An Analysis of Relict Plant Communities of Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

James A. MacMahon
Utah State University

Follow this and additional works at: http://repository.uwyo.edu/uwnpsrc_reports

Recommended Citation
AN ANALYSIS OF RELICT PLANT COMMUNITIES
OF GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

James A. MacMahon
Department of Biology
Utah State University
Logan

Progress in the third quarter of this second project year was mainly in
two areas: 1) identification of plant specimens, and 2) synthesis of
quantitative plot data. Each of these are discussed briefly below.

1. Plant Specimen Identification.

Collection of both unknown and voucher plant specimens was one of the
tasks of relict-area field inspection in 1986 and 1987. About 450
numbers were collected overall within the NRA. All of them were
recently identified or confirmed, except for a few difficult specimens
with tentative identifications that still need final determination.

2. Plot Data Synthesis.

Quantitative data gathered in relict areas last May consisted of cover
and number (density) of perennial plants in 50 meter-square quadrats
along a transect line. These raw data have been summarized into
absolute and relative cover, density and frequency. The results will be
the basis for comparisons between relict areas. Because these data were
taken in permanent plots, they can also serve as baselines for
subsequent analysis of change, if any, over time.

* * *

Preparations are now underway for the next immediate accomplishments.
These include the following:

1. A final literature review to ensure that no pertinent references
   have been overlooked in developing the vegetation classification
   for the NRA.

2. Creation of plant species lists, based on the just-completed
   identifications, for the relict areas inspected.