to serve for a term of four years, commencing on July 1. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments for the balance of the unexpired term. All members of the council shall be residents of the state of Colorado, and no member appointed by the governor shall serve longer than two successive terms.

(4) The council shall, by majority vote of all members, elect its chairman from among the members appointed by the governor at its first meeting in July 1977, and the council shall elect its chairman from among such appointed members biannually thereafter. A simple majority of the council membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(5) Members of the council shall receive no compensation for their service on the council but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(6) The council created by this section shall exercise its powers and perform its duties and functions as if transferred by a **type 2** transfer to the department.

(7) The council shall hold at least one regular meeting in each quarter of each calendar year and shall keep a record of its proceeding, which shall be open to the public for inspection. Special meetings may be called by the chairman and shall be called by him upon written request therefor signed by two or more members. A written notice of the time and place of each meeting shall be sent to each member.

(8) The department shall furnish clerical, technical, legal, and other services required by the council in the performance of its official duties.

**36-10-107. Duties of the council.** (1) The council shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To establish procedures for the conduct of council business;

(b) To review and make recommendations regarding the inventory and registry of natural areas;

(c) To review and make recommendations on the department's criteria for and selection of natural areas to be included in the system;

(d) To advise the department of the promulgation of rules for the designation, management, protection, and use of designated natural areas;

(e) To seek and approve the designation of natural areas by the department as part of the system as provided in section 36-10-108;

(f) To review and make recommendations regarding scientific research, educational use, interpretive programs, and public information pertaining to designated natural areas;







divisions are empowered and urged to recommend to the department natural areas within their jurisdictions for inclusion in the system. In addition, all such public entities shall cooperate with the department for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this article.

**36-10-111. Periodic evaluation to be made by department.** The department shall make an evaluation of each designated natural area every three years, or more often as it deems necessary, to determine whether it is being administered in accordance with the conditions and provisions of the articles of designation. If such conditions and provisions are not continuing to be met, the department may remove the area from the system.

**36-10-112. Supplemental protection.** The provisions of this article shall supplement and not replace or otherwise affect any existing protective status a designated natural area may have under any other law.

**36-10-113. Legislative review.** The council shall be terminated on July 1, 1984, unless the general assembly votes to renew the legislative mandate of this article. Absent a vote to renew this article, the council shall cease all operations within a twelve-month period after July 1, 1983.

Section 2. **24-1-124. Colorado Revised Statutes 1973, as amended, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:**

**24-1-124. Department of natural resources — creation — divisions of.** (5) The department of natural resources shall include the natural areas council, created by article 10 of title 36, C.R.S. 1973. Said council shall exercise its powers and perform its duties and functions as if transferred by a type 2 transfer to the department of natural resources.

**Section 3. Appropriation.** There is hereby appropriated, to the department of natural resources, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1977, for the implementation of this act, the sum of thirty-eight thousand twenty-four dollars (\$38,024), or so much thereof as may be necessary, of which amount, nineteen thousand five hundred thirty-seven dollars (\$19,537) shall be from the general fund and eighteen thousand four hundred eighty-seven dollars (\$18,487) shall be from federal funds.

**Section 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: July 1, 1977




RECEIVED  
OCT 25 1978  
CSFS-SC



Office of Vice President for Finance

Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
80523

October 23, 1978

TO: Tom Borden  
FROM: Dave McClintock   
SUBJECT: Owl Canyon Pinon Grove

Attached is a copy of the carry-in Board agenda item on this subject together with the Articles of Designation making it a State Natural Area and the draft agreement between CSU and the State Land Board. The latter agreement is still subject to review by the State Land Board so if you have problems with any part of it you might wish to communicate them to Joe Goldhammer at his Denver office (1-839-3611).

The Natural Areas Council seems to be particularly interested in seeing some kind of program steering committee established for the Grove. I know of the following individuals who have expressed an interest in the Grove:

- ✓ Dick Ward (Botany)
- ✓ Gil Fechner (Forest and Wood Sciences)
- ✓ Ralph Dix (Botany)
- ✓ Wayne Brewer (Zoology and Entomology)
- Liz Morris (Anthropology)
- Frank Hawksworth (~~Botany~~) *RMFRES interested*
- ✓ Howard Alden (Recreation Resources)

Howard Alden has also just been appointed to the Natural Resources Council.

DLM:es

Attachment



MATTERS FOR ACTION:

Lease: Owl Canyon Pinon Grove

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOVED, That the President and Secretary of the Board be and are authorized to enter into a lease with the State Board of Land Commissioners for the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove located in Section 36, T10N, R70W of the 6th P.M.

EXPLANATION:

The property contains a unique population of two needle pinon pine trees which represent the northeastern extremity of the tree's range. It has long served as the site of University research and teaching programs in ecology, botany, zoology, and archeology. The site had been leased out for limestone exploitation but, due to the joint efforts of University faculty, the State Department of Natural Resources, and the Natural Areas Council, has been designated by the State Board of Land Commissioners as a State Natural Area. (Articles of Designation attached.)

The site is to be leased to Colorado State University (draft attached) and managed by the Colorado State Forest Service in accordance with the Articles of Designation. The draft lease has been approved by J. M. Goldhammer but is subject to further review by the Board of Land Commissioners staff. The Board may require an annual lease payment of grazing fee proportions (approximately \$50 per year). It is requested that the President and Secretary of the Board be authorized to sign the lease in its final form for the University.



SITE EVALUATION FORM

COLORADO NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Name of area Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove County Larimer  
Classification type Plant community/special plants Est. acreage 101  
Location: USGS 7.5' Quad Livermore T/R/S T. 10N, R. 70W, Sec. 36, 6PM  
Latitude 40° 45' " Longitude 105° 10' "  
Colorado County Format Series Map/Coordinates \_\_\_\_\_  
Description (map attached): Twenty five miles north of Fort Collins on  
Highway 285.  
Primary attributes: Northeasternmost stand on Pinyon Pine in the world.  
Elevation \_\_\_\_\_

Part A. Owner contact

Owner's name: State Board of Land Commissioners  
Address: 1313 Sherman, Room 718, Denver, CO 80203  
Phone: 839-3454  
Contact: Ms. Rowena Rogers

Part B. Biologic and Physical Criteria

1. Knowledge: General description of area including known attributes and documentation: Farthest northeastern most stand of *Pinus edulis*. Area  
is also of archeological interest & scientific interest. Used as  
botany classroom by C.S.U. and is aesthetically, scenically pleasing.  
Ingleside limestone outcrop.
2. Representation: To what degree is this type area represented on registry or in system? one of first added to Registry
3. Disturbance: Describe present and past land use of site with attention to degree of human disturbance. Limestone quarrying since 1924; mining  
rights recently removed; remaining grove remains relatively undisturbed.
4. Size and buffer: Is the size and potentially available buffer adequate to protect key elements? needs additional protection on north end.  
Only feasible extension.



5. Quality:

Ecologic factors:

- a. Characteristic of an ecologic type or types Pinyon Pine Plant Community
- b. Relatively stable, e.g. climax, community Pinyon Pine
- c. Illustrates succession or restoration \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Habitat supporting endangered, rare, endemic, or restricted species \_\_\_\_\_
- e. A relict flora or fauna \_\_\_\_\_
- f. Seasonal animal concentrations, e.g. migration routes \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Evidence illustrating important scientific discoveries \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Species at extremities of their range Pinyon Pine
- i. Species with unique anatomical, physiological and behavioral adaptations \_\_\_\_\_
- j. Study site for the biology of a particular species or taxonomic group Pinyon Pine
- k. Well-developed, diverse, or unusual community structure \_\_\_\_\_

Non-ecologic factors:

- a. Outstanding geologic formations \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Significant fossil evidence \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Scenic grandeur, high aesthetic value, or unusual features \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Classic research and/or educational functions \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Other Archeological digs supervised by State Historic Preservation Officer
6. Use: Describe potential use of area for scientific, interpretive, scenic purposes: Scientific natural area for use by permission only
7. Further reference: Pertinent letter from Land Board files; application for mining and reclamation permit; newspaper releases; thesis by C.W. Wright; thesis by Joyce Ann Quinn; grant proposal by R.J. Burgess to Colorado Historical Society

Date completed: January 12, 1979

By: Carse Pustmueller



$S\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec 26 and  $NE\frac{1}{2}$  of  $S\overset{W}{\cancel{\#}}\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec 26  
all in T10N, R 70W in Larimer Co.



## OFFICE MEMO

**TO:** Tom Ostermann

**Date** March 19, 1985

**FROM:** Ray Mehaffey

*Ray Mehaffey*

**SUBJECT:** Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove

**REMARKS:** I received a call from Don Benson of the Division of Wildlife. They received a donation of 317 acres from a Mrs. Brackenbury. The land adjoins the Pinyon Grove at Owl Canyon.

The DOW plans area to turn the property over to the Colorado Natural Areas Council via a 99 year lease arrangement. The NAC assumes that the CSFS will "manage" the property along with Owl Canyon.

Don was asking questions about "our" policy for hunting at the Pinyon Grove. I could not answer them since I have not received the information on Owl Canyon and Pingree Park that I requested several weeks ago. Would you please send me the folder (or a copy) on Owl Canyon. What does it cost in time and money to administer the Natural Area? Do we attend NAC meetings or do they have regularly scheduled meetings?

I am to get with Roy Brown of DOW sometime after April 20th to discuss/look at the situation. Do you wish to participate?

RLMkrp

Note: Don Benson 482-6575



## OFFICE MEMO

**TO:** Ray Mehaffey  
**FROM:** Bill Wilcox *BW*  
**SUBJECT:** Pingree Park and Owl Canyon  
**REMARKS:**

**Date** November 30, 1984

Please assume responsibility for the forest management of Pingree Park and Owl Canyon Natural Area previously assigned to Terry Beeson by Tom Borden.

I checked briefly in the correspondence files to see if a detailed list of responsibilities specific to these properties could be found and was unsuccessful in locating anything. Therefore you will have to ferret out for yourself all the background correspondence, management plans, and record of activities. Terry Beeson and Tom Ostermann would be glad to help you get up to speed on these properties and acquaint you with any additional responsibilities that I have overlooked.

WRW:MG  
attachment

cc: Terry Beeson  
Tom Ostermann  
Jim Hubbard

*1/29/85*

*Tom,*

*When you get some free time the latter part of February or early March, could we get together and bring me up to speed.*

*Ray*

DEC 3

1984

# STATE OF COLORADO

## Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation Colorado Natural Areas Program

1313 Sherman Street, Rm. 618  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
Phone (303) 866-3437

cc: Tom  
Ray M



October 7, 1988

Mr. Jim Hubbard, State Forester  
Colorado State Forest Service  
Colorado State University  
Ft. Collins, Colorado 80523

Mr. Walt Graul, Regional Supervisor  
Colorado Division of Wildlife  
317 West Prospect Street  
Ft. Collins, Colorado 80526

Dear Walt and Jim:

I updated the Colorado Natural Areas Council at its September meeting in Meeker on the current situation at the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area and the Division of Wildlife's Brackenbury property. The following summary captures the essence of the Council discussion.

o Retain Natural Areas Designation for Brackenbury Property

The Council recommended retaining the entire Brackenbury property (north and south of U.S. 287) in the designated Colorado Natural Area. The Council determined that the Brackenbury property provides a valuable buffer for the main part of the pinyon grove, in addition to the good quality grassland (north portion) and the archeological value and pinyon trees on the property. The Council supported the development of educational and interpretive uses for the Brackenbury property, although it was unwilling to specify how that development might be accomplished.

o Revise and Update Owl Canyon Management Plan

The Council supported revising and updating the Owl Canyon Management Plan to include the Brackenbury property and to address current management issues. The Council indicated that it was satisfied with Colorado State Forest Service management oversight for Owl Canyon, although it recommended improving and strengthening the efficiency of the access permit process. The Council directed Program staff to coordinate with the Division of Wildlife and State Forest Service to complete the management plan. As part of that process I will request an opinion from the State Archeologist regarding the significance and condition of the Folsom site.

OCT 24 1988  
FT. COLLINS DISTRICT  
DF  
ADF  
FOR  
SEC  
DED  
TSI

Roy Romer  
Governor  
Ron C. Holliday  
Director  
David W. Kuntz  
Program Administrator



o Continue to Permit Public Access by State Forest Service

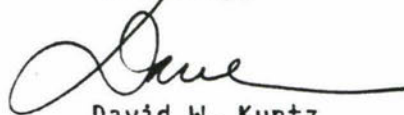
The Council determined that more information was needed before it could make a recommendation on the public access issue. The Council directed Program staff to evaluate public access during the revision of the Owl Canyon Management Plan. The Council indicated that controlled public access is desirable within the constraints of existing and future land uses on the Brackenbury property. Council recommended continuing the permit system used by the State Forest Service.

Council action did not specifically address the question of retaining the Brackenbury property in public ownership. I am assuming that the Council supports retaining the Brackenbury property in public ownership, since the Council supported retaining the Colorado Natural Area designation for the property. The Council briefly discussed the possibility of the Colorado Division of Parks assuming management responsibility for Owl Canyon. The Council decided to wait until the Owl Canyon management plan is revised before recommending a change in agency management. This makes more sense. Activities of permits are related more to wildlife than trees. Ron

All of the interested parties agree on the desirability of revising the Owl Canyon Management Plan. I will work with you on setting a meeting date to begin that process and to prepare a revised draft of the management plan for that meeting.

Thanks very much for your help and willingness to resolve the management issues at Owl Canyon. I will be in touch soon and look forward to getting together with you. Be sure to let me know if loose ends remain on this end regarding recommendations from the Natural Areas Council.

