

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Cedar Spring Uplands

Site Code S.USCOHP*20276

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 508 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 373718N
State Colorado Longitude 1062404W

Quad Code Quad Name

37106-E4 Horseshoe Mountain
37106-F4 Indian Head

County

Rio Grande (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

13010002 Alamosa-Trinchera

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,350.00 Feet	2,545.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,001.00 Feet	2,744.00 Meters

Site Description

The site encompasses steep cliffs, rock outcrops at the higher elevations, and nearly level plains dissected by numerous drainages at the lower elevations. The vegetation types within the site are numerous and well represent those typical of the San Juan foothills in Rio Grande County. The higher elevations support scattered stands of piñon pine (*Pinus edulis*) with a variety of shrubs and grasses in the understory. Lower slopes and valley bottoms support rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus Greenei*) and winterfat (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*) shrublands and grasslands dominated by needle-and-threadgrass (*Stipa comata*), blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*), or western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*). There are numerous two-track roads throughout the site and some stumps (presumably cut for firewood), but little other sign of human disturbance. The area has not been grazed by domestic livestock for at least 10 years (Colorado Natural Areas Program 1997a).

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 01/01/2000
Designer Kettler, S.M.

Boundary Justification

The main threat to the rock-loving neoparrya would be physical disturbance of the habitat. The boundary was delineated to include the known extent of the plant population, the plant communities and enough of the adjacent area to incorporate part of other grasslands and shrubland habitats. This additional habitat is assumed to provide additional habitat for plant pollinators as well as include enough area for natural fire regimes to be simulated with prescribed burning to support the various plant communities present. The pollinators of the rock-loving neoparrya are unknown, consequently we are uncertain if the amount of adjacent habitat is sufficient to support those species. With more information, these boundaries may change.

Primary Area 1,570.70 Acres 635.64 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

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Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site contains an excellent occurrence of a plant species vulnerable on a global scale, a good occurrence of a plant community vulnerable on a global scale, and a fair occurrence of a plant community imperiled on a global scale.

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 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>			
24556	<i>Pinus edulis</i> - (<i>Juniperus monosperma</i> , <i>Juniperus osteosperma</i>) / <i>Hesperostipa comata</i> Woodland	Xeric Western Slope Pinyon-Juniper Woodlands	G2?	S2	Yes
24719	<i>Pinus edulis</i> / <i>Achnatherum scribneri</i> Woodland	Two-needle Pinyon/Scribner's Needle Grass	G3	S2	Yes
22904	<i>Aletes lithophilus</i>	rock-loving neoparrya	G3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
165924	Kettler, S., J. Rocchio, R. Schorr, J. Burt. 2000. Biological Inventory of Rio Grande and Conejos Counties, Colorado. Unpublished report prepared for The Nature Conservancy. 234 pp.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 01/01/2000
Version Author Kettler, S.M.

Disclaimer

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