

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name North Fork White River

Site Code S.USCOHP3\*2416

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 830 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 400303N  
State Colorado Longitude 1072750W

### Quad Code Quad Name

40107-A4 Lost Park  
40107-A3 Ripple Creek  
40107-A5 Fawn Creek

### County

Rio Blanco (CO)  
Garfield (CO)

### Watershed Code Watershed Name

14050005 Upper White

## SITE DESCRIPTION

<b>Minimum Elevation</b>	7,380.00	<b>Feet</b>	2,249.42	<b>Meters</b>
<b>Maximum Elevation</b>	8,630.00	<b>Feet</b>	2,630.42	<b>Meters</b>

### Site Description

The headwaters of the North Fork of the White River are located at Trappers Lake in the Flat Tops Wilderness Area. The site begins approximately 10 miles northwest of the headwaters, west of Rainbow Lake. It is located in a broad U-shaped valley that is adjacent to County Road 8. Bands of thinleaf alder (*Alnus incana*) occur along the rocky river banks then grade to willows (*Salix boothii*, *S. monticola*, *S. planifolia*, *S. geyeriana*) as the floodplain widens. Uplands consist of aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) and spruce - fir forests on the slopes. The site ends where Marvine Creek flows into the North Fork.

### Key Environmental Factors

No Data

### Climate Description

In the County, summers are warm or hot in most valleys but are much cooler in the mountains. Winters are cold in the mountains. Summer thunderstorms are prevalent; of the total precipitation, 55% usually falls between April and September. Average seasonal snowfall is 74.4 inches, average day time temperature is 45 degrees and average precipitation is 16.5 inches for Meeker between 1948 -2007 (Western Regional Climate Center 2008).

### Land Use History

No Data

### Cultural Features

No Data

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 01/18/2008  
Designer Culver, D.R.

### Boundary Justification

Boundary includes the communities and potential habitat within the adjacent floodplain, from Rainbow Lake to the confluence of the White River and Ute Creek.

Primary Area 2,483.11 Acres 1,004.88 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name North Fork White River

Site Code S.USCOHP3\*2416

## Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports an excellent (A-ranked) and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) thinleaf alder (*Alnus incana*) / mesic forb community, two good (B-ranked) occurrences of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) Booth's willow (*Salix boothii*) / mesic forb community, a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) Booth's willow (*Salix boothii*) / mesic graminoid community, a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) montane riparian forest community, *Picea pungens* / *Alnus incana*, and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the state rare (G4/S3) *Salix monticola* / mesic forb shrubland.

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 boundary, including water quality, quantity, and timing, must be managed to maintain community 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>
24645	<i>Alnus incana</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Thinleaf Alder/Mesic Forb Riparian Shrubland	G3	S3	Yes
24734	<i>Salix boothii</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Booth's Willow/Mesic Forb	G3	S3	Yes
24734	<i>Salix boothii</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Booth's Willow/Mesic Forb	G3	S3	Yes
24645	<i>Alnus incana</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Thinleaf Alder/Mesic Forb Riparian Shrubland	G3	S3	Yes
24518	<i>Picea pungens</i> / <i>Alnus incana</i> Woodland	Montane Riparian Forests	G3	S3	Yes
24614	<i>Salix boothii</i> / Mesic Graminoids Shrubland	Riparian Willow Carr	G3?	S3	Yes
24809	<i>Salix monticola</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Montane Riparian Willow Carr	G4	S3	No

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
195026	Culver, D., J. Huggins and P. Lyon. 2008. Final Report: Significant Biological Resources in Rio Blanco County, CO. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.
195034	WRCC. 2008. Western Regional Climate Center. Division of Atmospheric Sciences, Desert Research Institute. Reno, Nevada. < <a href="http://www.wrcc.dri.edu">http://www.wrcc.dri.edu</a> >.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

Original site design by Kettler, S.M. 1996-04-25.

## VERSION

Version Date 01/18/2008  
Version Author Culver, D.R.

## Disclaimer

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name North Fork White River

Site Code S.USCOHP3\*2416

These data are a product and property of Colorado State University, Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP). These data are strictly "on loan" and should be considered "works in progress". Data maintained in the Colorado Natural Heritage Program database are an integral part of ongoing research at CSU and reflect the observations of many scientists, institutions and our current state of knowledge. These data are acquired from various sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and are continually being updated and revised. Many areas have never been surveyed and the absence of data in any particular geographic area does not necessarily mean that species or ecological communities of concern are not present. These data should not be regarded as a substitute for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Absence of evidence is NOT evidence of absence. Absence of any data does not mean that other resources of special concern do not occur, but rather CNHP files do not currently contain information to document this presence. CNHP is not responsible for whether other, non-CNHP data providers have secured landowner permission for data collected.

**These data are provided for non-commercial purposes only.** Under no circumstances are data to be distributed in any fashion to outside parties. To ensure accurate application of data, tabular and narrative components must be evaluated in conjunction with spatial components. Failure to do so constitutes a misuse of the data. The Colorado Natural Heritage Program shall have no liability or responsibility to the data users, or any other person or entity with respect to liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the data, including but not limited to any interruption of service, loss of business, anticipatory profits or indirect, special, or consequential damages resulting from the use of operation of the data. Data users hereby agree to hold CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado harmless from any claim, demand, cause of action, loss, damage or expense from or related to data users use of or reliance on the data, regardless of the cause or nature thereof, and even in the event that such cause is attributable to the negligence or misconduct of CNHP.

These data are provided on an as-is basis, as-available basis without warranties of any kind, expressed or implied, INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. Although CNHP maintains high standards of data quality control, CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado further expressly disclaim any warranty that the data are error-free or current as of the date supplied