

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Bowen Ditch Playas

Site Code S.USCOHP*24710

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2088 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 373021N
State Colorado Longitude 1055910W

Quad Code Quad Name

37105-D8 Alamosa West
37106-E1 Homelake
37105-E8 Mount Pleasant School

County

Alamosa (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
13010002	Alamosa-Trinchera

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	7,575.00 Feet	2,308.86 Meters
Maximum Elevation	7,585.00 Feet	2,311.91 Meters

Site Description

Much of this area is flooded in early summer, and the soil remains fairly moist through the summer. Greasewood (*Sarcobatus vermiculatus*) and saltgrass (*Distichlis spicata*) are prevalent throughout the site. Bulrush (*Schoenoplectus* spp.) and sedges (*Carex* spp.) are common in low areas. The slender spiderflower (*Cleome multicaulis*) is abundant and found throughout the area, although it was not found south of the Bowen Ditch.

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 05/04/2004
Designer Rocchio, F.J.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the ecological processes believed necessary for long-term viability of the element. The boundaries provide many source areas for seed dispersal to buffer long-term population fluctuations of the elements. It does not encompass the source of surface and ground water input to the site, thus any changes in the current status of groundwater pumping and water diversions from water bodies that recharge groundwater would likely affect the element.

Primary Area 615.37 Acres 249.03 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports an historic occurrence of a globally imperiled (G2G3/S2S3) plant species. The slender spiderflower (*Cleome multicaulis*) has a global range from southern Wyoming to central Mexico. The San Luis Valley contains the most numerous, largest, and healthiest populations in the world. Slender

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Bowen Ditch Playas

Site Code S.USCOHP*24710

spiderflower has a limited distribution due to its requirement of moist alkaline soil along with periodic soil disturbance. These habitat requirements limit the slender spiderflower to the edges of alkaline wet meadows and playas. The occurrence was previously documented in excellent (A-ranked) condition. Field verification is needed to assess its current quality.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

Horses were grazing the sedges and bulrushes but do not seem to be eating the slender spiderflower. This activity should be monitored to ensure grazing does not impact the slender spiderflower.

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>			
18080	<i>Cleome multicaulis</i>	slender spiderflower	G2G3	S2S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
184706	Rocchio, J. 2004. Final Report: Survey of Critical Wetlands and Riparian Areas in Southern Alamosa and Costilla Counties, San Luis Valley, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 05/04/2004
Version Author Rocchio, F.J.

Disclaimer

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Bowen Ditch Playas

Site Code S.USCOHP*24710

These data are a product and property of Colorado State University, Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP). These data are strictly "on loan" and should be considered "works in progress". Data maintained in the Colorado Natural Heritage Program database are an integral part of ongoing research at CSU and reflect the observations of many scientists, institutions and our current state of knowledge. These data are acquired from various sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and are continually being updated and revised. Many areas have never been surveyed and the absence of data in any particular geographic area does not necessarily mean that species or ecological communities of concern are not present. These data should not be regarded as a substitute for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Absence of evidence is NOT evidence of absence. Absence of any data does not mean that other resources of special concern do not occur, but rather CNHP files do not currently contain information to document this presence. CNHP is not responsible for whether other, non-CNHP data providers have secured landowner permission for data collected.

These data are provided for non-commercial purposes only. Under no circumstances are data to be distributed in any fashion to outside parties. To ensure accurate application of data, tabular and narrative components must be evaluated in conjunction with spatial components. Failure to do so constitutes a misuse of the data. The Colorado Natural Heritage Program shall have no liability or responsibility to the data users, or any other person or entity with respect to liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the data, including but not limited to any interruption of service, loss of business, anticipatory profits or indirect, special, or consequential damages resulting from the use of operation of the data. Data users hereby agree to hold CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado harmless from any claim, demand, cause of action, loss, damage or expense from or related to data users use of or reliance on the data, regardless of the cause or nature thereof, and even in the event that such cause is attributable to the negligence or misconduct of CNHP.

These data are provided on an as-is basis, as-available basis without warranties of any kind, expressed or implied, INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. Although CNHP maintains high standards of data quality control, CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado further expressly disclaim any warranty that the data are error-free or current as of the date supplied