

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Blue Jay Gulch

Site Code S.USCOHP2*2586

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 70 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 393053N
State Colorado Longitude 1051214W

Quad Code Quad Name
39105-E2 Indian Hills

County
Jefferson (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
10190002 Upper South Platte

SITE DESCRIPTION

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

Site Description

Bluejay and Van alderstien Creeks are two small perennial mountain streams that drain into Deer Creek Canyon. The highest elevation is at the headwaters of Bluejay Creek (8000') and the lowest elevation is where Vas alderstein Creek opens up (6800'). These two streams support a healthy riparian zone. The dominant upperstory trees are Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine. Mid-story trees are maple, aspen, and alder; while the lower layer is dominated by dogwood and thimbleberry. A few very large trees persist, especially along the creek bottom. The slopes of these creeks vary from grassland to oak woodlands on the south and southeast-facing slopes to Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine on the north and northwest-facing slopes. On the ridge tops a mixture of pine and oak or Douglas-fir and oak occur. The Bluejay Gulch and Van alderstein Creek have a history of human use: intense logging in the early 1900's, some grazing, and a small Christmas tree farm operation. Numerous signs of bear, elk, deer, and coyote were found in this area.

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 09/12/1994

Designer Pague, C.A.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries for this conservation area include the two drainages, Bluejay and Van alderstein, and their adjacent slopes. The slopes are necessary to protect the ecological processes that support the natural communities and their associated inhabitants. All known significant oak communities are included.

Primary Area 642.77 Acres 260.12 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) *Quercus gambelii* - *Cercocarpus montanus* / (*Carex geyeri*) shrubland community.

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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</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>
24685	<i>Quercus gambelii</i> - <i>Cercocarpus montanus</i> / (<i>Carex geyeri</i>) Shrubland	Mixed Mountain Shrublands	G3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

Reference ID Full Citation

- No Data

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 09/12/1994

Version Author Pague, C.A.

Disclaimer

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