

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Central Arkansas Playas

Site Code S.USCOHP\*25350

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2183 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 381842N  
State Colorado Longitude 1032548W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
38104-B5	Southeast Pueblo
38104-B4	Vineland
38104-B3	Avondale
38104-B2	Nepesta
38104-B1	Fowler
38103-B8	Olney Springs
38103-B7	Ordway
38103-B6	Sugar City
38103-B5	Meredith Hill
38103-B4	Lewis Ranch
38103-B3	McIntosh Ranch
38103-B2	Bishop Ranch
38103-B1	Tree Top Ranch
38102-B8	Lubers
38102-B7	McClave
38102-B6	Wiley
38102-B5	May Valley
38102-B4	Granada NW
38102-B3	Granada NE
38103-D8	Ninemile Spring
38103-D7	Windmill Lake
38103-D6	Box Springs
38103-D5	The Pinnacles
38103-D4	Trimble Lake
38103-D3	Arlington NE
38103-D2	Haswell
38102-D7	Eads
38102-D6	Alkali Lake
38103-F7	Peace Valley
38103-F6	Forder
38103-F5	Karval
38103-F4	Hubbard Lake
38103-F3	Barrel Springs Draw
38104-C5	Northeast Pueblo
38104-C4	Devine
38104-C3	North Avondale
38104-C1	Grandview School SE
38103-C8	Antelope Mesa
38103-C7	Nero Hill
38103-C6	Lake Henry
38103-C5	Todd Point

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38103-C4 Houston Lakes  
38103-C3 Arlington  
38103-C2 Long Lake  
38103-C1 Haswell SE  
38102-C8 Rose Ranch  
38102-C7 Swede Lake  
38102-C6 Neenoshe Reservoir  
38102-C5 Chivington SE  
38103-E8 Cockleburr Springs  
38103-E7 Walker Point  
38103-E6 Sharp Lake  
38103-E5 Metz Springs  
38103-E4 Scott Draw  
38103-E3 Bluff Spring  
38103-E2 Galatea SW  
37103-H7 Timpas NE  
37103-H6 Hawley  
37103-H5 La Junta  
37103-H4 Thompson Arroyo  
38104-A1 Hardesty Reservoir  
38103-A8 Elder  
38103-A7 Manzanola  
38103-A6 Rocky Ford  
38103-A5 Cheraw  
38103-A4 Hadley  
38103-A3 Cornelia  
38103-A2 Las Animas  
38103-A1 Kreybill  
38102-A8 Hasty  
38102-A7 Prowers  
38102-A6 Lamar West  
38102-A5 Lamar East  
38102-A4 Carlton  
38102-A3 Granada

## County

Lincoln (CO)  
Bent (CO)  
Pueblo (CO)  
Crowley (CO)  
Otero (CO)  
Kiowa (CO)  
Prowers (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
11020006	Huerfano
11020010	Purgatoire
11020007	Apishapa
11020009	Upper Arkansas-John Martin
11020002	Upper Arkansas
11020005	Upper Arkansas-Lake Meredith
11020008	Horse
11020011	Big Sandy

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11020004 Chico

11020012 Rush

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation - Feet - Meters

Maximum Elevation - Feet - Meters

### Site Description

The site includes numerous reservoirs near the Arkansas River and surrounding grasslands with playas, which provides nesting habitat for shoreline birds. Western Snowy Plover, Piping Plover and Least Tern use the reservoirs in dry years and the playas in wet years (CSP Bird Working Group 2004). The site is approximately 68% grass or mixed grass, 15.5% irrigated agriculture, 7% sagebrush or sagebrush/grass mix, 4% riparian, 3% dryland agriculture and 1.5% open water with trace amounts of residential/commercial development and bare ground. Other animals of concern documented within the site include Plains leopard frog, northern leopard frog, Burrowing Owl, Long-billed Curlew, Ferruginous Hawk, Mountain Plover, Bald Eagle, Arkansas Darter, black-tailed prairie dog, swift fox, massasauga and Texas horned lizard. Documented plants and natural communities include Plains ragweed, *Bouteloua gracilis*, *Populus deltoides*/*Sporobolus cryptandrus*, *Atriplex canescens*/*Sporobolus airoides*, *Populus deltoides*/*Pascopyrum smithii*-*Panicum obtusum* and *Typha angustifolia*-*Typha latifolia*.

### 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 01/31/2005

Designer Sovell, J.R.

### Boundary Justification

The site was drawn primarily for Western Snowy Plover, Piping Plover and Least Tern. Lakes and reservoirs near the Arkansas River are included for nesting during dry years. Surrounding grasslands with playas are included for nesting during wet years. Boundary was drawn using Landsat ETM+ satellite imagery and 25m Colorado Vegetation Classification data (CDOW).

Primary Area 1,671,059.98 Acres 676,256.67 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

Biodiversity significance rank is based on excellent (A-ranked) and good (B-ranked) occurrences of a globally vulnerable (G3/S1B) bird species.

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

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## 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>
22781	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	G3	S1B	Yes
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	Yes
18432	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Least Tern	G4	S1B	No
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	No
22781	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	G3	S1B	Yes
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	No
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	No
22781	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	G3	S1B	Yes
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	No
18432	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Least Tern	G4	S1B	No
18432	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Least Tern	G4	S1B	No
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	No
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	No
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	No
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	No
22781	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	G3	S1B	No
18432	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Least Tern	G4	S1B	No
22781	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	G3	S1B	No
18432	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Least Tern	G4	S1B	No
22781	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping Plover	G3	S1B	No
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	No
17170	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>	Western Snowy Plover	G4T3	S1B	No

### REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
192546	Central Shortgrass Prairie Bird Working Group. 2004. Meeting held on July 29, 2004 at CSU. Participants included personnel from CNHP, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, Colorado Division of Wildlife and Playa Lakes Joint Venture.

### ADDITIONAL TOPICS

#### Additional Topics

Playas provided by Playa Lakes Joint Venture, 12/2004.

### VERSION

<b>Version Date</b>	01/31/2005
<b>Version Author</b>	Sovell, J.R.

### Disclaimer

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