

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Long Canyon

Site Code S.USCOHP\*1684

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1102 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 383529N  
State Colorado Longitude 1084240W

Quad Code Quad Name  
38108-E6 Uncompahgre Butte

County  
Mesa (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name  
14030004 Lower Dolores

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	7,800.00 Feet	2,377.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	8,600.00 Feet	2,621.00 Meters

### Site Description

Riparian vegetation in Long Canyon is dominated by blue spruce (*Picea pungens*) and red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*). Other species include aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), river birch (*Betula occidentalis*), and mountain willow (*Salix monticola*). Beaver ponds are scattered along the creek. Soils Description: Soils along drainages are derived from alluvium. Restoration Potential: Most of the site is functioning as expected.

### 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 08/20/1996  
Designer Grunau, T.L. and M.J. Lyon

### Boundary Justification

Boundaries are drawn to encompass the ecological processes believed necessary for long term viability of the elements. These boundaries will ensure continued natural surface flow and thus allow fluvial processes such as flood scouring, lateral flow, and channel meandering, to maintain a dynamic distribution of riparian and wetland plant associations along the drainage. Hydrological processes originating outside the planning boundary, including water quality, quantity, and timing, must be managed to maintain site viability.

Primary Area 483.71 Acres 195.75 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports the apparently globally secure (G4) blue spruce/red-osier dogwood riparian forest. This plant association is a cool, moist riparian woodland occurring in deep narrow canyons and is known from Wyoming to Arizona. In Colorado, fewer than twenty stands are documented. This association is highly threatened by road improvements and maintenance, improper grazing, heavy recreational use, and development.

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

Hydrological processes originating outside the planning boundary, including water quality, quantity, and timing, must be managed to maintain site viability.

## 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>
24867	<i>Picea pungens</i> / <i>Cornus sericea</i> Woodland	Montane Riparian Forest	G4	S2	Yes

### REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
173289	Lyon, P., C. Pague, R. Rondeau, L. Renner, C. Slater, and C. Richard. 1996. Final Report: Natural Heritage Inventory of Mesa County, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

### ADDITIONAL TOPICS

## Additional Topics

No Data

### VERSION

<b>Version Date</b>	08/20/1996
<b>Version Author</b>	Grunau, T.L. and M.J. Lyon

### Disclaimer

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