

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Middle Fork South Platte River

Site Code S.USCOHP*329

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1426 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 390821N
State Colorado Longitude 1055530W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
39105-B8	Fairplay East
39105-A8	Garo

County

Park (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
10190001	South Platte Headwaters

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	9,100.00 Feet	2,774.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,800.00 Feet	2,987.00 Meters

Site Description

The site is an extensive riparian and floodplain area in South Park. Much of the area is mesic grassland with good stands of riparian shrubs. The northwest portion of the site contains an unusual stand of blue spruce (*Picea pungens*) on a large nutrient-rich groundwater seep. This forest contains the largest known occurrence of *Carex scirpodea* in Colorado. A limited amount of peatland exists, just south of Highway 9, a short ways west of the Middle Fork of the South Platte River. The entire area is used for moderate to heavy livestock grazing.

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 03/25/1996
Designer Sanderson, J.S.

Boundary Justification

The site boundary includes the occurrences and a short distance up and downstream to include reaches of the same habitat. However, the viability of the site is dependent on ecological processes outside of the boundaries, particularly hydrological processes.

Primary Area 3,416.99 Acres 1,382.81 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally imperiled (G2G3/S2) plant species, pale blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium pallidum*), and a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of a globally imperiled (G2/S1) extreme rich fen (*Kobresia simpliciuscula* - *Trichophorum pumilum*). Many other state rare plant and plant community occurrences are found within this site.

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>
24977	<i>Kobresia simpliciuscula</i> - <i>Trichophorum pumilum</i> Saturated Herbaceous Vegetation	Extreme Rich Fen	G2	S1	No
17508	<i>Packera pauciflora</i>	few-flowered ragwort	G4G5	S1S2	No
21615	<i>Sisyrinchium pallidum</i>	pale blue-eyed grass	G2G3	S2	Yes
23155	<i>Eleocharis quinqueflora</i> Herbaceous Vegetation	Alpine Wetlands	G4	S3S4	No
24475	<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i> ssp. <i>floribunda</i> / <i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i> Shrubland	Montane Riparian Shrubland	G4	S3S4	No
23592	<i>Carex scirpoidea</i>	Canadian single-spike sedge	G5	S2	No
21527	<i>Trichophorum pumilum</i>	little bulrush	G5	S2	No
22057	<i>Primula egaliksensis</i>	Greenland primrose	G4	S2	No

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	02/15/2001
Version Author	Spackman, S.C.

Disclaimer

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