

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Red Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP\*18956

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1234 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 380711N  
State Colorado Longitude 1073517W

### Quad Code Quad Name

38107-A5 Wetterhorn Peak  
38107-B5 Courthouse Mountain  
38107-B6 Dallas

### County

Ouray (CO)

### Watershed Code Watershed Name

14020006 Uncompahange

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation 8,200.00 Feet 2,499.00 Meters  
Maximum Elevation 10,000.00 Feet 3,048.00 Meters

### Site Description

The Red Creek drainage, tributary to Cow Creek, contains small relict populations of at least three significant riparian plant communities. The canyon is narrow and twisted, with red sandstone cliffs on the south facing walls, and dense forest on the north slopes. The site is within the Big Blue Wilderness of the Uncompahgre National Forest. The narrow stream floods and carries heavy debris loads. The flood plain is surprisingly wide for the stream width. Disturbance is natural, caused by slipping of the adjacent steep cliffs of sandstone, rhyolite and conglomerates. Much of the riparian vegetation is removed during flood events, and consists of small patches, but they are healthy and reproducing. There are no trails in the site, and there is no evident human disturbance. Common trees of the area are narrowleaf cottonwood, blue spruce, white fir and subalpine fir. Thinleaf alder, twinberry honeysuckle and red-osier dogwood grow by the stream. Some areas have a rich cover of mosses and liverworts. There are almost no exotic species.

### 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 11/01/1998  
Designer Lyon, M.J.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include the riparian communities along Red Creek.

Primary Area 203.36 Acres 82.30 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains an excellent occurrence of a plant community which is vulnerable on a global scale.

Other Values Rank No Data

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## 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>
24684	<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i> / <i>Alnus incana</i> Forest	Montane Riparian Forests	G5	S5	No
24541	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> / <i>Alnus incana</i> Woodland	Montane Riparian Forest	G3	S3	Yes
24645	<i>Alnus incana</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Thinleaf Alder/Mesic Forb Riparian Shrubland	G3	S3	No

### REFERENCES

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

### ADDITIONAL TOPICS

## Additional Topics

No Data

### VERSION

<b>Version Date</b>	07/09/1999
<b>Version Author</b>	Lyon, M.J.

### Disclaimer

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