

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Boehmer Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*22073

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 772 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 384848N
State Colorado Longitude 1050242W

Quad Code Quad Name

38105-G1 Pikes Peak

County

El Paso (CO)

Teller (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

11020002 Upper Arkansas

11020003 Fountain

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation 10,880.00 Feet 3,316.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation 14,110.00 Feet 4,301.00 Meters

Site Description

Boehmer Creek, the headwaters of Middle Beaver Creek, is a steep-gradient, perennial stream draining the tundra and spruce fir forested south flank of Pikes Peak. The Boehmer Creek watershed is owned by the Colorado Springs Utilities because the creek and reservoirs along the creek provide a portion of the city's water supply. A tunnel conveys water from East Fork West Beaver Creek, another headwater stream draining the south flank of Pikes Peak, to Boehmer Creek to augment the water supply. Public access to the Boehmer and upper East Fork West Beaver Creek watershed is restricted to maintain the excellent water quality. In 1985, the Colorado Division of Wildlife introduced greenback cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki stomias*) to Boehmer Creek and its reservoirs (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1998). The greenback cutthroat trout population is currently the only reintroduced population in the Arkansas basin considered stable by the Colorado Division of Wildlife (Policky et al. 1999). This population is used as a source population for stocking in the state. Greenback cutthroat trout is the only trout endemic to the headwaters of the South Platte and Arkansas River drainages. By the early 1900's, the subspecies was believed extinct due to over-harvest, introduction of non-native trout species, and habitat alteration (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1998). Since then, ten native populations of greenback cutthroat trout have been discovered, seven in the South Platte watershed and three in the Arkansas watershed (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1998, Policky et al. 1999). Recovery efforts by Colorado Division of Wildlife have reintroduced the species and 25 waters within the Arkansas drainage are currently managed for greenback cutthroat trout (Policky et al. 1999). The Pikes Peak Highway accesses the peak from the north. A reservoir maintenance road along Boehmer Creek is not open to the public.

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 06/15/2001
Designer Doyle, G.A.

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Boundary Justification

The PCA boundary includes the watershed of Boehmer Creek including Reservoirs #2 and #4 and upper East Fork Middle Beaver Creek including Reservoirs #7 and #8. East Fork Middle Beaver Creek is included within the PCA because the creeks are connected via a tunnel and water quality issues in East Fork Middle Beaver Creek could affect the greenback cutthroat trout in Boehmer Creek. The watershed boundary was delineated using hydrologic unit GIS coverage (Natural Resources Conservation Service 2000) and the 1:100,000 scale USGS topographic map. The entire watershed is included because it is small and any activities within it could potentially affect the fish population and degrade water quality.

Primary Area 5,673.90 Acres 2,296.15 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains one of three stable populations of greenback cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki stomias*) (G4T2T3 S2) in the Arkansas drainage (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1998, Policky et al. 1999). This population was reintroduced to Boehmer Creek and reservoirs in 1985.

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>
16680	<i>Oncorhynchus clarkii stomias</i>	Greenback Cutthroat Trout	G4T2T3	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

Reference ID Full Citation

- No Data

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 06/15/2001

Version Author Doyle, G.A.

Disclaimer

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