

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Poose Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP1\*2511

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 694 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 400729N  
State Colorado Longitude 1071637W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
40107-B3	Pagoda Peak
40107-A3	Ripple Creek

### County

Rio Blanco (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14050001	Upper Yampa

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	9,300.00 Feet	2,834.64 Meters
Maximum Elevation	10,400.00 Feet	3,169.92 Meters

### Site Description

The Poose Creek site is located in the Routt National Forest, downslope of CR 8. The riparian vegetation is characteristic of high montane first order streams dominated by willows (*Salix monticola*, *S. geyeriana*, *S. drummondiana*), thinleaf alder (*Alnus incana*), bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera involucrata*) and mesic forbs, e.g. corn husk lily (*Veratrum tenuipetalum*), meadowrue (*Thalictrum fendleri*), and hay grasses. The uplands steeply rising up from Poose Creek consist of subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*) and Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*) on the west-facing slope. Quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) dominates the gentler east-facing slope.

### Key Environmental Factors

The geology is classified as Mancos shale with intertongues of units of Frontier Sandstone and Mowry Shale Members.

### 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 P - Partial Mapped Date 02/07/2008  
Designer Culver, D.R.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary should be sufficient to protect the elements from direct disturbance including alteration of structure of riparian vegetation, local invasion of exotic plants and local hydrologic alterations or pollution.

Primary Area 1,285.20 Acres 520.10 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

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## Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) plant community, *Salix monticola* / *Carex aquatilis*, a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) *Salix geyeriana* - *Salix monticola* / mesic forbs community, an excellent to good (AB-ranked) occurrence of the globally common (G5/S5) *Abies lasiocarpa* / *Mertensia ciliata* plant community and an historical occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G4T3/S3) subspecies, Colorado River cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii pleuriticus*).

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

Hydrology is important to all elements. Any activities within the watershed which could affect hydrology should be evaluated for impacts on the elements present.

## Information Needs

On-site visit needed to verify fish population.

## 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>
24480	<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i> / <i>Mertensia ciliata</i> Forest	Montane Riparian Forests	G5	S5	No
24965	<i>Salix monticola</i> / <i>Carex aquatilis</i> Shrubland	Montane Riparian Willow Carr	G3	S3	Yes
21796	<i>Oncorhynchus clarkii pleuriticus</i>	Colorado River Cutthroat Trout	G4T3	S3	No
24573	<i>Salix geyeriana</i> - <i>Salix monticola</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Geyer's Willow-Rocky Mountain Willow/Mesic Forb	G3	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. 1995-01-10.

## VERSION

Version Date 02/07/2008  
Version Author Culver, D.R.

## Disclaimer

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