

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Buckeye Reservoir

Site Code S.USCOHP\*21022

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1922 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 382624N  
State Colorado Longitude 1090152W

Quad Code Quad Name  
38109-D1 Buckeye Reservoir

County  
Montrose (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name  
14030002 Upper Dolores  
14030004 Lower Dolores

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation 6,000.00 Feet 1,829.00 Meters  
Maximum Elevation 8,000.00 Feet 2,438.00 Meters

### Site Description

Shallow soils over Dakota sandstone support a plant community unusual in Colorado: a ponderosa pine forest with an understory of greenleaf manzanita, a broadleaf evergreen shrub. Eight hundred twenty-five acres of this community were mapped from on the ground surveys, and it is likely to be more extensive. Adjacent areas with deeper soils have Gambel's oak as the dominant understory species. The two communities intergrade, with some areas having about equal amounts of oak and manzanita. Aspen forms patches in slightly more mesic drainages, while other areas have a ponderosa pine forest with sparse understory. The community is in good condition, except for some introduced bulbous bluegrass along the road. Native plant species include spreading fleabane, pussytoes, stonecrop, golden banner, Utah serviceberry, Oregon grape, bitterbrush, muttongrass, mountain lover, and hairy golden aster. The site is within the Manti-La Sal National Forest. Use of the area is heavy during hunting season. Recreational use is concentrated at nearby Buckeye Reservoir during the summer.

### Key Environmental Factors

No Data

### Climate Description

No Data

### Land Use History

No Data

### Cultural Features

No Data

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 03/01/2000

Designer Lyon, M.J. and J.R. Sovell

### Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include occurrences of two plant communities. These communities may be more widespread in this area, but have not been mapped. Further survey effort would be needed to determine their full extent in Montrose County.

Primary Area 3,576.17 Acres 1,447.23 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

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## Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site contains an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of a plant community that is extremely rare in Colorado, but apparently secure globally (G5/S1). The populations of greenleaf manzanita in western Colorado mark the eastern limit of the species' range. Manzanita is of value for its fruits, which are eaten by grouse, skunks, deer, quail, bears, and coyotes (Stubbenieck et.al. 1994). The adjacent ponderosa pine / Gambel's oak community, although not rare (G5/S4), is in good condition (B-ranked), and is included here to complete the vegetation representation of the area.

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>
24596	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> / <i>Quercus gambelii</i> Woodland	Foothills Ponderosa Pine Scrub Woodlands	G5	S4	Yes
24630	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> / <i>Arctostaphylos patula</i> Woodland	Western Slope Ponderosa Pine Woodlands	G5	S1	Yes

## REFERENCES

### Reference ID      Full Citation

-      No Data

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

Version Date 03/01/2000

Version Author Lyon, M.J. and J.R. Sovell

## Disclaimer

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