

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Dumont Lake

Site Code S.USCOHP1\*2503

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1210 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 402259N  
State Colorado Longitude 1063838W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
40106-C5	Lake Agnes
40106-C6	Walton Peak
40106-D6	Mount Werner
40106-D5	Rabbit Ears Peak

## County

Grand (CO)  
Routt (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14050001	Upper Yampa
14010001	Colorado headwaters

## SITE DESCRIPTION

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

## Site Description

Site occurs west of Rabbit Ears Pass in the Gore Range mountains along the headwaters of Walton and Muddy creeks. General geology consists of multiple components, the predominant being metamorphic rocks of the Precambrian Age and igneous rocks of the Tertiary Age. Uplands are dominated by mixed coniferous forests of lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*), subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*), and Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*). Drainages are dominated by mosaics of mesic meadows and dense shrub thickets. Herbaceous meadow openings are dominated by tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia caespitosa*) communities. Shrublands are dominated by Wolf's willow (*Salix wolfii*) and diamondleaf willow (*Salix planifolia*). More mesic areas near the creek are dominated by mesic graminoids in the understory including water sedge (*Carex aquatilis*) and beaked sedge (*Carex utriculata*) with bluejoint reedgrass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*). Forbs species are common and consistent throughout meadows and wetlands with white-marsh marigold (*Caltha leptosepala*), cinquefoil (*Potentilla* sp.), arrowleaf ragwort (*Senecio triangularis*), and tall fringed bluebells (*Mertensia ciliata*) being common. Disturbances include a forest service road that transects and runs adjacent to the Muddy Creek, Highway 40 that runs north of the site, beaver activity, and possibly natural resource extraction.

## Key Environmental Factors

Key environmental factors contributing to the biota of the site include substrate, soils, moisture, shading, slope, and aspect.

## Climate Description

Climate likely follows patterns typical of this region of Colorado, being generally xeric throughout the year, with wet spring seasons and late summer "monsoons".

## Land Use History

No Data

## Cultural Features

No Data

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 08/06/1999  
Designer Fayette, K.K.

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## Boundary Justification

Boundaries encompass approximately 4,320 acres west of Rabbit Ears Pass along Walton and Muddy Creek drainages. Boundaries are drawn to encompass those ecological processes necessary to maintain site hydrology and biota including spring flooding, perennial surface flows, and disturbances producing forest openings. Boundaries do not include all ecological processes influencing the site. Activities upstream and along adjacent slopes such as improper grazing, water diversion, road maintenance, and development may impact site hydrology and biota.

Primary Area 6,833.25 Acres 2,765.33 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

## Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site is drawn for an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G5T2/S2) plant subspecies, rabbit ears gilia (*Ipomopsis aggregata* ssp. *weberi*) and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) plant community, Wolf's willow (*Salix wolfii* / mesic forb).

Other Values Rank V2 - High values

## Other Values Comments

Other values include aesthetics and open space, wildlife habitat, and excellent opportunities for recreational activities.

## LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

### Land Use Comments

Predominant land uses are recreational uses including hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, biking, and OHV use.

### Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

### Exotics Comments

Timothy (*Phleum pratense*), meadow foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis*), and common dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) are all found within drainages and along roadways. Virginia strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*) is common in meadows and may be an indicator of past land uses such as livestock grazing.

### Offsite

Off-site considerations include logging of adjacent forests, road maintenance and proximity, and recreational uses which may all be conduits for exotic species and may impact wetlands by adding sediment, denuding banks, and altering hydrology.

### Information Needs

No Data

## ASSOCIATED ELEMENTS OF BIODIVERSITY

<u>Element</u>	<u>State Scientific Name</u>	<u>State Common Name</u>	<u>Global Rank</u>	<u>State Rank</u>	<u>Driving Site Rank</u>
18031	<i>Ipomopsis aggregata</i> ssp. <i>weberi</i>	Rabbit Ears gilia	G5T2	S2	No
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24572	<i>Salix wolfii</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Subalpine Riparian Willow Carr	G3	S3	Yes

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
160903	Carsey, K., D. Cooper, K. Decker, D. Culver, and G. Kittel. 2003. Statewide wetlands classification and characterization: Wetland plant associations of Colorado. Prepared for Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Denver, CO by Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.
193632	Culver, D.R. and Jones, J.R. 2006. Final Report: Survey of Critical Biological Resources in Grand County. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.
160140	Dorn, R. D. 1997. Rocky Mountain Region Willow Identification Field Guide. Renewable Resources R2-RR-97-01. Denver, CO: USDA, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region. 107p.
167224	Hurd, E.G., N.L. Shaw, J. Mastroguiseppe, L.C. Smithman, and S. Goodrich. 1998. Field Guide to Intermountain Sedges. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Ogden, UT.
192747	Tweto, O. 1979. Geologic Map of Colorado, 1:500,000. United States Geological Survey, Department of Interior, and Geologic Survey of Colorado, Denver, CO.
193553	USDA, NRCS. 2005. The PLANTS Database, Version 3.5 ( <a href="http://plants.usda.gov">http://plants.usda.gov</a> ). Data compiled from various sources by Mark W. Skinner. National Plant Data Center < <a href="http://npdc.usda.gov/">http://npdc.usda.gov/</a> >, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA. Accessed 2005.
172684	Weber, W.A. and R.C. Wittmann. 2001. Colorado Flora: Western Slope, Third Edition. University Press of Colorado, Niwot, CO.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

Original site design by Fayette, K.K. 1999-08-06.

## VERSION

**Version Date** 01/06/2006

**Version Author** Jones, J.R.

## Disclaimer

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