

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Lower La Plata River

Site Code S.USCOHP\*24914

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2134 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 370214N  
State Colorado Longitude 1081117W

### Quad Code Quad Name

36108-H2 La Plata  
37108-A2 Redmesa

### County

San Juan (NM)  
La Plata (CO)

### Watershed Code Watershed Name

14080105 Middle San Juan

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation 6,000.00 Feet 1,828.80 Meters  
Maximum Elevation 6,400.00 Feet 1,950.72 Meters

### Site Description

The Lower La Plata River site includes the river and its floodplains, along with the immediate side slopes. The area is fairly level. Highway 140 runs through the site. The area is heavily used for oil and gas production, with numerous well, well pads and access roads throughout the site. Vegetation is primarily dryland agriculture, with some irrigated areas in the south. Adjacent slopes are pinyon-juniper woodlands, with some sagebrush shrubland. Ownership is mostly private land within the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Although not monitored regularly, the chub are believed to be extant but declining in the river (Japhet 2004, pers. comm.).

### 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 02/10/2004  
Designer Lyon, M.J.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include the location of roundtail chubs in the lower La Plata River, as well as the floodplain and some of the immediate side slopes that contribute to the quality of water in the river. It does not include all of the upland areas that could affect the fish habitat. However, any project that affects surface or ground water hydrology in the basin has the potential to affect the chub.

Primary Area 4,437.45 Acres 1,795.78 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports an extant occurrence of roundtail chub, a globally vulnerable (G3/S2) fish.

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>
20765	<i>Gila robusta</i>	Roundtail Chub	G3	S2	Yes

### REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
184661	Japhet, M. 2003. Personal Communication with Peggy Lyon for the La Plata County Biological Inventory.
184581	Lyon, P. 2003. Colorado Natural Heritage Program La Plata County Biological Assessment.

### ADDITIONAL TOPICS

## Additional Topics

No Data

### VERSION

<b>Version Date</b>	02/10/2004
<b>Version Author</b>	Lyon, M.J.

### Disclaimer

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