Sincerely,



David W. Kuntz  
Director  
Colorado Natural Areas Program

DWK:11:2730A

cc: John Wilkes, SLB  
Ron Holliday, DPOR

# STATE OF COLORADO

## BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

620 Centennial Building  
1313 Sherman St., Denver, Colorado 80203  
(303) 866-3454

Department of Natural Resources



OCTOBER 12, 1989

COLORADO BOARD OF AGRICULTURE  
CSU - 202 ADMINISTRATION BLDG.  
FT. COLLINS, CO. 80523

50461

Commissioners

ROBERT R. MAILANDER  
JOHN S. WILKES III

NOV 21 1989

FT. COLLINS DISTRICT

### NOTICE OF PAYMENT DUE ANNUAL BILLING

FOR LEASE NUMBER: S-39468 (Owl Canyon Pinion Grove)  
THIS PAYMENT IS DUE ON OR BEFORE: 11/12/89

ACRES	USE	TOTAL	AVERAGE RATE/ACRE
10T	OTHER	\$ 9.00	1.00 PER YEAR
	ANNUAL RENTAL	\$ 9.00	
	BOND PREMIUM		
	TOTAL DUE	\$ 9.00	

PLEASE NOTE BILLING IS FOR 11/3/89 THRU 11/3/98 - THE FULL TERM OF LEASE

Has been paid.  
Oct 25-89

INTEREST ASSESSMENT AND PENALTY ON DELINQUENT PAYMENTS SHALL BE BASED ON THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT OR STATE STATUTE WHICHEVER IS APPLICABLE.

IF YOU WISH A COPY OF OUR RECEIPT, PLEASE SEND A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WITH YOUR PAYMENT. MAKE CHECK(S) PAYABLE TO STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS. \*RETURN ONE COPY OF THIS INVOICE\* WITH PAYMENT TO THE STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS, 1313 SHERMAN ST., ROOM 620, DENVER, CO 80203

ANTHONY SABATINI  
Administrator

LR. LADWIG  
Minerals Director

RUTH J. KARY  
Deputy Register



STATE OF COLORADO  
Board of Land Commissioners

Date: September 27, 1989

Board Order No. 89-281

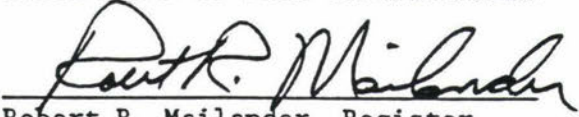
Re: Lease S-39468

cc: Lease S-39468

Remarks:

At the regular meeting of September 27, 1989, the Board set the rental on Lease S-39468, held by the State Board of Agriculture for the use and benefit of Colorado State University, to \$1.00 per year for the full term of the lease--not to be adjusted.

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

  
Robert R. Mailander, Register

  
John S. Wilkes, Engineer

Minutes 9-27-89  
mlp

OCT 3 1989

  
OCT 16 1989

VICE PRESIDENT FOR  
ADMINISTRATION

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
OFFICE OF  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Date: 10-25-89

TO: Jim Hubbard ~~AK~~ → Tom O.  
C.S.F.S.

FROM: Art Jesser

- ☐ For your disposition
- ☒ For your information
- ☐ For your files
- ☐ Please note and return
- ☐ Please reply
- ☐ Please sign and return

Notes \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



2310 ?

STATE OF COLORADO  
Roy Romer, Governor  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
**DIVISION OF WILDLIFE**

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Perry D. Olson, Director  
6060 Broadway  
Denver, Colorado 80216  
Telephone: (303) 297-1192

REFER TO:



February 1, 1990

Raymond L. Mehaffey  
CSFS Ft. Collins District  
Colorado State University  
Foothills Building #1052  
Ft. Collins, CO 80521

Dear Mr. Mehaffey;

This letter is to serve as authorization for your office to issue permits for access to the Brackenberry State Wildlife Area. Please administer those permits according to the guidelines currently in place for the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area.

This authorization is in effect until the completion of a new management plan for the Natural Area.

Thank you for your assistance with these permits.

Respectfully yours,

*Walt Graul*  
Walt Graul  
Regional Manager

FEB 5 1990  
FT. COLLINS DISTRICT  
DF RF  
AD RF  
FC RF  
SF RF  
Q RF  
T RF  
File w/ Owl Canyon

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Hamlet J. Barry, Executive Director

WILDLIFE COMMISSION, George VanDenBerg, Chairman • Robert L. Freidenberger, Vice Chairman • William R. Hegberg, Secretary  
Eldon W. Cooper, Member • Rebecca L. Frank, Member • Dennis Luttrell, Member • Gene B. Peterson, Member • Larry M. Wright, Member

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 24, 1990  
TO: District Foresters and Area Foresters  
FROM: Tom Ostermann *TO*  
SUBJECT: Natural Areas Program

Attached is a brochure on Colorado's Natural Areas program. It is set up to "manage" unique areas for the benefit of the unique resource.

There are not very many of these on private property; however, there may be unique areas that are deserving of natural area status on private ground. If an area is designated a natural area, the landowner may be able to gain some tax advantages through the granting of a conservation easement to a state agency. This does not eliminate the benefits of ownership or limit management work on the property. It can be managed in such a way as to enhance the "unique" aspect of the area.

Potential natural areas should be considered in the stewardship program on your district.

paw

Attachment

JAN 25 1990  
FT. COLLINS DISTRICT  
DF Re  
ADF     
FOR     
SEC     
DED     
TSI     
File w/ Owl Canyon



# COLORADO NATURAL AREAS: AN INVESTMENT IN COLORADO'S FUTURE



**"These areas are part  
of Colorado's natural  
heritage . . ."**

**Colorado's Natural Areas**  
1313 Sherman, Suite 618  
Denver, CO 80203  
(303) 866-3437

Please take care of Colorado. Know and understand the value of its  
natural heritage and contribute to the protection of native Colorado and  
its rare natural features with your time, money or land. Your help is  
needed now. Do something natural—native Colorado depends on you.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP

# Colorado's Natural Areas

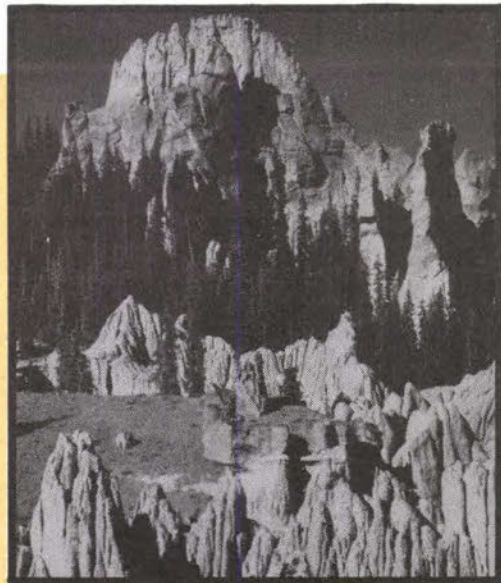
## THE LEGACY

Colorado is a natural crossroads—a place where the coming together of  
geographic and geologic forces creates natural, breathtaking splendor.  
Only 200 years ago, explorers passed through Colorado to find gold,  
secure territory, follow rivers and chart western routes. Escalante,  
Pike, Fremont, Long, Powell, King and Hayden mapped and recorded the  
Colorado frontier: the eastern shortgrass prairies, the mountain back-  
bone, the rugged plateaus and the slickrock canyons.

Much has changed on the Colorado landscape during the past century.  
The scouring and filling of wind, water and sand has been dramatically  
accelerated by human settlement and development. "Native" Colorado—  
the Colorado before European settlement—is disappearing. Native plants  
have been replaced with more aggressive European varieties. Non-  
native fish, birds and mammals have altered the entire complexion of  
the state.

But remnants and relicts of native Colorado still remain, protected by  
rugged terrain, time and stewardship of Colorado's citizens. These areas  
are part of Colorado's natural heritage, protected for the benefit and  
enjoyment of present and future generations. Colorado Natural Areas  
protect the best examples of the state's natural features: unique  
geologic features, undisturbed examples of Colorado's biological  
communities, and the places where rare or endangered plants and  
animals live.

**"Do something natural  
. . . native Colorado  
depends on you."**







# THE COLORADO NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM: HOW DOES IT WORK?

## PROTECTION OF RARE NATURAL FEATURES

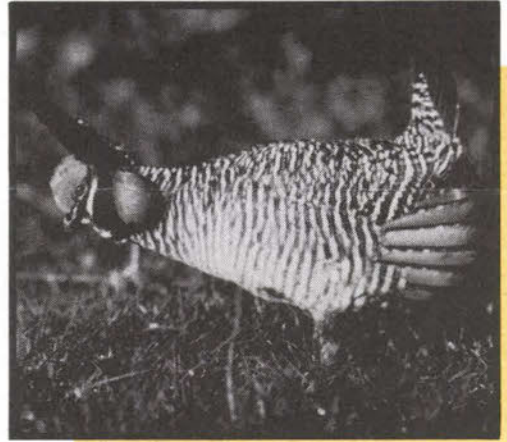
Established in 1977 by the Colorado Legislature, the Natural Areas Program protects and preserves special, rare and threatened natural features in Colorado through a statewide system of designated natural areas. Natural areas are protected by voluntary cooperative agreements with landowners. Although some natural areas are on public land, the state does not need to own a property for it to be designated as a Colorado Natural Area.

## MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL AREAS

Private landowners or public land-management agencies retain all rights and management responsibilities on Colorado Natural Areas. The Natural Areas Program assists in monitoring rare natural features and in developing management plans for these unique features.

## IDENTIFICATION OF NATURAL AREAS

Natural areas are identified by a comprehensive statewide inventory of significant natural features. Proposed natural areas must meet specific scientific criteria. These include having relicts of plants and animals left over from the last ice age of 10,000 years ago, significant fossil evidence such as dinosaur bones, or a location where a rare plant or animal is found. Areas that meet the scientific criteria can qualify for consideration by the Colorado Natural Areas Council, a citizens' advisory group appointed by the governor.



**“Colorado is a natural crossroads . . .”**

## BENEFITS FROM PROTECTING COLORADO'S NATURAL HERITAGE

### EDUCATION AND NATURE STUDY

Most of the Colorado Natural Areas are open year-round for the use and enjoyment of Colorado's citizens and visitors. Educational use by Colorado's colleges and universities is encouraged. Natural areas are also used by school children of all ages to study natural communities and to unlock the secrets of life around them.

### MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE FOR LANDOWNERS

Landowners and public agencies that have rare natural features on their property receive management assistance from the Natural Areas Program. Monitoring, protecting and restoring rare natural features are important parts of the assistance provided to landowners.

## TAX BENEFITS FOR COOPERATING PRIVATE LANDOWNERS

Landowners can receive tax benefits if their property is designated as a Colorado Natural Area. Conservation easements for designated state natural areas are accepted by the Colorado Department of Natural Resources or private land conservation groups. Property owners receive financial benefits from donating property to the State of Colorado for the purpose of conserving rare natural resources.

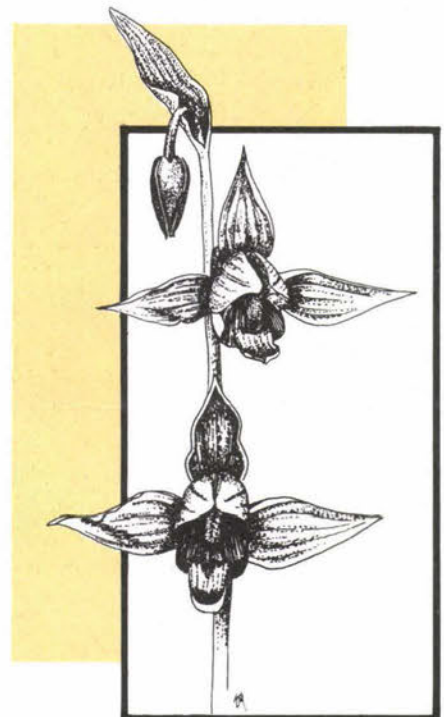
## NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Development of Colorado's timber, mineral and recreational resources is guided by information on rare species and unique natural features in the Colorado Natural Areas Inventory.

## WHAT ARE COLORADO NATURAL AREAS?

Scenic geologic features and critical wildlife habitat are protected at Roxborough and Mueller state parks. Scientifically significant fossils are protected at Research Natural Areas on Bureau of Land Management property at Fruita, Rabbit Valley and Kremmling. Endangered plants are protected on public and private lands in Jackson County, Mesa County and Boulder County. The U.S. Forest Service, in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, is protecting habitat of the threatened lesser prairie chicken on the Comanche National Grassland. Bonny Prairie, a remnant of a once widespread shortgrass prairie, is protected at Bonny State Recreation Area.

These areas and many more preserve the natural legacy and beauty of Colorado.



**“ . . . a place where geographic and geologic forces create natural, breathtaking splendor.”**



February 1, 1989

DRAFTOWL CANYON PINON GROVE  
DRAFT REVISED MANAGEMENT PLANPurpose

The Owl Canyon Pinon Grove was designated a Colorado Natural Area in 1978. Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area consisted of 240 acres of privately owned land (J. Evan and Catherine Roberts - owners) and 101 acres of state land (State Board of Land Commissioners) until 1985 when 317 acres of state land (Division of Wildlife - Brackenbury Property) was added to the existing natural area. The revised management plan will consider the entire 658 acres as a single management unit.

Owl Canyon Pinon Grove has been the focus of scientific research and education for more than 50 years as an example of one of the largest, oldest and most northerly extensions of pinon stands along the Rocky Mountain front. The natural area encompasses a good quality native shortgrass prairie, one of the earliest known Folsom sites (National Register of Historic Landmarks), an area continually used by raptors and scientifically important geologic features.

It is the desire of the state and private landowners and participating land management agencies to continue to protect and manage Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area to ensure the maintenance and enhancement of the significant natural values for present and future generations.

Management Area

The Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area, being primarily in Sections 25, 26, 35 and 36 in Township 10N, Range 70W, in Larimer County, is described specifically in Appendix A.

