

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Pleasant Valley

Site Code S.USCOHP2*1626

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 286 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 401858N
State Colorado Longitude 1064850W

Quad Code Quad Name
40106-C7 Blacktail Mountain

County
Routt (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14050001 Upper Yampa

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,915.00 Feet	2,108.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	7,050.00 Feet	2,149.00 Meters

Site Description

Pleasant Valley is a broad valley located south of Steamboat Springs. The Yampa River meanders across a wide floodplain encompassing a 4.8 km (3 mi.) floodplain. The Stagecoach Reservoir is located to the south and Lake Catamount is located to the north. Sarvis (Service) and Green Creeks enter the Yampa River in Pleasant Valley from the Gore Range. Irrigated hay meadows and grazing pastures dominate the floodplain adjacent to the riparian communities. Cottonwood saplings are establishing along the point bars. Irrigated hay fields and grazing pastures dominate the adjacent floodplain.

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 10/15/1996
Designer Culver, D.R.

Boundary Justification

Boundary drawn to include all elements and a buffer of at least 100 feet.

Primary Area 1,906.64 Acres 771.59 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site encompasses B-ranked occurrences of a G2/S2 community, (*Picea pungens*-*Populus angustifolia*/*Alnus incana*-*Lonicera involucrata*), and of a G3/S1 community (*Alnus incana*-*Cornus sericea*). There are C-ranked occurrences of a G3/S2? community (*Populus angustifolia*/*Cornus sericea*) and a GU/SU community (*Salix monticola*-*Salix geyeriana*/mesic forbs). A new occurrence of *Bufo boreas* (Boreal toad) was documented. The Boreal toad is a candidate for federal listing. Currently, it is a federally sensitive species and a Colorado endangered species. The occurrence for *Ardea herodias* (Great Blue Heron) was not located, the rookery was last observed in 1994. The Great blue heron has no federal or state status. This wetland is important for flood abatement, groundwater recharge, and possible nutrient removal from agricultural runoff. It is part of the extensive Yampa River riparian corridor that is one of the last remaining

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intact riverine systems in the west.

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

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>
24573	<i>Salix geeyeriana</i> - <i>Salix monticola</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Geyer's Willow-Rocky Mountain Willow/Mesic Forb	G3	S3	No
24860	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> / <i>Cornus sericea</i> Woodland	Cottonwood Riparian Forest	G4	S3	No
24773	<i>Alnus incana</i> / <i>Cornus sericea</i> Shrubland	Thinleaf Alder-Red-osier Dogwood Riparian Shrubland	G3G4	S3	Yes
24823	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> - <i>Picea pungens</i> / <i>Alnus incana</i> Woodland	Montane Riparian Forests	G3	S3	No

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
170859	Culver, D.R. 1996. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Field Survey of Routt County Wetlands.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 10/15/1996

Version Author Culver, D.R.

Disclaimer

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