

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Triple Creek Ranch

Site Code S.USCOHP*10263

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1480 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 394245N
State Colorado Longitude 1060846W

Quad Code Quad Name
39106-F2 Willow Lakes

County
Summit (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14010002 Blue

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,800.00	Feet	2,682.00	Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,280.00	Feet	2,829.00	Meters

Site Description

The Triple Creek Ranch is located on the eastern base of the Gore Range. It is located at the confluence of three forks of Rock Creek. The site consists of two areas of beaver ponds. The upper ponds consist of 3-4 abandoned ponds. The wetland is fed by several springs. One pond contains water and supported aquatic vegetation e.g., water starwort (*Callitriche verna*), burreed (*Sparganium emersum*), beaked sedge (*Carex utriculata*), and manna grass (*Glyceria striata*). The lower ponds contains water and peaty soils. There is evidence of moose, elk, and deer. The upslope community supports an aspen/lodgepole forest (*Populus tremuloides*, *Pinus contorta*). The river corridor is dominated by a montane riparian willow carr (*Salix geyeriana*/*Carex utriculata*) with alder (*Alnus incana*), Colorado blue spruce (*Picea pungens*), and Rocky Mountain willow (*Salix monticola*). The site is approximately 640 acres ranging in elevation from 2640 m (8,800 ft.) to 2784 m (9,280 ft.).

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 12/09/1997

Designer Culver, D.R.

Boundary Justification

The boundary drawn encompasses the headwaters of Rock Creek and the riparian community and the rare plant. A 1,000 ft. buffer is drawn to protect the hydrology from immediate impacts e.g., water diversions, development.

Primary Area 776.85 Acres 314.38 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The Triple Creek Ranch site supports an excellent example of a state rare montane riparian willow carr (*Salix geyeriana*/*Carex utriculata*). There is also an imprecise location (1972) occurrence of mountain whitlow-grass (*Draba rectifruca*) on Rock Creek. There are 14 known occurrences in Colorado for mountain

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whitlow-grass (CNHP 1997). This occurrence was not relocated during the 1997 field season.

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>
24803	<i>Salix geeyeriana</i> / <i>Carex utriculata</i> Shrubland	Geyer's Willow/Beaked Sedge	G5	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
165258	Culver, D.R. 1997. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Wetland Assessments for the 1997 Summit County Wetlands Inventory.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	12/09/1997
Version Author	Culver, D.R.

Disclaimer

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