

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Warren Lakes

Site Code S.USCOHP\*4270

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2003 Site Class PCA  
Site Alias Warren Peak

### 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 390944N  
State Colorado Longitude 1064326W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
39106-B6	Thimble Rock
39106-B7	Aspen

County  
Pitkin (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14010004	Roaring Fork

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	10,540.00 Feet	3,212.59 Meters
Maximum Elevation	12,625.00 Feet	3,848.10 Meters

### Site Description

Smuggler Mountain, including Warren Peak, climbs 3,000 feet above the Roaring Fork River in less than two miles. Marshy openings, with some shallow open water, give way to spruce -fir and lodegepole pine forests. The headwaters of No Name Creek, and two unnamed creeks confluence in this site, creating various wetlands. Associated species include *Micranthes oregana*, *Caltha leptosepala*, *Deschampsia caespitosa*, *Carex norvegica*, *Swertia perennis*, *Sedum rodanthum*, *Pedicularis groenlandica*, and *Packera pseudaurea*.

### 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 01/23/2007  
Designer Lyon, M.J.

### Boundary Justification

This site includes the occurrences, nearby wetlands, and a buffer of adjacent high quality habitat to protect from direct disturbances. Hydrological processes originating outside of the boundary including water quality, quantity, and timing, must be managed to maintain the viability of the plant populations and community.

Primary Area	4,825.92 Acres	1,952.99 Hectares
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## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of a globally imperiled (G2G3) subalpine riparian willow carr community, *Salix planifolia* / *Deschampsia caespitosa*, and two good (B-ranked) occurrences of a globally rare (G4?T3T4/S3) plant subspecies, Altai cottongrass (*Eriophorum altaicum* var. *neogaeum*). Subalpine riparian willow carrs are quite common in Colorado; however, this understory of tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia caespitosa*) creates an unusual combination.

Other Values Rank No Data

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## Other Values Comments

Ptarmigan are in the area.

## LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

## Land Use Comments

No Data

## Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

## Exotics Comments

No Data

## Offsite

The overall hydrology of this site needs to be taken into consideration.

## Information Needs

Ptarmigan? Also, there are taxonomic questions about the distinction between *Eriophorum altaicum* and *E. chamissonis*. All three occurrences may be the same species. Taxonomists are divided as to whether the two species are distinct.

## 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	No
20214	<i>Eriophorum chamissonis</i>		G5	S1	No
24618	<i>Salix planifolia</i> / <i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i> Shrubland	Subalpine Riparian Willow Carr	G2G3	S2S3	Yes
21874	<i>Eriophorum altaicum</i> var. <i>neogaeum</i>	Altai cottongrass	G4?T3T4	S3	No

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
194492	Lyon, M. 2006. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Field Surveys.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

Original site design by Fayette, K.K. 1996-04-18.

## VERSION

<b>Version Date</b>	01/23/2007
<b>Version Author</b>	Lyon, M.J.

## Disclaimer

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