

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name McKenzie Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP\*18802

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 595 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 381531N  
State Colorado Longitude 1074637W

### Quad Code Quad Name

38107-C7 Colona  
38107-B7 Ridgway

### County

Ouray (CO)

### Watershed Code Watershed Name

14020006 Uncompahange

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,600.00 Feet	2,012.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	7,400.00 Feet	2,256.00 Meters

### Site Description

McKenzie Creek forms a narrowing sandstone canyon as it flows east from Log Hill to the Uncompahgre River. The upper parts of the creek have a low gradient, and support a riparian community of large, mature cottonwoods and dense thickets of hawthorn. Other native species present are wild rose, Rocky Mountain juniper, blue spruce, red-osier dogwood, skunkbush, coyote willow, and Oregon grape. This part of the creek is grazed by cattle. Several exotic weeds are present, including burdock, houndstongue, Canada thistle and common plantain. Drier clearings along the valley bottom have rubber rabbitbrush, shrubby cinquefoil and introduced pasture grasses. Uplands are wooded with pinyon, juniper, and oak. Downstream, as the canyon narrows, the cottonwoods are replaced by Douglas-fir and red-osier dogwood. Here the creek is inaccessible to cattle, and in better condition. Associated species here include mountain lover, Oregon grape, wild rose, Rocky Mountain juniper, and serviceberry. Uplands in this steeper canyon have oak and elk sedge.

### 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 12/18/1998  
Designer Lyon, M.J.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary encloses the two occurrences of riparian communities and the steep canyon sides of McKenzie Creek.

Primary Area 386.02 Acres 156.22 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of a globally imperiled (G2/S2) plant community, *Populus angustifolia* / *Crataegus rivularis*, and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally secure (G4/S4) plant

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community, *Pseudotsuga menziesii* / *Cornus sericea*.

Site Code S.USCOHP\*18802

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</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>
24989	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> / <i>Cornus sericea</i> Woodland	Lower Montane Riparian Forests	G4	S2	No
24727	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> / <i>Crataegus rivularis</i> Woodland	Narrowleaf Cottonwood Riparian Forests	G2?	S2	Yes

### REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
-	No Data

### ADDITIONAL TOPICS

## Additional Topics

No Data

### VERSION

Version Date	06/28/1999
Version Author	Lyon, M.J.

### Disclaimer

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