The Owl Canyon Pinon Grove is located on a rough hogback approximately 12 miles northwest of Fort Collins. The pinon trees grow on a rare exposure of marine limestone, a thin stratum of the Ingleside formation resulting from a shallow inland sea that covered this area approximately 250 million years ago (see Appendix \_\_\_\_). The grove extends for almost 2 miles along the hogback, an open forest on the southern end with ponderosa pine, Rocky Mountain juniper and mountain mahogany and ending abruptly on the north end as the ridge drops into the North Poudre River.

The drier, treeless slopes beneath the ridge on the south side (Brackenbury Property) contain a good quality short and mixed grass prairie with Stipa comata (needle and thread grass), Agropyron smithii (Western wheat grass), Andropogon scoparius (little bluestem) and Bouteloua gracilis (blue grama grass) as the dominant grasses.

Colorado College

Fifty-seven species of vertebrates are reported from the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove (Beidleman, 1953). Human habitation at the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove dates from approximately 5,000 B.C. with evidence that Indians were in the area by 900 A.D. during the Plains-Woodland period. Charcoal samples have shown that Indians from this period used pinon for firewood, indicating that pinon trees may have predated Indian occupancy.

The Colorado State Forest Service managed the property from 1978-1988 under the terms of a lease agreement between the State Board of Land Commissioners and Colorado State University. Access to the property was controlled by permit issued by the State Forest Service.

#### Landowners

State Board of Land Commissioners  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 620  
Denver, Colorado 80203

J. Evan and Catherine Roberts  
Livermore, Colorado 80536

Colorado Division of Wildlife  
317 West Prospect Street  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80516

#### Managing Agency(ies)

Colorado Division of Parks  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 618  
Denver, Colorado 80203

Colorado State Forest Service  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523

#### Authority

Authority for managing Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area is found in the enabling legislation for the Colorado Natural Areas Program (C.R.S. 33-33-101 et seq.), Division of Wildlife (C.R.S. ), and Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (C.R.S. 33-10-101 et seq.). This management plan is prepared in agreement between the Colorado State Board of Land Commissioners, Colorado State University, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Colorado Natural Areas Program and J. Evan and Catherine Roberts.

#### Goals and Objectives

Management goals and objectives for Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area are:



1. Maintain the pinon grove for scientific research and educational purposes and limited public visitation.
2. Permit non-destructive scientific research and educational activities.
3. State Historical Preservation Office will conduct/review archeological survey.
4. Limit human activities which will or may adversely affect natural processes.
5. Ensure that public/user safety is maintained during active limestone mining operations and that no public safety hazards exist after mining operations have ceased.
6. Monitor biological processes and trends to determine quality and condition of pinons and associated vegetation. <sup>① Fire plan needed</sup>
7. Adjust management as necessary upon recommendations of cooperating state agencies (CSU, DOW, DPOR) and landowners to enhance long-term protection of pinon trees. <sup>Tom O. was to draft a fire management plan</sup>

## MANAGEMENT

### Responsible Agency

Colorado State Forest Service/Colorado Division of Parks will be responsible for day-to-day management of Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area and enforcement of permit procedures.

### Management Committee

*zoological aspects →*  
A standing management committee to provide oversight to the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area will consist of representatives of the Colorado Division of Parks, Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Colorado Board of Land Commissioners, Colorado State Historic Preservation Office, Colorado Lien Company (or current state minerals lessee) and J. Evan and Catherine Roberts (private landowners). The management committee will be chaired by the appointed representative of the agency responsible for managing Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area and will meet at least once annually by March 1.

### Public Access

1. Public access will be by permit only. Permits will be issued by the Colorado State Forest Service/Colorado Division of Parks for approved scientific research and educational purposes. Appendices D and E of the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Management

② Develop a vegetation management plan  
CSU professors

Plan are the Application for Use Permit and Permit for Use. Interpretive and boundary signs will indicate permits are required to access the property.

*Send Bob copy of  
any permits that  
are issued.*

#### PUBLIC ACCESS ON BRACKENBURY POSSIBLE--(BOB SCHURGER)

2. Access to the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove is on the state land right-of-way to the mining facility currently operating under state lease by Colorado Lien Company. Vehicles are restricted to existing roads and to areas determined by the managing agencies. All permittees and visitors must stop at the mining headquarters to inform company officials of the length and location of their visit. Access to the Brackenbury (DOW) property will be restricted to foot traffic only from the state land access until such time that mining operations cease and the management agency determines that conditions are safe for alternate and/or increased public access.
3. Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area is not open to the public for casual use.

#### Research and Educational Uses

1. Permitted research activities shall be biologically non-destructive and environmentally non-disruptive and can include vegetation monitoring, biomass dating, botanical and zoological inventories, population ecology studies, archeological inventory and excavation (with permits from the Office of the State Archeologist), and geologic studies.
2. Requests for collecting materials or species will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the permitting agency at the time of permit application process.
3. Permitted educational activities. Guided tours may be approved by permit from management agency -- Colorado State Forest Service/Colorado Division of Parks.

#### Vegetation Monitoring and Management

Vegetation monitoring and management will be the responsibility of the Colorado Natural Areas Program, Colorado State Forest Service and Colorado State University. Annual assessments of the condition of the pinon trees and the associated vegetation and recommendations for management alternatives will be made and reported by December 1 to the Owl Canyon management committee.

Only materials to be removed will be samples under collecting permit. Invasive procedures of management can occur to maintain integrity of pinyon grove with approval by managing agencies. Fire



*Plans*  
control will be developed by the Colorado State Forest Service in cooperation with local fire control agencies.

#### Wildlife Monitoring and Management

Wildlife management and monitoring will be the responsibility of the Division of Wildlife with assistance from the Colorado State University. Recommendations for management alternatives will be made as necessary.

*Define Department  
or Division*

#### Mining

Limestone mining operations will continue for valid existing rights under special use and reclamation permits issued by Larimer County and the Colorado Division of Mined Land Reclamation and with Wildlife Commission approval. The management agency will continue to work with the mining operator to ensure that public safety is maintained and that the pinon grove is protected.

#### Interpretation

Interpretive signing and highway pullout designs will be the responsibility of the Colorado Natural Areas Program in cooperation with the managing agency, Colorado Division of Parks/Colorado State Forest Service, and the Colorado Department of Highways. The Colorado Division of Parks, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Colorado State Forest Service and Colorado Board of Land Commissioners will review the need, location and content of interpretive sign(s) and boundary signs. Interpretive signs will be erected either at the state land access point to Owl Canyon or on the Brackenbury property on a turnout off of U.S. Highway 287. Boundary signs will be the responsibility of the Colorado Division of Parks/Colorado Division of Wildlife.

#### Management Funding Sources

Management activities for Owl Canyon Pinon Grove will be funded out of existing budgets for the Colorado Division of Parks, Colorado Natural Areas Program, Colorado Division of Wildlife, and Colorado State Forest Service (forest and watershed funds).

#### Bibliography

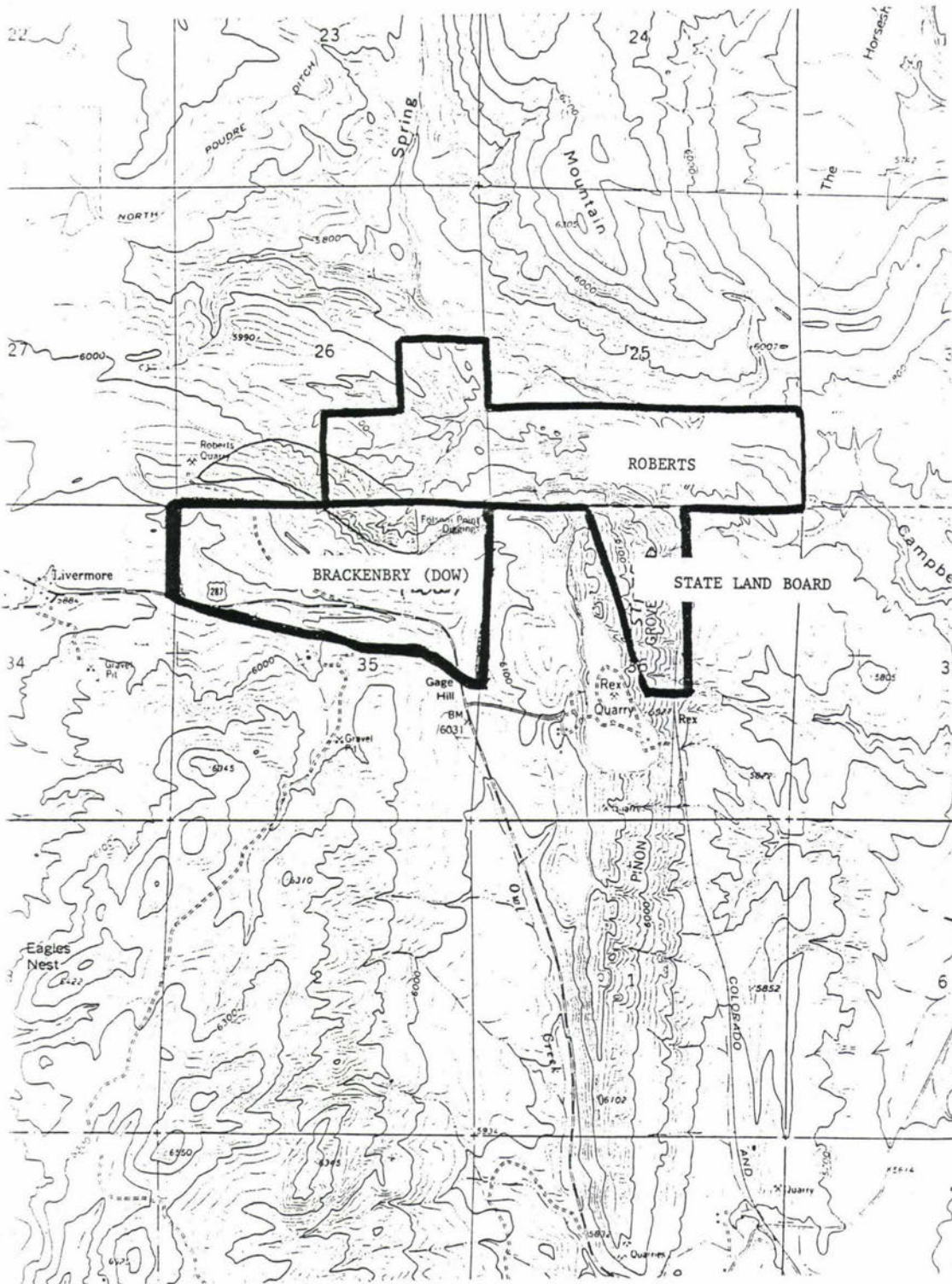
The Colorado Natural Areas Program will maintain and update a research bibliography related to biological studies on Owl Canyon Pinon Grove.

EXHIBIT A

OWL CANYON PINYON GROVE NATURAL AREA  
(Division of Wildlife)

Legal Description

All of that portion of Section 35, Township 10 North, Range 70 West, of the 6th P.M., lying north and east of the County Road, being 317 acres, more or less.





## MEMORANDUM

2310

DATE: June 4, 1990  
TO: Jim Hubbard  
FROM: Ray Mehaffey *RLM-KLP*  
SUBJECT: Meeting of 5/25/90 -- Owl Canyon/Brackenberry

A summary of this meeting follows:

Those attending: Walt Graul and Lisa Evans--DOW; Bob and Matt Shurger--Colorado Lien Co.; Dave Kuntz and Joe Maurier--Division of Parks; and Brian Geils--Native Plant Society.

Plants of Colorado Lien Co.:

- Will soon start mining Section 36 west of Pinon Grove.
- No mining planned in Section 35 for at least 5-10 years.
- Brackenberry property: no plan to ever do anything. Only need is for access road to Roberts Quarry in Section 26. The DOW has issued (1989) a temporary access permit for 15 years for this purpose.
- Only current activity is in Sections 1 and 36.
- They want to run water pipeline to Section 1 from Section 25 dam (where 25 is on map) for dust suppression.

Other uses:

- Al Hodson grazes cattle on grass of Section 36 lease.
- 101 acres of mineral rights are reserved to State for Pinon Grove.

Discussion:

- DOW (Walt Graul) wants to transfer Brackenberry property to Div. of Parks since the management objectives are not in his department's mission. This is permitted by donation conditions of Brackenberry.
- CSFS (Ray Mehaffey) would agree to transfer management of Owl Canyon to Div. of Parks. CSFS would remain as advisor for management of pinon and for fire. Need to get Larimer County Emergency Service involved with fire suppression plan for both tracts. This would be to keep out heavy equipment and construct firelines in accord with management objectives.
- Parks (Dave Kuntz & Joe Maurier) needs to discuss internally and reach decision on accepting property. Will need to charge fees

Jim Hubbard--Owl Canyon/Brackenberry  
page 2  
June 4, 1990

for permit to pay for administrative costs. Will likely accept. Parks will contact Nature Conservancy to see if they might be interested in managing property for Parks. Phantom Canyon manager is close by.

--DOW - Bruce McCloskey has told Walt that he is to get this resolved soon. "It is not a DOW property." Either transfer to Parks or give back to Brackenberry.

Action:

--CSFS will continue issuing permits on both properties until DOW transfers Brackenberry property.

--Walt (DOW) will write letter to Parks ASAP and state they they want out of property and recommend transfer to Parks.

--Parks will make formal recommendation after receipt of Walt's letter.

--Decision will be made by 8/1/90 on what will happen to both properties and will include a Final Draft of the Management Plan.

RLMkrp

Attachment: Draft of Management Plan prepared 2/1/89.



DRAFT

COLORADO NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM  
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
STATE OF COLORADO  
OWL CANYON PINYON GROVE NATURAL AREA (Colorado Division of Wildlife)

ARTICLES OF DESIGNATION

These ARTICLES OF DESIGNATION, made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1985, by and between the COLORADO NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM, COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 718, Denver, Colorado 80203, hereinafter the Department, and the Colorado Division of Wildlife, hereinafter referred to as the DOW.

