

## Dunefield

In the heart of Great Sand Dunes National Park, sand is piled up in a massive dunefield. Only a few plants, insects, birds, and mammals live here.

### Herbivores:

Ten-lined June Beetle  
Elk  
Jackrabbit  
Kangaroo rat  
Sage sparrow

### Predators:

Coyote  
Golden eagle  
Tiger beetle  
Mountain bluebird

## Sand Sheet

Around the main dunefield, grasslands spread across the San Luis Valley floor. Ancient sand dunes are covered with drought-tolerant plants and new parabolic dunes slowly push their way through.

### Herbivores:

Pronghorn  
Ten-lined June Beetle  
Elk  
Jackrabbit  
Kangaroo rat  
Mule deer  
Sage sparrow

### Predators:

Cougar  
Coyote  
Golden eagle  
Tiger beetle  
Mountain bluebird

## Pinyon-Juniper Woodlands

Just above the lower grasslands where the climate is dry, pinyon pine and Rocky Mountain junipers grow in sandy and rocky soils.

### Herbivores:

Pronghorn  
Elk  
Golden eagle  
Jackrabbit  
Mule deer  
Pine siskin  
Ruby-crowned kinglet  
Sage sparrow

### Predators:

Cougar  
Coyote  
Long-tailed weasel  
Mountain bluebird

## Montane

A blanket of forest spreads across the middle slopes of the mountains. Creeks and a variety of trees provide shelter and food for birds, mammals, and insects.

### Herbivores:

Bighorn sheep  
Elk  
Marmot  
Meadow vole  
Mule deer  
Pine siskin  
Ruby-crowned kinglet

### Predators:

Cougar  
Coyote  
Golden eagle  
Long-tailed weasel  
Mountain bluebird

## Subalpine

Where the forest meets the high alpine, summer wildflowers thrive in open meadows. Clumps of trees provide shelter for animals. Winter is long and snows are deep.

### Herbivores:

Bighorn sheep  
Elk  
Marmot  
Meadow vole  
Mule deer  
Pine siskin  
Ruby-crowned kinglet

### Predators:

Cougar  
Coyote  
Golden eagle  
Long-tailed weasel  
Mountain bluebird

## Alpine

On the rocky tops of mountains and ridges, long snowy winters and short summers make survival difficult for the few specially-adapted plants and animals that live there. Trees cannot grow in the alpine.

### Herbivores:

Bighorn sheep  
Elk  
Marmot  
Meadow vole  
Mule deer

### Predators:

Cougar  
Coyote  
Golden eagle  
Mountain bluebird