

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name West Maroon Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP\*15969

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 167 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 390315N  
State Colorado Longitude 1065855W

Quad Code Quad Name  
39106-A8 Maroon Bells

County  
Pitkin (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
14020001	East-Taylor
14010004	Roaring Fork

## SITE DESCRIPTION

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

### Site Description

The headwaters of West Maroon Creek lie in a dramatic cirque. The creek drops about 2000 feet and flows south over roughly four miles to a moderately wide subalpine valley, and enters Carter Lake at about 10,000 feet. The riparian vegetation in this drainage is in good condition and is dominated by a mix of willow carrs and spruce-fir (*Picea engelmannii*-*Abies lasiocarpa*) forests with bluebells (*Mertensia ciliolata*). These stands are patchy due to disturbances from avalanches. Uplands in the PCA are characterized by lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) and spruce-fir (*Picea engelmannii*-*Abies lasiocarpa*) forests, and talus slopes. There is a pack trail through the PCA along the west side of Maroon Creek that continues over west Maroon Pass. A total of 2567 acres are included in the PCA and the elevation ranges from about 10,000 to 13,130 feet.

### Key Environmental Factors

No Data

### Climate Description

No Data

### Land Use History

No Data

### Cultural Features

No Data

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map P - Partial Mapped Date 05/06/1999  
Designer Spackman, S.C.

### Boundary Justification

The full upper watershed of West Maroon Creek is included in the PCA to protect the hydrologic regime necessary for persistence of the natural community. The upland areas included in the PCA should be adequate to protect the occurrences from direct disturbances, such as trampling, and indirect disturbances, such as unnatural erosion. The PCA also provides additional suitable habitat to allow for natural migration of the community.

Primary Area 2,569.24 Acres 1,039.74 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This PCA includes a good occurrence of a globally-vulnerable riparian plant community that is only known

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from 24 locations in the state of Colorado.

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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 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>			
24473	<i>Salix drummondiana</i> / <i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i> Shrubland	Lower Montane Willow Carrs	G3	S3	Yes
24480	<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i> / <i>Mertensia ciliata</i> Forest	Montane Riparian Forests	G5	S5	No

### REFERENCES

## Reference ID                      Full Citation

-                                      No Data

### ADDITIONAL TOPICS

## Additional Topics

No Data

### VERSION

Version Date    05/06/1999  
Version Author    Spackman, S.C.

### Disclaimer

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