

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Rito Gato

Site Code S.USCOHP*20714

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1507 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 372036N
State Colorado Longitude 1063444W

Quad Code Quad Name

37106-C5 Platoro

County

Conejos (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

13010005 Conejos

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	10,200.00 Feet	3,109.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	10,600.00 Feet	3,231.00 Meters

Site Description

The site is a steep narrow canyon with a very narrow riparian area dominated by Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*), subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*), Drummond willow (*Salix drummondiana*), and mountain willow (*Salix monticola*). There is also a 30-foot waterfall within the site. Upstream from the waterfall is a small stand of shortfruit willow (*Salix brachycarpa*). The site ends where Rito Gato crosses Forest Service Road 247 and drains into Platoro Reservoir. The upstream end of the site is Hillman Park.

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 01/15/2000

Designer Rocchio, F.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the known extent of the element at this location. Upstream activities in Hillman Park could potentially affect the element.

Primary Area 44.27 Acres 17.92 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports an excellent occurrence of a plant community which is demonstrably secure on a global scale.

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

No Data

Offsite

No Data

Information Needs

No Data

ASSOCIATED ELEMENTS OF BIODIVERSITY

<u>Element</u>			<u>Global Rank</u>	<u>State Rank</u>	<u>Driving Site Rank</u>
<u>State ID</u>	<u>State Scientific Name</u>	<u>State Common Name</u>			
24905	<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i> / <i>Salix drummondiana</i> Forest	Montane Riparian Forest	G5	S4	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
165924	Kettler, S., J. Rocchio, R. Schorr, J. Burt. 2000. Biological Inventory of Rio Grande and Conejos Counties, Colorado. Unpublished report prepared for The Nature Conservancy. 234 pp.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 01/15/2000
Version Author Rocchio, F.J.

Disclaimer

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