

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Bobcat Ridge Hogback

Site Code S.USCOHP\*25415

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2222 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 402847N  
State Colorado Longitude 1051330W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
40105-E2	Horsetooth Reservoir
40105-D2	Masonville

### County

Larimer (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
10190006	Big Thompson

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	5,400.00 Feet	1,645.92 Meters
Maximum Elevation	5,600.00 Feet	1,706.88 Meters

### Site Description

The site is comprised of the western most north-south trending hogback within the foothills on the Front Range. The sandstone hogback is comprised of Fountain Formation, Ingleside Formation, Lyons Sandstone, and Lykins Formation, sandstones with calcareous elements (Braddock et al. 1970). Mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*) shrublands occupy shallow soils on the slopes of the hogback with sporadic small patches of grassland occupying deeper soils. A significant portion of the valley below has been converted to hayfield or pasture with remnants of foothills grassland ecological system vegetation on knolls that were too rocky to plow. Bell's twinpod (*Physaria bellii*) grows on the Fountain Formation from the base of vertical outcrops to the toe of the slope. The plant is generally most abundant where vegetation is sparse such as in areas of active erosion.

### 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 03/01/2005  
Designer Doyle, G.A.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the known occurrence of Bell's twinpod (*Physaria bellii*) and a small buffer to protect from direct disturbance. The Bell's twinpod likely extends north and south onto private properties that have not been surveyed for the plant.

Primary Area 566.66 Acres 229.32 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of Bell's twinpod (*Physaria bellii*), a globally imperiled (G2) plant. Bell's twinpod is known only from shale or sandstone hogbacks along the foothills of the Front Range

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from Jefferson County north to near the Wyoming border.

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

Bell's twinpod has long been considered to be primarily restricted to Niobrara shale. The occurrence on Fountain and Ingleside formation sandstone such as within this site is little studied.

## 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>
23937	<i>Physaria bellii</i>	Bell's twinpod	G2G3	S2S3	Yes

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
192814	Braddock, William A., Ronald H. Calvert, Stephen J. Gawarecki, and Prinya Nutalaya. 1970. Geologic Map of the Masonville Quadrangle, Larimer County, Colorado.
192692	Doyle, G.A., S.L. Neid and R.J. Rondeau. 2005. Final Report: Survey of Critical Biological Resources, Larimer County, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

Version Date 03/01/2005

Version Author Doyle, G.A.

## Disclaimer

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