WHEREAS, the DOW owns and manages certain lands totalling 317 acres as described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, and known as the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area (DOW) situated in the County of Larimer, State of Colorado, hereinafter the Property; and

WHEREAS, the DOW has declared that the best use of the Property is that it be preserved and protected as a natural area in accordance with existing Articles of Designation for the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area; and

WHEREAS, the Department is authorized to conduct and administer the provisions of the Colorado Natural Areas Act (C.R.S. 1973, 36-10-101, et seq.) which established within the Department the Colorado Natural Areas Program, hereinafter the Program, and the Colorado Natural Areas Council, hereinafter the Council; and

WHEREAS, the Department has determined, pursuant to its criteria, that the Property is a natural area and that it would be desirable to include the Property within the Natural Areas System as a designated State Natural Area; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the attributes of the Property, the Property provides one or more of the benefits described in C.R.S. 1973, 36-10-104(2); and

WHEREAS, the existing Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area, which is adjacent to said Property, is owned by the State Board of Land Commissioners (101 acres) and J. Evan and Catherine A. Roberts (240 acres) and is managed by Colorado State University.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed that:

1. Designation of Property as a Natural Area. Upon filing of these Articles of Designation with, and acceptance of same by the Department, with the advice and approval of the Council, the Property described in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, shall become a designated natural area and thereby shall become part of the Colorado Natural Areas System. Said designated natural area shall be known as the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area (DOW).
2. Purpose of Designation. The Department has determined, upon recommendation by the Council, that the Property qualifies as a natural area to be included in the Colorado Natural Areas System due to the following:
  - a. The Property contains a disjunct population of Pinus edulis (two needle pinyon) which is at the northeastern extremity of its range; and
  - b. The Property serves as a study site (historic, present, and future) for the biology of Pinus edulis and its associated habitat; and
  - c. The Property contains populations of plant species which are of special interest, including uncommon xerophytic ferns such as Pallaea atropurpurea; and
  - d. The Property contains important archaeological sites.



As a result of these attributes, the Property provides, among other benefits, the following benefits:

- a. It serves as an example of the native condition in studies relating to air, water and soil quality, and habitat productivity;
- b. It serves as resource material from which new knowledge may be derived and as a reservoir of genetic material which has present and future value to scientific inquiry;
- c. It provides habitat for rare plant species;
- d. It serves as an outdoor classroom and laboratory for scientific study by students of all ages; and
- e. It serves as an area of natural diversity which enriches the meaning and enjoyment of human life.

3. Rights and Duties of the Department. The Department shall list the Property as a designated natural area of the Colorado Natural Areas System and shall provide the DOW with a Certificate of Designation and a signed copy of the Articles of Designation indicating said designation. This designation evidences the desire of the Department that the Property be protected from impacts adversely affecting the attributes for which the Property is designated.

- a. Access. The degree of access granted to the Property will be addressed by the management plan described in Paragraph 4. Such granted access must be consistent with and promote the purposes of this Agreement.
- b. Inspection. The Department shall have the right to inspect the Property from time to time to confirm that it is being used solely for the purposes stated in Paragraph 4.

4. Rights and Duties of the DOW. The DOW shall assure that the Property remains solely as a natural area for scientific, educational, and aesthetic purposes, and shall keep the Property entirely in its natural state subject to the management provisions set forth in the comprehensive management plan prepared by the Colorado State Forest

Service for the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area in its entirety. The Property shall be managed by the State Forest Service, which shall amend and update the existing management plan, which shall be submitted to the Department for approval within three months of the effective date of this agreement, and which, when approved, will be attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. All documents affecting the Property executed by the DOW subsequent to the date of this Agreement shall be subject to this Agreement, which shall be attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference. Except as so stated, the DOW may continue to exercise all of their rights and duties regarding the Property.

5. Binding Effect. This Agreement shall run with the Property and be binding upon the parties hereto and upon any successors in interest to the Property. Any sale or transfer of the Property by the DOW shall be subject to this Agreement which shall be attached to any document of purchase or transfer and incorporated therein by reference. The purchaser or transferee shall succeed to the DOWs' rights and duties hereunder.
6. Default. If either party reasonably believes that the other party is in default in any of its obligations under this Agreement, it may give the other party written notice of the alleged default. Promptly thereafter, the parties shall confer and make a good faith effort to correct the default and to resolve any difference of opinion which may exist as to the respective rights and duties under this Agreement. Default by the DOW may result in the removal of the Property from the Colorado Natural Areas System.
7. If either party desires to terminate this Agreement, it shall so notify the other party and give said other party an opportunity to confer regarding the reasons for termination. No less than 30 days after said initial notice, the notifying party may terminate this Agreement by notice to said other party. At the request of the DOW, following termination of this Agreement, the Department shall execute



and deliver to the DOW a release of all its rights, title, and interest in the Property which may arise out of this Agreement.

8. Notice. All notices to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sent postage prepaid by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the addresses first listed above or to such other person or address as the party to be notified may have designated prior thereto by written notice to the other party. Any notice so mailed shall be effective upon receipt.

9. Amendments. These Articles may be amended in writing by the parties hereto with approval of the Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the day first written above.

COLORADO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Ruch, Director

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

\_\_\_\_\_  
David H. Getches, Executive Director

APPROVED:

COLORADO NATURAL AREAS COUNCIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Theodora Colborn, Chair

APPROVED:

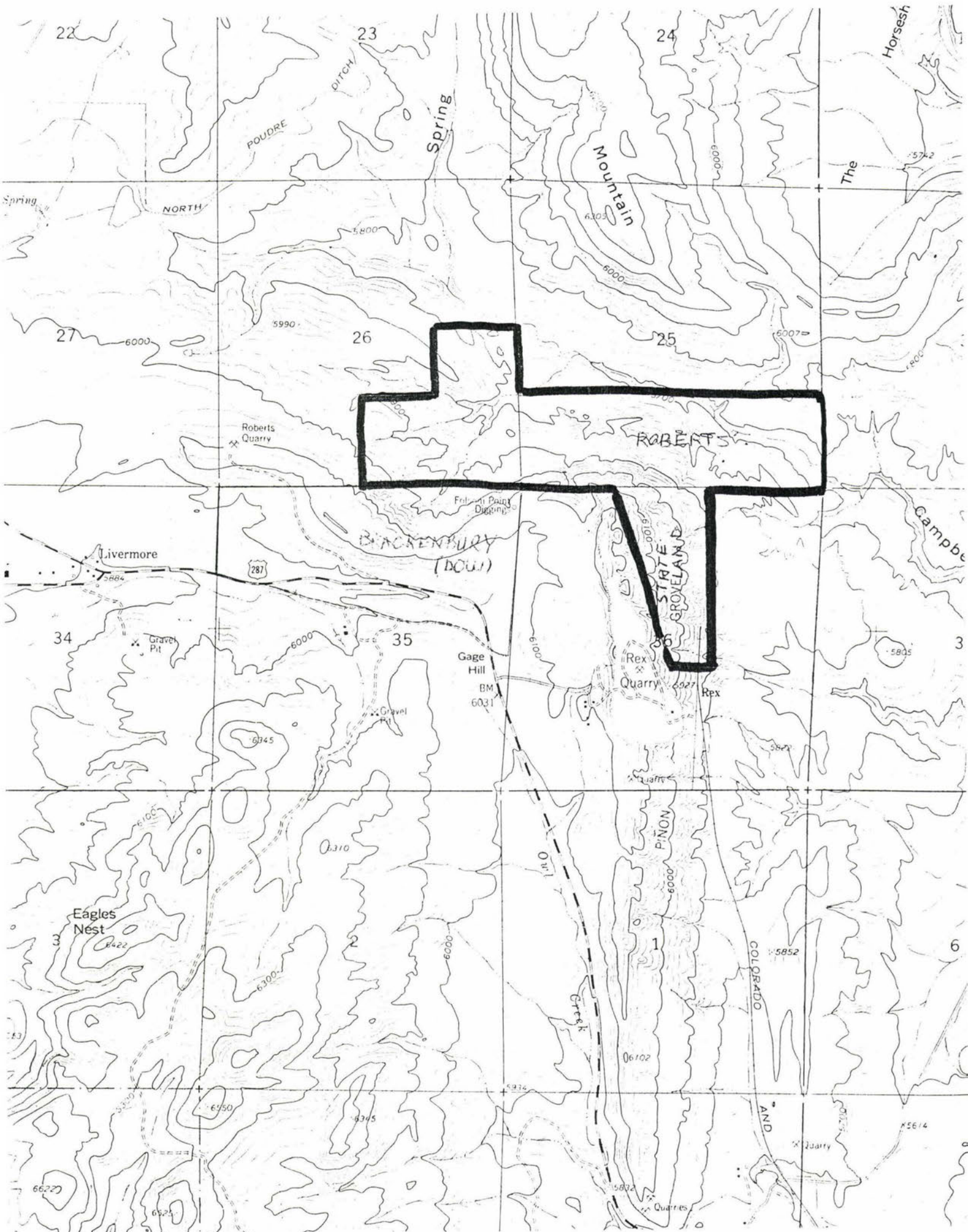
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet M. Miller, Deputy Attorney General

EXHIBIT A

OWL CANYON PINYON GROVE NATURAL AREA  
(Division of Wildlife)

Legal Description

All of that portion of Section 35, Township 10 North, Range 70 West, of the 6th P.M., lying north and east of the County Road, being 317 acres, more or less.





Vicky Anthony - Don Benson

Sum 11/83

Natural Area - 317 Acres 535, 10N, 70W  
Willing to add to ~~Natural~~ <sup>Owl Canyon</sup> Pinjon Grove  
No hunting - too small -  
archeological  
Natural area values  
Mineral Rights - "Roberts"

lying N + east of County Road

2/15/85 agenda for Natural Areas Meeting  
Addition to Owl Canyon Pinjon Grove area

Fenced North + East sides in 1985 by ~~Don~~ Roy  
Roy Brown - DOW

\* Find out what Roberts agreement  
is w/ us. Period, purpose, etc

\* Do we have agreement w/ State Land Board  
for State land portion of Pinjon Grove?







RECEIVED  
OCT 24 1978  
CSFS-SO

*(Barker)*

Approved

*approved by S. BA.  
10/20/78*

MATTERS FOR ACTION:

Lease: Owl Canyon Pinon Grove

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOVED, That the President and Secretary of the Board be and are authorized to enter into a lease with the State Board of Land Commissioners for the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove located in Section 36, T10N, R70W of the 6th P.M.

EXPLANATION:

The property contains a unique population of two needle pinon pine trees which represent the northeastern extremity of the tree's range. It has long served as the site of University research and teaching programs in ecology, botany, zoology, and archeology. The site had been leased out for limestone exploitation but, due to the joint efforts of University faculty, the State Department of Natural Resources, and the Natural Areas Council, has been designated by the State Board of Land Commissioners as a State Natural Area. (Articles of Designation attached.)

The site is to be leased to Colorado State University (draft attached) and managed by the Colorado State Forest Service in accordance with the Articles of Designation. The draft lease has been approved by J. M. Goldhammer but is subject to further review by the Board of Land Commissioners staff. The Board may require an annual lease payment of grazing fee proportions (approximately \$50 per year). It is requested that the President and Secretary of the Board be authorized to sign the lease in its final form for the University.

NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
STATE OF COLORADO  
OWL CANYON PINYON GROVE NATURAL AREA

ARTICLES OF DESIGNATION

These ARTICLES OF DESIGNATION, made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1978, by and between the STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 718, Denver, CO 80203, hereinafter the Department and the STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 620, Denver, CO 80203, hereinafter the Board.

WHEREAS, the Board on behalf of the State of Colorado, controls and manages certain state owned lands, situate in the County of Larimer, State of Colorado, hereinafter the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Board declares that the highest and best use of the Property is that it be preserved and protected; and

WHEREAS, the Department is authorized by the Colorado Natural Areas Act, C.R.S. 1973, 36-10-101, et seq., hereinafter the Act, to administer the Colorado Natural Areas Program, hereinafter the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Act establishes a Natural Areas Council, hereinafter the Council, which advises the Department on the administration of the Program and which approves the designation of Natural Areas by the Department; and

WHEREAS, the Department has determined, pursuant to its criteria, that the Property is a natural area which would be desirable to include within the Colorado Natural Areas System as a designated Natural Area; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the attributes of the Property, the Property provides one or more of the benefits described in C.R.S. 1973, 36-10-104(1).

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed that:

1. Designation of Property as a Natural Area. Upon filing of these Articles of Designation with, and the acceptance of same by, the Department, with the advice and approval of the Council, the Property described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, shall become a designated scientific and interpretive natural area and thereby shall become part of the Colorado Natural Areas System. Said designated natural area shall be known as the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area.



2. Purpose of Designation. The Department has determined, upon recommendation by the Council, that the Property qualifies as a natural area to be included in the Colorado Natural Areas System due to the following:

- a. The Property contains a disjunct population of Pinus edulis (two needle pinyon) which is at the northeastern extremity of its range; and
- b. The Property serves as a study site, historic, present and future, for the biology of Pinus edulis and its associated habitat; and
- c. The Property contains populations of plant species which are of special interest, including uncommon xerophytic ferns such as Pellaea atropurpurea.

This particular property also contains a very important set of archeological sites which are clearly eligible for inclusion on the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

As a result of these attributes, the Property provides, among other benefits, the following benefits:

- a) It serves as an example of the native condition in studies relating to air, water, and soil quality and habitat productivity;
- b) It serves as resource material from which new knowledge may be derived and as a reservoir of genetic material which has present and future value to scientific inquiry;
- c) It provides habitat for rare plant species;
- d) It serves as an outdoor classroom and laboratory for scientific study by students of all ages; and
- e) It serves as an area of natural diversity which enriches the meaning and enjoyment of human life.

3. Rights and Duties of the Department. The Department shall list the Property as a designated natural area of the Colorado Natural Areas System and provide the Board with a Certificate indicating said designation. This designation evidences the desire of the Department that the Property be protected from impacts adversely affecting the attributes for which the Property is designated.

