

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Turret Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP\*4229

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 911 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 395043N  
State Colorado Longitude 1071102W

Quad Code Quad Name  
39107-G2 Sweetwater Lake

County  
Garfield (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name  
14010001 Colorado headwaters

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	9,600.00	Feet	2,926.00	Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,600.00	Feet	2,926.00	Meters

### Site Description

This is a very small site encompassing a subalpine pond surrounded by Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*), subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*) and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*). Two small, ephemeral inlets lead into the pond while a small outlet drains from a beaver dam. Pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.) occupies portions of the pond while beaked sedge (*Carex utriculata*) was common around the pond edges. Bluejoint reedgrass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*) was common near the beaver dam and narrowleaf burreed (*Sparganium angustifolium*) was found growing at the mouth of the inlets. Upslope from pond edge, large-leaved avens (*Geum macrophyllum*), Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*), wild strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*), Richardson' geranium (*Geranium richardsonii*), field horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*), brook saxifrage (*Saxifraga odontoloma*), dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), and bedstraw (*Galium trifidum*) are common in a wet meadow. The state rare lesser panicled sedge (*Carex diandra*) is found growing on partially submerged logs within the pond. Soils at this site are not mapped by the county soil survey. The U.S. Forest Service in Glenwood Springs may have soil maps for this area. The sedge meadows, emergent vegetation, and beaver ponds likely provide much in the way of flood attenuation and sediment/shoreline stabilization. This wetland also likely provides excellent habitat for small and large mammals, avian species, and insects. Given the intact nature of the area, nutrient cycles are assumed to be intact which also provides excellent production export.

### 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 01/15/2001  
Designer Rocchio, F.J.

### Boundary Justification

The site boundaries incorporate the entire pond and most of the two small inlets. This will allow natural hydrological and ecological processes, such as continued beaver activity and dynamic fluctuations in pond levels to sustain viable populations of the lesser panicled sedge.

Primary Area 7.30 Acres 2.95 Hectares

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## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

**Biodiversity Significance Rank** B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the state critically imperiled (G5/S1) lesser panicled sedge. This species, while globally common, is very rare in Colorado.

**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

Hydrological processes originating outside of the planning boundary, including water quality, quantity, and timing, must be managed to maintain population viability.

### 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>			
21581	<i>Carex diandra</i>	lesser panicled sedge	G5	S1	Yes

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
160919	Lyon, P. 2000. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Biological Assessment of Garfield County.
160810	Rocchio, J. 2000. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Wetland Inventory/Assessment of Garfield County.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

**Version Date** 01/15/2001  
**Version Author** Rocchio, F.J.

## Disclaimer

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