

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Meadow Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP\*3996

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 721 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 393520N  
State Colorado Longitude 1060553W

Quad Code Quad Name

39106-E1 Frisco

County

Summit (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

14010002 Blue

## SITE DESCRIPTION

<b>Minimum Elevation</b>	9,017.00	<b>Feet</b>	2,748.00	<b>Meters</b>
<b>Maximum Elevation</b>	9,800.00	<b>Feet</b>	2,987.00	<b>Meters</b>

### Site Description

The Meadow Creek site is located between Dillon Reservoir and the Gore Range. It encompasses the northern portion of the town of Frisco and portions of Giberson and Frisco Bays. The portion of the site northwest of Frisco and I-70, which is owned both privately and publicly, consists of a western slope sagebrush community (*Artemisia tridentata vaseyana* / *Festuca thurberi*). The willow carr (*Salix geyeriana* / *Calamagrostis canadensis*) that follows Meadow Creek is fragmented, but is an important functioning urban wetland. There are several kettle ponds scattered throughout the site that support aquatic vegetation e.g., pondweed (*Potamogeton gramineus*) and chorus frog (*Pseudacris triseriata*). The site is approximately 1,300 acres ranging in elevation from 2,748 m (9,017 ft.) to 2,987 m (9,800 ft.). It is highly impacted by urban development, which includes commercial/residential development, road construction, and dam construction. Interstate 70 and Highway 9 bisect the site.

### Key Environmental Factors

No Data

### Climate Description

No Data

### Land Use History

No Data

### Cultural Features

No Data

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map P - Partial Mapped Date 04/08/1996

Designer Fleming, C.C.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the lower portion of this creek and its major tributaries, as well as a 1,000 ft. upland buffer which should be sufficient to limit direct physical disturbance and local hydrologic alterations. The boundary is drawn to encompass all the elements and to protect the site from immediate impacts to the hydrology or waterway of the site. The Town of Frisco is incorporated within the site to illustrate its importance to town management. A much larger area should be considered in any long-term management or protection plan to protect the hydrological regime.

Primary Area 1,475.04 Acres 596.93 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

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## Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally imperiled (G2G3/S2S3) *Artemisia cana* ssp. *viscidula* / *Festuca thurberi* shrubland community. It also supports one of the best examples observed in Summit County of a globally common (G5/S5) montane aspen forest (*Populus tremuloides* / tall forbs) and a fair (C-ranked) example of a globally common (G4/S3) montane riparian willow carr (*Salix drummondiana* / *Carex utriculata*). There are several kettle ponds, including one located in the Frisco Duck subdivision, that support aquatic vegetation e.g., pondweed (*Potamogeton gramineus*). The globally vulnerable (G3/S3) montane willow carr (*Salix geyeriana* / *Carex aquatilis*) is located where Meadow Creek enters the reservoir on a floodplain that was formerly a very extensive willow carr. It is also located between the sewage disposal ponds and Frisco Bay where it is a highly functioning wetland.

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

Hydrological processes originating outside of the planning boundary, including water quality, quantity, and timing, must be managed to maintain the population 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>
24930	<i>Artemisia cana</i> ssp. <i>viscidula</i> / <i>Festuca thurberi</i> Shrubland	Western Slope Sagebrush Shrublands	G2G3	S2S3	Yes
24717	<i>Populus tremuloides</i> / Tall Forbs Forest	Montane Aspen Forest	G5	S5	No
24942	<i>Salix drummondiana</i> / <i>Carex utriculata</i> Shrubland	Montane Willow Carr	G4	S3	No
24658	<i>Salix geyeriana</i> / <i>Carex aquatilis</i> Shrubland	Montane Willow Carr	G3	S3	No

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
165258	Culver, D.R. 1997. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Wetland Assessments for the 1997 Summit County Wetlands Inventory.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

Version Date 04/08/1996  
Version Author Fleming, C.C.

## Disclaimer

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