- a. Access. The degree of access granted to the Property will be addressed by the management plan described in Paragraph 4. Such granted access must be consistent with and promote the purposes of this Agreement.
- b. Inspection. The Department shall have the right to inspect the Property from time to time to confirm that it is being used solely for the purposes stated in Paragraph 4.

4. Rights and Duties of the Board. The Board, through its Lessee, shall maintain the Property solely as a natural area, for scientific, educational and aesthetic purposes, and keep the Property entirely in its natural state, excepting the undertaking of scientific research and establishment of such improvements as may be appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes without impairing the essential natural character. A comprehensive management plan will be prepared by the Board through its Lessee and submitted to the Department for approval within six months of the effective date of this agreement. The management of the Property shall be the responsibility of the Board through its Lessee pursuant to the policies and goals described in the management plan which, when approved, will be attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. The Board shall notify the Department upon termination of or execution of any lease or any other document granting a property interest in the Property. All documents affecting the Property executed by the Board subsequent to the date of this Agreement shall be subject to this Agreement, which shall be attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference. Except as so stated, the Board may continue to exercise all of its legally mandated rights and duties regarding the Property.

5. Binding Effect. This Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto and upon any successors in interest to the Property. Any sale or transfer of the Property by the Board shall be subject to this Agreement which shall be attached to any document of purchase or transfer and incorporated therein by reference. The purchaser or transferee shall succeed to the Board's rights and duties hereunder.



6. Default. If any party reasonably believes that any other party is in default in any of its obligations under this Agreement, it may give any other party written notice of the alleged default. Promptly thereafter, the parties shall confer and make a good faith effort to correct the default and to resolve any difference of opinion which may exist as to the respective rights and duties under this Agreement. Default by the Board or its Lessee may result in the removal of the Property from the Colorado Natural Areas System.

7. Termination. If any party desires to terminate this Agreement, it shall so notify any other party and give said other party (ies) an opportunity to confer regarding the reasons for termination. No less than 90 days after said initial notice, the notifying party may terminate this Agreement by notice to said other party (ies). At the Board's request, following termination of this Agreement, the Department shall execute and deliver to the Board a release of all its right, title, and interest in the Property arising out of this Agreement.

8. Notice. All notices to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sent postage prepaid by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested to the addresses first listed above or to such other person or address as the party to be notified may have designated prior thereto by written notice to the other party. Any notice so mailed shall be effective upon receipt.

9. Amendments. These Articles may be amended in writing by the parties hereto with approval of the Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the  
day first written above.

STATE BOARD OF  
LAND COMMISSIONERS

Attest:

By \_\_\_\_\_  
President

STATE OF COLORADO  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Harris D. Sherman  
Executive Director

APPROVED:  
NATURAL AREAS COUNCIL

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Sue Cannon  
Chairman

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant Attorney General



PINON GROVE

Legal Description

A parcel of land being located in the West One-half of the Northeast One-quarter (W/2 NE/4), the Southeast One-quarter of the Northeast One-quarter (SE/4 NE/4), the East One-half of the Northwest One-quarter (E/2 NW/4), and the North One-half of the Southeast One-quarter (N/2 SE/4) of Section Thirty-six (Sec. 36), Township Ten North (T 10 N), Range Seventy West (R 70 W) of the Sixth Principal Meridian (6th P.M.) in Larimer County, State of Colorado;

Being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

Beginning at a point on the north boundary line of said Sec. 36, said point being the north one-quarter corner of said Sec. 36;

Thence North  $89^{\circ} 42'$  West along the north boundary a distance of 450.0 feet to "Corner D";

Thence South  $13^{\circ} 58'$  East a distance of 3,448.0 feet to "Corner A";

Thence South  $88^{\circ} 39'$  East a distance of 403.0 feet to the centerline of railroad trackage ("Station A" of Right-of-way No. 515, Bk. 5);

Thence continuing South  $88^{\circ} 39'$  East a distance of 590.0 feet to "Corner B";

Thence North  $03^{\circ} 09'$  West a distance of 3353.5 feet to a point on the north boundary line of Sec. 36, said point being "Corner C";

Thence North  $89^{\circ} 42'$  West along the north boundary of said Sec. 36, a distance of 1190.0 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing 101 acres more or less.

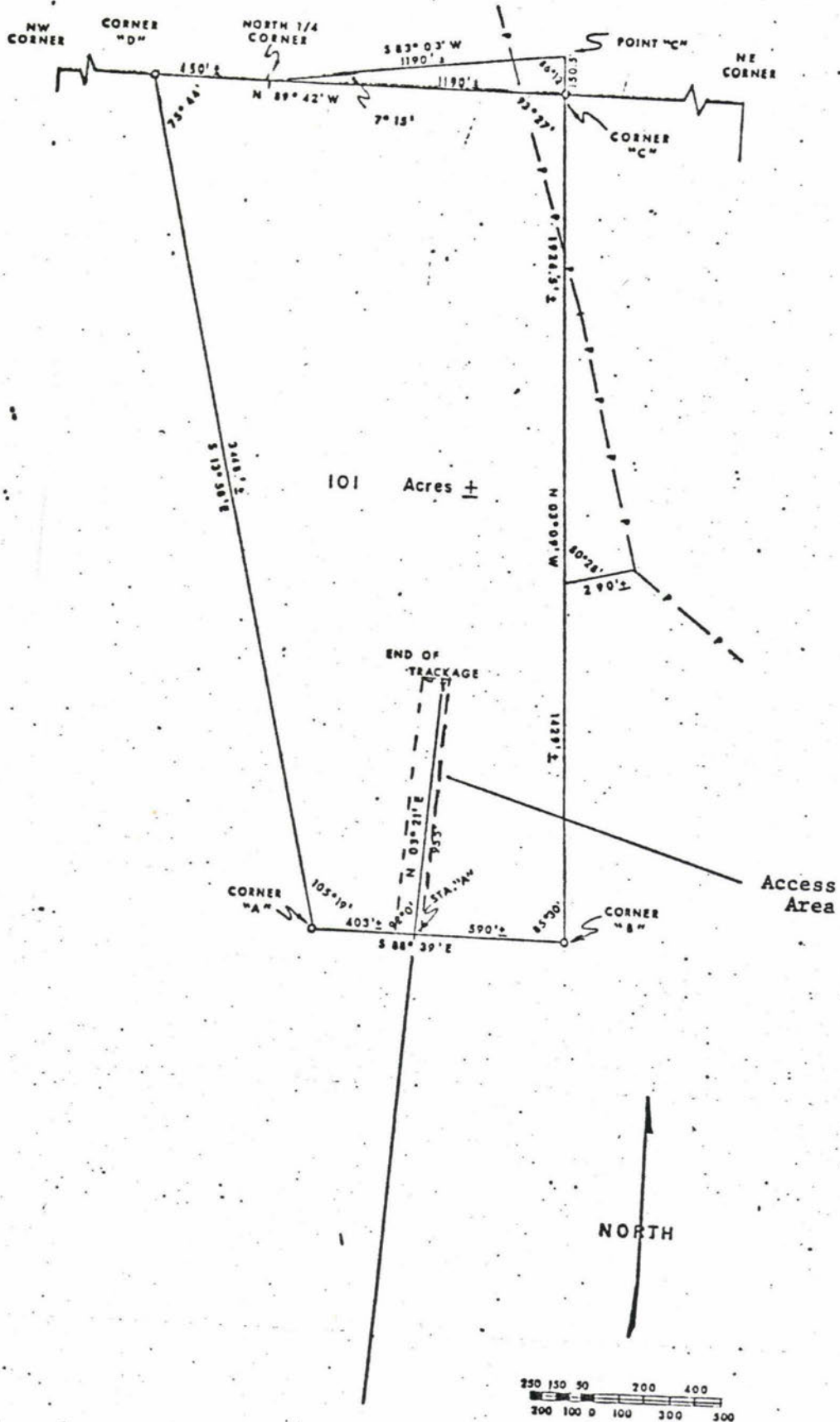
EXCEPT, a rectangular parcel of land for purposes of ingress, egress and maintenance which extends fifty (50) feet to the East, one hundred (100) feet to the West, and one hundred (100) feet to the North of the Colorado and Southern Railroad Spur.

Bearings based on the assumption that the railroad spur (Right-of Way #515, Bk 5) bears N  $03^{\circ} 21'$  E; North boundary assumed to be N  $89^{\circ} 42'$  W per original G.L.O survey notes, dated January 21, 1878.

This property is diagrammatically represented on the attached page 2.

PIÑON GROVE  
SEC. 36, T.10N., R.70W.

EXHIBIT A  
Page 2 of 2





## LEASE OF STATE LANDS

THIS LEASE made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1978, by and between the State of Colorado, BOARD of LAND COMMISSIONERS, hereinafter the Lessor, and the State of Colorado, Board of Agriculture for the use and benefit of COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, hereinafter the Lessee.

WHEREAS, the Lessor owns, controls and manages certain land situate in the County of Larimer, State of Colorado, to wit: T. 10 N., R. 70 W., 6th P.M., Sec. 36; and

WHEREAS, a Pinon Grove occupies a portion of said land; and

WHEREAS, the Lessor has entered into Articles of Designation by document signed on \_\_\_\_\_, 1978 with the State of Colorado, Department of Natural Resources whereby said Pinon Grove has been designated a scientific and interpretative natural area to be known as the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area; and

WHEREAS, the Lessor desires that the Pinon Grove Area be managed consistent with the purposes for which said area was designated a natural area; and

WHEREAS, the Lessee desires and has the necessary resources to manage said area for said purposes as part of its educational training program; and

WHEREAS, the Lessee recognizes and desires to maintain the uniqueness of the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area.

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the covenants below, it is hereby agreed that:

1. The Lessor shall lease the Pinon Grove Area to the Lessee for the purposes set forth in the Articles of Designation pertaining to said area. Said Articles, which include a legal description of the Pinon Grove Area, are attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and incorporated herein by reference.
2. This lease is subject to all the terms and conditions of the above-referenced Articles of Designation. Pursuant to said Articles, the Lessee shall prepare a comprehensive Management plan which shall at least address the following: the access to the Pinon Grove Area, measures taken to assure that access will only be as intended, scientific

research to be undertaken on said area, interpretative use of the area, improvements proposed for said area, and any other matter which will affect the natural state of the area. Said plan shall be submitted to the Lessor and the Department of Natural Resources by no later than \_\_\_\_\_ for approval.

3. During the term of this lease the Lessor shall not sell, lease, or grant rights-of-way across the leased premises unless said action would not substantially interfere with the purposes for which this lease was executed.
4. The Lessee may use water produced on the leased premises. However, the Lessor retains ownership to all water rights established thereon or with respect thereto. Any adjudication of such water rights shall be in the name of the Lessor.
5. This lease is only for the purposes set forth herein. In the event the Lessee uses or attempts to use said lease for any other purposes, without the Lessor's written consent, this Lease shall automatically terminate and all rights and privileges granted hereunder shall automatically revert to the Lessor.
6. This lease shall remain in full force and effect unless and until the Articles of Designation are terminated or the Lessee defaults. In either event, the Lessor may elect to terminate this lease with ninety (90) day's prior written notice to the Lessee. This lease may be terminated by the Lessee at any time with ninety (90) days prior written notice to the Lessor.
7. If this lease is terminated, the Lessee shall vacate the premises on or before the effective date of termination and shall remove all equipment, materials, improvements and the like placed thereon. Any equipment, materials, improvements and the like remaining on the property after the termination date shall automatically become the property of the Lessor. Upon termination, the area shall be restored to its condition prior to the execution of this lease.



8. This lease is personal in nature and shall not be  
assigned or subleased.

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Register

\_\_\_\_\_  
Engineer

(Seal)



Office of the President

Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
80523

RECEIVED

OCT 24 1978

October 23, 1978

MEMORANDUM

CSFS-30

TO: Tom Borden, Director  
Colorado State Forest Service

FROM: A. R. Chamberlain *ARC*

SUBJECT: Owl Canyon Pinon Grove

Various members of the University faculty and staff have been negotiating with the State Land Board and with the Natural Areas Council to obtain University management control of the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove. This grove of trees, of considerable research programmatic interest to a number of our departments, was originally included in a tract of land leased to Holly Sugar for cement mining. Holly Sugar has now agreed to relinquish its rights to the tract of land containing the pinon trees and the State Land Board has agreed to name the area a state natural area under the management jurisdiction of Colorado State University.

In accordance with my memo to you dated June 12, 1978, I hereby designate the Colorado State Forest Service to administer, manage and protect the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove in cooperation with other interested University departments. The final contract between the State Land Board and the State Board of Agriculture is expected to contain a clause requiring the University to present a management plan within six months of contract signing. We have had some indications that Governor Lamm may wish to come to CSU to participate in a ceremony commemorating this agreement sometime between now and the first week of November.

cc: M. A. Binkley  
J. R. Hehn  
D. L. McClintock  
J. R. Bennett  
J. M. Hughes  
E. T. Petrone




Office of Vice President for Finance

RECEIVED  
OCT 25 1978  
CSU

CSU  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
80523

October 23, 1978

TO: Tom Borden  
FROM: Dave McClintock   
SUBJECT: Owl Canyon Pinon Grove

Attached is a copy of the carry-in Board agenda item on this subject together with the Articles of Designation making it a State Natural Area and the draft agreement between CSU and the State Land Board. The latter agreement is still subject to review by the State Land Board so if you have problems with any part of it you might wish to communicate them to Joe Goldhammer at his Denver office (1-839-3611).

The Natural Areas Council seems to be particularly interested in seeing some kind of program steering committee established for the Grove. I know of the following individuals who have expressed an interest in the Grove:

Dick Ward (Botany)  
Gil Fechner (Forest and Wood Sciences)  
Ralph Dix (Botany)  
Wayne Brewer (Zoology and Entomology)  
Liz Morris (Anthropology)  
Frank Hawksworth (Botany)  
Howard Alden (Recreation Resources)

Howard Alden has also just been appointed to the Natural Resources Council.

