

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Persigo Wash

Site Code S.USCOHP*468

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 136 Site Class PCA
Site Alias Persigo Wash South

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 391148N
State Colorado Longitude 1083318W

Quad Code Quad Name
39108-B5 Corcoran Point

County
Mesa (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14010005 Colorado headwaters-Plateau

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	4,900.00 Feet	1,494.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	5,400.00 Feet	1,646.00 Meters

Site Description

The Mancos shale "badlands" of Persigo Wash are surprisingly rich in significant native species. Typical of the area between the Highline Canal and the Bookcliffs, the site has low hills with desert shrubs, and flats with greasewood. The site contains sections of two forks of Persigo Wash and a section of Pritchard Wash. An unpaved road, 25 Road, passes through the site. The area has been heavily grazed, and is severely invaded by cheatgrass, halogeton and Russian thistle. Communities on the hillsides are less impacted and in better condition. The Grand buckwheat occupies small drainages on the slopes, with Gardner saltbrush and galleta. The native fauna appears to thrive in spite of the degraded condition of much of the vegetation. The Great Basin spadefoot was found in a stock pond. Radio collared kit foxes have been detected using the area. Prairie dog colonies on the weedy flats provide habitat for burrowing owls. The desert woodrat makes its home among rocks in the arroyos, while the white-tailed antelope squirrel was found on flats with large, scattered rocks. Botta's pocket gopher was found on shale hillsides. The small mammals probably provide important food for the foxes and owls.

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

arid semi-desert

Land Use History

heavily grazed

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map P - Partial Mapped Date 08/05/1999
Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

Boundaries are drawn to include all known element occurrences and a buffer zone. However, adjacent habitat not included in the site may be equally valuable. A large percentage of the area between the Highline Canal and the Bookcliffs is similar habitat.

Primary Area 2,332.03 Acres 943.74 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a fair occurrence of a globally vulnerable to secure plant community.

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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

Bromus tectorum, Salsola australis, Halogeton glomeratus in flats.

Offsite

No Data

Information Needs

Field survey needed to verify quality of rare plant populations.

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>
24579	<i>Atriplex gardneri</i> / <i>Pleuraphis jamesii</i> Dwarf-shrubland	Gardner's Mat Saltbush Shrublands	G3G5	S1?	Yes
18559	<i>Eriogonum contortum</i>	grand buckwheat	G3	S2	No
18559	<i>Eriogonum contortum</i>	grand buckwheat	G3	S2	No
21598	<i>Spea intermontana</i>	Great Basin Spadefoot	G5	S3	No
19708	<i>Vulpes macrotis</i>	Kit Fox	G4	S1	No

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	12/01/1996
Version Author	Lyon, M.J.

Disclaimer

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