

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Lion Canyon

Site Code S.USCOHP*25894

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2292 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 381656N
State Colorado Longitude 1051543W

Quad Code Quad Name
38105-C3 Curley Peak

County
Fremont (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
11020002 Upper Arkansas

SITE DESCRIPTION

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Minimum Elevation | 7,800.00 Feet | 2,377.44 Meters |
| Maximum Elevation | 9,240.00 Feet | 2,816.35 Meters |

Site Description

Lion Canyon is a relatively steep, narrow drainage on the granitic, north-facing slope of a local height of land in the northern Wet Mountains. Flowing down from a montane meadow, this predominantly deciduous riparian woodland characterized by quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), forms a narrow band immediately adjacent to the stream channel. White fir (*Abies concolor*) and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) are common and white fir is nearly codominant at higher elevations. The shrub layer is not dense, but is mostly continuous along the reach. Thinleaf alder (*Alnus incana*) is the most frequent and abundant shrub. Herbaceous understory is fairly diverse and lush in the shade of the canyon and tree canopy. Southerly aspects of the surrounding uplands have Gambel oak (*Quercus gambelii*) thickets, otherwise the surrounding slopes are dominated by conifers.

Key Environmental Factors

Montane elevation; cool, north-facing slope; moderate to high gradient.

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 01/13/2006
Designer Neid, S.L.

Boundary Justification

Boundary is drawn along Oak Creek watershed boundary to south and follows adjacent ridgelines along east and west for immediate watershed protection.

Primary Area 694.10 Acres 280.89 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site encompasses a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) riparian natural community, quaking aspen / thinleaf alder (*Populus tremuloides* / *Alnus incana*) woodland.

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> |
| 24911 | <i>Populus tremuloides</i> / <i>Alnus incana</i> Forest | Montane Riparian Forests | G3 | S3 | Yes |

REFERENCES

| <u>Reference ID</u> | <u>Full Citation</u> |
|---------------------|---|
| 193618 | Neid, S.L. 2006. Final Report: Survey of Critical Wetlands and Riparian Areas in Fremont County, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO. |

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Version Date | 01/13/2006 |
| Version Author | Neid, S.L. |

Disclaimer

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