DLM:es

Attachment

MATTERS FOR ACTION:

Lease: Owl Canyon Pinon Grove

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

MOVED, That the President and Secretary of the Board be and are authorized to enter into a lease with the State Board of Land Commissioners for the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove located in Section 36, T10N, R70W of the 6th P.M.

EXPLANATION:

The property contains a unique population of two needle pinon pine trees which represent the northeastern extremity of the tree's range. It has long served as the site of University research and teaching programs in ecology, botany, zoology, and archeology. The site had been leased out for limestone exploitation but, due to the joint efforts of University faculty, the State Department of Natural Resources, and the Natural Areas Council, has been designated by the State Board of Land Commissioners as a State Natural Area. (Articles of Designation attached.)

The site is to be leased to Colorado State University (draft attached) and managed by the Colorado State Forest Service in accordance with the Articles of Designation. The draft lease has been approved by J. M. Goldhammer but is subject to further review by the Board of Land Commissioners staff. The Board may require an annual lease payment of grazing fee proportions (approximately \$50 per year). It is requested that the President and Secretary of the Board be authorized to sign the lease in its final form for the University.





**Colorado State University**  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
80523

November 3, 1978

Please accept my sincere regrets that I am personally unable to attend the ceremonies this afternoon designating the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove as a State Natural Area. Due to previous commitments it was necessary for me to be on the University of Southern Colorado campus today.

Colorado State University is pleased to have been designated as the agency to manage this State Natural Area. We believe the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove has a distinct value to the educational and research mission of the University as well as being of historic and scenic value to the people of Colorado.

Although the actual management of this State Natural Area will be handled by the Colorado State Forest Service, one of the several divisions of Colorado State University, other segments of the University are expected to make use of the area for both research and class studies.

A. R. Chamberlain  
President

- MOLD together  
compatible  
"uses"

CSFS ~~Discussion~~ focus point for NSTJ  
SLB/CSFS Relationship Protection  
Tony Burson,  
For NST staff.

- Tim Lloyd  
 ② Art Wilcox, Rec  
~~Howard Adgent, Parked~~  
 ③ Ed Frazier, For Sci  
 ① Max Binkley, V-P Finance  
~~Ron Rydov~~  
 ④ Rod Wengard, For Sci  
 ⑤ Gus Fawcson, Wildlife  
 Jim Bennett, Univ Communication

11/6  
Tomy  
Brief write up on  
this sub loc for  
Branching OUT  
2:00 p.m.  
P/S do. T.

in order

# AGENDA

Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area

November 3, 1978

2:00 p.m.

Introduction of Dignitaries  
and Welcome

Harris Sherman, Exec. Director  
Colorado Department of  
Natural Resources

2:15 p.m.

The State Land Board's Role

Rowena Rogers,  
Colorado State Board  
of Land Commissioners

2:20 p.m.

The Colorado Natural Areas  
Program

Sue Cannon, Chairperson  
Colorado Natural Areas  
Council

2:25 p.m.

CSU's Role

Tom Borden,  
Colorado State Forest  
Service

2:30 p.m.

Botanical Values of the Owl  
Canyon Area

Dr. Dieter Wilken,  
Department of Botany and  
Plant Pathology, CSU

2:35 p.m.

Archeological Values of the  
Owl Canyon Area

Marcia Tate,  
Office of the State  
Archeologist

2:40 p.m.

The Overall Perspective

J.V.K. Wagar, Professor  
Emeritus,  
Department of Recreation  
Resources, CSU

2:45 p.m.

Signing of the Articles of  
Designation: Owl Canyon  
Mexican Cut

2:50 p.m.

Refreshments  
Optional tour to Grove - particularly for press



# STATE OF COLORADO

## COLORADO NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM

Department of Natural Resources  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718  
Denver, Colorado 80203

Phone (303) 839-3311



Richard D. Lamm  
Governor

Harris D. Sherman  
Executive Director

Carol J. Pustmueller, Ph.D.  
Program Director

To: Rowena Rogers, Tommy Neal, and William Clare  
State Board of Land Commissioners

J. Evan and Catherine Roberts, Roberts' Ranch

Thomas B. Borden and Terry Beeson, Colorado State Forest Service

Neil Stadtmiller, Holly Sugar Corporation

From: Carse Pustmueller CP

Date: November 23, 1979

Re: The Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Management Plan

Attached for each of you is a signed copy of the Management Plan for the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove. We are very pleased that the efforts and cooperation of all of you have made this product possible. The process is now established for the protection of the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove. It identifies a procedure allowing access to those with a genuine interest and appreciation for the grove. A special word of commendation is due to Terry Beeson, who is responsible for this management plan, and to Thomas Borden, head of the Colorado State Forest Service. The Forest Service will monitor the condition of the grove, and maintain a record of activities conducted on it. Neil Stadtmiller, of the Holly Sugar Corporation, has pledged that company's cooperation in the means of access, and has given time and effort unselfishly to this project. Finally, special thanks must go to J. Evan and Catherine Roberts, who for years have sought a means of protecting and preserving the grove, and to the State Board of Land Commissioners, both of which, by designating properties under their ownership, have made a lasting contribution to the welfare, education, and enjoyment of the people of Colorado.

There are a few changes in the management plan which we would like to call to your attention. Some are relatively minor--the acreage figure on page 1 now reflects the addition of Roberts' Ranch, and certain appendices which were not available at the time of the initial printing have now been included. The most significant changes are the inclusion of Holly Sugar Corporation and its operating contractor in matters related to access and on the permit application "hold harmless clause" and the permit itself. Originally the management plan read "the Colorado Lein Company," which is no longer acting as Holly Sugar's operating contractor, though that company does continue to operate a grinding plant near the natural area.

Memorandum

The Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Management Plan

Page 2

We would also like to reiterate that this management plan is not writ in stone; review and revision is anticipated by the Colorado State Forest Service. However, should any major changes in operating procedure be necessary, all signatories to the plan will be notified for their consideration and approval.

Once again, thank you all for your contributions of time, resources and personal effort to this project.



OWL CANYON PINON GROVE  
MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. Area to be managed:

The Owl Canyon Pinon Grove is described in Appendix A and consists of two parts, one part owned by the State Board of Land Commissioners, and one part owned by J. Evan and Catherine Roberts. The approximate acreage to be managed is 341 acres.

The Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area is known as the northeasternmost stand of pinon pine (Pinus edulis) in North America. Considerable research on the grove has been carried out in the past in an attempt to discover its origin, but no theories presented have been conclusive. The pinon trees are quite old (200-500 years); however, reproduction is well dispersed throughout the stand.

The pinon are of widely differing ages and vary in size from seedlings less than one inch in diameter to mature trees over 16 inches in diameter. Porcupines, deer, coyotes, rabbits, several species of birds and insects and some squirrels inhabit the area either seasonally or year round. Pinon provide food and shelter for these species. Biota interact continually and evidence of this exists in dead and dying pinon killed by porcupine and mountain pine beetle.

The grove is growing on a sandstone hog-back known as the Morrison formation which is underlain by a deposit of limestone. Since the 1940s, this limestone has been quarried in parts of Section 36 to produce process chemicals for the refining of sugar beets. Holly Sugar Corporation has been the main lessee for this limestone.

Concern about the destruction of the pinon grove by quarrying began in 1950. Mr. and Mrs. J. Evan Roberts, long-time ranchers in the Livermore area,

2

have consistently promoted the protection and management of the grove as a natural area. Other groups have also shown interest in and support for preservation of the pinon grove.

Off-site activities associated with limestone quarrying may also be affecting the grove and careful monitoring of these activities is necessary to assure minimal impacts on natural processes.

The grove is of significant archeological interest. One developed archeological site exists on the area and others have been located by the State Archeologist. (A Folsom point find was made several years ago in an area adjacent to the grove in Section 35. This location is not a part of the currently designated natural area.)

2. Landowners:

State Board of Land Commissioners  
1313 Sherman St., Room 620  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
839-3453

J. Evans and Catherine Roberts  
Livermore, Colorado 80536

3. Managing Agency:

Colorado State Forest Service  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523

Authority for Management Function:

That part of the Pinon Grove owned by the State Board of Land Commissioners and described in Appendix B, has been leased to Colorado State University (CSU), which in turn has designated the Colorado State Forest Service to manage the area. (Appendix B includes the Lease of State Lands and the Articles of Designation for the State Land in the Natural Area.)

That part of the Pinon Grove owned by J. Evan and Catherine Roberts, by agreement with the owners, will also be managed by the Colorado State Forest Service.



This plan is prepared in agreement with the lease between the Colorado State Board of Land Commissioners and CSU, and pursuant to the Articles of Designation for the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove (Roberts' Ranch) between the Colorado Department of Natural Resources and J. Evan and Catherine Roberts. (Appendix C).

4. Duration of Management Agreement:

The management agreement shall remain in effect unless the Articles of Designation for either of the two named parts are terminated, or CSU, as the lessee of the portion owned by the State Board of Land Commissioners, defaults. The plan will, however, be continually reviewed and updated. It shall also be flexible in nature to provide for contingencies.

5. Purpose of Management:

The Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area, with the addition of the Roberts' Ranch area, will be managed for scientific research and educational purposes. Consistent with these purposes, it is the policy of the Colorado State Forest Service and the Colorado Natural Areas Council to evaluate and limit any human activity that might interfere with the processes of nature.

6. Management Goals:

1. To protect the area from excessive human activity and to limit use of the area to scientific research and educational activities.
2. To observe processes of nature occurring on the area and to centralize documentation of research activities in readily retrievable form.
3. To monitor scientific and educational activities on the grove.
4. To monitor the physical condition of the grove.

7. Specific Management Activities:

- A. To protect the area from excessive human activity and to limit use of the area to scientific research and educational activities.

In order to insure that the property is being used for the purposes intended, a permit to conduct research or interpretive tours will be required. A sample permit is attached (see Appendix D). The permit request is to be filed with the Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, at least one week in advance of the date requested for a site visit. The permit request will be reviewed by CSFS for possible conflicting uses. Other departments may be called upon to provide information on suitability of the intended use, and CSFS will consult with Holly Sugar Corporation or its operating contractor prior to granting the permit. To obtain access to the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove, the approved permit must be presented to the Holly Sugar Corporation or its operating contractor at the office at the entrance to the grove. These permits may be granted to any individual or group for a specified number of visits or for a specified period of time as long as the intended use meets the intended purpose of management. A log of permit requests and approved permits shall be maintained continuously.

Access to the area will be by non-motorized means except on established roads where vehicles will be allowed. Failure to use the area as specified in the permit will result in permit cancellation.

No improvements on the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove are planned at this time. Should the Holly Sugar Corporation cease operations or should high demand for access to the area develop, improvements such as fencing may be required. It is anticipated that by limiting access to scientific and interpretive purposes, littering and refuse will be minimized.

B. To observe processes of nature occurring on the area and to centralize documentation of research activities in readily retrievable form.

Researchers shall be required to file an annual progress report describing the results of their research being conducted on the Pinon Grove. In addition, researchers will be requested to provide the Colorado State Forest Service



with a copy of the final report or research findings derived from work at the Pinon Grove.

C. To monitor scientific and educational activities on the Grove.

A review of the activities on the Grove will be conducted annually by the Colorado State Forest Service. A written report will be presented to the State Land Board, J. Evan and Catherine Roberts, the Colorado Natural Areas Program, and interested CSU departments.

D. To monitor the physical condition of the Pinon Grove.

CSFS will make periodic inspections (at least semiannually) to the grove to determine the Grove's condition. A report on the condition will be prepared annually as a part of C above.

8. Personnel required to carry out these responsibilities:

.1 FTE for administrative purposes is the anticipated need at this time. Should additional requirements be needed, CSFS will revise this plan and present requests for funding in normal budgeting processes. No additional operating or capital requirements are foreseen for FY 1980.

9. Funding Source:

Forest and Watershed funds (.1 FTE) to be administered by the Colorado State Forest Service.

Limiting and monitoring human activity to uses consistent with the scientific and educational purposes is the main objective of a management plan for the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove. CSFS hopes to contribute to scientific research and to provide a service for the State Board of Land Commissioners and the Colorado Natural Areas Program through the implementation of this plan.

