

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Buckhorn Lakes

Site Code S.USCOHP*18135

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1220 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 382011N
State Colorado Longitude 1073849W

Quad Code Quad Name
38107-C6 Buckhorn Lakes

County
Montrose (CO)
Ouray (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14020006 Uncompahange

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation - Feet - Meters
Maximum Elevation - Feet - Meters

Site Description

This site includes a natural wetland and several ponds in excellent condition. Although there is a two-track road through part of the site, several ponds are only accessible by foot. Ponds have intact hydrology, fed from snow melt, precipitation and groundwater discharge. The adjacent Buckhorn Lakes area is heavily used for recreation, especially fishing in stocked ponds. Vegetation in the wetland includes rocky mountain willow, planeleaf willow, and Drummond's willow, with an understory of bluebells, stinging nettles, cow parsnip, wild geranium, horsetails, bebb sedge, and beaked sedge. The ponds support aquatic vegetation including *Hippuris vulgaris*, *Eleocharis palustris*, *Ranunculus gmelinii*, *Lemna turionifera*, and *Potamogeton pectinatus*.

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 11/01/1998
Designer Lyon, M.J. and D.R. Culver

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the element of concern, and includes a large buffer to incorporate the larger landscape level hydrologic processes of groundwater discharge and recharge.

Primary Area 398.44 Acres 161.24 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site contains an excellent (A-ranked) example of a globally apparently secure (G4) but state vulnerable (S3) montane willow carr (*Salix monticola*/mesic forb).

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

Intact hydrology is unusual in Montrose County.

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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 Rank</u>	<u>State Rank</u>	<u>Driving Site Rank</u>
<u>State ID</u>	<u>State Scientific Name</u>	<u>State Common Name</u>			
24809	<i>Salix monticola</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Montane Riparian Willow Carr	G4	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 06/27/2003

Version Author Bell, J.B.

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