

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name No Name Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*21717

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 121 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 393721N
State Colorado Longitude 1071742W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
39107-E3	Glenwood Springs
39107-F3	Carbonate

County
Garfield (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14010001	Colorado headwaters
14010005	Colorado headwaters-Plateau

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,000.00	Feet	1,829.00	Meters
Maximum Elevation	10,700.00	Feet	3,261.00	Meters

Site Description

This is a very large site that encompasses the entire watershed for No Name Creek, which is used by the City of Glenwood Springs for their city water supply. The lower reach of the creek is dominated by a dense and diverse overstory of trees and shrubs including narrowleaf cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*), Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), river birch (*Betula occidentalis*), red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), black twinberry (*Lonicera involucrata*), Rocky Mountain maple (*Acer glabrum*), and thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorum*). Upland slopes along the lower reach are very steep and mainly covered with scattered Douglas-fir. A globally imperiled community consisting of aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) and sticky-laurel (*Ceanothus velutinus*) is found near the top of the ridge on the east-facing slopes. Non-native species such as orchard grass (*Dactylis glomerata*) and Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*) are fairly abundant in this area. Upstream, above the narrow limestone canyon (approx. 6 miles), the vegetation changes to a riparian system more typical of subalpine environments. These subalpine areas have gentler upland slopes dominated by Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*) and aspen (*Populus tremuloides*). The riparian areas are dominated by Drummond's willow (*Salix drummondiana*), planeleaf willow (*S. planifolia*), and a variety of herbaceous species. About 3 miles upstream from the mouth of No Name Creek, an aqueduct dumps water from nearby Grizzly Creek to the east, into No Name Creek to supplement Glenwood Springs' city water supply. Soils are not mapped by the county soil survey. The U.S. Forest Service in Glenwood Springs may have soil maps for this area. This site contains a long and extensive riparian area with a high cover of woody vegetation plus numerous subalpine meadows and ponds, thus the capacity of this wetland to perform flood attenuation and bank stabilization may be good. The diversity of habitats, including scrub-shrub, forested, and emergent wetlands, provide excellent habitat for avian species and large and small mammals. Excellent vegetation structure along the creek provides shade and woody debris and thus excellent fish habitat.

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 01/15/2001

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Designer Rocchio, F.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the entire No Name Creek watershed and thus, ensures continued hydrological flow and allows natural fluvial processes to dynamically maintain the riparian plant communities.

Primary Area 7,880.15 Acres 3,189.00 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports one good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2/S2) aspen / sticky-laurel (*Populus tremuloides* / *Ceanothus velutinus*) forest, one good (B-ranked) occurrence of the state rare (G4/S3) narrowleaf cottonwood / red-osier dogwood (*Populus angustifolia* / *Cornus sericea*) riparian forest and two good (B-ranked) occurrences of the common (G4/S4) Drummond's willow / mesic forb (*Salix drummondiana* / mesic forb) deciduous alluvial shrubland. There is also a poor (D-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3T3/S3) hanging garden sullivanian (*Sullivantia hapemanii* var. *purpusii*).

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

Non-native species such as orchard grass (*Dactylis glomerata*) and Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*) are fairly abundant.

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>
24961	<i>Salix drummondiana</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Drummonds Willow/Mesic Forb	G4	S4	No
22214	<i>Sullivantia hapemanii</i> var. <i>purpusii</i>	Hanging Garden sullivanian	G3T3	S3	No
24961	<i>Salix drummondiana</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Drummonds Willow/Mesic Forb	G4	S4	No
24860	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> / <i>Cornus sericea</i> Woodland	Cottonwood Riparian Forest	G4	S3	No
24822	<i>Populus tremuloides</i> / <i>Ceanothus velutinus</i> Forest	Aspen Forests	G2	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
160919	Lyon, P. 2000. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Biological Assessment of Garfield County.
160810	Rocchio, J. 2000. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Wetland Inventory/Assessment of Garfield County.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 01/15/2001
Version Author Rocchio, F.J.

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