

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Dallas Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP\*10003

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 242 Site Class PCA  
Site Alias Ridgway State Park

### Network of Conservation Areas (NCA)

<u>NCA Site ID</u>	<u>NCA Site Code</u>	<u>NCA Site Name</u>
666	S.USCOHP*19025	Uncompahgre River

## LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 381139N  
State Colorado Longitude 1074453W

### Quad Code Quad Name

38107-B7 Ridgway  
38107-B6 Dallas

### County

Ouray (CO)

### Watershed Code Watershed Name

14020006 Uncompahange

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,900.00 Feet	2,103.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	7,000.00 Feet	2,134.00 Meters

### Site Description

The PCA lies along the north bank of Ridgway Reservoir at the confluence of the Uncompahgre River and Dallas Creek and extends south along the riparian area of the river and creek opening into the grass meadow beyond the southern boundary of the park. The valley bottom along the river and creek is slightly rolling and upslope from the valley bottom to the west the topography rises steeply for 1000 feet to the top of Log Hill Mesa. Dominate species found in the riparian area include CAREX, JUNCUS, POPULUS ANGUSTIFOLIA, SALIX EXIGUA, SWIDA SERICEA, POA, PLEUM PRATENSE, AGROSTIS PALUSTRIS, AND CRATAEGUS. Shrubs including ARTEMISIA, SARCOBATUS VERMICULATUS, and ATRIPLEX CANESCENS dominated the river terrace area in the vicinity of the VIREO VICINIOR observation. The area upslope from the shrubland is dominated by a healthy and mature pinyon-juniper (PINUS EDULIS-JUNIPERUS SPP.) woodland.

### Key Environmental Factors

No Data

### Climate Description

Annual precipitation is 10-16 inches. Temperatures range from the low teens in January to the high 90's in July, and the frost-free season averages 112 days.

### Land Use History

Area was ranchland grazed by livestock prior to construction of Ridgway dam in 1988. The north part of the PCA is within what is now Ridgway State Park while the south half lies within private ranchland that is presently grazed.

### Cultural Features

No Data

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 07/24/1999  
Designer Sovell, J.R.

### Boundary Justification

The PCA boundary includes VIREO VICINIOR and most of the ecological processes of V. VICINIOR are protected within the boundary. The PCA includes the semi-arid shrubland of the river terrace and the dry open pinyon-juniper (PINUS EDULIS-JUNIPERUS MONOSPERMA) woodlands on the lower rocky slopes leading to Log Hill Mesa, common nesting and foraging habitats of V. VICINIOR.

Primary Area 221.25 Acres 89.54 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

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## Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a good occurrence of a bird species and a fair occurrence of a plant community, both of which are apparently secure on a global scale.

**Other Values Rank** V2 - High values

## Other Values Comments

State park with open space recreation: hiking, fishing, and bird watching.

## LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

## Land Use Comments

No Data

## Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

## Exotics Comments

BROMOPSIS INERMIS and ELAEAGNUS ANGUSTIFOLIA occur in the site.

## 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>
24791	<i>Quercus gambelii</i> / <i>Symphoricarpos oreophilus</i>	Mixed Mountain Shrublands	G5	S3S4	Yes
	Shrubland				
18668	<i>Vireo vicinior</i>	Gray Vireo	G4	S2B	Yes

## REFERENCES

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

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

## Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

<b>Version Date</b>	07/24/1999
<b>Version Author</b>	Sovell, J.R.

## Disclaimer

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