

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Coal Creek at Highway 550

Site Code S.USCOHP*24154

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 907 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 374236N
State Colorado Longitude 1074641W

Quad Code Quad Name
37107-F7 Engineer Mountain

County
San Juan (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14080104 Animas

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	10,400.00 Feet	3,170.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	10,400.00 Feet	3,170.00 Meters

Site Description

Mossy, shaded cliffs of Pennsylvanian sandstone form the sides of a narrow canyon at the Coal Creek site. Seeps keep the cliff faces permanently moist with water slowly oozing out through horizontal crevices, saturating mosses and algae. Spray from waterfalls adds to the humidity of the site. Even in a drought year like 2002, the area was moist. A delicate fern, slender rockbrake (*Cryptogramma stelleri*), grows out from these crevices, along with the more common brittle fern (*Cystopteris fragilis*). The site is accessible just a short walk from Highway 550, at a sharp turn in the road. There may be more habitat for the fern upstream, in areas that were not surveyed.

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 01/30/2003
Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the occurrence and additional habitat upstream that may be occupied, but in any case is essential to the continuation of the current hydrology that supports the fern.

Primary Area 115.68 Acres 46.81 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of slender rock-brake (*Cryptogramma stelleri*), a plant that is rare (G5/S2) in Colorado.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

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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>			
22152	<i>Cryptogramma stelleri</i>	slender rock-brake	G5	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 01/30/2003

Version Author Lyon, M.J.

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