

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Kenney Flats

Site Code S.USCOHP*23169

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 285 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>
2467	S.USCOHP*27036	Pagosa Springs

LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 370655N
State Colorado Longitude 1065328W

Quad Code Quad Name

37106-A8 Edith

County

Archuleta (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

14080101 Upper San Juan

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	7,600.00 Feet	2,316.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	7,900.00 Feet	2,408.00 Meters

Site Description

The Kenney Flats site is characterized by ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) savanna, with large grassy meadows, and less Gambel oak (*Quercus gambelii*) than in most of Archuleta County. The site has some excellent stands of bunchgrasses, including Arizona fescue (*Festuca arizonica*), needle and thread (*Stipa comata*), Indian rice grass (*Oryzopsis hymenoides*), mountain muhly (*Muhlenbergia montana*), and pine dropseed (*Blepharoneuron tricholepis*). However, the quality of the understory is patchy, and non-native species such as smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*) and Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*) are also present. Of greater concern are large areas of tarweed (*Madia glomerata*) that have invaded in the broad swales.

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 02/15/2002

Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include the occurrence of variegated scouringrush, and areas uphill from the pond that contain an exotic plant species that may threaten this occurrence.

Primary Area 255.57 Acres 103.43 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of a state rare (G5/S1) plant. Variegated scouringrush (*Hippochaete variegata*) is a smaller plant than its close relative, common scouring rush (*H. hyemalis*), and can be found from moderately low to high elevations. At this site it was growing in mud surrounding a stock pond. Although the species is widespread throughout the United States and Canada, as of 2002, there are only two other known locations in Colorado. However, it may be more common and just overlooked.

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

Variegated scouringrush may be more common and just overlooked. Nearby stock ponds and muddy areas should be checked for this plant.

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>
21454	<i>Hippochaete variegata</i>	variegated scouringrush	G5	S1	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
166839	Lyon, P. 2001. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Field Surveys.
193472	Sovell, J., P. Lyon, and L. Grunau. 2003. Final Report: Upper San Juan Biological Assessment. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 02/15/2002

Version Author Lyon, M.J.

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