

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Squaw Creek at Chief Mountain

Site Code S.USCOHP*27194

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2487 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 374046N
State Colorado Longitude 1071518W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
37107-F2	Little Squaw Creek
37107-F3	Weminuche Pass

County

Hinsdale (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
13010001	Rio Grande headwaters

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	9,630.00 Feet	2,935.22 Meters
Maximum Elevation	10,750.00 Feet	3,276.60 Meters

Site Description

The site is drawn for riparian plant communities along a third order stream. Drummond's willow (*Salix drummondiana*) is the predominant shrub along the cobbly shoreline, especially in the wider valley that is punctuated with beaver ponds. Certain reaches flow through a steep, narrow canyon with greater tree cover of Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*). The riparian community is a narrow strip and is likely in early to mid successional stages; it is expected that greater tree cover of Engelmann spruce will develop over time. The Colorado Division of Wildlife stocks Rio Grande cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii virginialis*) in Squaw Creek.

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 05/05/2008
Designer Neid, S.L.

Boundary Justification

Boundaries include 1,000 ft of uplands to buffer from impacts to site condition (Keate 2004). This buffer accounts for natural ecological processes important for the maintenance of wetland elements such as seasonal flooding, groundwater recharge, surface flows, and sediment deposition. However, the boundary does not include all ecological processes necessary to the maintenance of the site and activities such as mining, improper livestock grazing, recreational use, or water diversion could be detrimental to the site.

Primary Area 1,378.54 Acres 557.88 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) *Salix drummondiana* /

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Calamagrostis canadensis montane willow carr.

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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>
24473	<i>Salix drummondiana</i> / <i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i> Shrubland	Lower Montane Willow Carrs	G3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
192813	Keate, Nancy S. 2004. Bibliography of Impacts to Wetlands II - Draft - revised - Jan 2004. Utah Wetland Outreach, Wildlife Resources, Utah Department of Natural Resources.
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.
178520	Rondeau, R. and M. Aitken. 1995. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Riparian Field Survey of the Upper Rio Grande.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 05/05/2008
Version Author Neid, S.L.

Disclaimer

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