

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name East Fork Hermosa Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*9056

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 259 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>
2148	S.USCOHP*24990	Hermosa Creek

LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 373823N
State Colorado Longitude 1075125W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
37107-F7	Engineer Mountain
37107-E7	Electra Lake
37107-F8	Hermosa Peak
37107-E8	Elk Creek

County

La Plata (CO)
San Juan (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14080104	Animas

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	9,340.00 Feet	2,847.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,600.00 Feet	2,926.00 Meters

Site Description

This site straddles the border of San Juan and La Plata counties. It includes the East Fork of Hermosa Creek from its headwaters near Durango Mountain Resort, to the confluence of Sig Creek. It also includes a major tributary, Pasture Creek, which is primarily in San Juan County. The cutthroat trout (*Onchorhynchus clarki pleuriticus*) population in this stream was introduced, and is genetically pure, according to biologists from the San Juan National Forest. The San Juan County portion of the site does not support trout because the stream is intermittent in the upper reaches. However, this upper portion of the watershed is critical for maintaining the habitat for the fish downstream.

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 05/13/1997
Designer Fleming, C.C.

Boundary Justification

The planning boundary includes the entire stretch of the stream and all of its major tributaries between two barriers that prevent contamination by non-native fish. A 1000-foot buffer is provided to limit direct physical disturbances and local hydrologic alteration.

Primary Area	3,278.00 Acres	1,326.57 Hectares
--------------	----------------	-------------------

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports an unranked occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G4T3/S3) fish subspecies.

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name East Fork Hermosa Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*9056

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

No Data

Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

Exotics Comments

No Data

Offsite

[Fleming 1997:] Hydrological processes originating outside of the planning boundary, including water quality, quantity, timing and flow must be managed to maintain site viability.

Information Needs

[Sovell 2003] A revisit is needed to verify the continued existence of the trout population at the site.

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>
21796	<i>Oncorhynchus clarkii pleuriticus</i>	Colorado River Cutthroat Trout	G4T3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
167438	Japhet and Gerhardt. 1997. San Juan - Rio Grande National Forest Biodiversity Assessment Interviews.
184581	Lyon, P. 2003. Colorado Natural Heritage Program La Plata County Biological Assessment.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	01/28/2004
Version Author	Lyon, M.J.

Disclaimer

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name East Fork Hermosa Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*9056

These data are a product and property of Colorado State University, Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP). These data are strictly "on loan" and should be considered "works in progress". Data maintained in the Colorado Natural Heritage Program database are an integral part of ongoing research at CSU and reflect the observations of many scientists, institutions and our current state of knowledge. These data are acquired from various sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and are continually being updated and revised. Many areas have never been surveyed and the absence of data in any particular geographic area does not necessarily mean that species or ecological communities of concern are not present. These data should not be regarded as a substitute for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Absence of evidence is NOT evidence of absence. Absence of any data does not mean that other resources of special concern do not occur, but rather CNHP files do not currently contain information to document this presence. CNHP is not responsible for whether other, non-CNHP data providers have secured landowner permission for data collected.

These data are provided for non-commercial purposes only. Under no circumstances are data to be distributed in any fashion to outside parties. To ensure accurate application of data, tabular and narrative components must be evaluated in conjunction with spatial components. Failure to do so constitutes a misuse of the data. The Colorado Natural Heritage Program shall have no liability or responsibility to the data users, or any other person or entity with respect to liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the data, including but not limited to any interruption of service, loss of business, anticipatory profits or indirect, special, or consequential damages resulting from the use of operation of the data. Data users hereby agree to hold CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado harmless from any claim, demand, cause of action, loss, damage or expense from or related to data users use of or reliance on the data, regardless of the cause or nature thereof, and even in the event that such cause is attributable to the negligence or misconduct of CNHP.

These data are provided on an as-is basis, as-available basis without warranties of any kind, expressed or implied, INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. Although CNHP maintains high standards of data quality control, CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado further expressly disclaim any warranty that the data are error-free or current as of the date supplied