

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name North Delta

Site Code S.USCOHP*10495

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1182 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 385026N
State Colorado Longitude 1080556W

Quad Code Quad Name
38108-G1 North Delta

County
Delta (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14020005 Lower Gunnison

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	5,600.00 Feet	1,707.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	6,800.00 Feet	2,073.00 Meters

Site Description

The upper north and east facing slopes below Prairie Mesa have a good example of salt desert shrublands with shadscale and salina wild rye, which are typical of large sections of Delta County. In more level areas, the dominant grass is galleta. Although there is some cheatgrass, the shrublands are generally of high quality, in contrast with areas south of Dry Fork Reservoir, which are in poor condition. This is the site of our first Delta County records for Ord's kangaroo rat. Two individuals were documented on the road at night near the north end of the site, as the road begins to climb up toward pinyon juniper woodlands on the slopes of Grand Mesa. Although there was a report of the Colorado hookless cactus nearby, we were unable to locate it.

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

Arid semi-desert.

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 12/01/1997
Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include high quality occurrences of cold desert shrublands, including the rocky draws that are habitat of the Ord's kangaroo rat.

Primary Area 741.80 Acres 300.20 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2G3/S2S3) plant, Colorado hookless cactus (*Sclerocactus glaucus*), although the occurrence was not located during the last survey. There is also a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable to globally secure (G3G5/S3) *Atriplex confertifolia* - *Leymus salinas* community.

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>
16984	<i>Sclerocactus glaucus</i>	Colorado hookless cactus	G2G3	S2S3	Yes
24655	<i>Atriplex confertifolia</i> / <i>Leymus salinus</i> Shrubland	Cold Desert Shrublands	G3G5	S3	No

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	12/01/1997
Version Author	Lyon, M.J.

Disclaimer

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