

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Indian Creek at Tuckerville

Site Code S.USCOHP*9444

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1076 Site Class PCA
Site Alias None

Network of Conservation Areas (NCA)

NCA Site ID	NCA Site Code	NCA Site Name
-		No Data

LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 372908N
State Colorado Longitude 1072946W

Quad Code	Quad Name
37107-D4	Granite Peak
37107-D5	Vallecito Reservoir

County

La Plata (CO)
Hinsdale (CO)

Watershed Code	Watershed Name
14080101	Upper San Juan

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	10,400.00 Feet	3,170.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	10,840.00 Feet	3,304.00 Meters

Site Description

This large area comprises a mosaic of spruce - fir forest, open Thurber fescue (*Festuca thurberi*) meadows, narrow stream beds dominated by willows, and more open wet meadows dominated by Colorado false hellebore (*Veratrum tenuipetalum*), green gentian (*Frasera speciosa*) and other tall forbs. Indian Creek runs through the site for about 1.5 miles. A large open park known as Runlett Park occupies the northern part of the site. Middle Mountain Road (FR 724) provides access to the area and is popular with four-wheel drive recreationist. It also leads to trails into the Weminuche and Rio Grande wilderness areas. Thurber fescue meadows occupy south and east-facing slopes. Wet meadows are interspersed with the drier grasslands. Both of these habitats support kittentails (*Besseyia ritteriana*) and showy whitlow-grass (*Draba spectabilis* var. *oxyloba*). Other species here include Colorado false hellebore, green gentian, Parry's thistle (*Cirsium parryi*), smallwing sedge (*Carex microptera*), large mountain fleabane (*Erigeron coulteri*), nodding ragwort (*Ligularia bigelovii*), monkshood (*Aconitum columbianum*), fowl managrass (*Glyceria striata*), Richardson's geranium (*Geranium richardsonii*), eltro (*Heracleum sphondylium* ssp. *montanum*), strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*), chiming bells (*Mertensia ciliata*), osha (*Ligusticum porteri*), blue wildrye (*Elymus glaucus*), orange sneezeweed (*Dugaldia hoopesii*), tall fleabane (*Erigeron elatior*), black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia ampla*), Fendler's waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum fendleri*), and fewleaf thistle (*Cirsium centaureae*).

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 01/30/2004
Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses a mosaic of grasslands and wetlands. It includes the occurrence of Thurber fescue subalpine grassland.

Primary Area	1,076.35 Acres	435.59 Hectares
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SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The Indian Creek at Tuckerville site supports an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) *Festuca thurberi* subalpine grassland and good (B-ranked) occurrences of two globally apparently secure (G4/S4) natural communities: *Salix planifolia* / *Caltha leptosepala* and *Salix brachycarpa* / mesic forbs.

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

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>
24836	<i>Salix planifolia</i> / <i>Caltha leptosepala</i> Shrubland	Subalpine Riparian Willow Carr	G4	S4	No
24806	<i>Salix brachycarpa</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Alpine Willow Scrub	G4	S4	No
24997	<i>Festuca thurberi</i> Subalpine Grassland Herbaceous Vegetation		G3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
184581	Lyon, P. 2003. Colorado Natural Heritage Program La Plata County Biological Assessment.
194565	Neid, S.L. and J.R. Jones. 2008. Final Report: Survey of Critical Wetlands and Riparian Areas in Hinsdale County. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.
170844	Randolph, D., Smith, Kettler, Redders, Roy, and Aitken. 1994. San Juan National Forest Riparian Site Survey.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

Original site design by Kettler 1994.

VERSION

Version Date 01/30/2004
Version Author Lyon, M.J.

Disclaimer

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