

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Lost Man Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*16484

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1 Site Class PCA

Site Alias Jack Creek at Midway Pass

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 390913N

State Colorado Longitude 1063611W

Quad Code Quad Name

39106-B5 Mount Champion

39106-B6 Thimble Rock

County

Pitkin (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

14010004 Roaring Fork

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation 10,600.00 Feet 3,230.88 Meters

Maximum Elevation 13,000.00 Feet 3,962.40 Meters

Site Description

Lost Man Creek flows south from its headwaters at about 12,000 feet and drops gently over a 3-4 mile distance before flowing into Lost Man Reservoir at about 10,600 feet. This wide U-shaped, glacially carved valley supports high quality willow carrs with small breaks of spikerush (*Eleocharis* sp.) wetlands and subalpine meadows. The adjacent uplands are characterized by spruce - fir (*Picea engelmannii* - *Abies lasiocarpa*) communities, avalanche chutes and rock outcrops. The highest elevations in the site support alpine plant communities, several alpine lakes, and dramatic rock outcrops. A trail winds along the west side of Lost Man Creek. In most places the trail is high enough up the slope to leave the willow carr fairly well untouched, but trail maintenance activities are needed to ensure protection of the willow carr. Sparse cover of dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) was the only exotic species noted. The site is approximately 5,575 acres and spans an elevation range of about 10,600 to 13,000 feet.

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 04/26/1999

Designer Spackman, S.C.

Boundary Justification

The site includes some of each of the mosaic of community types in which the element occurrences are found. The surrounding high quality habitat is included to act as a buffer to direct disturbances, such as trampling, and indirect disturbances, such as unnatural erosion.

Primary Area 5,577.83 Acres 2,257.28 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site includes an excellent (A-ranked) example of a globally common (G4/S4) riparian community, *Salix*

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planifolia / *Caltha leptosepala*. There is also a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G4T3/S3) Colorado River cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii pleuriticus*). This subspecies is considered Sensitive by the U.S. Forest Service and is on the State Special Concern list. The greatest threat to the continued viability of Colorado River cutthroat trout is the introduction and migration of non-native fish species. Competition with brook trout and hybridization with rainbow trout are threats to this subspecies (Behnke 1992).

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 Rank</u>	<u>State Rank</u>	<u>Driving Site Rank</u>
<u>State ID</u>	<u>State Scientific Name</u>	<u>State Common Name</u>			
24836	<i>Salix planifolia</i> / <i>Caltha leptosepala</i> Shrubland	Subalpine Riparian Willow Carr	G4	S4	Yes
21796	<i>Oncorhynchus clarkii pleuriticus</i>	Colorado River Cutthroat Trout	G4T3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
145619	Behnke, R. J. 1992. Native trout of western North America. American Fisheries Society Monograph 6. xx + 275 pp.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	04/26/1999
Version Author	Spackman, S.C.

Disclaimer

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