

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Ironton Park

Site Code S.USCOHP*18773

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1319 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 375701N
State Colorado Longitude 1073958W

Quad Code Quad Name

37107-H6 Ironton

County

Watershed Code Watershed Name

14020006 Uncompahange

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	9,600.00 Feet	2,926.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,800.00 Feet	2,987.00 Meters

Site Description

This broad park occupies a level area where Red Mountain Creek has spread out into several channels, creating the largest wetland in the Uncompahgre Basin. The creek has been dammed to form Crystal Lake at the northern end of the valley. About 300 acres of the site is dominated by bog birch, surrounded by forested slopes with spruce and aspen. Bog birch accounts for about 70% of the shrub cover, with planeleaf willow contributing 20%, and the remainder a combination of bareground willow, Drummond willow, and Rocky Mountain willow. The understory consists of a dense growth of beaked sedge, with a small amount of water sedge, tufted hairgrass, and Canada wildrye. There are several mines in the area that have contributed to high acidity (pH6) of the creek. Highway 550 dissects the community. Red Mountain Creek has been dredged, and some areas near the highway have been filled. The soils are permanently saturated, and have peat accumulation of up to 100 cm.

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 11/01/1998

Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encloses the wetland, with a small buffer of 200 vertical feet upslope.

Primary Area 569.45 Acres 230.45 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally imperiled (G2/S2) iron fen (*Picea engelmannii* / *Betula glandulosa* / *Carex aquatilis* - *Sphagnum angustifolium*).

Other Values Rank No Data

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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>
24847	(<i>Picea engelmannii</i>) / <i>Betula nana</i> / <i>Carex aquatilis</i> - <i>Sphagnum angustifolium</i> Woodland	Iron Fen	G2	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
-	No Data

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	06/27/2003
Version Author	Bell, J.B.

Disclaimer

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