

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Groundhog Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*9427

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 947 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 374526N
State Colorado Longitude 1081525W

Quad Code Quad Name
37108-G3 Groundhog Reservoir

County
Dolores (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14030002 Upper Dolores

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,320.00 Feet	2,536.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	8,600.00 Feet	2,621.00 Meters

Site Description

The area is a moderately wide upper montane valley with blue spruce and aspen on the slopes and blue spruce and willows along the stream. It is downstream from a large reservoir.

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 06/09/1997
Designer Kettler, S.M.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the occurrence and an approximate 1,000 foot buffer. This boundary should protect the occurrence from direct disturbance, and is thought to protect the avian, macroinvertebrate and periphyton communities and limit impacts from sedimentation (see Noel et al. 1986, Spackman and Hughes 1995, Karr and Schlosser 1978). Hydrologic conditions necessary for natural channel dynamics are affected by an upstream dam not included in the site.

Primary Area 61.70 Acres 24.97 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

Rank is based on a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally imperiled (G2G3/S2S3) montane willow carr (*Salix ligulifolia*). There is also a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) montane riparian forest (*Picea pungens* / *Alnus incana*).

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

No Data

Offsite

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

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>
24155	<i>Salix ligulifolia</i> Shrubland	Montane Willow Carr	G2G3	S2S3	Yes
24518	<i>Picea pungens</i> / <i>Alnus incana</i> Woodland	Montane Riparian Forests	G3	S3	No

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
159567	Carsey, K. and M. Aitken. 1993. Colorado Natural Heritage Program San Juan National Forest Riparian Site Survey.
172808	J. R. Karr and I. J. Schlosser. 1978. Water resources and the land-water interface. Science 201: 229-234.
165959	Noel, D.S., C.W. Martin and C.A. Federer. 1986. Effects of Forest Clearcutting in New England on Stream Macroinvertebrates and Periphyton. Environmental Management 10: 661-670.
159511	Spackman, S. C. and J. W. Hughes. 1995. Assessment of Minimum Stream Corridor Width for Biological Conservation: Species Richness and Distribution Along Mid-Order Streams in Vermont, USA. Biological Conservation 71:325-332.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 06/09/1997

Version Author Kettler, S.M.

Disclaimer

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