Paul A. Siedentem  
Holly Sugar Corporation

Date

Carol G. Postmueller  
Colorado Natural Areas Program

October 2, 1979  
Date

Rowena Rogers  
Board of Land Commissioners  
J. Evan Roberts  
Catherine Roberts  
J. Evan Roberts  
Catherine Roberts

Date

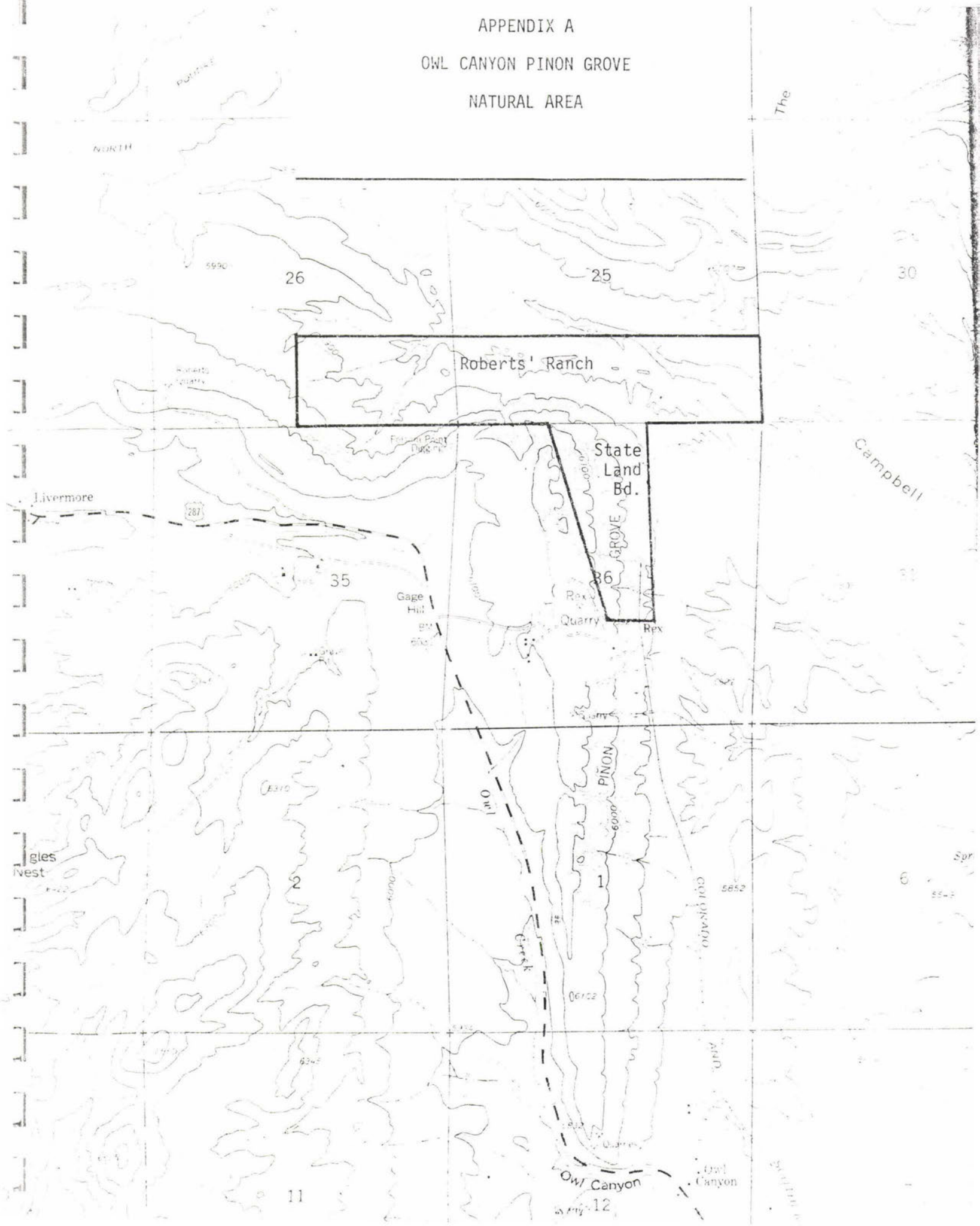
Date

Thomas B. Burke  
Colorado State Forest Service

August 9, 1979  
Date



APPENDIX A  
OWL CANYON PINON GROVE  
NATURAL AREA



APPENDIX B

S-36778

LEASE OF STATE LANDS

THIS LEASE made this 3rd day of November, 1978, by and between the State of Colorado, BOARD of LAND COMMISSIONERS, hereinafter the Lessor, and the State of Colorado, Board of Agriculture for the use and benefit of COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, hereinafter the Lessee.

WHEREAS, the Lessor owns, controls and manages certain land situate in the County of Larimer, State of Colorado, to wit: T. 10 N., R. 70 W., 6th P.M., Sec. 36; and

WHEREAS, a Pinon Grove occupies a portion of said land; and

WHEREAS, the Lessor has entered into Articles of Designation by document signed on November 3, 1978 with the State of Colorado, Department of Natural Resources whereby said Pinon Grove has been designated a scientific and interpretative natural area to be known as the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area; and

WHEREAS, the Lessor desires that the Pinon Grove Area be managed consistent with the purposes for which said area was designated a natural area; and

WHEREAS, the Lessee desires and has the necessary resources to manage said area for said purposes as part of its educational training program; and

WHEREAS, the Lessee recognizes and desires to maintain the uniqueness of the Owl Canyon Pinon Grove Natural Area.

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the covenants below, it is hereby agreed that:

1. The Lessor shall lease the Pinon Grove Area to the Lessee for educational purposes and for purposes set forth in the Articles of Designation pertaining to said area. Said Articles, which include a legal description of the Pinon Grove Area, are attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and incorporated herein by reference.

RECORDED *20*



2. This lease is subject to all the terms and conditions of the above-referenced Articles of Designation. Pursuant to said Articles, the Lessee shall prepare a comprehensive Management plan which shall at least address the following: the access to the Pinon Grove Area, measures taken to assure that access will only be as intended, scientific research to be undertaken on said area, interpretative use of the area, improvements proposed for said area, and any other matter which will affect the natural state of the area. Said plan shall be submitted to the Lessor and the Department of Natural Resources by no later than May 3, 1979 for approval.

3. The Lessee shall pay the Lessor, at the office of the Lessor, the sum of fifty (50) dollars per year as rental each and every year, in advance, during the term of this lease. Rental will be subject to review and revision annually. To have and to hold, the above premises for a term of ten years, from the 3rd day of November, 1978 to the 3rd day of November, 1988.

4. During the term of this lease the Lessor shall not sell, lease, or grant rights-of-way across the leased premises unless said action would not substantially interfere with the purposes for which this lease was executed.

5. The Lessee may use water produced on the leased premises. However, the Lessor retains ownership to all water rights established in trust or with respect thereto. Any adjudication of such water rights shall be to the use of the Lessor.


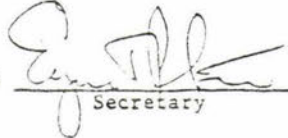
6. This lease is only for the purposes set forth herein. In the event the Lessee uses or attempts to use said lease for any other purposes, without the Lessor's written consent, this lease shall automatically terminate and all rights and privileges granted hereunder shall automatically revert to the Lessor.

7. This lease shall remain in full force and effect unless and until the Articles of Designation are terminated or the Lessee defaults. In either event, the Lessor may elect to terminate this lease with ninety (90) day's prior written notice to the Lessee. This lease may be terminated by the Lessee at any time with ninety (90) days prior written notice to the Lessor.

8. If this lease is terminated, the Lessee shall vacate the premises on or before the effective date of termination and shall remove all equipment, materials, improvements and the like placed thereon. Any equipment, materials, improvements and the like remaining on the property after the termination date shall automatically become the property of the Lessor. Upon termination, the area shall be restored to its condition prior to the execution of this lease.


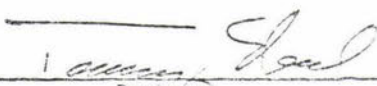
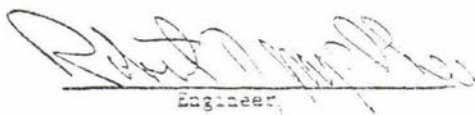
9. This lease is personal in nature and shall not be assigned or sub-leased.

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President  
  
Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

(Seal)

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President  
  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Register  
  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Engineer

(Seal)



NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
STATE OF COLORADO  
OWL CANYON PINYON GROVE NATURAL AREA

ARTICLES OF DESIGNATION

These ARTICLES OF DESIGNATION, made this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 1978, by and between the STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 718, Denver, CO 80203, hereinafter the Department and the STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 620, Denver, CO 80203, hereinafter the Board.

WHEREAS, the Board on behalf of the State of Colorado, controls and manages certain state owned lands, situate in the County of Larimer, State of Colorado, hereinafter the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Board declares that the highest and best use of the Property is that it be preserved and protected; and

WHEREAS, the Department is authorized by the Colorado Natural Areas Act, C.R.S. 1973, 36-10-101, et seq., hereinafter the Act, to administer a Colorado Natural Areas Program, hereinafter the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Act establishes a Natural Areas Council, hereinafter the Council, which advises the Department on the administration of the Program and which approves the designation of Natural Areas by the Department; and

WHEREAS, the Department has determined, pursuant to its criteria, that the Property is a natural area which would be desirable to include within the Colorado Natural Areas System as a designated Natural Area; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the attributes of the Property, the Property provides one or more of the benefits described in C.R.S. 1973, 36-10-104(1);

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed that:

1. Designation of Property as a Natural Area. Upon filing of these Articles of Designation with, and the acceptance of same by, the Department, with the advice and approval of the Council, the Property described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, shall become a designated scientific and interpretive natural area and thereby shall become part of the Colorado Natural Areas System. Said designated natural area shall be known as the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area.

2. Purpose of Designation. The Department has determined, upon recommendation by the Council, that the Property qualifies as a natural area to be included in the Colorado Natural Areas System due to the following:

- a. The Property contains a disjunct population of Pinus edulis (two needle pinyon) which is at the northeastern extremity of its range; and
- b. The Property serves as a study site, historic, present and future, for the biology of Pinus edulis and its associated habitat; and
- c. The Property contains populations of plant species which are of special interest, including uncommon xerophytic ferns such as Pellaea atropurpurea.

This particular property also contains a very important set of archeological sites which are clearly eligible for inclusion on the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

As a result of these attributes, the Property provides, among other benefits, the following benefits:

- a) It serves as an example of the native condition in studies relating to air, water, and soil quality and habitat productivity;
- b) It serves as resource material from which new knowledge may be derived and as a reservoir of genetic material which has present and future value to scientific inquiry;
- c) It provides habitat for rare plant species;
- d) It serves as an outdoor classroom and laboratory for scientific study by students of all ages; and
- e) It serves as an area of natural diversity which enriches the meaning and enjoyment of human life.

3. Rights and Duties of the Department. The Department shall list the Property as a designated natural area of the Colorado Natural Areas System and provide the Board with a Certificate indicating said designation. This designation evidences the desire of the Department that the Property be protected from impacts adversely affecting the attributes for which the Property is designated.



- a. Access. The degree of access granted to the Property will be addressed by the management plan described in Paragraph 4. Such granted access must be consistent with and promote the purposes of this Agreement.
- b. Inspection. The Department shall have the right to inspect the Property from time to time to confirm that it is being used solely for the purposes stated in Paragraph 4.
- c. Rights and Duties of the Board. The Board, through its Lessee, shall maintain the Property solely as a natural area, for scientific, educational and aesthetic purposes, and keep the Property entirely in its natural state, excepting the undertaking of scientific research and establishment of such improvements as may be appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes without impairing the essential natural character. A comprehensive management plan will be prepared by the Board through its Lessee and submitted to the Department for approval within six months of the effective date of this agreement. The management of the Property shall be the responsibility of the Board through its Lessee pursuant to the policies and goals described in the management plan which, when approved, will be attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. The Board shall notify the Department upon termination of or execution of any lease or any other document granting a property interest in the Property. All documents affecting the Property executed by the Board subsequent to the date of this Agreement shall be subject to this Agreement, which shall be attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference. Except as so stated, the Board may continue to exercise all of its legally mandated rights and duties regarding the Property.
- d. Binding Effect. This Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto and upon any successors in interest to the Property. Any sale or transfer of the Property by the Board shall be subject to this Agreement which shall be attached to any document of purchase or transfer and incorporated therein by reference. The purchaser or transferee shall succeed to the Board's rights and duties hereunder.

6. Default. If any party reasonably believes that any other party is in default in any of its obligations under this Agreement, it may give any other party written notice of the alleged default. Promptly thereafter, the parties shall confer and make a good faith effort to correct the default and to resolve any difference of opinion which may exist as to the respective rights and duties under this Agreement. Default by the Board or its Lessee may result in the removal of the Property from the Colorado Natural Areas System.

7. Termination. If any party desires to terminate this Agreement, it shall so notify any other party and give said other party (ies) an opportunity to confer regarding the reasons for termination. No less than 90 days after said initial notice, the notifying party may terminate this Agreement by notice to said other party (ies). At the Board's request, following termination of this Agreement, the Department shall execute and deliver to the Board a release of all its right, title, and interest in the Property arising out of this Agreement.

8. Notice. All notices to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sent postage prepaid by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested to the addresses first listed above or to such other person or address as the party to be notified may have designated prior thereto by written notice to the other party. Any notice so mailed shall be effective upon receipt.

9. Amendments. These Articles may be amended in writing by the parties hereto with approval of the Council.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the day first written above.

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

By *Ramon R. Reyes*  
President

Register  
*Robert J. McPherson*  
Engineer

STATE OF COLORADO  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By *Harris D. Sherman*  
Harris D. Sherman  
Executive Director

APPROVED:

NATURAL AREAS COUNCIL

By *Sue Cannon*  
Sue Cannon  
Chairman

APPROVED:

*James L. Miller*  
Assistant Attorney General

## PINON GROVE

## Legal Description

A parcel of land being located in the West One-half of the Northeast One-quarter (W/2 NE/4), the Southeast One-quarter of the Northeast One-quarter (SE/4 NE/4), the East One-half of the Northwest One-quarter (E/2 NW/4), and the North One-half of the Southeast One-quarter (N/2 SE/4) of Section Thirty-six (Sec. 36), Township Ten North (T 10 N), Range Seventy West (R 70 W) of the Sixth Principal Meridian (6th P.M.) in Larimer County, State of Colorado;

Being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

Beginning at a point on the north boundary line of said Sec. 36, said point being the north one-quarter corner of said Sec. 36;

Thence North  $89^{\circ} 42'$  West along the north boundary a distance of 450.0 feet to "Corner D";

Thence South  $13^{\circ} 58'$  East a distance of 3,448.0 feet to "Corner A";

Thence South  $88^{\circ} 39'$  East a distance of 403.0 feet to the centerline of railroad trackage ("Station A" of Right-of-way No. 515, Bk. 5);

Thence continuing South  $88^{\circ} 39'$  East a distance of 590.0 feet to "Corner B";

Thence North  $03^{\circ} 09'$  West a distance of 3353.5 feet to a point on the north boundary line of Sec. 36, said point being "Corner C";

Thence North  $89^{\circ} 42'$  West along the north boundary of said Sec. 36, a distance of 1190.0 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing 101 acres more or less.

