

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Kite Lake

Site Code S.USCOHP*126

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 367 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 374240N
State Colorado Longitude 1073144W

Quad Code Quad Name
37107-F5 Storm King Peak

County
San Juan (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14080101	Upper San Juan
13010001	Rio Grande headwaters
14080104	Animas

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	11,800.00	Feet	3,597.00	Meters
Maximum Elevation	12,800.00	Feet	3,901.00	Meters

Site Description

The Kite Lake site is a natural alpine lake, with unusual geological surroundings. Located in the far eastern part of San Juan County, it falls into the Rio Grande drainage, on the east side of the Continental Divide. The lake is nearly surrounded by spectacular mountains composed of pink quartz. A small cabin sits at the edge of the lake, at the end of the county road. *Draba streptobrachia* was found in rock crevices near the lake and adjacent to the trail over the Continental Divide. Small depressional wetlands above the lake support good populations of Altai cottongrass (*Eriophorium altacium* var. *neogaeum*), along with sedges (*Carex aquatilis*) and marsh marigold.

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 12/13/2002
Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass occurrences of the two *Draba* species, which share similar habitat requirements in the rocky outcrops above Kite Lake and Eldorado Lake. Wetlands which support Altai cottongrass occur in a mosaic with the rocky areas, and are included in the site.

Primary Area 301.95 Acres 122.20 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The Kite Lake site supports a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of San Juan whitlow-grass (*Draba graminea*), a globally imperiled (G2/S2) species. It also includes a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of Colorado Divide whitlow-grass (*Draba streptobrachia*), a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) species and an excellent (A-ranked)

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occurrence of Altai cottongrass (*Eriophorum altaicum* var. *neogaeum*), a subspecies considered vulnerable (T3T4/S3) in Colorado.

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

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>
21234	<i>Draba streptobrachia</i>	Colorado Divide whitlow-grass	G3	S3	No
21874	<i>Eriophorum altaicum</i> var. <i>neogaeum</i>	Altai cottongrass	G4?T3T4	S3	No
17247	<i>Draba graminea</i>	San Juan whitlow-grass	G2	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 12/13/2002
Version Author Lyon, M.J.

Disclaimer

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