

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Central Shortgrass

Site Code S.USCOHP*25150

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2159 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

County

Bent (CO)
Cheyenne (CO)
Crowley (CO)
Kiowa (CO)
Kit Carson (CO)
Lincoln (CO)
Otero (CO)
Prowers (CO)

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	3,555.00 Feet	1,083.56 Meters
Maximum Elevation	5,400.00 Feet	1,645.92 Meters

Site Description

The site is roughly 73% native grasslands or mixed grasslands/forbs/cacti. Small patches of mixed shrubland (roughly 16%) and agriculture (roughly 8%) are spread throughout. Riparian areas account for approximately 2% of the site. Trace amounts of juniper, water and residential development are present. Multiple grassland birds inhabit the site. Mountain Plover, Ferruginous Hawk, McCown's Longspur, Long-billed Curlew, and Burrowing Owl have all been documented. Black-tailed prairie dogs, an important food source for raptors and carnivores, have also been observed as have Bald Eagle, Least Tern, Snowy Plover, White-faced Ibis, swift fox, Arkansas darter, massasauga and multiple historical records of northern leopard frogs. Numerous plant communities of conservation concern are also found within the site including Great Plains Salt Meadows, Shortgrass Prairie, Northern Sandhill Prairie, Vine Mesquite - Buffalo Grass, Great Plains Shrubland, Plains Cottonwood Riparian Forest, Bulrush Wet Meadow, Emergent Wetland, and Spike Rush. In addition, multiple populations of the vulnerable plant, plains ragweed, occupy the site.

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 10/26/2004
Designer Sovell, J.R.

Boundary Justification

The boundary was drawn primarily for Mountain Plover and Ferruginous Hawk and includes mostly natural grasslands surrounding known occurrences of rare grassland birds. Major agricultural areas to the north and east were excluded. The southern portion of the boundary abuts irrigated agricultural fields along the Arkansas River. The western portion stops where grasslands transition to shrublands. Boundary was drawn using Landsat ETM+ satellite imagery and 25m Colorado Vegetation Classification data (CDOW).

Primary Area	2,582,426.83 Acres	1,045,075.21 Hectares
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SITE SIGNIFICANCE

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Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports multiple occurrences of the state rare (G4/S3B) Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*) and the globally imperiled (G2/S2B) Mountain Plover (*Charadrius montanus*). Biodiversity rank is based on good (B-ranked) occurrences of the globally imperiled Mountain Plover.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

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>
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	Y
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
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18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
19973	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	Ferruginous Hawk	G4	S3B,S4N	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
19973	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	Ferruginous Hawk	G4	S3B,S4N	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
19973	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	Ferruginous Hawk	G4	S3B,S4N	N
19973	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	Ferruginous Hawk	G4	S3B,S4N	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3	S2B	N

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18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3 S2B N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3 S2B Y
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3 S2B N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3 S2B N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3 S2B N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3 S2B N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3 S2B N
18609	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Mountain Plover	G3 S2B N

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

No Data

Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

Exotics Comments

No Data

Offsite

No Data

Information Needs

No Data

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

No Data

LOCATORS

Nation	United States	Latitude	383629N
State	Colorado	Longitude	1031117W
<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>		
39103-B3	Sevenmile Ranch		
39103-B2	Hugo 4 NW		
39102-A7	Stratton 3 SE		
39102-A6	Alpine Ranch SW		
39103-A3	Clifford		
39103-A2	Bledsoe Ranch		
39103-A1	Hugo 4 SE		
38103-H6	Punkin Center NW		

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38103-H5 Beckman Lake
38103-H4 Kinney Lake
38103-H3 Boyero
38103-H2 Schafer Reservoir
38103-H1 Sanders Ranch
38102-H8 Kit Carson NW
38102-H7 Big Spring
38102-H6 Eureka Creek North
38102-H5 Landsman Hill
39102-A8 Stratton 3 SW
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
38103-E1 Galatea
38102-E8 Arsenic Lake SW
38102-E7 Dunlap Ranch
38102-E6 Oswald Ranch
38102-E5 Kit Carson 4 SE
38102-E4 Cheyenne Wells 3 SW
38103-F7 Peace Valley
38103-F6 Forder
38103-F5 Karval
38103-F4 Hubbard Lake
38103-F3 Barrel Springs Draw
38103-F2 Stacy Lakes Draw
38103-F1 Galatea NE
38102-F8 Arsenic Lake
38102-F7 Lewis Lake
38102-F6 Kit Carson 4 NW
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
38103-D1 Haswell NE
38102-D8 Hawkins
38102-D7 Eads
38102-D6 Alkali Lake
38102-D5 Chivington
38102-D4 Brandon
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
38102-C4 Sheridan Lake SW
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
38103-A4 Hadley
38103-A3 Cornelia
38103-A2 Las Animas
38103-A1 Kreybill
38102-A8 Hasty
38103-G7 Kutch SE
38103-G6 Punkin Center
38103-G5 Stanley Gulch
38103-G4 McKenzie Draw
38103-G3 Rock Basin
38103-G2 Aroya
38103-G1 Wild Horse
38102-G8 Sorrento
38102-G7 Kit Carson
38102-G6 Eureka Creek South
38102-G5 Firstview
38102-F5 Kit Carson 4 NE
38102-F4 Cheyenne Wells 3 NW

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
11020009	Upper Arkansas-John Martin
11030002	Whitewoman
11020005	Upper Arkansas-Lake Meredith
11020008	Horse
11020011	Big Sandy
10260004	Ladder
11020012	Rush
10260002	North Fork Smoky Hill
10250003	South Fork Republican

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VERSION

Version Date 10/26/2004

Version Author Sovell, J.R.

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