

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Slaughterhouse Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP\*10854

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1259 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 381753N  
State Colorado Longitude 1061005W

## Quad Code Quad Name

38106-C2 Bonanza

## County

Saguache (CO)

## Watershed Code Watershed Name

13010003 San Luis

## SITE DESCRIPTION

<b>Minimum Elevation</b>	9,600.00	<b>Feet</b>	2,926.00	<b>Meters</b>
<b>Maximum Elevation</b>	10,000.00	<b>Feet</b>	3,048.00	<b>Meters</b>

## Site Description

This site delineates a small canyon which drains the southern slope of Antora Peak and is tributary to Kerber Creek. The Slaughterhouse Creek site supports a near-pristine riparian corridor with a dense and lush riparian canopy. Dominant species include thinleaf alder (*Alnus incana*) along the stream margins, with an overstory of aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) growing on the canyon bottom and moist toeslopes. The undergrowth is intact and dominated by horsetails (*Equisetum arvense*) and *Conioselinum scopulorum* with few non-native plants, and many downed aspen logs. Surrounding uplands slopes are covered with dense mixed conifer forests of Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*), and lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta* ssp. *latifolia*). Downstream of this site is the Bonanza Mine Superfund site. However, this site is a roadless canyon upstream of any mine impacts, recent or historic. The site covers approximately 130 acres and ranges in elevation from 9,600 to 10,000 feet (2,925-3,050 meters).

## 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 02/16/1998

Designer Kittel, G.M.

## Boundary Justification

This boundary is drawn to include the canyon that support the element of biodiversity found at the site. It is designed to 1) protect the riparian occurrence from direct impacts such as trampling or other surface disturbances; and 2) to include the immediate slopes which contribute surface and groundwater flow to the riparian forest. The boundary was delineated using 1988 NAPP 1:40,000 aerial photographs and satellite imagery at a scale of approximately 1:100,000.

Primary Area 127.49 Acres 51.59 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

## Biodiversity Significance Comments

The Slaughterhouse Creek site supports an excellent quality riparian area dominated by aspen and alder.

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The quaking aspen/thinleaf alder (*Populus tremuloides*/*Alnus incana*) montane riparian forest community is located in narrow ravines and along first and second-order streams where upland aspen forests intermix with riparian shrub vegetation. The presence of obligate riparian shrub species distinguish this association from upland aspen communities. This plant community has only been documented from Colorado, although it is probably more widespread.

Other Values Rank No Data

## 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>
24911	<i>Populus tremuloides</i> / <i>Alnus incana</i> Forest	Montane Riparian Forests	G3	S3	Yes

## REFERENCES

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

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

Version Date	02/16/1998
Version Author	Kittel, G.M.

## Disclaimer

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