

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Bangs Canyon

Site Code S.USCOHP*6762

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2015 Site Class PCA
Site Alias None

Network of Conservation Areas (NCA)

<u>NCA Site ID</u>	<u>NCA Site Code</u>	<u>NCA Site Name</u>
-		No Data

LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 385628N
State Colorado Longitude 1083235W

Quad Code Quad Name

38108-H5 Island Mesa
38108-H4 Whitewater

County

Mesa (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

14020005 Lower Gunnison

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	4,680.00 Feet	1,426.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	7,600.00 Feet	2,316.00 Meters

Site Description

Bangs Canyon is one of several parallel drainages of the northern part of the Uncompahgre Plateau, leading to the Gunnison River. The Tabeguache Trail runs through the site, but receives very little use. At its upper elevations, drainages are forested with ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), while the side slopes have pinyon-juniper woodlands with mountain shrubs. The creek bottoms have narrowleaf cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*), skunkbrush (*Rhus trilobata*), red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), and Rocky Mountain juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum*). A Cooper's Hawk nest was located here in a Douglas-fir. Dozens of tadpoles of the canyon tree frog (*Hyla arenicolor*) were found in pools of the intermittent stream. An interesting comparison of grazed and ungrazed areas can be seen at the fence line of a water catchment installation near the eastern end of this site. Inside the fence is an abundant stand of Indian rice grass (*Achnatherum hymenoides*); outside the species is completely absent. Soils Description: Soils along drainages are derived from alluvium. Restoration Potential: Ecological processes appear to be intact.

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map P - Partial Mapped Date 12/01/1996

Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

These boundaries will ensure continued natural surface flow to sustain pools for the canyon tree frog. Maintenance of surface flow will also allow fluvial processes such as flood scouring, lateral flow, and channel meandering, to maintain a dynamic distribution of riparian and wetland plant associations along the drainage.

Primary Area	2,846.85 Acres	1,152.08 Hectares
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SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

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Biodiversity Significance Comments

The state imperiled (S2) canyon tree frog is found here. The canyon tree frog inhabits rocky canyons along intermittent or permanent streams. This desert frog reaches its northern limits in Southern Colorado. Although primarily terrestrial, it breeds in canyon bottom pools surrounded by rock. It is usually found near permanent pools or cottonwoods in the pinyon-juniper zone.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

No Data

Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

Exotics Comments

No Data

Offsite

No Data

Information Needs

No Data

ASSOCIATED ELEMENTS OF BIODIVERSITY

<u>Element</u>			<u>Global</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Driving</u>
<u>State ID</u>	<u>State Scientific Name</u>	<u>State Common Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Site Rank</u>
19160	<i>Hyla arenicolor</i>	Canyon Treefrog	G5	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
-	No Data

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 12/01/1996
Version Author Lyon, M.J.

Disclaimer

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