

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Two V

Site Code S.USCOHP8*3841

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 351 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>
883	S.USWRO1*1045	Colorado National Monument

LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 385046N
State Colorado Longitude 1085516W

Quad Code Quad Name
38108-G8 Two V Basin

County
Mesa (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14030001 Westwater Canyon
14030004 Lower Dolores

SITE DESCRIPTION

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

Site Description

The Two V site is located in the higher elevations of the Piñon Mesa area above the piñon-juniper zone. Elevations of the site range from approximately 8900 feet to 9342 feet at the top of the knoll known as Two V. The site has been used for cattle grazing in the recent past and possibly sheep grazing historically. The current manager grazes the area in the fall. The vegetation is characterized by open grassland meadows and sagebrush stands with intermixed stands of aspen. A spring has been developed within the aspen forest. The abandoned Two V Ranch is located adjacent to the site to the east.

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 03/15/1996
Designer Kettler, S.M.

Boundary Justification

The current boundary protects the occurrences from direct impacts, and contains a buffer that includes vegetation that appears to be similar on color infrared aerial photographs. Fire may be an important influence on these plant associations. The scale of fire dynamics in this type of ecosystem should be considered when determining final conservation planning boundaries.

Primary Area 822.20 Acres 332.73 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site contains 2 good (B-ranked) occurrences of plant communities which are apparently secure (G4) and demonstrably secure (G5) on global levels. The *Festuca idahoensis*-*Elymus trachycaulus* plant association is currently ranked G4/S1 (Bourgeron and Engelking 1994). The stand is fairly small but exotic species are uncommon. *Festuca idahoensis* is not common in the Colorado Plateau portion of Utah but is

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more common in the northern part of that state (Joel Tuhy - personal communication). Johnston (1987) reports this association as occurring in Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado. The *Populus tremuloides*/Tall forbs plant association is currently ranked G5/S5 (Bourgeron and Engelking 1994). Again, this stand is fairly small but exotic species are uncommon. High quality aspen stands are uncommon on the Colorado Plateau in Utah and may be high conservation priorities (Joel Tuhy, Nick Van Pelt - personal communication).

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

Mueggler (1988) reports that this plant association provides high value for wildlife forage and nesting habitat for birds.

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>
24550	<i>Festuca idahoensis</i> - <i>Elymus trachycaulus</i> Herbaceous Vegetation	Montane Grasslands	G4	S1	Yes
24717	<i>Populus tremuloides</i> / Tall Forbs Forest	Montane Aspen Forest	G5	S5	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
-	No Data

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 03/15/1996
Version Author Kettler, S.M.

Disclaimer

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