

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Wildhorse Basin

Site Code S.USCOHP*19028

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1855 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 380056N
State Colorado Longitude 1073314W

Quad Code Quad Name
38107-A5 Wetterhorn Peak

County
Ouray (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14020006 Uncompahange

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	11,600.00 Feet	3,536.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	12,000.00 Feet	3,658.00 Meters

Site Description

Although this community is quite common in alpine wetlands, it was in exceptionally good condition at this location. This area is accessible by hiking from the Engineer Pass Road. The area has a number of pristine wet meadows and small, shallow ponds in a basin fed by snowmelt. Soils are saturated, with a deep peat layer. The spike rush accounts for about 80% of the cover in wet areas, with water sedge contributing the other 20%. Damp areas are dominated by beaked sedge, Drummond's rush, and small patches of planeleaf and barren-ground willows. Drier sites support tundra grasses such as spike trisetum, tufted hairgrass, and marsh marigold. Historical mining activities have not impacted the quality of the wetlands.

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 includes the occurrence and adjacent wetlands of the snowmelt basin.

Primary Area 483.90 Acres 195.83 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains an excellent occurrence of a plant community which is vulnerable on a global scale.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

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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>			
24955	<i>Carex aquatilis</i> - <i>Carex utriculata</i> Herbaceous Vegetation	Montane Wet Meadows	G4	S4	Yes

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.

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