

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Triangle Pass

Site Code S.USCOHP*23865

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 364 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 385929N
State Colorado Longitude 1065505W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
38106-H8	Gothic
39106-A8	Maroon Bells

County

Gunnison (CO)
Pitkin (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14020001	East-Taylor
14010004	Roaring Fork

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	10,600.00	Feet	3,231.00	Meters
Maximum Elevation	13,520.00	Feet	4,121.00	Meters

Site Description

The site straddles the Continental Divide and encompasses Copper Pass, Triangle Pass, and Coffee Pot Pass. Conundrum Creek drains north into Pitkin County and Copper and West Brush creeks drain south into Gunnison County. Nearly the entire site is above treeline. A pack trail runs through the site and crosses the divide at Triangle Pass. The Colorado Division of Wildlife documented a boreal toad (*Bufo boreas*) breeding location within the site. The boreal toad breeds in still or slowly moving water and successful breeding generally requires permanent or semipermanent water sources. The boreal toad was once common throughout the mountains of Colorado, but has undergone declines over the last 20 years. In 1993 the boreal toad was listed as state endangered and is currently a candidate species for federal listing.

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 01/16/2003
Designer Lambert, B.A. and G.A. Doyle

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the known boreal toad breeding location and adjacent contiguous habitat. A buffer is provided to prevent direct disturbance to the aquatic habitats. These boundaries are intended to protect potential breeding habitat and some post-breeding dispersal. As this species is known to move over two miles from breeding sites, it could be impacted by off-site factors. The boundary represents an estimate of the area needed to maintain local hydrological conditions. Any activities along the creeks such as water diversions, impoundments, incompatible 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	3,613.90	Acres	1,462.50	Hectares
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SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a good (B-ranked) active breeding location for boreal toad (*Bufo boreas*), a globally critically imperiled (T1Q/S1) subspecies.

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 Rank</u>	<u>State Rank</u>	<u>Driving Site Rank</u>
<u>State ID</u>	<u>State Scientific Name</u>	<u>State Common Name</u>			
20351	<i>Bufo boreas</i> pop. 1	Boreal Toad (Southern Rocky Mountain Population)	G4T1Q	S1	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
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	01/16/2003
Version Author	Lambert, B.A. and G.A. Doyle

Disclaimer

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