

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Peach Valley

Site Code S.USCOHP\*18464

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1853 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>
2465	S.USCOHP*27034	Adobe Hills

## LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 383834N  
State Colorado Longitude 1075400W

### Quad Code Quad Name

38107-F8 Olathe NW  
38107-F7 Black Ridge  
38107-E8 Olathe

### County

Montrose (CO)  
Delta (CO)

### Watershed Code Watershed Name

14020005 Lower Gunnison  
14020006 Uncompahange

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation 5,400.00 Feet 1,646.00 Meters  
Maximum Elevation 6,200.00 Feet 1,890.00 Meters

### Site Description

The site consists of a fairly level valley bottom to rolling adobe hills of Mancos shale, and lower slopes at the base of the sandstone uplift to the east. Ownership is a combination of BLM and rural private lands. The area has several roads, irrigation canals, and a water storage tank. The desert shrub vegetation is very sparse, and consists of a mosaic of several plant communities. Greasewood is dominant in the flat bottoms, with an understory mostly consisting of alien weedy species, such as alyssum, purple mustard, and cheat grass. Mat saltbush is often the only species present on convex slopes, with bare adobe soil between plants. Swales in this area have a greater diversity of shrubs, including shadscale, spiny horsebrush, winterfat, budsage and the clay-loving wild buckwheat. Common grasses are galleta and bottlebrush squirreltail. Other frequent members of this community are Gardner saltbush, yucca, viscid rabbitbrush, broom snakeweed, Paradox cats-eye, scorpionweed, sand verberna, evening primrose, and cheatgrass. Steeper north-facing slopes often are dominated by Salina wildrye. A grazing exclosure along the Peach Valley Road on fairly level BLM land shows a notable increase in Salina wildrye within it, compared to adjacent similar areas outside the exclosure.

### 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 07/07/2009  
Designer Lyon, M.J.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the occurrences of the clay loving buckwheat, Colorado hookless cactus, long-flower cat's-eye and Colorado desert-parsley.

Primary Area 7,079.49 Acres 2,864.98 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

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Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

## Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains an excellent (A-ranked) and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2/S2) clay-loving wild buckwheat (*Eriogonum pelinophilum*), an excellent (A-ranked) and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2G3/S2S3) Colorado desert-parsley (*Lomatium concinnum*), and excellent (A-ranked), good (B-ranked) and fair (C-ranked) occurrences of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) long-flower cat's-eye (*Oreocarya longiflora*). Other plants include an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) Arizona prince-plume (*Stanleya albescens*), two fair (C-ranked) occurrences of the globally imperiled (G2G3/S2S3) Colorado hookless cactus (*Sclerocactus glaucus*) and a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) adobe beardtongue (*Penstemon retrorsus*). A good (B-ranked) example of a state rare (G3G5/S3) plant community, *Atriplex confertifolia* / *Pleuraphis jamesii* cold desert shrubland, has also been documented.

Other Values Rank No Data

## Other Values Comments

A good example of a locally common, but globally imperiled plant community.

## 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 State ID</u>	<u>State Scientific Name</u>	<u>State Common Name</u>	<u>Global Rank</u>	<u>State Rank</u>	<u>Driving Site Rank</u>
24753	<i>Atriplex confertifolia</i> / <i>Pleuraphis jamesii</i>	Cold Desert Shrublands Shrubland	G3G5	S2	No
17458	<i>Eriogonum pelinophilum</i>	clay-loving wild buckwheat	G2	S2	Yes
24362	<i>Oreocarya longiflora</i>	long-flower cat's-eye	G3	S3	No
17458	<i>Eriogonum pelinophilum</i>	clay-loving wild buckwheat	G2	S2	No
16795	<i>Penstemon retrorsus</i>	adobe beardtongue	G3	S3	No
24362	<i>Oreocarya longiflora</i>	long-flower cat's-eye	G3	S3	No
23232	<i>Lomatium concinnum</i>	Colorado desert-parsley	G2G3	S2S3	Yes
16795	<i>Penstemon retrorsus</i>	adobe beardtongue	G3	S3	No
24362	<i>Oreocarya longiflora</i>	long-flower cat's-eye	G3	S3	No
17458	<i>Eriogonum pelinophilum</i>	clay-loving wild buckwheat	G2	S2	Yes
24362	<i>Oreocarya longiflora</i>	long-flower cat's-eye	G3	S3	No
16984	<i>Sclerocactus glaucus</i>	Colorado hookless cactus	G2G3	S2S3	No
16984	<i>Sclerocactus glaucus</i>	Colorado hookless cactus	G2G3	S2S3	No
24321	<i>Stanleya albescens</i>	Arizona prince-plume	G3	S3	No
23232	<i>Lomatium concinnum</i>	Colorado desert-parsley	G2G3	S2S3	Yes

## REFERENCES

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

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

Original site design by Lyon, M.J. 1998-12-03.

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## VERSION

Version Date 07/07/2009

Version Author Lyon, M.J.

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