

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name West Dallas Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*19026

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 560 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 380252N
State Colorado Longitude 1075154W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
38107-A7	Mount Sneffels
38107-A8	Sams

County
Ouray (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14020006	Uncompahange

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,800.00 Feet	2,682.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	10,000.00 Feet	3,048.00 Meters

Site Description

In this site West Dallas Creek forms a steep sided valley with a lush growth of subalpine fir and Engelmann spruce. The riparian plant community is a good example of its type, with extensive forb cover and little or no shrubs and graminoids. Major forb species are bittercress, bluebells, triangle-leaf groundsel, willow-herb, and cowbane. There are many log jams in the creek, and rocks and downed wood are covered with mosses. Deeply shaded areas in the spruce and Douglas fir on the hillsides have an understory of mountain lover, one-sided wintergreen, rattlesnake plantain, and picture-leaf wintergreen. The latter was a species tracked by CNHP until this year. Parts of the creek have been fenced from livestock. In poorer condition are the parts of the site near the four-wheel drive road that goes through it. Open areas such as Box Factory Park have been heavily grazed by livestock and elk. The Dallas Trail goes through the site, and provides access for hiking and hunting. The western fork of the creek is the site of a series of beaver ponds, forming the montane willow carr. Here, Rocky Mountain willow provides an almost unbroken layer. In openings, mesic forb species include bluebells, triangle leaf groundsel, angelica, Ligularia bigelovii. Beaked sedge, Glyceria striata, and Juncus ensifolius comprise the graminoid component. The area receives heavy use from hunters, whose horses have introduced exotic species.

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 12/28/1998
Designer Lyon, M.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include occurrences of the riparian community on West Dallas Creek and the wetland on the West Fork.

Primary Area 1,045.37 Acres 423.05 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

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Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains good occurrences of plant communities which are vulnerable on a global scale.

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>
24809	<i>Salix monticola</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Montane Riparian Willow Carr	G4	S3	Yes
40629	<i>Carex utriculata</i> Perched Wetland Herbaceous Vegetation	Beaked Sedge Perched Wetland	G3?	S3	Yes
24480	<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i> / <i>Mertensia ciliata</i> Forest	Montane Riparian Forests	G5	S5	No

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	08/02/1999
Version Author	Lyon, M.J.

Disclaimer

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