

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name South Canyon

Site Code S.USCOHP*9457

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 400 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 373526N
State Colorado Longitude 1072208W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
37107-E3	Granite Lake
37107-E4	Emerald Lake

County

Hinsdale (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14080101	Upper San Juan

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	10,000.00 Feet	3,048.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	11,400.00 Feet	3,475.00 Meters

Site Description

Along the narrow floodplain, on benches along the stream in South Canyon, Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*) dominates the overstory with mixed willows (*Salix* species) in the understory. Stream banks are densely vegetated and trees and shrubs are regenerating successfully. The uplands are a mix of subalpine meadow, aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) and spruce (*Picea* species) - fir (*Abies* species) forests. An outfitters cabin occurs at the lower end of the canyon and a steep trail leads up the canyon; however, the trail appears to be seldom used.

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 includes the montane riparian forest occurrence and 1,000 ft buffer. This buffer should protect the occurrence from direct disturbance, and is thought to protect the avian, macroinvertebrate and periphyton communities and limit impacts from sedimentation (Noel et al. 1986, Spackman and Hughes 1995, Karr and Schlosser 1978).

Primary Area	183.33 Acres	74.19 Hectares
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SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The South Canyon site contains an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of a montane riparian forest (*Abies lasiocarpa* / *Salix drummondiana*) which is demonstrably secure on a global scale (G5/S4).

Other Values Rank No Data

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Other Values Comments

No Data

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

No Data

Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

Exotics Comments

Several white clovers (*Trifolium repens*) and dandelions (*Taraxacum officinale*) were seen downstream.

Offsite

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

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>
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>
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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