

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Sunlight Basin

Site Code S.USCOHP\*24673

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2081 Site Class PCA  
Site Alias Sunlight Lake

### 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 373753N  
State Colorado Longitude 1073441W

Quad Code Quad Name  
37107-F5 Storm King Peak

County  
La Plata (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name  
14080101 Upper San Juan

## SITE DESCRIPTION

|                   |   |      |   |        |
|-------------------|---|------|---|--------|
| Minimum Elevation | - | Feet | - | Meters |
| Maximum Elevation | - | Feet | - | Meters |

### Site Description

The Sunlight Basin is in a high elevation talus basin southeast of Sunlight Lake. The area supports hydric soils in an alpine wetland with approximately 75% graminoid canopy cover. Species include rock sedge (*Carex saxatilis*) and Altai cottongrass (*Eriophorum altaicum*) with associated forb species elephant head (*Pedicularis groenlandica*). CNHP database records show at least 25 individuals of Altai cottongrass observed in bloom in 1996. The area was not visited in 2003.

### 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 12/10/2003  
Designer March, M.A.

### Boundary Justification

The site encompasses the plant species population and surrounding hydrology thought to support the alpine wetland.

Primary Area 58.18 Acres 23.54 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site drawn for an apparently globally secure (G4T3T4/S3), state vulnerable plant subspecies (*Eriophorum altaicum* var. *neogaeum*).

Other Values Rank No Data

### Other Values Comments

No Data

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Sunlight Basin

Site Code S.USCOHP\*24673

## 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> |
| 21874           | <i>Eriophorum altaicum</i> var. <i>neogaeum</i> | Altai cottongrass        | G4?T3T4       | S3           | Yes              |

## REFERENCES

| <u>Reference ID</u> | <u>Full Citation</u>  |
|---------------------|---|
| 184533              | March, M. and D. Culver. 2003. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Field Survey for La Plata County Wetlands. |

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

**Version Date** 01/15/2004

**Version Author** March, M.A.

## Disclaimer

These data are a product and property of Colorado State University, Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP). These data are strictly "on loan" and should be considered "works in progress". Data maintained in the Colorado Natural Heritage Program database are an integral part of ongoing research at CSU and reflect the observations of many scientists, institutions and our current state of knowledge. These data are acquired from various sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and are continually being updated and revised. Many areas have never been surveyed and the absence of data in any particular geographic area does not necessarily mean that species or ecological communities of concern are not present. These data should not be regarded as a substitute for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Absence of evidence is NOT evidence of absence. Absence of any data does not mean that other resources of special concern do not occur, but rather CNHP files do not currently contain information to document this presence. CNHP is not responsible for whether other, non-CNHP data providers have secured landowner permission for data collected.

**These data are provided for non-commercial purposes only.** Under no circumstances are data to be distributed in any fashion to outside parties. To ensure accurate application of data, tabular and narrative components must be evaluated in conjunction with spatial components. Failure to do so constitutes a misuse of the data. The Colorado Natural Heritage Program shall have no liability or responsibility to the data users, or any other person or entity with respect to liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the data, including but not limited to any interruption of service, loss of business, anticipatory profits or indirect, special, or consequential damages resulting from the use of operation of the data. Data users hereby agree to hold CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado harmless from any claim, demand, cause of action, loss, damage or expense from or related to data users use of or reliance on the data, regardless of the cause or nature thereof, and even in the event that such cause is attributable to the negligence or misconduct of CNHP.

These data are provided on an as-is basis, as-available basis without warranties of any kind, expressed or implied, INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. Although CNHP maintains high standards of data quality control, CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado further expressly disclaim any warranty that the data are error-free or current as of the date supplied

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Sunlight Basin

Site Code S.USCOHP\*24673