

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Cottonwood Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*18341

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 137 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 383625N
State Colorado Longitude 1081540W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
38108-E3	Cottonwood Basin
38108-E2	Camel Back
38108-F2	Roubideau

County

Montrose (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14020005	Lower Gunnison

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	5,600.00 Feet	1,707.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	6,600.00 Feet	2,012.00 Meters

Site Description

Cottonwood creek has a narrow, good condition riparian area at the bottom of a deep canyon. There are no roads or hydrological alterations within the site, and few weeds. Evidence of flooding was observed, and there is good regeneration of cottonwoods and willows. Some schools of small fish were seen in the creek. Difficulty of access contributes to its excellent condition. Major vegetation in the riparian zone consists of *Populus angustifolia*, *Rhus trilobata*, *Salix exigua*, and *Shepherdia argentea*. The few weeds present include *Melilotus officinalis*. Soils are sandy with medium size cobbles. Banks are 60-75% vegetated. Uplands consist of sagebrush, oak and rabbitbrush.

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 11/21/1998

Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the riparian zone of Cottonwood Creek from 5600 to 6600 ft.

Primary Area	929.08 Acres	375.99 Hectares
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SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains an excellent occurrence of a plant community which is vulnerable on a global scale.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

Roadless area.

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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>			
24619	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> / <i>Rhus trilobata</i> Woodland	Narrowleaf Cottonwood/Skunkbrush	G3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	05/12/1999
Version Author	Lyon, M.J.

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