

Colorado Natural Areas Program

Volunteer Steward Field Form



PLANTS

RARE PLANTS – Observable species of rare plants, if any.

WEEDS/NON-NATIVES – Common names of species present, location and relative extent of each species (or, sketch on map). Are there more or less than last year?

AQUATIC & RIPARIAN AREAS (if applicable)

WATER– Note any changes including evidence of storm events (sedimentation, erosion, debris, etc), turbidity , unusual flow conditions, or obstructions in streams. Note amount and condition of submerged and emergent vegetation (if you know species, please list).

RIPARIAN AREAS – Note condition of any riparian areas, including evidence of vehicular travel through streams or wetlands, impacts from grazing activities (including wildlife). Record amount and condition of riparian cover (If you know species, please list).

AQUATIC WILDLIFE – Are there any fish, amphibians or aquatic invertebrates present? Any evidence of breeding?

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| HUMAN IMPACTS: VEHICLES | |
|--|---|
| a) Are there new tracks from off-highway vehicles (ATVs, motorcycles or 4-wheelers) or evidence of increased use since last visit? | YES ___ NO ___ Not applicable (N/A) ___ |
| b) Are roads suffering from erosion? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| c) Have vehicle barriers been removed or detoured? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| <u>If Yes to a, b or c above, please explain:</u> | |
| | |
| TRAILS AND CAMPING | |
| a) Is there evidence of newer 'social' (user created) trails? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| b) Are established trails (if any) in need of repair? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| c) Are the official campsites in need of attention? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| d) Are new non-compliant campsites becoming established? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| e) Is there evidence of human caused fire, including campfires? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| <u>If Yes to any of the above (a through e), please explain:</u> | |
| | |
| OTHER HUMAN IMPACTS | |
| a) TRASH – Are there areas where litter is a problem, including roadside dumping? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| b) VANDALISM – Did you see evidence of vandalism (tagging, graffiti, shot holes, defacing of natural features or signs, tree carving)? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| c) FENCES/GRAZING – Is the fencing in need of repair? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| Is there evidence of illegal grazing? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| d) Is there evidence of any other human impacts (damage to geological features from climbing, etc)? | YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___ |
| <u>If Yes to any of the above (a through d), please explain:</u> | |
| | |

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NATURAL IMPACTS

Have there been landslides, blowdowns, natural fires, flooding? YES ___ NO ___ N/A ___
If Yes, please explain:

MANAGEMENT ISSUES

ADJACENT LANDS – List any construction, logging, mining or recreation, outside of the Natural Area boundary that could affect the area through erosion, degradation of aquatic resources, introduction of weeds, or other indirect impacts.

Is any construction or development occurring *within* the Natural Area, either legally or not?

OVERALL IMPRESSIONS - What is your final overall impression of the site?

CHANGES - How has the site changed since last visit? (degraded, improved, no change, heavy use, healthier vegetation from wet season, etc.)

MANAGEMENT CONCERNS – Please list any management objectives you feel are important for this site. Concerns might include whether fences should be constructed or removed, signage placed or corrected, illegal grazing or overgrazing, concerns about riparian areas or weeds.

