

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Rincon la Vaca

Site Code S.USCOHP*9466

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1731 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 374009N
State Colorado Longitude 1072038W

Quad Code Quad Name
37107-F3 Weminuche Pass

County
Hinsdale (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14080101 Upper San Juan

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	11,000.00 Feet	3,352.80 Meters
Maximum Elevation	11,600.00 Feet	3,535.68 Meters

Site Description

The site is located in the bottom of the Weminuche Valley on benches just up above the Los Pinos River on stream-deposited soils. The shrub carr is dominated by Wolf's willow (*Salix wolfii*) and diamondleaf willow (*S. planifolia*). Herbaceous cover is dominated by forbs, especially bluebells (*Mertensia ciliata*). There are exotic species present including dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*). Adjacent uplands slope very steeply out of the riparian corridor and are comprised of spruce - fir forest.

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map P - Partial Mapped Date 06/09/1997

Designer Kettler, S.M.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the occurrence and an approximate 1,000 foot buffer. This boundary should protect the occurrence from direct disturbance, and is thought to protect the avian, macroinvertebrate and periphyton communities and limit impacts from sedimentation (see Noel et al. 1986, Spackman and Hughes 1995, Karr and Schlosser 1978).

Primary Area 149.19 Acres 60.38 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The biodiversity significance rank is based on a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) plant community, *Salix wolfii* / mesic forbs.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

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LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

No Data

Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

Exotics Comments

There are exotic species present including dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*).

Offsite

Hydrological processes originating outside of the planning boundary, including water quality, quantity, timing and flow must be managed to maintain site viability.

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>
24572	<i>Salix wolfii</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Subalpine Riparian Willow Carr	G3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
172808	J. R. Karr and I. J. Schlosser. 1978. Water resources and the land-water interface. Science 201: 229-234.
194565	Neid, S.L. and J.R. Jones. 2008. Final Report: Survey of Critical Wetlands and Riparian Areas in Hinsdale County. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.
165959	Noel, D.S., C.W. Martin and C.A. Federer. 1986. Effects of Forest Clearcutting in New England on Stream Macroinvertebrates and Periphyton. Environmental Management 10: 661-670.
165197	Richard, C. and D. Grant. 1995. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Riparian Field Survey for San Juan National Forest.
159511	Spackman, S. C. and J. W. Hughes. 1995. Assessment of Minimum Stream Corridor Width for Biological Conservation: Species Richness and Distribution Along Mid-Order Streams in Vermont, USA. Biological Conservation 71:325-332.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 06/09/1997

Version Author Kettler, S.M.

Disclaimer

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