

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Sheep Creek Ponds

Site Code S.USCOHP3*2472

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 973 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 403830N
State Colorado Longitude 1054648W

Quad Code Quad Name
40105-F7 Boston Peak

County
Larimer (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
10190007 Cache La Poudre

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation - Feet - Meters
Maximum Elevation - Feet - Meters

Site Description

Sheep Creek Ponds are located in the Cache la Poudre drainage, just south of Sleeping Elephant Mountain, about 4 miles northeast of Chambers Lake, at about 9,600 feet. A subalpine sedge glen is found along the pond margins supporting populations of two state rare sedges, the mud sedge (*Carex limosa*) and the slender sedge (*Carex lasiocarpa*). The boreal toad (*Bufo boreas*) has also been documented at this location.

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 04/07/1995
Designer Simonson, S.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the immediate watershed to protect riparian vegetation and local hydrology. This includes contiguous habitat in the area of the occurrences. This should be sufficient to prevent degradation of habitat structure by trampling or other direct impacts.

Primary Area 2,036.28 Acres 824.06 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports good (B-ranked) occurrences of two state rare plant species, *Carex limosa* (G5/S2) and *Carex lasiocarpa* (G5/S1).

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

The effects of grazing or recreational impacts may indirectly threaten the elements at this site. The maintenance of water quality may be of concern if grazing or recreational land use is intense. Boreal toads are known to move at least two miles from breeding sites; therefore, habitat conditions outside of existing site boundaries must be considered.

Information Needs

Need data on boreal toad occurrence.

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>
23259	<i>Carex lasiocarpa</i>	slender sedge	G5	S1	Yes
22458	<i>Carex limosa</i>	mud sedge	G5	S2	Yes
24327	<i>Aegolius funereus</i>	Boreal Owl	G5	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
192848	Bustos. 1995. U.S. Forest Service. Personal communication to the Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	04/07/1995
Version Author	Simonson, S.

Disclaimer

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