

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Cache Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*27604

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2597 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 390145N
State Colorado Longitude 1061930W

Quad Code Quad Name

39106-A3 Granite

County

Chaffee (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

11020001 Arkansas Headwaters

SITE DESCRIPTION

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|------|----------|--------|
| Minimum Elevation | 9,600.00 | Feet | 2,926.08 | Meters |
| Maximum Elevation | 12,500.00 | Feet | 3,810.00 | Meters |

Site Description

The Cache Creek site is located at the base of Quail Mountain. Historically the area was the location of gold mining until the 1900s. The shrubland is dominated by bog birch (*Betula nana*) with shrubby cinquefoil (*Dasiphora floribunda*) and several willows (*Salix geyeriana*, *S. monticola*, *S. eriocephala*). Other species include felwort (*Swertia perennis*), hemlock parsley (*Conioselinum scopulorum*), blue joint reedgrass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*), tall manna grass (*Glyceria grandis*), elephanthead (*Pedicularis groenlandica*), and marsh felwort (*Lomatogonium rotatum*). There is a small groundwater discharge area that supports a quaking fen dominated by analouge sedge (*Carex simulata*).

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

Average 300 days of sunshine each year. A typical summer day is sunny, in the high 70's to low 80's and evening temperatures in the high 40's and low 50's. Annual rainfall is 10.15" and annual snowfall is 30.4" with most snow occurring from the end of October through April.

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 01/26/2009

Designer Culver, D.R.

Boundary Justification

Boundary is drawn to capture the immediate watershed for Cache Creek and the groundwater discharge areas.

Primary Area 1,752.48 Acres 709.21 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3G4/S3) *Betula nana* / mesic forbs - mesic graminoids shrubland and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a state rare (G4/S3) *Carex simulata* wet meadow.

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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> |
| 16887 | <i>Carex simulata</i> Herbaceous Vegetation | Wet Meadow | G4 | S3 | No |
| 24497 | <i>Betula nana</i> / Mesic Forbs - Mesic Graminoids Shrubland | Subalpine Riparian Shrubland | G3G4 | S3 | Yes |

REFERENCES

| <u>Reference ID</u> | <u>Full Citation</u> |
|---------------------|--|
| 198290 | Culver, D.R., D. Malone, S.L. Neid, and J. Handwerk. 2009. Final Report: Survey of Critical Biological Resources in Chaffee County. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO. |

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 01/26/2009

Version Author Culver, D.R.

Disclaimer

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