

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Evacuation Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*27020

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2464 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 394356N
State Colorado Longitude 1090130W

Quad Code Quad Name

39108-G8 Texas Creek
39109-G1 Dragon
39109-F1 Davis Canyon
39108-F8 East Evacuation Creek

County

Uintah (UT)
Rio Blanco (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

14050007 Lower White

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	5,880.00	Feet	1,792.22	Meters
Maximum Elevation	7,250.00	Feet	2,209.80	Meters

Site Description

This site is in Rio Blanco County in the Davis, Evacuation Creek and Dragon USGS quadrangles, east of the Utah/Colorado state line. The northern boundary is just north of County Road 109. The entire site is on land owned by BLM, except for about 160 acres of private land. The geological features include a portion of the Evacuation Creek Gulch and Davis Canyon, as well as the base of White Face Butte. Approximately 2/3 of the site is sandstone, shale and coal beds above Sego sandstone (upper part of Mesa Verde Formation), while most of the remaining 1/3 is Wasatch Formation claystone, shale and sandstone, with a small portion nearer the Colorado/Utah border composed of shale, sandstone and marlstone of the Green River Formation. This area supports open pinon - juniper (*Pinon edulis* - *Juniperus osteosperma*) woodlands and mixed shrublands, as well as sagebrush shrublands (*Artemisia* spp.). Greasewood (*Sarcobatus vermiculatus*) occurs along the creeks. Other common species found in this area include Wyoming sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata* ssp. *wyomingensis*), black sage (*Artemisia nova*), rubber rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*), shadscale (*Atriplex confertifolia*), mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*), wild buckwheat (*Eriogonum* sp.), yucca (*Yucca* sp.), Indian rice grass (*Achnatherum hymenoides*), James' galleta (*Hilaria jamesii*), blue gramma (*Bouteloua gracilis*), Mormon tea (*Ephedra* sp.), and snakeweed (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*).

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

In the County, summers are warm or hot in most valleys but are much cooler in the mountains. Winters are cold in the mountains. Summer thunderstorms are prevalent; of the total precipitation, 55% usually falls between April and September. Average seasonal snowfall is 74.4 inches, average day time temperature is 45 degrees and average precipitation is 16.5 inches for Meeker between 1948 -2007 (Western Regional Climate Center 2008).

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

Bordered by the Utah/Colorado state line.

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 12/01/2007

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Designer Lyon, M.J. and J. Huggins

Boundary Justification

The Evacuation Creek site includes the lower slopes of Whiteface Butte and the western Colorado part of the drainages of Evacuation Creek and Davis Creek. The northern boundary is just to the north of Rio Blanco County Road 109. Two rare plants, narrow-stem gilia (*Gilia stenothyrsa*) and Rollins' cat's-eye (*Oreocarya rollinsii*) were found within the area. Their locations and similar habitat are included in the site. The boundary terminates near the state line, although the habitat continues into Utah.

Primary Area 9,429.94 Acres 3,816.17 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of globally vulnerable (G3/S2) Rollins' cat's-eye (*Oreocarya rollinsii*) and a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S1) narrow stem gilia (*Gilia stenothyrsa*), considered extremely rare in Colorado. Both species are on the BLM Sensitive Species List.

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

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>
18885	<i>Gilia stenothyrsa</i>	narrow-stem gilia	G3	S1	No
18627	<i>Oreocarya rollinsii</i>	Rollins' cat's-eye	G3	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
195049	BLM, White River Field Office. 2007. Personal communication to Peggy Lyon and Denise Culver of CNHP.
195026	Culver, D., J. Huggins and P. Lyon. 2008. Final Report: Significant Biological Resources in Rio Blanco County, CO. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.
195034	WRCC. 2008. Western Regional Climate Center. Division of Atmospheric Sciences, Desert Research Institute. Reno, Nevada. < http://www.wrcc.dri.edu >.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 12/01/2007

Version Author Lyon, M.J. and J. Huggins

Disclaimer

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