

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Spring Creek at Manganese Peak

Site Code S.USCOHP*23629

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1902 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 384645N
State Colorado Longitude 1064550W

Quad Code Quad Name

38106-F7	Almont
38106-G7	Cement Mountain
38106-G6	Matchless Mountain

County

Gunnison (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

14020001	East-Taylor
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SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,500.00	Feet	2,591.00	Meters
Maximum Elevation	10,000.00	Feet	3,048.00	Meters

Site Description

Spring Creek drains a narrow, steep, rocky, V-shaped canyon to the west of Taylor Canyon. The site includes Spring Creek from below Spring Creek Reservoir to near the confluence with the Taylor River. In the upper reaches, the banks are densely vegetated with wolf willow and water sedge (*Salix wolfii*/*Carex aquatilis*). Along four miles of the creek in the lower reach the banks are densely vegetated with red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) with scattered Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*). Other prevalent species include Drummond willow (*Salix drummondiana*) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera involucrata*). A road parallels the creek up the canyon to above Spring Creek Reservoir. Surrounding slopes are either talus covered or lodgepole pine forest grading into spruce-fir at higher elevations.

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 12/19/2002
Designer Doyle, G.A.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes a portion of Spring Creek and the surrounding watershed. The boundary represents a preliminary estimate of the area needed to maintain local hydrological conditions. However, it should be noted that any upstream activities along Spring Creek and its tributaries such as water diversions, impoundments, improper livestock grazing, and development could potentially be detrimental to the hydrology of wetland areas within the site. This boundary indicates the minimum area that should be considered for any conservation management plan.

Primary Area 1,464.01 Acres 592.47 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

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Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a good (B-ranked) example of the a globally vulnerable (G3/SU) Engelmann spruce/red-osier dogwood (*Picea engelmannii*/*Cornus sericea*) montane riparian forest. This community has a broad range, and the environmental conditions capable of supporting the community (i.e. alluvial terraces) are not uncommon. Although it has been impacted by human activities like logging and stream channelization, it is nevertheless a relatively common riparian type in areas where lack of disturbance has allowed succession from cottonwood to spruce dominated communities. This community is restricted to flat or gently sloping alluvial terraces or benches and, less frequently, moist toeslopes or margins of fens or marshes. Stands may be temporarily flooded in the spring, and due to its location in riparian zones, the water table is usually within 1 m of the surface. Water flow and aeration in the rooting zone is usually good.

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 State ID</u>	<u>State Scientific Name</u>	<u>State Common Name</u>	<u>Global Rank</u>	<u>State Rank</u>	<u>Driving Site Rank</u>
40543	<i>Picea engelmannii</i> / <i>Cornus sericea</i> Woodland	Montane Riparian Forests	G3	SU	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
164036	Doyle, G.A. 2002. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Field Survey of Critical Wetlands in Gunnison County.
173839	Rocchio J., G Doyle, and R. Rondeau. 2003. Final Report: Survey of Critical Wetlands and Riparian Areas in Gunnison County, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 12/19/2002

Version Author Doyle, G.A.

Disclaimer

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