

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name FR 121 at Big Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP\*28156

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2702 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 390751N  
State Colorado Longitude 1075447W

### Quad Code Quad Name

39107-A8 Grand Mesa  
39107-B8 Collbran

### County

Mesa (CO)

### Watershed Code Watershed Name

14010005 Colorado headwaters-Plateau

## SITE DESCRIPTION

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

### Site Description

Forest Road 121 passes through aspen forest and oak shrublands on the west facing slope above Big Creek. Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), Gambel oak (*Quercus gambelii*), chokecherry (*Padus virginiana*) and serviceberry (*Amelanchier utahensis*) are common along the road. Some non-native species, including yellow sweet clover (*Melilotus officinalis*) and smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*) occur in disturbed sites. The northern and southern parts of the site are in the Grand Mesa National Forest. The central part passes through private land. The occurrence of Grand Mesa penstemon (*Penstemon mensarum*) is restricted to the road right-of way.

### Key Environmental Factors

No Data

### Climate Description

No Data

### Land Use History

No Data

### Cultural Features

No Data

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 08/24/2010

Designer Lyon, M.J.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the occurrence of *Penstemon mensarum* along Forest Road 121. Some adjacent suitable habitat that has not been surveyed is included that may provide sites for future expansion of the population and support pollinators.

Primary Area 140.51 Acres 56.86 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

The rank is based on a good (B-ranked) occurrence of Grand Mesa penstemon (*Penstemon mensarum*), a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) plant.

Other Values Rank No Data

### Other Values Comments

No Data

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## LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

### Land Use Comments

No Data

### Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

### Exotics Comments

Some non-native species, including yellow sweet clover (*Melilotus officinalis*) and smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*) occur in disturbed sites.

### 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>
19689	<i>Penstemon mensarum</i>	Grand Mesa penstemon	G3	S3	Yes

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
198684	Lyon, P. and B. Kuhn. 2010. CNHP Final Report: Grand Mesa National Forest Rare Plant and Boreal Toad Survey 2010. Colorado Natural Heritage Program. Fort Collins, CO.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

<b>Version Date</b>	08/24/2010
<b>Version Author</b>	Lyon, M.J.

## Disclaimer

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