EXCEPT, a rectangular parcel of land for purposes of ingress, egress and maintenance which extends fifty (50) feet to the East, one hundred (100) feet to the West, and one hundred (100) feet to the North of the Colorado and Southern Railroad Spur.

Bearings based on the assumption that the railroad spur (Right-of-Way #515, Bk 5) bears N  $03^{\circ} 21'$  E; North boundary assumed to be N  $89^{\circ} 42'$  W per original G.L.O survey notes, dated January 21, 1878.

This property is diagrammatically represented on the attached page 2.



[illegible]

## APPENDIX C

THE NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
STATE OF COLORADO  
OWL CANYON PINYON GROVE NATURAL AREA (Roberts' Ranch)

### ARTICLES OF DESIGNATION

These ARTICLES OF DESIGNATION, made this 5th day of June, 1979, by and between the STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 718, Denver, Colorado 80203, hereinafter the Department, and Catherine and J. Evan Roberts, Livermore, Colorado, 80536, hereinafter referred to as the Owner.

WHEREAS, the Owners own certain land, situate in the County of Larimer, State of Colorado, hereinafter the Property; and

WHEREAS, said Property is similar to and adjacent to the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area; and

WHEREAS, the Owners desire that said Property be preserved and protected; and

WHEREAS, the Department is authorized to conduct and administer the provisions of the Colorado Natural Areas Act as set forth in Colorado Session Laws 1977, Ch. 471, Sec. 1 at 1624 (C.R.S. 1973, 36-10-101, et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the Natural Areas Act established a statewide Colorado Natural Areas Program to provide a means by which specific examples of Colorado's natural features and ecological phenomena can be identified, evaluated and protected through a statewide system of designated natural areas; and

WHEREAS, the Act establishes a Natural Areas Council, hereinafter the Council, which advises the Department on the administration of the Program and which approves the designation of Natural Areas by the Department; and

WHEREAS, the Department has determined, pursuant to its criteria, that the Property is a natural area which would be desirable to include within the Natural Areas System as a designated natural area; and



WHEREAS, as a result of the attributes of the Property, the Property provides one or more of the benefits described in C.R.S. 1973, 36-10-104 (1); and

WHEREAS, the existing Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area, which is adjacent to said Property, is owned by the State Board of Land Commissioners and is managed by Colorado State University,

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed that:

1. Designation of Property as a Natural Area. Upon filing of these Articles of Designation with, and the acceptance of the same by, the Department, with the advice and approval of the Council, the Property described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference shall become a designated scientific and interpretive natural area and thereby shall become part of the Colorado Natural Areas System. Said designated natural area shall be known as the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area (Roberts' Ranch).

2. Purpose of Designation. The Department has determined, upon recommendation by the Council, that the Property qualifies as a natural area to be included in the Colorado Natural Areas System due to the following:

- a. The Property contains a disjunct population of Pinus edulis (two needle pinyon) which is at the northeastern extremity of its range; and
- b. The Property serves as a study site, historic, present and future, for the biology of Pinus edulis and its associated habitat. As a result of these attributes, the Property provides, among other benefits, the following benefits:
  1. It serves as an example of the native condition in studies relating to air, water, and soil quality and habitat productivity;
  2. It serves as resource material from which new knowledge may be derived and as a reservoir of genetic material which has present and future value to scientific inquiry;

3. It serves as an outdoor classroom and laboratory for scientific study by students of all ages; and

4. It serves as an area of natural diversity which enriches the meaning and enjoyment of human life.

3. Rights and Duties of the Department. The Department shall list the Property as a designated natural area of the Colorado Natural Areas System and provide the Owners with a Certificate indicating said designation. This designation evidences the desire of the Department that the Property be protected from impacts adversely affecting the attributes for which the Property is designated.

a. Access. The degree of access granted to the Property will be addressed by the management plan described in Paragraph 4. Such granted access must be consistent with and promote the purposes of this Agreement.

b. Inspection. The Department shall have the right to inspect the Property from time to time to confirm that it is being used solely for the purposes stated in Paragraph 4.


4. Rights and Duties of the Owners. The Owners shall assure that the Property remains solely as a natural area for scientific, educational, and aesthetic purposes, and shall keep the Property entirely in its natural state subject to the management provisions set forth in the comprehensive management plan prepared by Colorado State Forest Service for the Owl Canyon Pinyon Grove Natural Area in its entirety. The Property shall be managed by State Forest Service and shall be included in the management plan which shall be submitted to the Department for approval within three months of the effective date of this agreement, and which, when approved, will be attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. All documents affecting the Property executed by the Owners subsequent to the date of this Agreement shall be subject to this Agreement, which shall be attached thereto and incorporated therein by reference. Except as so stated, the Owners may continue to exercise all of their rights and duties regarding the Property.

5. Binding Effect. This Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto and upon any successors in interest to the Property. Any sale or transfer



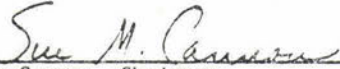
Page 4 of 5

STATE OF COLORADO  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By   
Harris D. Sherman  
Executive Director

APPROVED:

NATURAL AREAS COUNCIL

By   
Sue Cannon, Chairman

APPROVED:

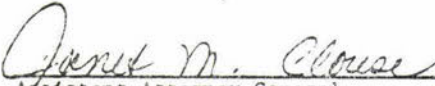
  
Assistant Attorney General



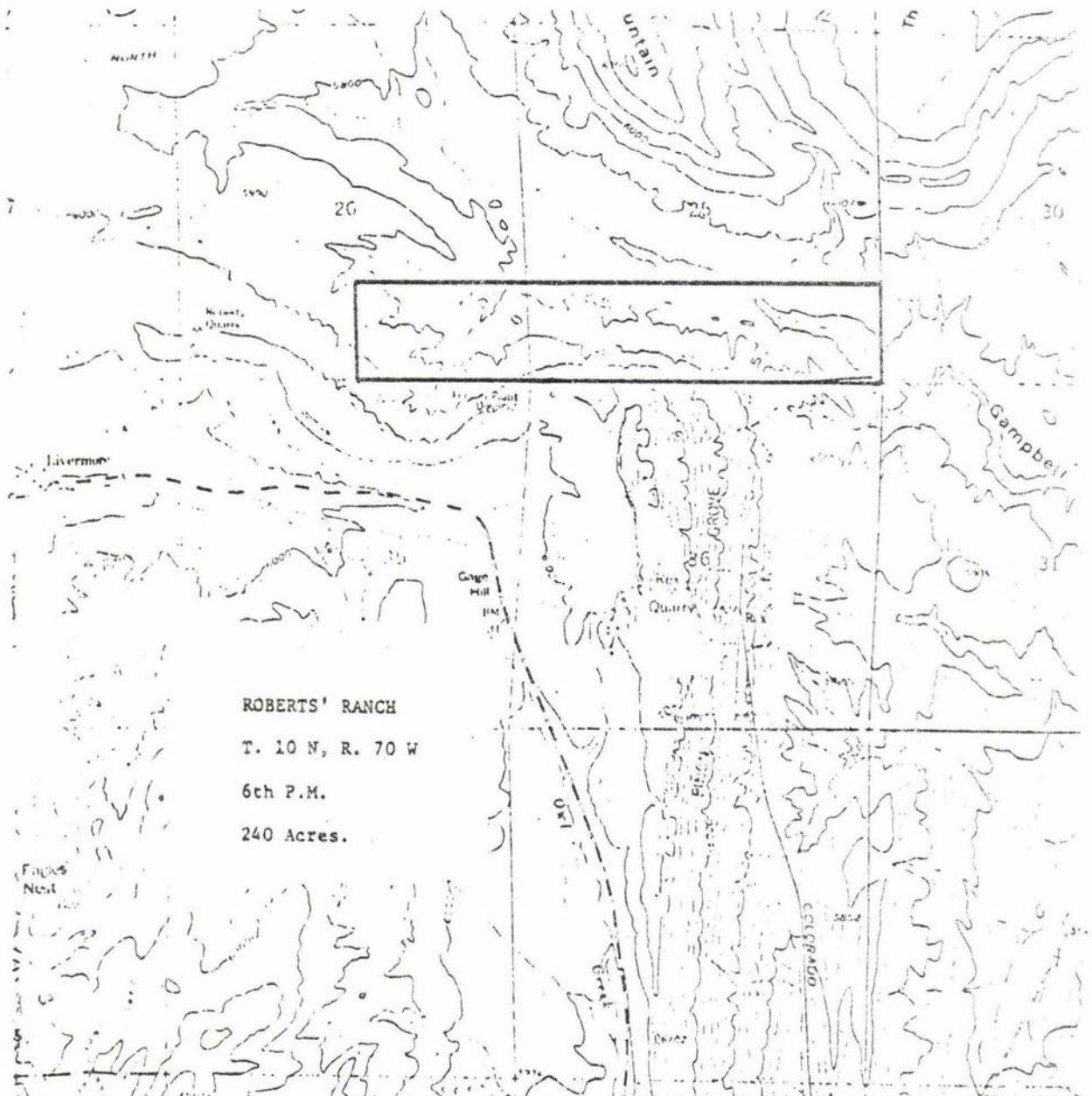
EXHIBIT A

OWL CANYON PINYON GROVE NATURAL AREA

(Roberts' Ranch)

Legal Description

A parcel of land being located in the South one-half of the South one-half (S/2, S/2) of Section Twenty-Five (Sec. 25); the South one-half of the Southeast one-quarter (S/2, SE/4); Township Ten North (T 10 N), Range Seventy West (R 70 W) of the Sixth Principal Meridian (6th P.M.) in Larimer County, State of Colorado.



VENDOR NO.
<i>Quens</i>

ALPHA

**REQUEST FOR PAYMENT**
 COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
 FT. COLLINS, COLORADO
**No.RP****39641**

## INSTRUCTIONS TO VENDORS

YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE THE MATERIALS OR SERVICES LISTED BELOW AND YOU WILL BE REIMBURSED BY COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PROVIDED:

1. THE MATERIAL COST DOES NOT EXCEED \$200 UNLESS SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY THE C.S.U. PURCHASING DEPARTMENT ("SERVICES" PROVIDED ARE NOT LIMITED TO THIS AMOUNT.)
2. THE "APPROVED BY" BLOCK CONTAINS THE SIGNATURE OF AN AUTHORIZED C.S.U. OFFICIAL.
3. ALL MATERIAL DELIVERED IS SPECIFICALLY DESCRIBED AND INDIVIDUAL ITEM AND COST IS ENTERED PRIOR TO CERTIFICATION.
4. THE SIGNATURE OF THE C.S.U. EMPLOYEE ACTUALLY RECEIVING THE MATERIAL OR SERVICE IS SECURED IN THE "RECEIPT" BLOCK AND COPY 2 (YELLOW) IS FURNISHED THAT INDIVIDUAL, WHO WILL PROMPTLY RETURN IT TO THE FUND APPROVING OFFICIAL.
5. COPY 1 (WHITE) ATTACHED TO ORIGINAL COPY OF YOUR INVOICE SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SECTION, FT. COLLINS, CO. 80523.
6. COPY 3 (GREEN) IS FOR YOUR FILE.

Mountain Bell

VENDOR NAME

VENDOR ADDRESS

Denver, CO 80244

 PAY  
TO

FOR: CSFS 5060

DEPT. PHONE NO.

6303

DISTRIBUTION		INVOICE NUMBER	INVOICE DATE	DESCRIBE MATERIALS PURCHASED OR SERVICES PERFORMED	I R S	AMOUNT
ACCOUNT NO.	SUBCODE NO.					
1-92100	4250	482-8185	062284	Phone service as per att'd = State Office & Calling Cards		(16.83)
1-92201	4290					25.70
1-92203	4290					15.85
1-92204	4290					2.54
1-92206	4290					2.96
1-92207	4290					9.23
1-92208	4290					21.15
1-92209	4290					31.52
1-92128	4290					1.29
1-92230	4290					18.88
1-92241	4290					3.30
1-92242	4290					3.97
1-92243	4290					9.67
1-92249	4290					9.09
1-92293	4290					10.22
1-94030	4290					10.88
1-97010	4290					7.59
1-97020	4290					25.99
1-97690	4290					33.87
1-92241	4290		071384			22.34
1-92243	4290		071384			4.22
TOTAL						253.43
LESS DISCOUNT						
TOTAL TO BE PAID						253.43

## GOODS OR SERVICES RECEIPT

 I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE ITEMS OR SERVICES HAVE  
 BEEN SATISFACTORILY RECEIVED OR PERFORMED
*C. Pagit*

SIGNATURE

PHONE

6303

DATE REC'D 7/13/84

## INTERNAL SIGNATURES

DATE

## EXPENDITURE AND PURCHASE APPROVED BY

8/2/84

*Janell Ray*

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE



Office of the President

RECEIVED  
JUN 20 1978  
CSFS-SO

CU

Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
80523

MEMORANDUM

June 12, 1978

TO: Tom Borden, Director  
Colorado State Forest Service

FROM: A. R. Chamberlain *ARC*

SUBJECT: CSU Related Forest Lands

This memo concerns your recent proposal to the CSU Land Use Committee requesting concurrence in designating the Colorado State Forest Service the administrative responsibility for managing and protecting the forest lands at Pingree Park and other locations on Board owned or controlled lands. It is my understanding the CSFS would plan and implement forest practices on these lands to enhance the teaching, research and public service programs of the University and its associated agencies.

I hereby designate CSFS to administer, manage and protect all University related forest lands in cooperation with other CSU agencies and the Land Use Committee. For purposes of recovering costs, it is expected that CSFS will do so through sale of products or by mutual agreement with other units of the University. Revenues beyond those associated with administrative and operating costs will be deposited in appropriate accounts as prescribed by the President or the Vice President for Planning and Budgets.

cc: M.A. Binkley  
J.R. Hehn  
D. McClintock ✓

*Copy to C.W. Hotchkiss ✓  
Rex Kellums  
R.H. Barnham  
L.T. Suber*

*Dee 6-14-78*