

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Cedar Canyon

Site Code S.USCOHP*10838

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1683 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 375418N
State Colorado Longitude 1053849W

Quad Code Quad Name

37105-H6 Crestone

County

Saguache (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

13010003 San Luis

SITE DESCRIPTION

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

Site Description

Cedar Canyon contains an unnamed tributary that is a cobble-bottomed, clear water creek, arising in the Sangre de Cristo mountains. The surrounding uplands are sand ridges covered with pinon - juniper (*Pinus edulis* - *Juniperus* sp.), rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*), and ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) communities on the north-facing sides. The south-facing sides are similar in vegetation, but lack the ponderosa pine. The creek runs over an alluvial at the mouth of the canyon before reaching the San Luis Valley floor. The creek has a narrow band of riparian vegetation, containing narrowleaf cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*) and Rocky Mountain juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum*). Numerous mayflies were observed on the overhanging vegetation.

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 03/02/1998

Designer Kittel, G.M.

Boundary Justification

This boundary is drawn to include the riparian area that supports the community. It is designed to protect the occurrence from direct impacts such as trampling or other surface disturbances and to include the immediate slopes which contribute surface and groundwater flow to the riparian area. The boundary was delineated using 1988 NAPP 1:40,000 aerial photograph and satellite imagery at a scale of approximately 1:100,000.

Primary Area 255.65 Acres 103.46 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site includes a small but good (B-ranked) quality example of a globally imperiled (G2G3/S2S3) narrowleaf cottonwood - Rocky Mountain juniper riparian forest (*Populus angustifolia* - *Juniperus scopulorum*). This riparian community is limited to foothill streams in Colorado. A much larger occurrence of

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this is found along Deadman Creek, just south of Cedar Canyon.

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 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>			
24963	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> - <i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> Woodland	Montane Riparian Forest	G2G3	S2S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
171103	Sarr, D.A. and J. Sanderson. 1998. Saguache County, Closed Basin Biological Inventory Volume II: A Natural Heritage Assessment of Wetlands and Riparian Areas in the Closed Basin, Colorado. Unpublished report to the Colorado Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 03/02/1998

Version Author Kittel, G.M.

Disclaimer

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