

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Cap Rock Preserve

Site Code S.USWRO1\*1773

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 357 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 405714N  
State Colorado Longitude 1052722W

Quad Code Quad Name  
40105-H4 Cherokee Park

County  
Larimer (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name  
10190007 Cache La Poudre

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	7,400.00	Feet	2,255.52	Meters
Maximum Elevation	7,800.00	Feet	2,377.44	Meters

### Site Description

The site is characterized by a steep canyon with vertical walls of blocky reddish Silver Plume granite. North-facing slopes are dominated by ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), and mountain ninebark (*Physocarpus monogynus*). Slopes are dry and soils are formed in decomposed granitic gravel. South-facing slopes are more open with ponderosa pine, antelope bitterbrush (*Purshia tridentata*) and King's spikefescue (*Leucopoa kingii*). The top of the canyon is weedy; cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) and Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*) are common. Larimer aletes (*Aletes humilis*) and Rocky Mountain cinquefoil (*Potentilla rupincola*) occur within the site. This location is unusual for Larimer aletes because plants are growing in pine duff and not on rocky outcrops. Plants here probably receive greater snowfall and moisture than other sites for Larimer aletes. Plants are more protected in the forest from wind, rock fall, etc. Wyoming kittentails (*Besseyia wyomingensis*), a state rare plant has been noted at the site. The site also includes the uncommon grass fern (*Asplenium septentrionale*).

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

### Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the rare plant occurrences, intervening potential habitat, and a buffer to protect from direct disturbance. Unsurveyed potential habitat occurs outside of the site boundary; future surveys will likely lead to revisions of the boundary.

Primary Area 315.39 Acres 127.63 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2G3/S2S3) Larimer aletes

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Cap Rock Preserve

Site Code S.USWRO1\*1773

(*Aletes humilis*) and a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of globally imperiled (G2/S2) Rocky Mountain cinquefoil (*Potentilla rupincola*). The Larimer aletes is within the context of a high quality community. These species are endemic to Colorado and restricted to areas with large Silver Plume granite outcrops.

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

*Bromus tectorum* and *Poa pratensis* occur at the top of the canyon.

### Offsite

Surrounding land is combination of National Forest and private land (every other section).

### Information Needs

Status of land needs to be checked.

## 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>
19580	<i>Potentilla rupincola</i>	Rocky Mountain cinquefoil	G2	S2	No
17408	<i>Aletes humilis</i>	Larimer aletes	G2G3	S2S3	Yes

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
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.
166568	Kettler, S., J. Sanderson, S. Spackman, K. Fayette, C. Pague, D. Clark, and A. Hicks. 1996. Final Report: Significant plant, animal, and wetland resources of Larimer County and their conservation. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

Original site design by Spackman, S.C. and K.K. Fayette, 1994-09-12.

## VERSION

<b>Version Date</b>	03/01/2005
<b>Version Author</b>	Doyle, G.A.

## Disclaimer

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Cap Rock Preserve

Site Code S.USWRO1\*1773

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