

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Rim Road

Site Code S.USCOHP*19022

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 25 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 383019N
State Colorado Longitude 1080202W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
38108-E1	Hoovers Corner
38108-D1	Dry Creek Basin

County

Montrose (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14020006	Uncompahange

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	5,800.00 Feet	1,768.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	6,500.00 Feet	1,981.00 Meters

Site Description

This site is a nearly level mesa between Dry Creek on the west and Spring Creek Mesa on the east. Several roads and powerlines run through the site. There are large savanna-like expanses of pinyon-juniper and sagebrush, which are home to black throated sparrows and sage sparrows. White-tailed antelope squirrels were found in the site. The area also provides habitat for a large number of more common small mammals and birds. Lark Sparrows, Chipping Sparrows, Broad-tailed Hummingbirds, Pinyon Jays and Horned Larks were also observed in the site. Utah junipers are scattered over the mesa and in the draws. There are some patches of needle and thread grass and blue gramma in good condition. However, they are surrounded by areas dominated by rabbitbrush, cheatgrass, crested wheatgrass and prickly pear cactus. It is not clear why some patches are in good condition while adjacent areas are in poor condition. Grazing and trampling by cattle has probably altered the plant composition, and confined soil crusts to sheltered spots under shrubs.

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 12/28/1998
Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

The site is bounded on all sides by steep drop-offs that define the mesa.

Primary Area	7,738.07 Acres	3,131.50 Hectares
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SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a fair occurrence of a *Juniperus osteosperma* / *Hesperostipa comata* plant community which is imperiled on a global scale (G1Q/S1?).

Other Values Rank No Data

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Other Values Comments

Wildlife habitat.

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>
21213	<i>Amphispiza belli</i>	Sage Sparrow	G5	S3B	No
24568	<i>Juniperus osteosperma</i> / <i>Hesperostipa comata</i> Wooded Herbaceous Vegetation		G1Q	S1?	Yes

REFERENCES

Reference ID Full Citation

- No Data

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 08/02/1999

Version Author Lyon, M.J.

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