

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Smith Fork at Crawford

Site Code S.USCOHP\*10513

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1377 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 384208N  
State Colorado Longitude 1073618W

Quad Code Quad Name

38107-F5 Crawford

County

Delta (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

14020002 Upper Gunnison

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,360.00 Feet	1,939.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	6,480.00 Feet	1,975.00 Meters

### Site Description

The Smith Fork at Crawford has moderately good examples of the narrowleaf cottonwood riparian community. A grove of mature cottonwoods near Highway 92 provides the location for a Great Blue Heron rookery. Cottonwoods on benches above the stream are regenerating by suckering. Other common plants in this association are skunkbrush, red osier dogwood, Rocky Mountain willow, thinleaf alder, box elder, Gambel's oak, and wild rose. There are some small infestations of Canada thistle. The grasses on the benches are mostly introduced pasture grasses, while native saltgrass grows in the lower and wetter areas. Nearby ponds and wetlands have extensive cattail marshes with reed canary grass, providing habitat for a variety of birds and amphibians.

### Key Environmental Factors

No Data

### Climate Description

Arid semi-desert.

### Land Use History

No Data

### Cultural Features

No Data

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 12/01/1997

Designer Lyon, M.J.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include the cottonwood forests and adjacent wetlands that were surveyed in 1997, although the community continues both upstream and downstream. This includes the Great Blue Heron colony and contiguous adjacent riparian habitat which provides a buffer around the nesting site.

Primary Area 193.05 Acres 78.13 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

Fair examples of common riparian plant communities, and a heron rookery.

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>			
24687	<i>Typha (latifolia, angustifolia)</i> Western Herbaceous Vegetation	Narrow-leaf Cattail Marsh	G5	S4	Yes
24738	<i>Populus angustifolia / Salix exigua</i> Woodland	Narrowleaf Cottonwood Riparian Forests	G4	S4	Yes

## REFERENCES

### Reference ID      Full Citation

-      No Data

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

Version Date      12/01/1997

Version Author      Lyon, M.J.

## Disclaimer

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