

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Dove Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP\*26292

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2355 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 375036N  
State Colorado Longitude 1085216W

### Quad Code Quad Name

37108-G7	Secret Canyon
37109-F1	Burnt Cabin Creek
37108-H8	Egnar
37108-H7	Joe Davis Hill
37108-G8	Dove Creek
37109-G1	Northdale

### County

San Miguel (CO)  
Dolores (CO)

### Watershed Code Watershed Name

14080203	Montezuma
14030002	Upper Dolores

## SITE DESCRIPTION

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

### Site Description

"The Dove Creek subpopulation is located primarily in western Dolores County, Colorado, north and southwest of Dove Creek; a small portion of occupied habitat extends into San Miguel County. The estimated area occupied by the subpopulation is approximately 28,300 acres and elevation ranges from 6,600 - 8,100 feet. Habitat north of Dove Creek is characterized as mountain shrub habitat, dominated by oakbrush interspersed with sagebrush. The area west of Dove Creek is dominated by sagebrush, but the habitat is highly fragmented and has a sparse understory that is primarily crested wheatgrass. Approximately 87% of occupied habitat at Dove Creek is privately owned, and 13% is managed by the BLM" (GSGRSC 2005).

### 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 04/18/2006  
Designer Gaughan, C.R.

### Boundary Justification

The site boundary was provided by CDOW (NDIS overall range) drawn to encompass the entire nesting area, including known leks, of the Gunnison Sage Grouse and surrounding habitat containing potential or known roost and nesting locations. It consists of three separate polygons (CDOW 2005).

Primary Area 28,340.53 Acres 11,469.05 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

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Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

## Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains two poor (D-ranked) occurrences of the Gunnison Sage Grouse (*Centrocercus minimus*), which is critically imperiled on a global scale (G1/S1). Although severely degraded, these occurrences are critical to the core population for genetic augmentation.

Other Values Rank No Data

## Other Values Comments

No Data

## LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

### Land Use Comments

"Land-use in Dove Creek is mostly agriculture, but a major subdivision called Secret Canyon Ranches lies within the boundary. The Secret Canyon Ranches subdivision is 2,700 acres (about 9% of the GUSG Dove Creek subpopulation occupied range) and has been subdivided into 35-50-acre tracts, although few of these tracts have been developed" (GSGRSC 2005).

### 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</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>
17758	<i>Centrocercus minimus</i>	Gunnison Sage Grouse	G1	S1	Yes
17758	<i>Centrocercus minimus</i>	Gunnison Sage Grouse	G1	S1	Yes

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
194305	Apa, A.D. 2004. Habitat use, movements, and survival of Gunnison sage-grouse in southwestern Colorado. Unpublished report to the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Colorado, USA.
194308	Colorado Division of Wildlife. 2005. Gunnison Sage Grouse Overall Range. Fort Collins, CO. GIS data online at <a href="http://ndis.nrel.colostate.edu/ftp/index.html">http://ndis.nrel.colostate.edu/ftp/index.html</a>
184804	Connelly, J. W., M. A. Schroeder, A. R. Sands, and C. E. Braun. 2000. Guidelines to manage sage grouse populations and their habitats. Wildlife Society Bulletin 28:967-985.
194272	Gunnison Sage-grouse Rangewide Steering Committee (GSGRSC). 2005. Gunnison sage -grouse rangewide conservation plan. Colorado Division of Wildlife, Denver, Colorado, USA.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

Version Date 04/18/2006  
Version Author Gaughan, C.R.

## Disclaimer

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