

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name South Fork of South Platte River

Site Code S.USCOHP\*21691

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 402 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 390337N  
State Colorado Longitude 1060444W

### Quad Code Quad Name

39105-A8 Garo  
39106-A1 Jones Hill

### County

Park (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
10190001	South Platte Headwaters

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	9,000.00 Feet	2,743.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	10,700.00 Feet	3,261.00 Meters

### Site Description

This site is located along the south fork of the South Platte and its tributaries, Rough and Tumbling Creek, Willow Creek, Lynch Creek, and Twelvemile Creek. The western portion is dominated by montane coniferous riparian forests. The main portion of the South Fork is dominated by willow communities and extreme rich fens along the southern edge of Black Mountain. All of the elements of concern are associated with the fen and riparian habitats except for intermountain bitterweed (*Picradenia helenioides*) which is found scattered in a mesic meadow along Lynch Creek.

### 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 12/11/2000  
Designer Culver, D.R.

### Boundary Justification

This boundary was developed to primarily address the extreme rich fens and riparian corridor and includes the major tributaries of the South Fork of the South Platte. The eastern boundary is defined by Highway 285, the southern boundary extends to the Weston Pass Road. It incorporates an area where natural processes (such as groundwater recharge, species reproduction) function in a manner that maintains viable populations of the elements associated with the fen. However, all hydrological processes necessary to the elements are not fully contained in the boundary. Upstream activities that alter hydrology or sediment loads could detrimentally affect the elements.

Primary Area 2,312.09 Acres 935.67 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally imperiled (G2/S1) extreme rich fen plant

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community (*Kobresia myosuroides* - *Thalictrum alpinum*). It also supports many good (B-ranked) occurrences of globally vulnerable and state rare plants and communities.

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**

Low cover of dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) was noted as occurring in the upslope understory areas during site visit in 1996.

**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>
19684	<i>Ptilagrostis porteri</i>	Porter feathergrass	G2	S2	No
21314	<i>Carex livida</i>	livid sedge	G5	S1	No
16887	<i>Carex simulata</i> Herbaceous Vegetation	Wet Meadow	G4	S3	No
18619	<i>Eriophorum gracile</i>	slender cottongrass	G5	S2	No
24809	<i>Salix monticola</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Montane Riparian Willow Carr	G4	S3	No
21615	<i>Sisyrinchium pallidum</i>	pale blue-eyed grass	G2G3	S2	No
23592	<i>Carex scirpoidea</i>	Canadian single-spike sedge	G5	S2	No
24026	<i>Salix myrtilifolia</i>	low blueberry willow	G5	S1	No
21527	<i>Trichophorum pumilum</i>	little bulrush	G5	S2	No
24980	<i>Kobresia myosuroides</i> - <i>Thalictrum alpinum</i> Herbaceous Vegetation	Extreme Rich Fens	G2	S1	No
22645	<i>Salix candida</i>	hoary or silver willow	G5	S2	No
24905	<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i> / <i>Salix drummondiana</i> Forest	Montane Riparian Forest	G5	S4	No
21615	<i>Sisyrinchium pallidum</i>	pale blue-eyed grass	G2G3	S2	No
17508	<i>Packera pauciflora</i>	few-flowered ragwort	G4G5	S1S2	No
24980	<i>Kobresia myosuroides</i> - <i>Thalictrum alpinum</i> Herbaceous Vegetation	Extreme Rich Fens	G2	S1	Yes
24882	<i>Salix monticola</i> / <i>Carex utriculata</i> Shrubland	Montane Riparian Willow Carr	G3	S3	No

**REFERENCES**

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
162527	Culver, D.R. 2000. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Biological Inventory of Park County.
193488	Nichols, G. 2001. Personal communication to the Colorado Natural Heritage Program.

**ADDITIONAL TOPICS**

**Additional Topics**

No Data

**VERSION**

Version Date 02/15/2001  
Version Author Spackman, S.C.

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