

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Leroux Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*10502

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1443 Site Class PCA
Site Alias Elk Wallows

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 385916N
State Colorado Longitude 1074243W

Quad Code Quad Name

38107-H6 Gray Reservoir
39107-A6 Chalk Mountain

County

Delta (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

14020004 North Fork Gunnison

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,300.00	Feet	2,529.84	Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,600.00	Feet	2,926.08	Meters

Site Description

The site follows East Leroux Creek from its divergence with West Leroux Creek north to Wash Tub Reservoir. Forest Service Road 128 parallels the creek, and runs the entire length of the site. The plant community is a shrubland on the south end, dominated by serviceberry (*Amelanchier utahensis*), Gambel oak (*Quercus gambelii*), and roundleaf snowberry (*Symphoricarpos rotundifolius*). The north end of the site is aspen forest (*Populus tremuloides*), with an understory dominated by mountain brome (*Bromus pumpehiana*), large mountain fleabane (*Erigeron coulteri*), meadow thistle (*Cirsium scariosum*), and lupine (*Lupinus* sp.). Grand Mesa penstemon (*Penstemon mensarum*) occurs in openings in the shrub community along both sides of the road. Elevation at the site ranges from 8,300 ft. at the south end, to 9,600 ft. on the north end at Wash Tub Reservoir.

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

Arid semi-desert.

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 08/20/2010

Designer Lyon, M.J. and B. Kuhn

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include occurrences of *Penstemon mensarum* and some adjacent riparian habitat along Leroux Creek.

Primary Area 697.44 Acres 282.24 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site contains a fair (C-ranked) ranked occurrence of a globally rare (G3/S3) species, Grand Mesa penstemon (*Penstemon mensarum*).

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Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

Recreation.

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>
19689	<i>Penstemon mensarum</i>	Grand Mesa penstemon	G3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
198684	Lyon, P. and B. Kuhn. 2010. CNHP Final Report: Grand Mesa National Forest Rare Plant and Boreal Toad Survey 2010. Colorado Natural Heritage Program. Fort Collins, CO.
178765	Lyon, P. and E. Williams. 1997. Final Report: Natural Heritage Biological Survey of Delta County. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

Original site design by Lyon, M.J. 1997-12-01.

VERSION

Version Date	08/20/2010
Version Author	Lyon, M.J. and B. Kuhn

Disclaimer

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